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Michigan News & Opinion For October 28, 2015

News

State oil pipeline safety board to hold first meeting (Associated Press, 10/28/2015)

How Snyder's plan to fix Detroit school debt impacts other districts (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Senate adjourns without consensus on a fix for roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Senate leaders on roads plan (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Student debt at Michigan colleges up 57% since 2004 (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Tough new state exam stumps Michigan students (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

State DEQ pulls request for help with image amid Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/28/2015)

Disability worker: DHHS punished me for having MS (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Murray who? Meet state office buildings' namesakes (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Snyder merges retirement system boards (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Ananich blasts former emergency manager for Flint water switch 'fairy tale' (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Michigan's autism fund will run out of money in November, officials say (MLive, 10/28/2015)

No deal: Road funding plan hits another snag in Michigan Senate (MLive, 10/28/2015)

See Todd Courser explain why he should be re-elected after resigning seat (MLive, 10/28/2015)

DeVos clan outspends UAW in 2014 Michigan election (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

DPS could be insolvent by spring, state treasurer warns (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

Ex-Rep. Courser: Wife endorses state House candidacy (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

House registration fee hike trips up Senate road talks (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

Michigan lawmakers spar on export subsidy bank (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

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Michigan is the dark money capital of American politics (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Raising the talent level of Michigan workers (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Now who needs an emergency manager? (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

State, emergency managers can't escape blame for Flint water switch (Flint Journal, 10/28/2015)

Medical marijuana should stay tax-free (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/28/2015)

House plan for Michigan roads funding is not a solution (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Ken Braun: 2018 GOP hopefuls for governor gathering ammo, taking shots (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Our Editorial: Weigh value of tax hikes (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

Blogs

The Latest Jam On Road Funding (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/27/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 29, 2015

News

Agency criticized over Flint water drops marketing plan (Associated Press, 10/29/2015)

Ban on powdered alcohol signed into law (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Barge, shipwrecked on Lake Erie in 1930s, leaking oil (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Detroit to get $21 million more for blight demolition (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Detroit to hold public hearing on new marijuana rules (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Driskell's missed road aid votes set off highway fight (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Michigan inks unique pact to help in 3 national forests (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Michigan's Weiser chairs anti-Clinton super PAC (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

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Fish farms don't belong in the Great Lakes (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Will Snyder give us straight talk or lipstick on roads? (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

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Berman: Show me a hero to save Michigan's roads (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Editor's Note: Detroit kids face woes beyond school (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

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New Lottery Ticket Honors Fallen Veterans (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/28/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 30, 2015

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Improved smiles for some low-income Michigan children (Bridge Magazine, 10/30/2015)

Courser text scandal case heads to Lapeer prosecutor (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Downriver, Allen Road miss out on U.S. DOT grants (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Flint City Council votes to hire outside legal help on water issue (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

Seven key takeaways from a town hall meeting on Flint's water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

City Council president: Emergency manager set Flint on path to river water (MLive, 10/30/2015)

House Speaker Paul Ryan: See how Michigan lawmakers are reacting to election (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Whitmer/Richardville 2018? Former Senate GOP leader open to bipartisan gubernatorial run (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Why Michigan education officials aren't freaking out over dismal scores on new M-STEP test (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Mich. leads nation in Supreme Court election spending (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Mystery group attacks GOP challenger to Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Pot legalization group stops collecting signatures (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

State police give Courser text report to prosecutor (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

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A small victory for regional transit in metro Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Government messed up in Flint water crisis, what next? (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Are we there yet? The Senate says no (Michigan Radio, 10/30/2015)

Susan J. Demas: GOP roads plan could kill Snyder's signature 2011 tax reform (MLive, 10/30/2015)

High schools should pay for SC4 classes (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/30/2015)

Our editorial: Anybody but Courser, Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Rothwell: Assessing Michigan's talent future (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

It's time for Americans and Canadians to own the Ambassador Bridge (Toledo Blade, 10/30/2015)

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The Subject Was Term Limits, The Discussion Elevated For Once (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/29/2015)

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Volume #54, Report #216 -- Friday, October 30, 2015

Ballot Proposal Announced For LGBT Protections

A surprise ballot proposal emerged Friday seeking to amend the Constitution to protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, but key groups that have pushed to make those changes via the Legislature said they will have to analyze whether going to the ballot is the right strategy.

Spearheaded by Dana Nessel, the attorney for April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, the couple who successfully sued to overturn the state's ban on same-sex marriage, the group Fair Michigan will be co-chaired by prominent Republican attorney Richard McLellan. Helming the proposal is veteran political operative Howard Edelson, with the Truscott Rossman firm handling communications, Joe Slade White in charge of media and Richard Czuba heading up polling/research.

The proposal would amend Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution - which prohibits discrimination in the exercise of civil or political rights based on religion, race, color or national origin - to include sexual orientation and gender identity. Ms. Nessel said that change and other alterations to the section would be tantamount to automatically extending the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to LBGT persons.

Groups have tried to persuade the Legislature for years to amend the civil rights act to no avail. The current legislative leadership, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), have made clear they have no interest in such legislation.

"I've talked to so many people who are really desperate to see these changes made. I think that waiting for the Michigan Legislature is not really in the cards," Ms. Nessel said, pointing to one committee reporting a bill in the last 12 years. "We've had no movement at all. ... It's time that Michigan voters took measures into their own hands. Frankly, I'm just not a big fan of waiting and hoping that something will happen down the road."

The group, while it filed its ballot committee Friday, has not yet submitted petition language to the Department of State. Fair Michigan spokesperson Kelly Rossman-McKinney said she thought that would happen in the next couple weeks.

Once the Board of State Canvassers approves the petition as to form, then supporters can begin collecting the 315,654 signatures necessary to put the proposal on the November 2016 ballot.

Fair Michigan announced the proposal had the support of Republican Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and Democratic Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy.

Mr. McLellan said he got involved because it is a good policy change and he wanted to contribute.

"I do think there was a recognition that there needs to be somebody that is fairly well-identified with conservative Republican values to participate," he said.

Up until Friday, it seemed like the idea of a ballot proposal - kicked around all year - was dead. Groups like Equality Michigan and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan had looked askance at the idea, concerned about the implications of losing and the idea of putting the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons on the ballot.

And those groups reacted tepidly to the announcement.

They said one major worry is the tenor of a similar campaign in Houston, where they said opponents have vilified transgender persons.

"We agree that it's definitely high time that we had full equality in Michigan," said Stephanie White, executive director of Equality Michigan. "We're not opposed to any one strategy. If we want to do something like this, it takes all of us working together and we need to have a group conversation, a communitywide conversation. All the key players need to decide if it's the right strategy for 2016."

Ms. White said she has "reservations and concerns."

"There's a lot of risk," she said.

A loss would severely damage the effort, Ms. White said. But she also said the Houston campaign raises other worries.

"If you're going to be the most attacked, I think you should have a say in what's the best method for going forward," she said.

Jim Murray, the president of AT&T Michigan and a member of the Equality Michigan board who has strongly backed expanding Elliott-Larsen, called the ballot proposal a strategic mistake.

"I think this has to be a legislative solution," he said. "We need a long-term strategy to do that because obviously it's not going to happen overnight. I'm very uncomfortable with having a referendum on someone's basic civil rights."

Kary Moss, executive director of the ACLU Michigan, said everyone agrees on the policy change, the question is one of strategy.

"The bottom line is that we share similar goals and that the oars are all pulling in one direction," she said.

Asked if Friday's announcement was a good development, Ms. Moss said, "It's a good development in that we all share similar goals."

And Rep. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield), one of two openly gay members of the Legislature, echoed the concerns about "leaving fundamental human rights up to voters on a given election day."

Ms. Nessel said the reticence reminded her of the initial hesitation in some parts of the LGBT community to embrace the DeBoer/Rowse lawsuit.

"I said that's fine, you do things the way you feel is appropriate," she said of the hesitancy. "We all have the same goals in mind; it's just a matter of how we get there. ... We think it's the right time and the right place for this to

occur."

Courser: People Will Be Surprised After Tuesday's Vote

LAPEER - As eleven candidates battle it out for the 82nd House District seat, the effort has been geared to one-on-one voter contact and it is expected only a few thousand votes are needed to choose the Republican candidate during Tuesday's special primary election.

Gary Howell of North Branch and Jan Peabody of Lapeer are seen as the candidates with the most name recognition. Both have been long involved in Lapeer County politics. Mr. Howell is currently the Lapeer County Intermediate School District president and ran for the House seat in 2008, but lost to former Rep. Kevin Daley.

Ms. Peabody is chair of the county Republican Party and ran in 2014, but lost to former Rep. Todd Courser (R-Silverwood), who resigned from his seat early last month to avoid being expelled. Mr. Courser was involved in an extramarital affair with former Rep. Cindy Gamrat (R-Plainwell).

The two then attempted to cover up the affair and were investigated by the House Business Office, which found the two misused taxpayer resources.

Now, Mr. Courser is attempting to win his seat again, criticizing the process that led to his exit from office.

The consensus among non-Courser candidates is voters want to elect anyone but him. But Mr. Courser said he thinks differently and people will be surprised after Tuesday's election.

"I think people everywhere recognize the media distortion and some of the outright distortion," by opponents, Mr. Courser said Friday.

Mr. Courser called Ms. Peabody an "establishment darling," but said voters are turned off by the support of various Lansing groups, including the Great Lakes Education Project. He said Mr. Howell is much of the same and criticized his endorsement from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

Chris Tuski of Lapeer, an engineer and volunteer firefighter, is also in the mix. Mr. Tuski has the endorsement of Mr. Daley, who also serves as his campaign chair.

When walking door-to-door earlier this week, Mr. Tuski told voters he isn't a politician by trade - in fact, he said he hasn't been involved in public office since participating in the Board of Directors at Hazel Park High School, from which he graduated.

"It plays well," he said, pointing to Republican presidential candidates Ben Carson and Donald Trump, who have used their lack of political backgrounds as a positive in their campaigns.

Mr. Tuski said he has focused largely on hitting as many doors as possible. He sometimes will run between houses to hit more doors faster.

He's not worried that other candidates have more name recognition, and said with 11 people on the ballot, it's anyone's game. He also said his endorsement from Mr. Daley has been a big help.

The back of Mr. Tuski's campaign flyers features a letter of endorsement from Mr. Daley.

Some flyers from Mr. Tuski have a graph outlining the state's budget and the amount of funds the state has control over. Mr. Tuski says he is very data-driven, and has binders in his car full of budget graphs and other information.

He said he does go over it with some voters who appear interested, and had recently won over a voter who was previously going to vote for Mr. Howell by talking with him for a half-hour and bringing out his binder.

Ms. Peabody, also knocking doors in the Lapeer area earlier this week, tells voters she grew up on a dairy farm and knows the meaning of hard work. She also boasts the 30 years she spent as a nurse.

Her campaign literature unfolds to a 10-point code of conduct, which includes following state and federal laws and vowing to not misuse taxpayer dollars. It also says she is "not a career politician."

Signs in the Lapeer area of the district are mostly for Mr. Peabody, Mr. Tuski, Mr. Howell and Ian Kempf of Imlay City. Mr. Kempf currently serves on the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Kempf said Friday as a county commissioner he is the only candidate who has actually balanced the budget and is confident heading into Tuesday's election.

"I've gotten lot of really good support locally, I have stuck to my campaign strategy and I think it is going to work out well for me," he said.

Ms. Peabody received a warm response from voters when knocking doors this week, with one telling her he would "vote for anyone but Todd Courser." Multiple voters told her they were already planning on voting for her.

Ms. Peabody said it's important to her that more health professionals are involved in the Legislature. She also wants more women serving in the House and Senate.

This time around, Mr. Peabody took a leave of absence from her job to campaign and hired a full-time campaign manager. She said during the 2014 campaign she had a part-time campaign manager who worked as a volunteer.

"I really want to do this," Ms. Peabody said of being a state representative.

Mr. Howell said Friday he views the race as between him and Ms. Peabody.

"At this point, anyone could defeat Mr. Courser," he said. "The point is to send the most competent person to Lansing, and I think that person is me."

Mr. Howell has recently seen attack ads in the district from Michigan Voice, a group that he linked to Eric Doster, a lawyer with the Michigan Republican Party. The ads say he supported a millage increase while serving on the Lapeer County Road Commission.

Mr. Howell said he voted to allow the millage to go on the ballot in the county. He also said he stopped the commission from endorsing Proposal 2015-1, and the school board, where he also serves, did not endorse the proposal that would have increased the sales tax by 1 percent to pay for roads, among other things.

He said he does not support new revenue for road funding.

Ads from Michigan Voice have also been sent in the 80th House District where Ms. Gamrat is running for re-election.

Michigan Republican Party Chair Ronna Romney McDaniel said in a statement the party does not support the literature.

"The Michigan Republican Party was not involved and does not support the mail pieces that the group 'Michigan's Voice' issued in the special legislative campaigns in the 80th and 82nd districts. I have called these candidates and informed them of that directly," she said. "Our legal counsel does great work for the party and serves as pro-bono counsel to many different Republican and conservative organizations, but we do not support the involvement in these pieces."

Mr. Courser is continuing to call on the Lapeer County Prosecutor Tim Turkelson to publicly announce Mr. Courser is not behind the text messages he received last year urging him to resign from office or the texter would reveal the affair going on between Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat.

"The public needs to be able to see this," he said. "My family has been put through hell."

On why Mr. Courser wants to return to Lansing after everything that happened during his nine-month tenure as state representative, Mr. Courser said he is one of few who will truly fight for lower taxes and smaller government.

"There are very few people who are going to stand up and go after it and make sure they are fighting very day for the taxpayers," he said.

The other candidates in the special election primary next week are Jake Davison of Lapeer, Russell Adams of Lapeer, James Dewilde of Lapeer, Rick Guerrero Jr. of Imlay City, Allan Landosky of Lapeer and Sharna Cramer Smith of Attica.

Prevailing Wage Opponents Begin New Collection Effort, Abandon Filed Petitions

It appeared too late to turn back from the signatures they had already filed, but supporters of repealing the prevailing wage announced Friday that they would begin a new signature collection effort after their own review found signature problems similar to what opponents had announced earlier in the week.

Chris Fisher, campaign director for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, said the group had asked the Department of State to stop the review process on the signatures submitted last month, but would not object to any recommendation from the Bureau of Elections that the signatures not be certified.

"We're disappointed and perplexed that the validation process didn't remove duplicate signatures," Mr. Fisher said. But he said submitting those duplicates had been inadvertent.

Mr. Fisher said the group's actions Friday in abandoning the initial petition effort was about preserving integrity and moving ahead.

"Today's decision is all about credibility, it's all about respecting the integrity of the system," Mr. Fisher said. "We are 100 percent dedicated to a full repeal of prevailing wage and we're 100 percent about doing it the right way."

But he said the group was ready to start again and expected to be out collecting signatures within a month.

"There's still time to do it and there's still support and the resources to make it happen," he said. "We're going to remove all doubt by submitting new signatures.

"This is about continuing the process of gathering petitions to repeal prevailing wage," Mr. Fisher said.

Mr. Fisher did not expect to need any further approvals from the Board of State Canvassers because the group will be using the petitions already approved as to form by the board, but he said the group had filed notice with Elections that it would be collecting more signatures.

And the new petition effort will be done with a new signature collecting and validating company, he said.

David Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, which is opposing the measure, said the new effort would need more than just better checks for duplication to show improved integrity.

"The billionaire's campaign tricked thousands of people into signing petitions, by claiming the petitions were about fixing the roads, or funding schools, or reforming the Legislature," Mr. Waymire said. "Now they say they're going to start over - but a lot of people are onto them."

John Pirich, attorney for Michigan Prevails, said his group was planning to pursue its challenges to the signatures and to ask the board to refer the matter to law enforcement.

"This is not a joke, this is a constitutional procedure with legislative requirements," Mr. Pirich said.

Mr. Fisher said his committee did not fear such an investigation. Asked about possible criminal charges, he said, "None for anybody associated with Protecting Michigan Taxpayers."

Mr. Waymire said the group would likely also ask the board to reject any request to take the petitions out again.

"There's no reason why they should have to rubber stamp people who have violated election law to attempt to buy policy change," he said.

75th House District To Decide Between LaGrand, Scruggs On Tuesday

A less dramatic special election primary will take place in the 75th House District next week, with David LaGrand and Michael Scruggs vying to replace former Rep. Brandon Dillon, who resigned from the seat to serve as the Michigan Democratic Party chair.

On Friday, Mr. LaGrand of Grand Rapids said he is feeling good heading into Tuesday's special election primary to choose the Democratic nominee for the solidly Democratic district.

"This is a point in the campaign when you realize I have done everything I can, I have hit all the doors I could hit and I've had as much communication as I can," he said.

Mr. LaGrand has easily led his opponent in fundraising, as Mr. Scruggs of Grand Rapids filed a waiver indicating he would spend less than $1,000 on the race.

Mr. LaGrand raised about $20,000.

But Mr. Scruggs, the chair of the Kent County Black Caucus, said there are issues, including right-to-work, education and the school-to-prison pipeline, that are important to voters, but aren't being tackled in Lansing.

Mr. Scruggs said he believes he can make a better impact than his opponent.

"Here in West Michigan we have no minorities representing us in Lansing and I think my campaign, what it would do for West Michigan is it would couple us with east Michigan when you look at the African American community in eastern Michigan," he said, pointing to Ypsilanti and Detroit.

However, a source speaking on background said Mr. Scruggs has not been campaigning effectively and Mr. LaGrand is expected to easily win Tuesday.

Mr. LaGrand said his opponent hasn't gotten any endorsements he can identify. Mr. LaGrand has received endorsements from the Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPac, the County Road Association of Michigan, the Michigan League of Conservation Voters and Rep. Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids).

He said he is the best candidate because he is willing to listen to everyone's opinion.

"It is my commitment in really entering into conversation with everybody in the district to best move Grand Rapids forward and the state as a whole," he said. "I am a collaborative thinker and I really value other people's opinions and input."

But Mr. Scruggs said he is already preparing for the general election.

"My campaign is a symbol of involvement. Let the people know they need to be part of the electoral process," he said. "Their vote is their voice. ... I am winning this election."

Whoever wins the Democratic primary will face Republican Blake Edmonds in the general election on March 8.

CAPPS: Presumptive Parole Bill A 'Modest' Proposal

A bill that would provide a framework for parole boards when deciding whether a prisoner is ready to be released at his or her earliest release date is a "modest bill that implements legislative intent behind a statute that has been on the books" for 23 years, an official with the Citizens Alliance for Prisons and Public Spending said Friday in urging the Senate to take the bill up.

"(HB 4138) only applies to people who are high probability of release, which, by definition, is low-risk for reoffending. So the notion that the doors are being opened to all sorts of dangerous folks is simply wrong," Barb Levine, research and policy director for CAPPS, said at a media roundtable on the bill. "This is, in no way, early release."

Ms. Levine said the goal of the bill that has cleared the House and awaits action in the Senate Government Operations Committee is "to make policy based on evidence," even if that evidence is something legislators or other decision-makers are not used to hearing.

Ms. Levine met with reporters Friday following two weeks in which Attorney General Bill Schuette and several county prosecutors and sheriffs have savaged the legislation as "autopilot parole," warning that dangerous inmates who should remain incarcerated would be released.

And the bill provides a very specific, detailed framework that would prevent a massive outpouring of prisoners all at once, Ms. Levine said. For one, it's prospective (though her organization would have liked it to be retroactive).

And there is a flurry of reasons listed in the bill for why someone wouldn't have to be released, Ms. Levine said. Among them is institutional conduct, objective evidence of substantial harm to a victim, threatening harm if released and matching DNA evidence perhaps to unsolved crimes.

"There is catch-all as well. If there is objective and verified evidence of post-sentencing conduct that wasn't already scored in the guidelines, the board can take it into account, and if it demonstrates that a prisoner would present a high risk to public safety, the board can still deny," Ms. Levine said. "There is no way this takes away the board's discretion. There is no way that it short-circuits the usual parole process."

One of the issues with the current system, she said, is the parole board tends to treat the guidelines as advisory and to "interpret the term 'substantial and compelling reasons' pretty broadly," Ms. Levine said.

"What's happened is you see a lot of boilerplate terms being used to notify prisoners who have high probability scores that they're not getting out - 'lacks sufficient insight;' 'lacks empathy;' 'doesn't have the tools to assure the board they won't be a risk.' They're very subjective conclusions that get repeated over and over, but when you look behind them, what you really see is often the board is reacting to the offense," she said.

She continued: "As a result of that, you've got 1,900 people with high parole guideline scores who are still in prison. ...You're talking about a lot of bed space, it's very expensive for taxpayers, so the question becomes why should taxpayers pay to keep people in after they've served their minimum sentence if they are demonstrably low-risk on the boards of a risk assessment?"

Earlier this month, Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) called out Mr. Schuette for his comments on a bill that has been many years in the making, but also admitted that his caucus had a lot of questions about the bill and its implications (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 16, 2015).

And one of the opposing arguments to the bill is that Michigan has already done a lot on the front-end to prevent at least certain individuals from entering prison if they can be diverted through substance abuse treatment or mental health courts, and so only the worst offenders are actually in prison.

Ms. Levine said that while it's true that 70 percent of people serving currently are in for an assaultive offense, "you have to bear in mind the term 'assaultive' is also defined pretty broadly, so it includes things like resisting arrest or eluding police.

"That's an accurate picture of the population, but that doesn't indicate what they're going to be like when they're released," she said. "The fact that if they committed an assaultive offense and then served ... means that what they did was accounted for in the length of the punishment for what they did, and the issue at the point of parole is not do we want to punish them more, it's can we safely release them? It's, do we gain anything by keeping them longer? And the answer in most cases is there's no gain to the public."

The impact of the bill is phased in. Early projections are that it could save 3,200 beds by year five, Ms. Levine said, and at that point would be saving $75 million a year, not including the smaller millions it had saved leading up to year five of implementation. There had been some concern from local sheriffs' departments about the

impact on county jails and the dependency on county services, she said, but that concern had been mitigated some by the phase-in and making the bill prospective rather than retrospective.

"The effect is staged, so the impact would be gradual," she said.

The money saved could of course be greater and faster if it had retroactivity, Ms. Levine said, but CAPPS has also issued a report previously recommending numerous strategies that could collectively save about 10,000 beds and reduce the Department of Corrections budget by about $250 million.

"This is one piece of a lot of things that can be done to save money in Corrections, but ... the fact you might have to do additional things is hardly a reason not to do this," she said of an argument by some that the legislation would not save enough money fast enough. "Seventy-five million is not a small amount, and the lesser millions per year that add up to that is certainly not an insignificant amount."

The bill has not yet come up for committee action or discussion on the Senate floor as the chamber has largely been trying to strike a deal with the House on road funding, so it remains unclear how soon the bill might come up. But Ms. Levine said she is optimistic about the bill being taken up before the end of the year given it is modest and has a narrow intent, she said.

Officials Feeling Optimistic On Healthy Michigan Waiver

Officials with the Department of Health and Human Services said Friday they are feeling positive about the state's chances to win a federal waiver to continue the Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion.

Director Nick Lyon said to a meeting of health organizations that work with the department that he expected the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to issue a decision on the waiver application sometime before the December 31 deadline, though he did not say if that would be several days or weeks before.

Under the 2013 act establishing Healthy Michigan, the state has to have a second waiver for the plan's operation approved by the federal government by December 31.

If the waiver is not approved, then Healthy Michigan - which provides health insurance to some 600,000 state residents whose incomes are 133 percent of the federal poverty level - will have to discontinue operations starting April 2016.

The department filed its application for the waiver earlier this autumn. Earlier in October, officials from the federal CMS came to Lansing to talk to department officials and health organizations about the program and its impact on the state.

"Everyone knows how significant this is," said one official at the Friday meeting.

At the meeting, DHHS officials said everything was looking positive in terms of the waiver being approved.

While the comments were described as the "company line," the same official, speaking on background, said, "If people were feeling negative about it, all you would have sensed that."

A spokesperson for the department said conversations with the federal government on the waiver have "been productive" and are continuing.

Insurance Code Bill Gives DIFS Two Months To Review Plans

While the Department of Insurance and Financial Services was hoping to get 90 days to review health plans under legislation modifying the state's Insurance Code, it instead received 60 days to review each health plan.

Under the approved substitute for HB 4935, DIFS and other stakeholders agreed on a 60-day timeline to review all filings. A spokesperson for the department did not have an immediate answer as to why the 60 days was agreeable.

Other amendments included changing references from "plain English" to "culturally and linguistically appropriate" in order to conform to federal law. New language stipulating the department director would only approve language changes if there were substantial was reverted back to current law.

The substitute language also requires all health maintenance organizations to have at least one consumer representative.

The remaining changes to HB 4933, HB 4934 and HB 4935 were technical in nature.

The bills are the first amendments to the state's insurance laws in 20 years and would make a variety of changes to streamline certain processes. The legislation would allow health maintenance organizations to offer administrative services organization plans without a financial risk. While currently many HMOs have separate administrative services organization businesses, they are not within the same network.

Under the bills, an HMO would be able to operate an administrative services organization and keep the same network, helping enrollees keep the same doctors.

Other changes included in the bills:

- Medicaid HMOs would still have to have a third of their governing boards comprised of enrollees or representatives of membership, or they would have to create a consumer advisory board;
- An expedited process for approval of experimental drugs;
- Elimination of minimum dollar coverage for substance disorder services;
- Exclusion of coverage for illegal activities that include driving with an illegal blood alcohol level or operating a meth lab;
- Allowance delivery of documents electronically under certain conditions; and
- In the Patients Right Independent Review Act, the deadline for filing would change from 60 to 120 days.

Great Lakes Aquaculture Economically Viable, Needs Controls

Raising fish in net pens in the Great Lakes could be economically viable but would need certain environmental controls to protect the lakes, said a series of reports released Friday by the departments of Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Quality and Natural Resources.

The reports were designed to give a starting point for discussions on the possibility of allowing net pen

aquaculture in the lakes, Tammy Newcomb, DNR senior water policy advisor, told Gongwer News Service.

Ms. Newcomb said the departments will be balancing the risks and benefits of the proposals. "Yes, there's a market for rainbow trout out there," she said. "The numbers of people that would be employed is fairly modest. You kind of got to balance that with what's at risk."

"There's a lot of places where things are uncertain," she said.

Ms. Newcomb said the reports would be the basis for a public comment period expected to begin next month.

The Michigan Environmental Council said the reports, when combined, showed that net pens in the Great Lakes are not viable.

"We appreciate the time, effort and expertise that went into preparing these reports, which lead to only one reasonable conclusion: While land-based, closed-loop aquaculture holds great promise as a sustainable food source, cage-culture fish farms are far too risky to allow in the world's greatest freshwater resource," MEC President Chris Kolb said in a release.

The operations in Ontario bear out that the fish farming operations are hazardous to the lakes, said Denny Grinold, state and federal affairs officer for the Michigan Charter Boat Association.

"Fish farming proposals are coming Michigan's way because Ontario regulators have woken up to the damage these operations inflict on the Great Lakes," Mr. Grinold said. "These companies are looking for an easy target where they can make a mess at the public's expense. Michigan needs to learn from others' mistakes, not repeat them."

Two separate reports said there is sufficient market for the fish and enough money to potentially make the operations viable, but another report said there would be a variety of state and federal permits needed, as well as potentially some agreements with tribes in the state. But a third warned the operations could impinge on current economic use of the lakes.

And a variety of steps would be needed to ensure the captive fish operations to not degrade the lakes, a report on those issues said.

Two trout farms producing 1 million pounds of fish a year could contribute $4.3 million to the state economy annually and generate 44 jobs, a report by Steven Miller, John Mann and Bill Knudson from Michigan State University said. The three based that estimate on current prices for fish and expected increases in demand.

"Demand for fish is likely to continue to grow in the Midwest as well as nationally and globally," the report said. "Both demand and supply is on the rise globally, with demand largely exceeding world supply."

Another report by America's Small Business Development Centers, authored by Jazmin San Juan and Veronica Dainelis, said worldwide demand had been falling and is beginning to stabilize, but said aquaculture is also a growing source of fish supply because of declining wild stocks.

The report also anticipated opportunities for export of the fish, particularly to Asia.

And profits for the operations are expected to rise as costs are not anticipated to increase as rapidly as prices,

the report said.

Frank Lupi, a professor of environmental and resource economics at Michigan State University, said in his report that the operations also had the potential to affect some of the current economic uses of the lakes.

"The literature supports the claim that the Great Lakes are an economically-valuable natural asset affecting the quality of life of people in Michigan, the Great Lakes region, and beyond," Mr. Lupi said in his report. "Evidence was provided to show that some key sources of value accruing from these assets can be affected by issues that relate to the unknown risks of net-pen aquaculture in the Great Lakes."

Among the things that could be affected are the sport and commercial fisheries and beach use, which rely in part on aesthetics.

The operations would have to comply with a number of regulatory requirements, a report by officials in the three departments said.

Among the requirements, any facilities would need agreements to use Great Lakes bottomlands from the DEQ and a construction permit from both the DEQ and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

If the facility is large enough, it would need a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

It might also need a fish stocking permit from the DNR

It would not, though, need an aquaculture facility license from Agriculture. Those are required only of facilities in privately-controlled waters, which the Great Lakes are not.

The report indicated any facilities could also require agreements to show they are not affecting tribal fishing rights and are not in violation of interstate and international agreements on Great Lakes water quality.

The report noted that Ontario, Canada, which does allow the facilities in the Great Lakes, has a separate licensing system on them that includes limits on how much feed they can use and reporting of medications used, fish mortality and sediment conditions.

Any such facilities would need substantial controls to prevent effects on the lakes, a report by the science advisory panel commissioned by the three departments said.

The group recommended controls such as Ontario uses on quantity of feed and reporting of disease and deaths.

But it recommended going a step further, requiring low-phosphorous feeds and that any new fish be certified disease-free. The panel also called for requiring operators to have approved biosecurity plans to prevent spread of disease from the facilities.

The panel recommended allowing only sterile fish in the facilities to ensure escapees do not affect the gene pool in the lakes. But it urged a step further that only native or naturalized species could be raised in the pens.

The panel recommended that any new facility conduct studies of native mussels near its proposed location and show that it would not affect those populations, or help to spread zebra and quagga mussels in the lakes.

The pens also should not be allowed in areas where they would affect spawning grounds of native fish.

The pens would have to be covered to prevent birds from taking any of the fish, but those covers should be designed in a way to minimize harm to fishing birds, the panel said.

And the panel recommended a pilot program to study the effects of the pens before they are expanded around the lakes.

Auditor General Projects Drinking Water Division Report By February

A letter responding to questions by Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on operations and accountability within the drinking water division in the Department of Environmental Quality, especially as it relates to its handling of the Flint water crisis, should be back to the senator within 60 days, the auditor's office has determined.

Earlier this month, Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) sent a letter to Auditor General Doug Ringler requesting answers to certain questions in the audit already being conducted on the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance before the DEQ acknowledged the division hadn't followed proper protocol when lead contamination in Flint drinking water became public.

Specifically, Mr. Ananich had asked how the division ensures the data it receives is accurate and what accountability measures are in place for division staff who fail to follow data verification protocols. He also asked about accountability measures for division staff who lie or misrepresent information to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as well as what policies the division and the DEQ generally have in place to escalate major infractions up the chain of command.

Mr. Ananich has been calling for an independent, thorough investigation into the matter, and one piece of that expects to be the audit by Mr. Ringler and his staff. Mr. Ananich has also suggested the Legislature be able to review how it is that Flint arrived in the situation it did, as well as ensure that no other city, village or township endures the same crisis.

Mr. Ringler's office, in a letter to Mr. Ananich, confirmed on Wednesday receipt of Mr. Ananich's letter and said that the audit will result in a letter to Mr. Ananich addressing his specific questions and a report regarding the scope of work the auditor general performs on the program as a whole.

Mr. Ringler said his office anticipates the letter's completion within 60 days - though it was not immediately clear if that is business days or otherwise - unless more time is needed, and the report is to be issued in late February 2016.

DHHS, GENESEE COUNTY HEALTH ISSUING LETTERS TO PARENTS: The Genesee County Health Department and the Department of Health and Human Services next week will issue letters to parents and the child care provider community in Flint giving guidance for families on how to get tested for, or prevent, high-level lead exposure.

"As we continue to find ways to inform and guide the Flint community toward reducing lead exposures, we are appreciative of the collaboration with the Genesee County Health Department," Eden Wells, chief medical executive with DHHS, said in a statement. "Parents and providers can take a number of steps to help reduce exposure, identify signs of lead poisoning, and begin follow up care as needed. Working together we can all help to protect the health of families in Flint."

Among the recommendations are that children who live in the city of Flint and are on the Flint water system, who

attend school, or who spend time with a caregiver in the city be tested for lead poisoning at their doctor's office or the GCHD. Families can also get their water tested for lead for free by calling (810) 787-6537.

Officials also recommended that those on the Flint water system use an NSF Certified water filter in their (free water filters are still available by calling 2-1-1).

Once a family has a filter, only cold water should run through it, and families should be using filtered or bottled water for drinking and cooking. If unfiltered water must be used in either instance, the departments suggest running the tap for five minutes first.

Supreme Court Arguments Include Appeal From McCotter Scandal

A question of whether an aide to former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter committed a legal act in an illegal manner when he participated in fraudulently signing candidate petitions will highlight the oral arguments scheduled before the Supreme Court next Tuesday and Wednesday.

Also among the nine cases the court will hear in argument is one involving whether criminal charges could be brought against Detroit police officers for not telling the truth about whether one of them had used excessive force against an individual.

The court will also hear arguments on whether police could lawfully stop a motorist because his vehicle's license plate was partially obscured by a trailer hitch. When the vehicle was stopped, the police discovered illegal drugs and a weapon, and arrested the driver.

The case involving Mr. McCotter's former aide is *People v. Seewald* (SC docket No. 150146). In 2012, it was discovered that Mr. McCotter's candidate petitions did not have sufficient signatures, which resulted in him - who had been a member of Congress since 2002 and who had briefly run a campaign for the GOP nomination for president in 2012 - being tossed from the ballot.

Paul Seewald was accused of falsely of signing the petitions. He pleaded guilty to nine misdemeanor charges, but he was also charged with conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner. He argued that no illegal act had occurred. The trial court and Court of Appeals agreed with him. The issue before the Supreme Court is whether he did in fact attempt to commit a legal act in an illegal way.

The arguments are set for Tuesday.

On Wednesday, the court will hear arguments in *People v. Harris* (SC docket No. 149872). In the case, Detroit Police officers Sean Harris, William Little and Nevin Hughes each signed documents attesting they would not face criminal penalties for testifying on whether Mr. Hughes used excessive force in a traffic stop. When video surveillance showed that he had used excessive force, charges were brought against the three men. The court has to decide if the Disclosures by Law Enforcement Officers Act prevents use of false statements in obstruction of justice cases and whether using the statements after they had signed the forms constituted a violation of their right not to self-incriminate.

The court will also hear on Wednesday *People v. Dunbar* (SC docket No. 150371), which asks if a vehicle license plate violates state law on obstructed plates if it is partially blocked by a towing ball. Charles Dunbar was stopped because a towing ball partially blocked his plate, and sheriff's deputies found cocaine, marijuana and a handgun in the vehicle. He moved to block the evidence, arguing the stop violated his Fourth Amendment rights.

The trial court disagreed, but a divided Court of Appeals agreed with Mr. Dunbar.

The court will also hear on Tuesday:

- *Wyandotte Electrical Supply v. Electrical Technology Systems* (SC docket No. 149989), which has to do with whether Wyandotte acted as a principal contractor and was able to recover its costs from a bond when it was not paid by other companies.

- *Collum v. Lopatin* (SC docket No. 149955), a medical malpractice case having to do with the question of whether the plaintiff's expert witness could have his testimony heard because it was based on speculation. The trial court disallowed the testimony but the Court of Appeals reversed.

- *Ronnisch Construction Group v. Lofts-on-the-Nine* (SC docket No. 150029), having to do with whether Ronnisch is entitled to attorney fees when it prevailed in a binding arbitration on a contract claim, but a separate foreclosure of lien claim was not resolved.

On Wednesday, the court will also hear:

- *Landin v. Healthsource Saginaw* (SC docket No. 149663). Roberto Landin was fired after he reported actions by another health care worker that he suspected may have contributed to a patient's death. Both the trial court and Court of Appeals let his suit go forward. The issue before the Supreme Court is whether Mr. Landin can bring a wrongful discharge case as a matter of public policy or if the Whistleblower Act is his exclusive remedy.

- *Abbo v. Wireless Toyz* (SC docket No. 149536), having to do with whether David Abbo could bring a claim for silent fraud against the company. A jury found for Mr. Abbo, but the trial judge retired immediately after and a new judge granted a judgment notwithstanding the verdict to the company. The Court of Appeals reversed. The Supreme Court will consider whether the trial court was wrong to find for the company.

- *People v. Wooten* (SC docket No. 149917), having to do with whether the police could testify that John Wooten did not justify his claim of self-defense following a shooting at a strip club. The trial court initially ruled the statements could not be given and he was convicted in a second trial. The Supreme Court is to rule on the admissibility of the statements, and if Mr. Wooten should not have been re-tried after a mistrial was declared in his first trial.

Detroit Unions Push For Role In District Redesign

Members of the unions representing employees of Detroit Public Schools called Friday for an official role in the discussions over redesigning their district.

And they urged that any financial fixes not include passing costs around the state.

"The people who are doing the job are not included in the discussions on how to move the city forward," Greg Bowens, spokesperson for the coalition that includes the Detroit Federation of Teachers, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 and Operating Engineers 324, said. "Nobody's seen this legislation."

Mr. Bowens said teachers and other school workers have already taken pay and benefits cuts and are being

asked for more.

"We would like to see provisions that, as opposed to a race to the bottom for employees that work there, a more stabilized environment for teachers," he said.

But he said the unions do not want to see any bailout for DPS come from the state School Aid Fund.

"Collectively, the unions have expressed a desire to not have money taken from other school districts to shore up DPS," he said. "Education around the state should not be penalized because of decisions emergency managers have made in the last 15 years. ... That money should be raised through bonds or loans, but don't take it away from the children and the people who need it the most."

Capital Notebook

OUTDOOR SPONSORSHIPS: The Department of Natural Resources announced Friday that it was seeking sponsors and partners for programs for the coming year.

"Our goal is to build and maintain partnerships that are beneficial for everyone involved," Ron Olson, DNR Parks and Recreation chief, said in a statement. "Partnerships and sponsorships provide opportunities for our parks, trails and waterways to welcome new visitors, for partner organizations to build their reputations and make connections with potential customers, and for visitors to make memories through outdoor recreation and programming."

Opportunities range from cash donations to volunteer assistance to co-branded products and services, he said.

In addition to seeking help with programs for 2016, Mr. Olson said the department was looking ahead for assistance with the centennial of Michigan state parks in 2019.

CORPORATE FUNDS RULING REQUEST WITHDRAWN: Michael Hodge has withdrawn his request, made a week ago, for a ruling from Secretary of State Ruth Johnson on whether a corporation can use its own funds for the expenses of a separate segregated campaign fund. The withdrawal was announced on Friday.

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 4, 2015

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Federal agency conducting review of Flint water supply (Associated Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Macomb County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Oakland County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Everything we know about the Senate roads plan (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Former Reps. Courser, Gamrat defeated in comeback tries (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Legislature passes funding plan for roads (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

U.S. EPA will conduct 'full review' of Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/4/2015)

Michigan Legislature OKs roads plan with gas, fee hikes (Macomb Daily, 11/4/2015)

Election results around Michigan (Michigan Radio, 11/4/2015)

ABC's '20/20' filming Cindy Gamrat as election results come in (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Cindy Gamrat: 'I'm at peace with how it turned out' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Election results: Full coverage of school bonds, state House primary and city leaders (MLive, 11/4/2015)

In re-election defeat, ex-state Rep. Todd Courser says he's 'walking corpse' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Karen Weaver makes history, elected Flint's first woman mayor (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding deal: How they voted, and what they're saying about $1.2 billion plan (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Two years after opening Detroit office, Republicans still eyeing long-term gains in Democratic stronghold (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Carson taps Mike Shirkey to chair Mich. campaign (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Election results for Wayne County (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Ex-DPS official 'steered' $40M deal, feds say (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Snyder says he's ready to sign $1.2B road fund package (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

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Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Lawmakers fail LGBT in Mich., who deserve civil rights (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan continues its dark money streak (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding bill: How we got to a bad deal (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Judy Putnam: Medicare costs curbed but only for some (Lansing State Journal, 11/4/2015)

Ken Braun: Michigan needs a Taxpayer Bill of Rights (MLive, 11/4/2015)

State View: Why hasn't Michigan banned microbeads? (Petoskey News-Review, 11/4/2015)

Berman: UAW is neglecting workers (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Michigan brings transparency to civil forfeiture (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Wozniak: Campaign against clean air is embarrassing (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 5, 2015

News

Governor orders flags lowered for former Michigan senator (Associated Press, 11/5/2015)

Voters oust Flint mayor amid city's water problems (Associated Press, 11/5/2015)

Asian carp recommendations could take 4 more years (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

How legislators voted on the two main road-funding bills (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

Snyder cautious about borrowing against new road money (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

4 new things in the House bill to overhaul Michigan's energy policy, slated for a committee vote (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Could Democrats get a win in Michigan energy overhaul? Energy efficiency revived as bargaining chip (MLive, 11/5/2015)

GOP ready to 'move forward' after Courser, Gamrat crushed in Michigan primaries (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Inside Michigan's new road funding deal: fuel taxes, registration fees, tax relief and more (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Michigan awards $500k in campus sexual assault prevention grants; See which colleges got funding (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Michigan PTA president: 'Guns have no place in our schools' (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Walling plans to stay in Flint, won't rule out politics after mayoral defeat (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Wins for write-in mayor, openly gay candidate and recreational marijuana in Metro Detroit elections (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Drivers shouldn't expect big road gains in a hurry (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Mich. plan to cut algae relies on past measures (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Snyder hits Carson's political inexperience (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Snyder says he's ready to sign $1.2B road fund package (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Stabenow urges faster push to block Asian carp (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

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Streams leading into Great Lakes need protection, too (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

Supporting education for all (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/5/2015)

Roads deal: mission accomplished or can kicked? (Michigan Radio, 11/5/2015)

Kelly: Getting state money should include real change (Midland Daily News, 11/5/2015)

Finley: Why Michigan can't fix its schools (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Our Editorial: Road deal not great but good enough (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Blogs

Unpacking The Roads Proposal Headed To Snyder's Desk (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/4/2015)

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Michigan Report for Thursday, November 5, 2015

After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda

Ananich Calls On Meekhof, Legislature To Hold Hearings On Flint Water

Report: Construction Could Renew Lead Contamination In Flint Homes

Senate Passes Alternative Teaching Certificate Bill, Ends Dower Rights

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Legislation

State Must Do Better To Get More People In College, Panel Told

House Panel Urges Reversal At Veterans Homes

Poll: Carson Beats Democrats, Democrats Beat Trump

Sex Offenders Registration Act Revised Per Court Case

Snyder Expands Pipeline Board

PSC Eliminates DTE Electric's Renewable Energy Surcharge

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Volume #54, Report #220 – Thursday, November 5, 2015

After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Major energy legislation cleared the House Energy Policy Committee on Thursday with some significant changes, including changes to the proposed renewable energy definitions and a "goal" for utilities to get 30 percent of production from renewables and energy efficiency.

But advocates for expanding choice, or at least keeping it the same as current law, were not successful.

After convening at 8 a.m., recessing until 2:07 p.m. and then going until 7:45 p.m., coming in and out of order on its fourth attempt this week to meet on the issue, the committee reported HB 4298 - the bill involving choice and utility regulations - 18-7. Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), the vice chair, Rep. Andrea LaFontaine (R-Columbus), Rep. Holly Hughes (R-White River Township), Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville), Rep. Peter Lucido (R-Shelby Township), Rep. Derek Miller (D-Warren) and Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet) all voted no.

HB 4297, dealing with the environmental aspects of energy, cleared the committee 21-3 with Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) abstaining and HB 4575 cleared 19-4 with Ms. Plawecki and Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit) abstaining.

Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), the chair of the committee, said his goal is getting the bills finished before the end of the year.

He said utilities are going to make investments and if the state is going to deal with capacity in the long run, it should deal with it proactively instead of reactively, which he believes the legislation does.

"As you can imagine this has been legislation I have been working on for years now and it's the first down, and I look forward to getting to a touchdown," he told reporters after the vote.

Throughout the meeting, and the week, it was clear Mr. Nesbitt was negotiating with House Democrats to get the votes needed for the legislation to clear the committee. House Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) attended the majority of the meeting Thursday and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) also attended the meeting briefly and talked to Democrats serving on the panel.

Mr. Glenn has been criticizing the process for much of the week, and continued on Thursday before the vote, saying members likely were not clear on what certain amendments did in the context of a lengthy and complex bill.

But Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe), the minority vice chair of the committee, said he felt the process was fair and he was grateful the Democrats, despite being in the minority, were included.

Those following the issue said Mr. Nesbitt, if he wanted to get a bill out of the committee, would either need to compromise on choice or on environmental components. For several days, it seemed clear he had opted for the

latter option.

Changes to the legislation include not requiring alternative energy suppliers to address local reliability needs unless a projected capacity shortfall was determined. Under the amendment there would be no changes to requirements on the alternative suppliers unless the Public Service Commission made certain determinations involving capacity.

Amendments adopted to HB 4298 would require alternative energy consumers to remain with the utility, if they go back, for 15 years if it doesn't cause an increased cost. For those consumers who would cause an increased cost, they would have to stay with the utility for 20 years.

Michigan Agency for Energy Executive Director Valerie Brader told the committee the changes regarding additional regulations for alternative suppliers would not go into effect unless there were some extreme circumstances.

But Mr. Glenn was unhappy he could not bring up an alternative energy supplier - or advocate - to confirm or deny Ms. Brader's statement. He said he simply doesn't know if the new language effectively kills choice or not.

An approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy would set up an energy efficiency program.

Another Democratic amendment would include in the language describing the Integrated Resource Plan that utilities would have a goal of reaching 30 percent of energy production through renewable energy and reduction of energy waste through energy efficiency by 2025.

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) noted it was a goal and not a mandate on utilities.

Another amendment provided financial incentives for utilities achieving annual incremental energy waste reduction of between 1.5 and 3 percent.

Another approved amendment would add a general taxpayer to the Public Service Commission with the intent of representing the average consumer, said Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), the sponsor of the amendment. It would also increase the commission from three members to five.

It was not immediately clear if that amendment would remain the final version of the bill. Mr. Nesbitt said he would continue to work with Mr. McBroom.

Changes to HB 4297 include an amendment from Mr. Nesbitt and makes changes to the renewable portfolio standard, removing what the federal government does not consider renewable energy.

Another approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy "tightens up" the definition of renewable energy, but still expands the definition from the current law, including biomass and geothermal.

And another amendment, from Ms. Hughes, would ensure pet coke, hazardous waste, coal waste and scrap tires were not included in the renewable energy definition. That addressed a major criticism from Democrats, though some forms of waste to energy could still count.

Mr. Glenn attempted to make a variety of amendments regarding the 10 percent choice market, including ensuring all schools, community colleges and universities would not count against the cap.

Ms. Hughes attempted to pass an amendment, which she said the Michigan Chamber of Commerce supported, that would keep the choice market the same as current law. That amendment failed 10-10 with five members abstaining.

Throughout the committee meeting Thursday, which went at ease several times, comments from members indicated they weren't pleased with the process.

Mr. Glenn, when the committee first began, said he could not vote on Mr. Nesbitt's amendments because they were several pages and he had no time to know what they did.

Later, Mr. Glenn made another comment about the amendments and Mr. Nesbitt quipped: "The reason I did it as an amendment and not an additional sub is because of the criticism I've received," he said.

"Well I had zero time to read the amendments," Mr. Glenn said.

Mr. Glenn said after the meeting that he didn't think the legislation would be well received in the full House, particularly the Republican caucus. He said there would likely be concerns regarding the choice piece of the legislation.

Mr. Nesbitt said a vast majority of committee members supported the bills and he believes he would have the support of a majority of the House Republican caucus.

On the criticism on the process, Mr. Nesbitt said the legislation has been up for almost the entire year and everyone has their own thought son how to improve bills.

"This in terms of the legislative process, this is a part of it, we allowed a lot of amendments to be debated," he said, also adding more than 120 people have testified throughout the year.

But Mr. Glenn said he felt members were being pressured by the time frame, knowing the meeting would end with a vote. He said many of the questions members have will be answered in the coming weeks.

REACTION: Statements poured in Thursday evening after the committee reported the bill, with many slamming the choice provisions.

Michigan Freedom Fund President Terri Reid said the bills were reported after a "rushed" and "secretive" process.

"The result is substitute language approved today that hurts Michigan ratepayers, schools and job creators who already face the highest electric costs in the region," Ms. Reid said in a statement. "Electric choice should be expanded, not eliminated. Competition serves as the best method of lowering energy costs for Michigan's hardworking families and keeping the large, monopoly utility providers honest."

Wayne Kuipers, Energy Choice Now executive director, said the bill would kill electric choice, which has saved $1.1 billion for those "lucky enough" to have it.

"The process of passing this utility-friendly/consumer-hostile legislation out of committee was as flawed and damaging as the bill itself," he said in a statement. "No public testimony was allowed on what was essentially - as verified by the governor's own energy advisor - a brand new bill before the committee. The bottom line is: the

members of this committee just passed a bill that will potentially cost 40 percent of Michigan's public schools $24 million annually and cost Michigan job providers nearly $100 million each year."

And environmental advocates said the bills do not go far enough.

"The only way to hold utilities accountable for increasing our use of clean, renewable energy is through mandates for renewable energy and energy efficiency," Anne Woiwode, conservation director for Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter, said in a statement. "The Nesbitt bill is a giveaway to utility shareholders and puts polluter profits before Michigan's ratepayers and natural resources."

"The bills passed out of committee tonight are a step in the right direction, but do not go far enough to increase our use of clean, renewable energy, or to ensure we lower energy costs through reducing energy waste," Jack Schmitt, deputy director for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said in a statement. "We can and must do better to build upon the success of our clean energy standards. We look forward to working through the legislative process to strengthen this policy and to ensure Michigan continues to increase its use of renewable energy and takes further strides in reducing energy waste."

Finally, MI Air MI Health Coalition Director Rory Neuner said: "The Nesbitt plan ignores the health impacts of our energy choices and that's why health professionals are urging legislators to go back to the drawing board. We urge the legislature to support forward-looking legislation that will reduce dangerous pollution and protect public health."

Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

At a minimum, some of those who circulated petitions for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers in its effort to repeal the prevailing wage could face misdemeanor charges for lying on the circulator certificates on those petitions, a move both sides of the issue welcomed at Thursday's Board of State Canvassers meeting.

But opponents of the petition said the criminal investigation should go higher up the ranks than the circulators, and Elections Director Chris Thomas said his bureau would continue to investigate the petition gathering process to determine if there are additional safeguards needed.

The vote to reject the petitions as insufficient was fairly easy, with both opponents of the drive, Michigan Prevails, and Protecting Michigan Taxpayers supporting the move.

The staff report on the petition, released earlier in the week, found fewer than half of the sample signatures pulled was valid. Of the 503 signatures in the sample, only 301 were valid, with 104 not registered voters and 63 duplicates. At least 315 valid signatures were needed in the sample to make it worth checking more signatures and 348 valid signatures were needed to simply designate the petitions as sufficient.

Mr. Thomas said it was only through the checking opponents to the change made that the duplicates were found. He said the petitions would have been declared sufficient with only the department's check.

In the end, he said the petition had the lowest rate of valid signatures in any petition submitted since the state started using the sampling process.

"The circulating company clearly failed to put circulators in the field who could comply with this law," he said.

Proponents of the plan conceded there were not enough signatures.

"We reviewed the staff report and would urge this board to adopt the findings in the staff report," Eric Doster, attorney for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, said. "After review of this matter, we have no problem forwarding this matter to the proper law enforcement authorities."

Dave Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, argued after the meeting that the criminal investigation should go further than the circulators or even Silver Bullet, the company contracted to hire circulators. He said officials with the campaign knew of the rampant duplicates and other problems with the circulators and did not act.

"The question is, what did they know and when did they know it?" he said.

Mr. Thomas said at a minimum those circulators who signed the petitions themselves multiple times could face charges.

Mr. Doster said the campaign was still considering what, if any, action it would take against Silver Bullet.

The bigger issue, Mr. Thomas said, is preventing a repeat.

"The question going forward is whether this petition will remain an outlier or will it become the way business is done," he said. "Clearly, a close look at this petition is necessary to determine whether additional safeguards are necessary to safeguard the Michigan elections process."

Board members agreed on the need to review the petition process, but members from both parties chided the Legislature for failing to act on recommendations the board has already made.

In particular, board members pointed out that they will be meeting next week to decide whether a recall petition against Governor Rick Snyder includes factual allegations, but the law does not require that the drafter include support for the allegations when filing the petition.

Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda

Now that the Legislature has sent a road funding solution to Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof sees energy policy reform and a solution to the growing problems of academic and financial instability with Detroit Public Schools as two of the major issues next on his chamber's to-do list.

"We don't tackle simple things," he said. "They are major policy issues for the state, and I've had some very, very open and fruitful discussions about how we go about it."

He said he expects to rely "very heavily" on Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) to lead the discussion on the best energy policy for Michigan as many provisions of the 2008 energy law either expire or need to be updated, and he is working currently on finding sponsors for legislation on DPS from both the Democratic and Republican sides of the aisle.

"I've given no timeline on DPS, but what I have said is it would be very, very important that we put something (together) for these children so they can get a great education and they can get all these really cool, great jobs being created in Detroit," he said.

As to any concerns he might have about the proposal Governor Rick Snyder put forth last month, Mr. Meekhof said all the details are still a work in progress.

"We've been meeting on different occasions with different interest groups and our policy folks, and it's still a work in progress," he said. "It's like every piece of public policy: not everybody is going to agree on it, so we're going to try to find the best possible thing that we can do."

He said his primary focus is on ensuring a quality education for DPS students but did not have any specific details on what that could look like in legislation.

And he said that while it has not currently been in the discussion to leave DPS to the charter school community, it could be a possibility if some agreement couldn't be reached otherwise. But "that would be unfortunate," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said restoration of the school board is a part of the discussion, but again, he was unsure if it will be part of the final solution.

"The folks that are there need to have some accountability and I think they'll want to, because if we're going to help in some way, they're going to want to make sure the process moves forward and we get improvement," he said. "We need different results."

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said that is a very important piece for him and his caucus.

"Whether or not it's required to get votes or not, I haven't spoken to all my colleagues about it, but it's very important to them and to me as well," he said after session.

Mr. Meekhof was uncertain where the financing piece could come from for the DPS fix, but as conversations have been ongoing, he is hoping to have at least some legislation on the situation introduced soon, he said.

Ananich Calls On Meekhof, Legislature To Hold Hearings On Flint Water

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Thursday called on Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and his colleagues to put together legislative hearings to determine what went wrong in Flint, who should be held accountable and how it can be prevented.

Mr. Meekhof said he is waiting for other agencies and task forces to do their work force.

"The folks that are being charged with gathering that information, I want to let them do their work, because I don't want to duplicate their work either," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters after Mr. Ananich's formal floor speech about his proposal.

Mr. Ananich sent a letter to Mr. Meekhof's office and shared it with the chairpersons of the Senate Oversight, Government Operations and Health Policy committees.

In his speech, Mr. Ananich pointed to further reports on Thursday, especially coming from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, warning of additional health risks of lead in the water. He said such reports only highlight that "this is an ongoing problem, and the Legislature has a unique role and responsibility in thoroughly examining what went wrong, what still needs to be fixed, and how to ensure this sort of crisis never happens again."

He said the taxpayers who have essentially footed the bill on a $9.3 million supplemental appropriation in emergency funds for the city have a right to know how that money is being spent as well.

"The fact that several reviews have been promised by other entities does not remove the need for us to exercise our oversight role. It actually highlights the areas in which our investigation would strengthen the process," he said. "Each of the other reviews are either agencies investigating themselves or experts who do not have the powers or accountability elected officials have."

Mr. Ananich said the benefit of legislative hearings is primarily subpoena power "to make sure everyone who needs to be asked questions are forced to answer them," he said. "We can provide a public, transparent look that none of these approaches (by others) are guaranteed to deliver."

Speaking to reporters after session, Mr. Ananich said, "Folks have shown their willingness to not tell the truth, or be fuzzy with it for sure, but if they're asked a question when someone isn't requiring them to tell the truth, they can continue with that. So I think we can hold them accountable better through the subpoena process."

But Mr. Meekhof did not seem to exercise the same sense of urgency. He said he has been talking with Mr. Ananich about the idea but reiterated he'd like folks in charge of gathering that information currently to do so first.

"We've got a lot of other good stuff in front of us right now, too. We've got energy; we've got Detroit Public Schools. I'm not discounting he says it's important, because he and I have been talking about it," Mr. Meekhof said.

And he said, as he has previously, that he has "very high marks" for Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant.

"I believe they will be able to find solutions and they will find things that need to be corrected," Mr. Meekhof said.

But Mr. Ananich said an agency investigating itself when it had already potentially skirted doing the right thing is exactly why a different approach needs to be taken, especially by the Legislature.

"We have such troubling individuals in the drinking water division, which is the main division that's supposed to keep us safe, showing time and time again there's some serious problems there," he said. "We need to get to the bottom of how that happened and how we can address it.

He added that there is still a role for the agencies investigating themselves or the various task forces associated with the drinking water problem in Flint, but those reviews could take many more months and the Legislature's public hearings would provide a platform for information to potentially come through faster.

"There's a role for them, but I think a thorough investigative process needs to happen," Mr. Ananich said. "Independently would've been preferable, but if that's not going to happen, I think it's our responsibility to do some check and balance just for that alone, for us to do it."

HOUSE CALLS FOR FEDERAL INVESTIGATION: While Mr. Ananich made his request on the Senate floor Thursday, Flint-area state representatives pushed for a federal investigation into the Department of Environmental Quality after a story came out Thursday claiming the department knowingly dropped two lead test

samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard.

Had the tests been counted, action could have been taken earlier on the water crisis, they alleged in a statement late Thursday.

Rep. Sheldon Neely (D-Flint) called for Mr. Wyant to be removed from his post by the governor and sent several letters to the governor and Attorney General Bill Schuette requesting such, a statement indicated.

"It is shameful and appalling to me that the men and women we entrust to keep us safe at the highest levels of state government would purposely put the health of Flint's residents at risk," Mr. Neeley said. "For the past year, the Flint community has been subjected to high levels of lead in their water. Action clearly could have been taken earlier to protect the children who have been the most at risk. This behavior borderlines on criminal activity. The governor should immediately terminate the director of the DEQ and all culpable members of the staff."

Rep. Phil Phelps (D-Flushing) said the DEQ's explanation in the story (by Michigan Radio, the statement indicates) doesn't add up.

"This is just one more instance of the DEQ covering something up, and even more of a reason they fought me when I sent a FOIA requesting information relating to the water crisis in Flint," Mr. Phelps said. "There must be a full federal investigation into the state on how they handled these samples."

Report: Construction Could Renew Lead Contamination In Flint Homes

Flint is taking steps to be sure its municipal water is not dissolving lead from the inside of old pipes as it passes to consumers, but construction projects that come in contact with those old pipes could still make them hazardous, a final U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report on the issue said.

Department of Environmental Quality officials noted the report says they are already implementing the recommendations from an earlier draft of the report.

The report, issued Wednesday, said not only are the lead pipes themselves a risk, but any pipes downstream of them in the water system could also pose a risk. The pipes develop scale inside that could contain lead where the pipe itself is lead or where the water coming into the pipe first ran through lead, the report said.

"Consequently, even with corrosion control treatment in place in the future, physical disturbances will be capable of dislodging the high lead-bearing scale and sediment from non-lead pipes as well as lead pipes, as was the case in the earlier EPA study," the report said. It included pictures from studies of another water system that showed where the scale had been dislodged by construction near the water lines.

The report did note that one of the first homes tested based on complaints of water quality problems had a longer than usual lead service line. Flint officials said the home was probably one of the first on the block and so had a service line that ran to a water main on a major street rather than the newer main that runs down the street on which it is located.

The report recommended that EPA develop a procedure for minimizing effects of construction near or including pipes that might have lead-containing scale in them. It also recommended education efforts for both residents and contractors on the risks of disturbing the pipes.

"Residents should be notified of scheduled work by water and non-water utilities and informed of the potential risk of increased lead levels due to these disturbances," the report said.

The letter attached to the report notes that the state and Flint have already taken steps to correct the issue, including changing back to Detroit's water system.

Even so, Flint-area legislators are calling on their colleagues and the administration to do more to ensure the problem not only does not happen again, but the appropriate agencies or individuals be held accountable (see separate story).

"We appreciate the EPA's acknowledgement that most of the recommendations from the draft version of the report are already being implemented by DEQ," department spokesperson Brad Wurfel said.

But he said the EPA has also taken some of the blame for the situation and issued new copper and lead guidelines designed to clarify some of the confusion that led to the actions in Flint.

"The ambiguity of the lead and copper rule on the issue of corrosion control has been central to the situation in Flint," Mr. Wurfel said. "We appreciate having that acknowledged and clarified. It can only help Michigan and every other state into the future."

Senate Passes Alternative Teaching Certificate Bill, Ends Dower Rights

Individuals who are not certified or endorsed to teach certain critical shortage disciplines such as writing, journalism or health sciences might still be able to teach under legislation passed largely along party lines in the Senate on Thursday.

SB 491 has seen numerous changes since first introduced, but in the bill's final form, an individual's service as a full-time instructor in a field of specialization at the college level would be considered occupational experience in that field, which is one of the conditions for teaching as a non-certificated teacher.

Such an individual could teach in a field of specialization if he or she had, in the previous seven years, at least five years of occupational experience (rather than a major or a graduate degree in that field) for certain subjects, or met other requirements if teaching a foreign language, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis indicated.

"Expanding the number of subjects is a problem. It dilutes the teaching pool by putting more unqualified people in the classroom," Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement through his spokesperson. "Rather than striving for the best, we are setting for the lowest common denominator. Michigan kids deserve better."

The bill also requires an alternative teaching program (for an interim teaching certificate) to include training in classroom management.

Certain career and technical education instructors would be exempt from the requirement to have a bachelor's degree in order to receive an interim teaching certificate, and the Department of Education would determine what specifically those areas would be.

The bill allows an individual seeking an interim teaching certificate to have more than one subject matter endorsement if he or she had more than one graduate degree or had a bachelor's degree with more than one

major, as well as meeting other requirements.

Initially, the bill cleared the chamber on a 30-8 vote with all Democrats except Mr. Ananich, Sen. Virgil Smith of Detroit and Sen. Bert Johnson of Highland Park voting in opposition. But a motion to reconsider the vote was later made and the bill passed on a 27-11 with all Democrats except Mr. Smith voting in opposition and Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) joining them.

DOWER RIGHTS: Some controversy was generated over a package of bills (SB 558, SB 559 and SB 560) seeking to repeal certain provisions of law related to dower rights, or a wife's right, upon her husband's death, to a life estate in one-third of the land that he owned.

SB 558 specifies that in most cases a wife's dower right would be abolished and unenforceable either through statute or common law, though that would not apply to a widower's dower elected by a woman whose husband died before the bill's effective date or a widow's right to elect dower under the Estates and Protected Individuals Code if her husband died before the bill's effective date.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) on the Senate floor expressed some concerns about the bills as it relates to a woman's right to receive the property or assets she is entitled to in cases of domestic violence relationships or other scenarios.

But bill sponsor Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said dower "is an ancient, archaic law when women were not supposed to own property. It's outdated and unconstitutional," he said, pointing to the legislation having support from the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and others.

"The titles are a complete mess when this happens, and we have many more modern laws protecting both spouses in the case of divorce," Mr. Jones said.

The package was sent to the House on a 34-4 vote, Ms. Warren joined by Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit), Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) in opposition.

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Legislation

Governor Rick Snyder signed into law Thursday legislation setting a portion of a teacher's annual evaluation contingent upon student growth during the academic year and requiring districts to select or develop an evaluation tool.

Mr. Snyder's signing of SB 103 (PA 173, immediate effect) brings to a close an arduous, at times acrimonious, years-long effort to overhaul how districts evaluate teacher performance.

"Michigan has wonderful teachers, dedicated to helping all their students reach their full potential and become lifelong learners," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "This new law helps them grow as educators through improved feedback and evaluations."

Starting in the 2017-18 school year, 25 percent of a teacher's evaluation would be based on student growth. That would rise to 40 percent for the 2018-19 school year.

Growth would be based on two parts. In grades where students take state assessments, the assessments would count for at least 40 percent of the growth measurement. In grades where state assessments are not

administered, at least 50 percent of the growth measurement would come from research-based growth measures or alternative assessments.

The portion of teacher evaluation not related to student growth would come from the new evaluation tool each district or charter school chooses.

All teachers will be assigned an effectiveness rating of highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

A teacher rating ineffective on three consecutive evaluations must be fired under the new law.

Similar provisions will apply to school administrators.

State Must Do Better To Get More People In College, Panel Told

For several years, officials have argued more Michigan residents need to attend college to help the economy, but at a committee hearing on Thursday, education and college officials said more also needs to be done to encourage students to attend college to help prevent the possibility of declining enrollment at universities.

The main message remains the need for higher education to help improve the economy. State Board of Education President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said that by 2025, the state will need 490,000 more students than current trends forecast who have at least an associate's degree or workplace certification. The state will also need 231,000 more people with at least a bachelor's degree than trends forecast to keep the economy chugging.

But the state also faces demographic factors that indicate the number of traditional high school students will not increase over the years, members of the House Higher Education and Community Colleges Appropriations Subcommittees were told.

Eric Guthrie, Michigan's demographer, said the state, like the rest of the nation, is getting older.

But Michigan is getting older a little faster than the rest of the U.S. The median age of Michigan's population is now 39.6, while nationally the median age is 37.7, he said.

Mr. Guthrie also said total college enrollment, in both universities and community colleges, tends to increase when the economy is bad. Individuals needing work will often attend college to update and improve their skills.

As the economy has improved, the total enrollment in Michigan's community colleges has declined. In 2010, there were approximately 200,000 community college students, and that number has fallen to about 160,000. But Mike Hansen, president of the Michigan Community College Association, said the current enrollment is still at the level it was in 2008, and enrollment has grown significantly at the state's community colleges over the last 15 years.

Guarding against enrollment decline, Susan Borego, chancellor at the University of Michigan-Flint, said the state must continue to attract international students and students from other states, but it must do a better job of getting more Michigan elementary and secondary students to be ready both academically and emotionally to attend college.

The state must "double down" on those efforts, she said, which means getting students into a mindset of going to college very early, as research shows that as early as the third grade students begin thinking about attending

college.

Now, just 18 percent of 9th grade students in Michigan anticipate attending college; in Massachusetts - the state with the highest number - it is 30 percent, she said.

While more has to be done to encourage students to attend college, Ms. Borego also said efforts have to continue to have students academically ready for college. Just 1 percent of Flint High School students are ready for college, she said.

Efforts to boost academic preparedness were also discussed by Mr. Austin. Schools have to be able to determine early enough if students will need remediation classes to be college ready, he said.

Mr. Austin also stressed that additional student aid to make college affordable and simplified rules to make it easier for students to get aid is needed.

House Panel Urges Reversal At Veterans Homes

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is moving toward having fewer people in each room at its veterans homes, but members of the House Appropriations Military and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee said the move was wrong-headed.

A leader for the union at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans also questioned the motives behind the move.

Jim Dunn, deputy director of the Veterans Affairs Agency, which oversees the homes within the department, said the move from four residents per room to two was an effort to bring the homes up to current standards for veteran care.

Mr. Dunn said the Grand Rapids home would not likely meet that standard. "We'll probably never get to one person rooms because of the layout," he said. But he expected to be able to drop the occupancy to two per room.

And he said plans for the currently vacant fourth floor of the Grand Rapids campus main building was a "neighborhood" design where residents would have access to all their needs, including cooking space, on the floor.

Mr. Dunn said the remodel was expected to cost about $3 million, but he also expected to be able to continue the practice of getting federal matching funds to cover much of the costs.

He said the program so far is able to live within its budget and would only be coming back to the state for more General Fund if it is not able to keep its occupied bed count at the levels projected when the budget was adopted. Part of the budget is a per diem from the federal government that drops if occupancy drops too far, he said.

But committee members said the program was going in the wrong direction in trying to reduce number of occupants per room.

"My experience in the medical profession, often we isolate people into a room by themselves and that often is not

healthy either," Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing) said. "I'm not suggesting that you abandon your plan, but I'm suggesting you reevaluate."

While he agreed on the need for some of the improvements Mr. Dunn had discussed - like new boilers to replace those that had failed - he cautioned against renovations that could impinge on the facilities' ability to serve as many veterans as possible.

"The important thing is to take care of people, not have a nice place to take care of people that's state of the art," he said.

Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg), chair of the subcommittee, said his father had initially been in a private room in his nursing home but was moved to a shared room.

"That ended up being a real blessing for my father because suddenly he had somebody he could talk to," Mr. Inman said. "To sit in a room alone is a lonely experience."

Rep. Philip Potvin was vehemently against the plan.

"You're really self-destructing that facility by going from a four-bed room to a one-bed room," Mr. Potvin said. "Our goal here is to take care of as many vets as possible."

Mr. Potvin also argued that many of the younger veterans coming back from the Middle East are suffering ailments, physical and mental, that would not allow them to care for themselves as the proposed renovations would envision.

He said the facilities could risk losing state support if they move ahead with the plans.

Mr. Inman tried to dial back the discussion near the end of the meeting.

"We have deep feelings on a number of issues," he said. "No one representative can tell a department head what to do. It takes the full body of the Legislature to give the department a directive."

While he directed his comments to the whole subcommittee, Mr. Potvin was the sole member remaining at the time.

Mr. Potvin also agreed with Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) that the subcommittee needed a separate hearing on a recent audit by the state and inspection by the federal government.

Mr. Yanez particularly chastised the agency for security at the Grand Rapids facility.

"I and Rep. Miller went to visit facility," he said, referring to Rep. Derek Miller (D-Warren). "We went in a side door. We even escorted a vet to his physical therapy appointment. We were never challenged once."

To references of pulling state support for the homes, Mr. Dunn noted that the federal assistance helping to run and repair the facilities flows only to state homes, not to private facilities.

Mark Williams, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees local that represents practical nurses in the facility (and a former worker laid off when the facility moved to a private contractor for direct care workers), said the proposed renovations are designed in part to reduce the capacity of

the home to fall in line with staffing ability while keeping federal funds flowing.

Mr. Dunn said both homes exceeded the care hours required by federal standards. The homes must provide at least 2.5 hours of nursing care daily for each resident, and he said the Grand Rapids home was at 2.9 hours.

Mr. Williams argued that came from counting staff as direct care workers who should not be. He said the facility is also regularly under-staffed, sometimes with more staff absent than present.

"They knew they couldn't staff the home as a 755-bed facility," he said. "We needed to reduce the population of the facility."

He said he would provide documentation on the staffing shortfalls at a future meeting.

Poll: Carson Beats Democrats, Democrats Beat Trump

Michigan native Ben Carson, running for the 2016 Republican presidential nominee, would top both the two leading Democrats for president in the state, a poll released Thursday showed.

However, both Democrats - former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont - would beat Donald Trump in Michigan, the same poll showed.

The poll was conducted by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA of 600 likely voters in the state between October 25 and October 31. The poll has an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll showed slightly more of those asked identified as Democrat than Republican or independent (40 percent compared to 36 percent and 20 percent, respectively). Most of those people (52 percent) believed women should have the right to an abortion, and by one percentage point - 48 percent to 47 percent - approved of President Barack Obama's job performance.

However, the poll also showed 35 percent of respondents considered themselves conservative, 34 percent considered themselves moderate and 21 percent saw themselves as liberal.

Asked to choose between Mr. Carson - a retired neuro-surgeon who has gained notice for his soft-spoken approach and open embrace of religion - or Ms. Clinton or Mr. Sanders, the poll found Michigan voters leaned toward Mr. Carson. He won a plurality of voters against each.

Against Ms. Clinton, Mr. Carson was favored by 46 percent of those asked. Another 40 percent backed Ms. Clinton, while 14 percent were unsure.

Mr. Carson did even better against Mr. Sanders, though his support did not match that against Ms. Clinton. A total of 45 percent backed Mr. Carson to 36 percent support for Mr. Sanders. The remaining 19 percent were unsure.

However, both Democrats were favored over business-executive and promoter Donald Trump. Again, though, they lead Mr. Trump with a plurality, not a majority.

If Mr. Trump were the nominee against Ms. Clinton, she would poll 46 percent to his 38 percent, with 16 percent undecided.

Against Mr. Sanders, the Vermont senator polled 48 percent support to Mr. Trump's 36 percent, with again 16 percent unsure.

Sex Offenders Registration Act Revised Per Court Case

After the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan held that several provisions of the Sex Offenders Registration Act were unconstitutional in a case at the end of March, Sen. Rick Jones drafted legislation to clarify language in the statute that cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously Thursday.

In short, the plaintiffs in the case were six Michigan residents required by SORA to register as sex offenders and comply with the act for life, but they argued portions of the act violated the Due Process Clause because certain provisions are vague, interfere with the registrants' fundamental right to engage in common occupations of life, and infringe on their right to direct the education and upbringing of children, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of SB 581 indicates.

The bill revises the prohibition against a sex offender registrant's loitering near a school to indicate that a parent or guardian would not be loitering if he or she was on school property to transport his or her child to or from school or a school event; attending an event sanctioned by his or her child's school; or meeting with a school employee regarding his or her child enrolled at that school.

The bill also defines loitering to remain for a period of time, whether or not in a vehicle, with the intent to engage or solicit another person to engage in an act prohibited by a listed offense involving a minor for which registration is required under the act.

"School safety zone" is also redefined to mean school property and the area that lies 1,000 feet or less from the property line of school property. And "school property" is redefined as a building, playing field, or other property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school that is clearly marked and identified as a school property.

The bill also revises information a registrant is required to provide, including information that must be reported immediately and in person; and it revises information that must be included in the law enforcement database of registrations and the publicly available website maintained by the Department of State Police.

Finally, the bill revises provisions dealing with a waiver of initial and annual registration fees for a registrant who is indigent (in which case the fee must be waived until the first reporting month in which he or she was no longer indigent, under the bill).

"It is important to clarify the law so that we are protecting our children and still meeting the federal guidelines," Mr. Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said of his bill, in a statement.

A substitute was adopted to the bill and sent to the full Senate for consideration.

MINOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG EXEMPTION: The committee also reported without substitute HB 4843 exempting a person under 21 years of age from prohibitions against possessing and using certain prescription drugs if he or she sought medical assistance or accompanied another person who sought assistance for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

The exemption would not, under the bill, prevent investigation and prosecution of a person for any other

violation, or be grounds for suppression of evidence in the prosecution of other criminal charges.

And the bill requires a health facility or agency to develop a process for notifying the parent, guardian or custodian of a minor under the age of 18 who sought or was presented for emergency medical treatment for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

"It is my hope this bill help reduce the number of deaths among young people and encourage youth to do the right thing (as necessary)," Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), sponsor of the bill, told the committee. "We shouldn't be afraid to save a life."

Snyder Expands Pipeline Board

Governor Rick Snyder issued an executive order Thursday adding a tribal government representative to the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.

With the new order (EO 2015-14), Mr. Snyder appointed Homer Mandoka, chair of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, to the board.

"Michigan's tribal governments play a vital role in the preservation of our state's world-class resources," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "I am confident Chairman Mandoka's passion and work ethic will be an asset to the board and I thank him for his willingness to help ensure our lakes, streams and rivers are protected for years to come."

Mr. Mandoka, of Bronson, becomes the 16th member of the board.

PSC Eliminates DTE Electric's Renewable Energy Surcharge

As has been the case with numerous other utilities that had imposed a surcharge upon their customers to pay for their renewable energy investments as mandated by the 2008 energy law, the Public Service Commission on Thursday approved a settlement agreement amending DTE Electric Company's renewable energy plan to eliminate the utility's energy surcharge of 43 cents per meter per month, effective January 1, 2016.

"The falling cost of wind-generated energy has prompted DTE to eliminate its renewable energy surcharge," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement about the settlement (case U-17793). "DTE joins Consumers Energy, which eliminated the renewable energy surcharge last year. More Michigan customers will see the tangible benefits of lower renewable energy costs on their bills."

In a separate case, the PSC approved a settlement agreement reconciling DTE Electric Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in an increase of 29 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, effective January 1, 2016 (case U-17832).

CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC BECOMES MEMBER-REGULATED: The PSC also directed Cloverland Electric Cooperative to make certain filings and to meet with PSC staff as it transitions to a member-regulated cooperative effective January 19, 2016. It will become the eighth electric cooperative to do so since the new law became effective, the PSC said (case U-17971).

INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY DECREASE: The PSC also approved a settlement agreement reconciling Indiana Michigan Power Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in

a decrease of 21 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity effective with the next billing cycle (case U-17833).

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 6, 2015
News

Appeal denied: Medical marijuana firings get jobless pay (Associated Press, 11/6/2015)

Sue Snyder touts plan to decrease Michigan cancer deaths (Associated Press, 11/6/2015)

The graying of Michigan farmers, and what they will leave behind (Bridge Magazine, 11/6/2015)

Flint lawmaker wants hearings on water controversy (Detroit Free Press, 11/6/2015)

Poll: Michigan voters favor Ben Carson for 2016 (Detroit Free Press, 11/6/2015)

Flint sending out 1,800 new notices for past-due water bills (Flint Journal, 11/6/2015)

Legislators call for investigation into altered Flint lead report (Flint Journal, 11/6/2015)

How Michigan lawmakers voted on fuel tax, vehicle fee hikes (Grand Haven Tribune, 11/6/2015)

Wurfel leaving Snyder's office (Lansing State Journal, 11/6/2015)

Ananich seeks subpoena power in call for legislative hearings on Flint water crisis (MLive, 11/6/2015)

Failed prevailing wage repeal petition drive prompts calls for investigation, prosecution (MLive, 11/6/2015)

Politics at the pump: Will Michigan road funding deal help or hurt House Republicans in 2016? (MLive, 11/6/2015)

Snyder signs Michigan teacher evaluation overhaul into law (MLive, 11/6/2015)

Detroit school rescue plan hits resistance (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Experts: Water health dangers don't subside in Flint (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Mich. lawmakers want Canada nuke waste facility blocked (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Same-sex marriage pioneers, kids cheer joint adoption (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Editorials

Detroit students unfairly pay the price for the district's debts (Bridge Magazine, 11/6/2015)

Cotter: Michigan roads plan gets the job done right (Detroit Free Press, 11/6/2015)

Try every way to get to bottom of Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 11/6/2015)

How Flint's water crisis pushed road funding plan ahead (Michigan Radio, 11/6/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Angry Michigan voters will hate the GOP roads plan (MLive, 11/6/2015)

Bill restores fairness to tax assessing (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/6/2015)

Immigration reform would help Detroit (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Jacques: In Detroit schools debate, listen to parents (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Opinion: Feel-good state policies cost you money (The Detroit News, 11/6/2015)

Michigan's bad road bills (Toledo Blade, 11/6/2015)

Blogs

One Republican On Road Funding And The General Fund (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/5/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 9, 2015
News

Michigan road-fix plan becomes 2016 campaign issue (Associated Press, 11/9/2015)

State rolls dice on sports betting (Crain's Detroit Business, 11/9/2015)

House wants tougher penalties for abuse of elderly (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Metro Detroit itching to get new aid for roads (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Michigan ranks last in laws on ethics, transparency (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

New program gives expanded care for low-income people (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Bill would give some state workers police powers (Lansing State Journal, 11/9/2015)

More than scales: A day with a motor carrier officer (Lansing State Journal, 11/9/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder backs committee-approved House energy plan for Michigan (MLive, 11/9/2015)

How to thank this veteran (and others): Support prevailing wage (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette targeted by national PAC for Clean Power Plan lawsuit (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Tough-vote fatigue, buyers remorse in wake of road funding deal (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan lawmaker calls for swift action against Asian carp threat (Petoskey News-Review, 11/9/2015)

Experts: Water health dangers don't subside in Flint (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Lawmakers, Snyder pivot to energy, Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

PAC ad knocks Schuette for opposing clean energy plan (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Prison call rate cuts help inmates, hurts jail budgets (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Senate leader opposes bonds to accelerate road fixes (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Editorials

Robert Erwin: Republican roads fix unfair, unrealistic (Battle Creek Enquirer, 11/9/2015)

Is Michigan on the road to ruin? (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Year before water change, state knew of risks in Flint (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Full investigation needed at every level in Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/9/2015)

Rick Haglund: Will new UAW contracts help restore Michigan's middle class? (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Bill restores fairness to tax assessing (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/9/2015)

Arellano: Strong evaluations can boost teaching (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Finley: Politics of road deal are baffling (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Our Editorial: Blight program needs diligent watchdogs (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Blogs

About That Poll On Central Registration For Schools In Detroit… (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/6/2015)

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Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, November 9, 2015
Attachments: Nov9.htm; Nov9Rules.htm; 151109dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, November 9, 2015

Senate Panel To Vote On Eliminating Straight-Ticket Voting

Casperson Announces For Congress

State Report: Gas Tax Revenue Down More Than $100M Since Peak

Schuette: Ads Lie About Environmental Record

House, Senate Dems Seek To Change Campaign Finance Law

DEQ Launches Video To Update Flint Water Testing Results

MIChild Becomes Medicaid Expansion Program

Virtual Tour Of Capitol Debuts

Capital Notebook: Poll Shows Opposition To Guns In Schools

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Volume #54, Report #222 -- Monday, November 9, 2015

Senate Panel To Vote On Eliminating Straight-Ticket Voting

A bill that would eliminate straight-ticket voting is set for a committee hearing on Tuesday in the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, and the chair of the committee expects the bill will head to the full Senate floor.

Michigan general election ballots allow voters, if they wish, to vote for a party's entire slate of candidates with a single mark instead of having to individually select each candidate for partisan office.

"I think there is merit to having individuals observe the choice on the ballot between one party and another. The overwhelming majority of states in nation have eliminated straight ticket," Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), chair of the committee, said Monday. "Michigan is one of only a small handful (of states) that has straight-ticket voting."

The last attempt to end straight-ticket voting came in 2001, but voters repealed the law in the 2002 election after Democrats gathered enough signatures to put the legislation up for referendum. There has been no serious attempt to eliminate straight-ticket voting in Michigan since, but the straight-ticket option has long been seen as helping Democrats more because more of their voters vote a straight ballot.

Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) is the lead sponsor on the bill, SB 13, among the first 20 bills introduced when the Senate re-convened for its new session in January (See Gongwer Michigan Report, January 20, 2015). Mr. Knollenberg did not return a request for comment on the legislation.

"He feels very strongly about the issue and I find it has merit as well," Mr. Robertson said of Mr. Knollenberg. "I think certainly it's something that has been discussed for some time. It's been attempted on some other occasions, (and) I'm happy to support it."

The committee is set to meet at 9 a.m. in room 110 of the Farnum Building.

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE: SB 110, a bill by Mr. Robertson to change the election of county executive in a county government to gubernatorial election years, is also slated for final passage in the Senate, a tentative session agenda released Monday indicated. The bill was reported from committee in early June and has Democrats on watch (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 5, 2015).

UNION LEAVE TIME: Also expected to see final passage is a pair of bills, SB 279 and SB 280, to disallow paid leave time for union officials of state and local government unions as they conduct contract negotiations. The bills were reported from committee in mid-June (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 16, 2015).

Casperson Announces For Congress

Sen. Tom Casperson confirmed Monday what has been expected: he is running for the 1st U.S. House District.

Mr. Casperson (R-Escanaba) is the first Republican officially announced to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls). And this would be his second attempt at the seat, having lost to then-U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak in 2008.

He said he would bring Upper Peninsula sensibilities to Washington.

"Way too often it seems that Washington, D.C., is where common sense goes to die," Mr. Casperson said in the statement announcing his candidacy. "Unaccountable bureaucrats, unresponsive government agencies, regulations, restrictions and taxes. Here in the 1st District, we've seen all that and more, and more often than most other places.

"I'm running for Congress because it's time we make Washington listen to us. I'm running to bring our values, our common sense and our voice to our nation's Capital," he said.

He said he also has the elective office experience needed for the post. Mr. Casperson would be forgoing his final two years in the Senate if he wins the seat. He moved to the Senate after serving six years in the House.

Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle), who has been considering a run for the seat, said Mr. Casperson's announcement was not a surprise and would not affect his own decision or timeline.

"We are still evaluating the challenges of running for Congress," he said.

Mr. Pettalia said he has been traversing the district seeking support and would announce "shortly" whether he has enough. As to how long shortly is, he said, "I don't want to box myself into that."

Military and Veterans Affairs Deputy Director Jason Allen, a former senator from the region and another potential Republican candidate, did not return calls Monday.

Mr. Casperson, one of the Legislature's best retail campaigners whom many Republican consultants see as the party's best choice to win what will be a competitive race against the Democratic nominee, immediately faced fire from the right and the left.

Democrats were quick to strike out at Mr. Casperson's campaign, dubbing him 'Tom Taxperson".

"This morning, Tom Casperson, who just voted to punish seniors and working families with higher prices at the pump and a new 'birthday tax' on the vehicles they drive, announced he's running for Congress," Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon said in a statement. "Time and again, Casperson has put corporate special interests and the wealthy above families that struggle to make ends meet. With his latest vote to hurt and tax seniors and working families, voters in the 1st Congressional District will no doubt reject Tom 'the Taxperson' Casperson."

But Republicans with a more conservative bent than Mr. Casperson - who besides supporting the road funding package also backed Medicaid expansion - hope to deny him the GOP nomination. Scott Hagerstrom, head of a new group, Tax-Hiking Republicans, slammed Mr. Casperson for his voting record in the Legislature.

"Tom Casperson supported Medicaid expansion, the largest tax hike in the last 50 years with Proposal 1, and

raising the gas tax 15 cents," Mr. Hagerstrom said. "We don't need tax-hiking Republicans in Congress like Tom Casperson. We need true conservatives to represent us."

State Report: Gas Tax Revenue Down More Than $100M Since Peak

Michigan's gas tax revenues totaled $820.6 million in fiscal year 2013-14, down more than $120 million since their peak more than a decade before, a report by the Department of Treasury shows.

During the same time frame, total gasoline usage is down more than 600,000 gallons annually.

And what is now the state's largest transportation-based revenue source, the registration tax, collected $940.6 million. While that figure is $120 million more than the fuel tax raised, it is also just slightly more than the amount the tax raised approximately a decade ago.

The report was issued before the Legislature last week approved a package that will ultimately increase both the fuel and registration taxes to add $600 million in revenues to road and transportation funding. The package also calls for some $600 million to come from the General Fund for transportation funding. The tax and spending changes in the package would not start until at least 2017.

The report did not have figures for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

But the report did point out that at the current 19 cents a gallon, Michigan's gasoline tax puts the state at 37th compared to all states for their gasoline taxes. Connecticut has the highest gasoline tax at 46.8 cents. Alaska has the lowest gasoline tax at eight cents a gallon.

Michigan is also one of a number of states that charges a sales tax on gasoline sales. Combined with the gasoline tax, the report said the state would average 37 cents a gallon on gasoline, ranking it as the 10th highest state for total gasoline taxes.

The report also shows that Michigan is the largest state by population to not have any toll roads. In all, 29 states have toll roads.

And of the $3.5 billion in transportation funds raised in the 2013-14 fiscal year (which included bond sales), more than $1.3 billion came from federal funds.

Local governments received $1.4 billion, or 42 percent of the funds raised, in transfers.

In terms of the gas tax, the peak for funds raised came in the 2001-02 fiscal year, when the tax raised $938.9 million. In fact, since the gas tax was last increased in 1997, the report said gas tax revenues have declined by 0.6 percent a year on average.

Sharp increases in the cost of gasoline and oil, brought on by more expensive production and particularly economic competition from other nations - the biggest competitor being China - has helped drive down total fuel consumption.

Gas consumption hit its peak in 2003, with more than 5.049 billion gallons used in Michigan. At the time, the average price per gallon was $1.55, the report said. By 2014, total consumption was 4.43 billion, with an average price of $3.53 a gallon.

In late 2014, oil prices began to slide and for more than a year gasoline has sold for close to an average of $2.50 a gallon. The report had no data, however, on how that may have affected consumption in Michigan.

Reduced fuel consumption is also a product of improved fuel efficiency in cars and light trucks. In 2014, both domestic and imported models of cars averaged more than 36 miles a gallon. A decade ago, both domestic and imported models averaged less than 30 miles a gallon.

In terms of the registration tax, a major shift the state made in 1983 - to base vehicle registration fees on a vehicle's value instead its weight - played a major role in how the state's tax has grown in collections. That is particularly true given how vehicles have become lighter to improve mileage.

The report showed that the current registration tax for a Ford Focus SE is $106 and for a Cadillac CTS it is $211. If both vehicles were taxed on their weight, they would be charged $29 and $37 respectively.

Schuette: Ads Lie About Environmental Record

Attorney General Bill Schuette said television advertisements that began running over the weekend are designed to cow him and other attorneys general into dropping a challenge to new federal power plant emissions standards, but he said the plan won't work.

Mr. Schuette said he had no plan to drop the challenge to the Clean Energy Plan developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce carbon emissions from power plants.

"This is an effort to intimidate attorneys general not to enforce the law, not to push back," he said.

He said attorneys general had already succeeded against EPA overreach and he expected they would again.

"It's a question are you following the provisions of the Clean Air Act, and they're not being followed," he said.

He said he was one of four attorneys general targeted in ads by Independence USA PAC because of his leadership on efforts to rein in government.

"Big government is on the march ... and I've been leading the fight against the Obama administration," he said.

He noted he would begin November 16 as chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association, where he would be involved both with development of policy and with trying to get more Republicans elected as their state's top attorney.

"We've grown our ranks across the country," he said. "The majority of the attorneys general across the country are Republican."

But he said his media event to counter the ads was not driven by politics (as he is widely believed to be running for governor in 2018 when Governor Rick Snyder cannot seek re-election due to term limits).

"If someone makes a false, nonsensical accusation, I respond," he said, adding, "These ads are just nonsense. I have a very strong record on the environment."

He noted his efforts on Asian carp, the settlement against Enbridge for the Kalamazoo River oil spill and the agreement to prevent tar sands oil from flowing through a pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac.

He said there was no conflict in his efforts to fight the rule and the Department of Environmental Quality's rules that would impose similar emissions standards on power plants.

"You can do more than two things at once in America today," he said.

House, Senate Dems Seek To Change Campaign Finance Law

Two House Democrats announced Monday they would be joining forces with colleagues in the Senate to try to pass a series of bills they say would increase transparency in state government.

The same day, the Center for Public Integrity announced Michigan had placed dead last among all 50 states for its State Integrity Investigation ranking of state transparency and accountability.

"Our lobby law is so weak that it is nearly impossible to determine which companies are spending millions of dollars to influence our elections," Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) said at a news conference Monday with Rep. Vanessa Guerra (D-Saginaw).

He pointed to the report released Monday, as well as a recent one that found the Michigan Supreme Court election campaign in 2014 was "the most expensive and least transparent in the nation" in terms of judicial elections, Mr. Hoadley said.

Overall, the legislation seeks to require super political action committees to disclose information of donors and for the state to lower its contribution limits back to pre-2013 levels.

The legislation would also require all late filing fees to be paid by the candidate, not through committee funds, as well as require monthly campaign finance reports and doubling all penalties for late filing by elected officials. It would also establish uniform campaign finance reporting dates for all committees.

"In changing the nature of reporting, we'll make it so people can see real-time the effect that last-minute money can make," Ms. Guerra said.

Mr. Hoadley admits there is "no one solution that's going to solve all the money in politics," which is why Democrats are attempting a more comprehensive approach, he said.

CPI REPORT: And the report released Monday by the Center for Public Integrity underscores the need for such legislation, Mr. Hoadley noted.

The report places Michigan at the bottom of all states in terms of government transparency and accountability laws and practices. It received an F in 10 of the 13 categories of government operations that were examined: political financing, executive accountability, legislative accountability, judicial accountability, state civil service management, procurement, lobbying disclosure, ethics enforcement agencies and state pension fund management.

What appeared to hurt Michigan most severely are its comparatively weak Freedom of Information Act, which does not apply to the governor's office, Legislature or judiciary; lack of any personal financial disclosure for elected officials and candidates for office; relatively toothless campaign finance act; and a weak law on lobbying expense disclosure.

Michigan received a similar overall score and letter grade of an F with the first State Integrity report was released in 2012, but it ranked 44th at that time. But the CPI notes the two scores are not directly comparable due to changes made to improve and update the project and its methodology.

However, Michigan received a B- and 5th place ranking for its electoral oversight, though, and B+ (8th place) for state budget processes. It also received a C+ (ranked 32nd) for internal auditing.

The best grade in the nation went to Alaska, who had earned a C, the CPI noted. Only two others earned better than a D+ -- California and Connecticut - and 11 states total receiving failing grades.

The State Integrity Investigation also found that in two-thirds of all states, ethics agencies or committees routinely fail to initiate investigations or impose sanctions when necessary, often because they're unable to do so without first receiving a complaint. Michigan received a score of 25, because based on the cases it has handled, the ethics commission responds to complaints and does not initiate investigations either.

And Michigan is not among the nine states that have adopted open data measures, according to the Sunlight Foundation. Some of those open data measures, though, do little more than create an advisory panel to study the issue.

DEQ Launches Video To Update Flint Water Testing Results

Freeman Elementary School in Flint has some fixtures where lead levels were high, but most of the building had safe water, Department of Environmental Quality officials said in a video released Monday by the department.

State officials tested 31 faucets and drinking fountains in the school and found nine with lead levels above the 15 parts per billion that requires remediation, George Krisztian, Flint Action Plan coordinator, said in the video.

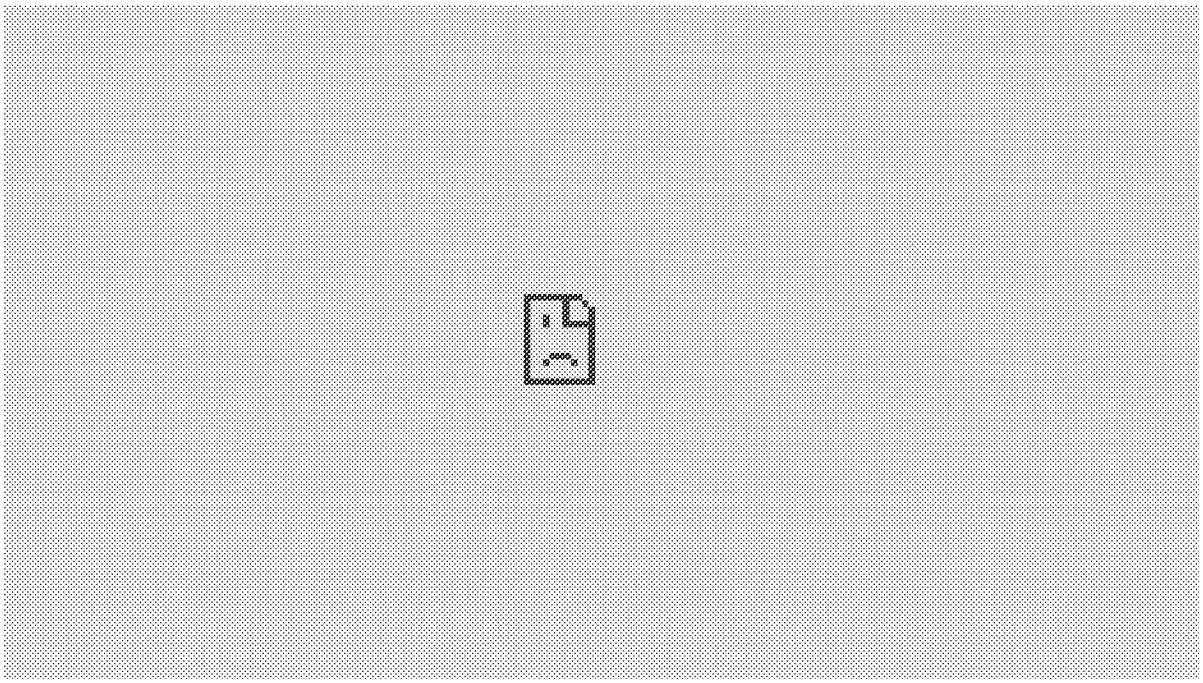
"What our testing showed was that it was clearly fixture-specific," Mr. Krisztian said.

The state is recommending that the school turn off water to those nine faucets, flush the faucets every morning before students arrive, or replace them.

The video said the state has also tested more than 300 water samples from residences and businesses since the beginning of October, with less than 10 percent of those showing lead levels exceeding safe drinking standards.

"The homeowner data that we've looked at so far closely parallels the data that we've been finding in the schools in that we've been able to determine that this is very much a site-specific issue," Mr. Krisztian said.

He urged residents to test their water to determine whether they have lead concerns.



MIChild Becomes Medicaid Expansion Program

Officially on January 1, Michigan's MIChild program to provide health insurance through Medicaid to the children of lower income households will be considered a Medicaid expansion program, the Department of Health and Human Services said on Monday.

The change should mean no practical change in children's coverage, the department said in its notice, although all children getting dental services would now get them through Delta Dental Plans (some children were receiving the benefits through Golden Dental).

The state did not say whether as an expansion plan MIChild would be considered in the same class as the Healthy Michigan plan. MIChild would not be subjected to the same federal waiver requirement as Healthy Michigan (although DHHS officials have requested a waiver from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to reflect that, beginning in the 2015-016 fiscal year, children in all 83 counties are eligible for dental coverage).

The program will continue to be called MIChild, the state said.

And recipients should be able to get access to even more benefits, the state said.

Some recipients will have to switch their current plans, which could also mean a change in providers. Recipients will need to choose a plan certified by the state and located in their geographic region.

The state is changing some plans that will be eligible to provide coverage to regular Medicaid recipients as part of its new contract that takes effect in January. A number of the plans left out of the decision by the state are challenging those actions before the Administrative Board.

Letters to all recipients explaining the changes will be issued, the department said in its announcement.

Virtual Tour Of Capitol Debuts

A virtual tour of the Capitol is now available.

A project of the Michigan State Capitol Commission, the tour enables users to traverse the halls of the Capitol, get a peek inside the House and Senate chambers and even learn about the many portraits and other artwork adorning the Capitol walls.

Part of the idea behind the virtual tour is to give student groups a chance to prepare in advance for their trips to the Capitol.

Capital Notebook: Poll Shows Opposition To Guns In Schools

A poll commissioned by the Michigan Coalition to End Gun Violence shows overwhelming opposition to letting those with concealed pistol licenses carry a firearm onto an educational campus, whether the person is carrying concealed or openly.

Now pending before the Senate is SB 442, which would end the ability for those with concealed pistol licenses to openly carry a firearm into an area now designated otherwise off-limits to firearms and instead allow those license-holders to carry a concealed firearm. Besides schools, gun-free zones include hospitals, houses of religious worship, entertainment and sports venues and child day care centers.

According to the survey conducted by EPIC/MRA, 69 percent of those polled said they oppose allowing license-holders to open carry on school property with just 27 percent in support. Fifty-seven percent oppose allowing CPL-holders to carry concealed onto school property with 39 percent in support.

And 53 percent said they agreed with the view that schools should have the right to prohibit firearms on their property and is not a diminishment of the right bear arms while 40 percent said the U.S. Constitution ensures the right to carry a firearm onto school property.

The survey was conducted October 25-31 among 600 active and likely general election voters. The error margin was plus or minus four percentage points.

TARVER TO HEAD REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S FEDERATION OF MICHIGAN: Republican activist Linda Lee Tarver has been elected president of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan.

BEAR REGULATIONS: The Department of Natural Resources announced Monday that it was beginning the process to develop bear hunting regulations expected to be in place for the 2017 hunting season.

The department's Bear Forum, a 17-member group made up of bear hunters, agricultural interests and the U.S. Forest Service, has scheduled a public meeting at 10 a.m. December 9 at Little Bear East Arena, 275 Marquette Street, St. Ignace.

The group will use the public comment collected at the meeting to draft recommendations to the Natural Resources Commission, which has the ultimate authority over hunting regulations.

EPA AWARDS NEARLY $20M TO CLINTON RIVER PROJECTS IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded new funding for major Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects in the Clinton River Area of Concern totaling nearly $20 million, the agency announced Monday.

Once completed, the projects announced Monday will move the Clinton River Area of Concern toward a more vibrant environment and local economy, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator Cameron Davis said in a statement.

"Our lakes and rivers are part of who we are and our way of life," U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, said in a statement. "Investing in the Clinton River watershed is critical to the health and conservation of our waterways and wildlife habitats. This support for our counties, townships and cities will help keep our waters clean and healthy for generations to come."

Campaign Notes

COLLEEN CARL FORMALLY ANNOUNCES IN 33RD HOUSE: Republican Colleen Carl has officially declared she is running for the 33rd House District in Macomb County. Ms. Carl, who runs a private children's music education business and is a Republican activist, is the daughter of former Sen. Doug Carl. The current seat-holder, Rep. Ken Goike (R-Ray Township), cannot seek re-election to the seat because of term limits.

@PAYTAXESMELISSA: Republicans over the weekend launched a Twitter account to call out Melissa Gilbert, Democratic candidate for the 8th U.S. House District and actress, for unpaid taxes.

Ms. Gilbert has said she has an installment plan to repay the $360,551 in federal income taxes owed for 2011 through 2013.

As of Monday, "Melissa Gilbert should pay her taxes @gilberformi" was the sole post to the new account.

CLEMENTS ENDORSEMENTS: The Sierra Club has announced its endorsement of Democrat Paul Clements in his second attempt to unseat U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph).

Mr. Clements announced the endorsement in a brief fundraising email over the weekend.

SCHUETTE BULLISH ON BUSH: Despite flagging polls and little love from the pundits for his debate performances, Attorney General Bill Schuette said Monday he still expects Jeb Bush to be the Republican Party nominee for president.

Mr. Schuette said Mr. Bush is in about the same place for the 2016 election as Mitt Romney was for the 2012 election.

"This is all about stamina," Mr. Schuette said. "Jeb is the marathon man."

The key, he said, will be for Mr. Bush to ease away from some of his handlers' advice. "Just be yourself," he said has been his advice. "You have to just be direct."

He also said Mr. Bush's coming campaign stop in the state shows the importance of winning Michigan. "You don't come to the state just for a picnic," he said.

Of the current 16 Republican presidential candidates, Mr. Schuette said about 10 are viable, but he expected there would be about five left by the time Michigan's primary comes in March.

TAX-HIKING REPUBLICANS: Scott Hagerstrom, former head of Americans for Prosperity Michigan,

announced a new effort Monday to call out Republicans who have voted for tax increases.

The new federal campaign committee, Tax-Hiking Republicans, will be based in Michigan and its first effort will be to prevent Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) from being nominated in the 1st U.S. House District.

"We're holding the fire to the feet of Republicans," Mr. Hagerstrom told Gongwer News Service of the purpose of the new fund.

Mr. Hagerstrom said Mr. Casperson was a logical first target because he had supported the Medicaid expansion and several efforts to increase fuel taxes. "He was a perfect person to be first to attack," Mr. Hagerstrom said. "We'll see how this goes and we'll look at others down the road."

He declined to indicate, prior to filing campaign finance reports, who was financing the new committee.

Presented To The Governor

By The House

November 9, 2015

HB 4039 PROPERTY TAX (Bumstead) Revises delinquent tax notice by publication.

HB 4134 OCCUPATIONS (Barrett) Authorizes certain military experience as the basis for licensure for a boiler installer, boiler repairer and boiler special inspector.

HB 4195 VENTURE FUND (Pscholka) Prohibits Michigan early stage venture corporation entering new investments or creating additional venture funds.

HB 4196 VENTURE FUND (McCready) Modifies sunset for the Venture Capital Authority Fund.

HB 4362 WORKER'S COMPENSATION (Sheppard) Defines ownership of surplus by self-insurers.

HB 4370 INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX (Hughes) Eliminates limitations and restrictions on deduction of certain retirement or pension benefits and restores treatment of senior citizens and the homestead property tax credit.

HB 4390 ECONOMICS CREDIT (Tedder) Allows 1/2 credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for Michigan Merit Curriculum.

HB 4562 HIGHWAY (Bumstead) Designates a portion of M-37 as the "Brian Derks Memorial Highway."

HB 4614 TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (LaFontaine) Includes tax on motor fuel and alternative fuel in streamlined sales and use tax revenue equalization act.

HB 4616 TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (McCready) Eliminates flat tax rate and establishes an 18-month limitation period for filing refund claims.

HB 4736 VEHICLE REGISTRATION (McCready) Increases passenger vehicle and motorcycle registration fees.

HB 4737 TRANSPORTATION DEBT SERVICE (McCready) Earmarks revenue from increased vehicle registration fees to debt service under 1951 PA 51.

HB 4738 MOTOR FUEL (McCready) Modifies wholesale rate for motor fuel.

By The Senate

November 9, 2015

SB 244 ILLEGAL HUNTING (Pavlov) Increases restitution for the illegal killing or possessing of certain game.

SB 245 ILLEGAL HUNTING (Zorn) Increases penalties for illegally taking or possessing certain game.

SB 246 SENTENCING GUIDELINES (Zorn) Updates references to sentencing guidelines.

SB 414 INCOME TAX (Schmidt) Reduces income tax rates.

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, December 3

Rep. Mike Callton **(R) PAC fundraiser, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 8 a.m., (Guests: Rep. Tom Barrett, Rep. John Bizon, Rep. Martin Howrylak, Rep. Holly Hughes, Rep. Brandt Iden and Rep. Jason Sheppard. Special Guest: Ron Weiser)**

Wednesday, December 9

Sen. Marty Knollenberg **(R) fundraiser, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, November 10

House Financial Services (Committee Record), **(Chr. Forlini, 373-5176), Room 307, House Office Building, 8:15 a.m.**

HB 5017 **CREDIT UNIONS (Forlini) Makes general amendments to the Credit Union Act.**

HB 5018 **CREDIT UNIONS (Pettalia) Makes certain revisions regarding administration and operations of credit unions.**

HB 5019 **CREDIT UNIONS (Clemente) Revises authority to organize or invest in credit union service organizations that provide trust services and other services.**

HB 5020 **CREDIT UNIONS (Theis) Revises requirements regarding examinations by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and provides for confidentiality of certain documents.**

HB 5021 **CREDIT UNIONS (Barrett) Revises provisions relating to mergers.**

HB 5022 **CREDIT UNIONS (Love) Authorizes loan promotion raffles.**

Senate Elections and Government Reform (Committee Record), **(Chr. Robertson, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.**

SB 13 **STRAIGHT-TICKET VOTING (Knollenberg) Eliminate straight-ticket voting procedures.**

House Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee Record), **(Chr. Pettalia, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

HB 4567 **EDUCATION FACILITIES (Jacobsen) Clarifies jurisdiction of superintendent of public institution over approval of public school buildings and sites. (Testimony only)**

HB 5006 HIGHWAYS (Cochran) Names certain portion of I-496 the "Lansing Firefighter Dennis E. Rodeman Memorial Freeway."

House Communications and Technology (Committee Record), (Chr. Jacobsen, 373-2002), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

HB 5034 DIGITAL ASSETS (Forlini) Enacts fiduciary access to digital assets act.

Thursday, November 12

~~Canceled: House Financial Services (Committee Record), (Chr. Forlini, 373-5176), Room 307, House Office Building, 8:15 a.m.~~

HB 5017 CREDIT UNIONS (Forlini) Makes general amendments to the Credit Union Act.

HB 5018 CREDIT UNIONS (Pettalia) Makes certain revisions regarding administration and operations of credit unions.

HB 5019 CREDIT UNIONS (Clemente) Revises authority to organize or invest in credit union service organizations that provide trust services and other services.

HB 5020 CREDIT UNIONS (Theis) Revises requirements regarding examinations by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and provides for confidentiality of certain documents.

HB 5021 CREDIT UNIONS (Barrett) Revises provisions relating to mergers.

HB 5022 CREDIT UNIONS (Love) Authorizes loan promotion raffles.

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~~Canceled: House Insurance (Committee Record), (Chr. Leonard, 373-8538), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.~~

SB 177 CONTROLLING INTEREST (Hune) Requires notice of divesting or acquiring controlling interest in an insurer.

SB 178 RISK AND SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT (Hune) Provides for procedures for own risk and solvency assessment.

House Workforce and Talent Development (Committee Record), (Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

SB 500 TAXABLE WAGES (Horn) Modifies benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.

HB 4552 SCHOOL COUNSELORS (Roberts, B.) Revises requirements for employment as a middle school and high school counselor.

HB 4813 ELECTRICIANS (Price) Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, November 10

Canceled: ~~Indiana-Michigan Boundary Line Commission, County Commissioners Meeting Room, Seventh Floor, 227 West Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, IN, 11 a.m.~~

Tuesday, January 12

Indiana-Michigan Boundary Line Commission, County Commissioners Meeting Room, Seventh Floor, 227 West Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, Indiana, 11 a.m.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Volume #54, Report #223 -- Tuesday, November 10, 2015

Senate Takes First Step To End Straight-Ticket Voting

It was a quick day in the Senate for one of the first bills the chamber introduced this year to eliminate straight-ticket voting, as it cleared a Senate committee Tuesday morning and the full chamber by the evening.

The bill, SB 13, would eliminate the ability for voters to vote for all the candidates of one party by a single selection.

The full Senate would later include additional language to place a $1 million appropriation in the bill from the General Fund to the Department of State to assess the impact of eliminating straight-ticket voting, assist in ongoing compliance and fraud prevention in elections and conduct thorough post-election audits of selected precincts after each election.

The appropriation could also be used to provide remedial follow-up with local election officials to correct any election errors or compliance issues, as well as audit file maintenance by local election officials and provide equipment to facilitate the integrity of the election process.

The inclusion of the appropriation also makes the bill referendum-proof, which Senate Democrats repeatedly pointed out.

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) tried to win an amendment to remove the appropriation but it was defeated largely along party lines. Republican Sen. Patrick Colbeck of Canton Township and Sen. Tory Rocca of Sterling Heights joined all Democrats in support of the amendment, though.

"We all know why it's here. Let's not lie to each other, and let's not lie to the voters of this state. This appropriation is a $1 million insurance policy against the will of the people," Mr. Hertel said in promoting his amendment on the Senate floor. "The only reason to add the appropriation to this bill is to go around the voters and make it referendum-proof. You are afraid of the people you represent, and you should be. The people are tired of this partisan ridiculousness in this chamber."

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee that had earlier in the day reported the bill 4-1, with Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) in opposition, urged a vote against the amendment, saying he believed the purposes for which the appropriation is included "are entirely legitimate."

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), speaking to reporters after session, said he supported Mr. Robertson's assertion and noted that Michigan is one of only a handful of states that still has straight-ticket voting.

"There's more and more people that are identifying as independents, so they don't vote straight ticket or straight party, and I think it's an opportunity ... that people have to look at and study candidates and issues and have to make their selections," Mr. Meekhof said.

Though Senate Democrats attempted the inclusion of numerous amendments that would tie-bar the bill to such things as absentee voting for first-time voters, no-reason absentee voting, electronic registration for voting, and more, all proposed amendments failed.

"You're serving your own self-interest by making it harder to vote," Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said as his no-vote explanation. "We could be making it easier to vote, but we're not. We could be restoring peoples' faith that we work for them, but we're not. If we want our election system to be as bad as our roads, go ahead, pass this bill. But don't expect to get a pat on the back from your constituents, because families know that we're not fixing any problems. They think we're just making things worse, and sadly, they are right."

The bill cleared the chamber 23-13, with Mr. Rocca and Sen. Joe Hune (R-Whitmore Lake) joining Democrats in opposition to the bill. Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) and Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) were absent from session at the time of voting.

Asked if the appropriation would be enough to serve all the purposes that were listed, Mr. Meekhof said there is always an opportunity to do more, but clerks said "this is what they could start with, and the education part is first before the voting process," he said.

But Chris Swope, the Lansing City Clerk who also was representing the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, seemed less interested in an appropriation during his testimony to the Senate committee and more concerned about sorting out the confusion voters will have over the change and the all but likely increased wait times voters will experience at the polls having to go through the whole ballot.

"Even if it takes an individual 30 seconds, if you have a line of voters, that adds up," Mr. Swope said, quoting an estimation by the bill sponsor, Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) on the extra time that may be needed per voter as a result of the change.

Instead, Mr. Swope said, the Legislature should be doing everything it can to make voting easier.

"(Voting) is a privilege and a right," he said. "The ability to vote straight party is good for the voters."

He said this could also cause a problem for illiterate voters, many of whom look at the vignette to understand who they're voting for.

But Eric Doster, a Republican attorney supporting the bill, said he was not sure it would add extra time in all instances. He said he had been through his fair share of recounts, and one of the problems that would come up is when a person votes straight-ticket but then still fills out boxes that might otherwise be contradictory to that choice. And some people check the straight-ticket box but go through the whole ballot anyway, voting for one single party.

And that's why, according to Mr. Knollenberg, his bill does not eliminate straight-ticket voting; it eliminates the checkbox at the top of the ballot, he said.

"People can still vote for all Democrats or all Republicans when a straight-ticket voting checkbox isn't available," Mr. Knollenberg said, noting that 40 states have eliminated straight ticket voting, West Virginia being the most recent.

But Mr. Hood was not buying that argument.

"What you're asking for in this legislation, I can do right now," he said. "You're asking for an individual to go in and check each and every one of the candidates down the list. What you're actually doing is taking options away from the voters."

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon also slammed the Senate's passage of the bill.

"This is yet another way for Republicans to restrict the ability of voters to vote the way they want. The people of Michigan already decided this issue in 2002, when over 60 percent of voters elected to keep straight-ticket voting as an option on our state's ballots," Mr. Dillon said. "Whether you're a Democrat, Republican, or an independent, straight-ticket voting is used by voters of all stripes, for many reasons, none of which require explanation to GOP lawmakers. We should be doing whatever we can to make voting easier for people, not taking away options to make it harder."

And Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, alleged the bill was a direct response to voters rejecting Republican candidates for statewide education board elections. One surprise from the 2014 elections was that while Republicans swept most state races, Democrats still won most of the education board races.

"Senate Republicans proved that they are afraid to face the voters of Michigan and instead are continuing to use their legislative majority to rig the rules in their favor," he said in a statement. "This bill does nothing to advance democracy in Michigan. Instead, it only confirms that Michigan Republicans are not interested in a debate about their failed policies. Suppressing the vote is the act of political cowards, which at this point is typical of what we have seen from the Michigan GOP."

Senate Prohibits Union Paid Release Time, Changes Oakland County Executive Election

The Senate passed a flurry of bills on Tuesday before breaking until December, among them prohibiting paid release time for certain union employees and changing the election of the Oakland County executive to gubernatorial years instead of the current presidential year system.

A lengthy amount of time was spent by nearly every member of the Senate Democratic Caucus ripping most of their Senate Republican colleagues over taking up a pair of bills that would prohibit computing the retirement allowance of public school employees based on employee organization professional services leave or released time (SB 279) and prohibit public employer contracts that pay union officials for time conducting union business (SB 280).

Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), the primary sponsor of both bills, said their purpose was simply to ensure that taxpayers are not paying for union work, but Democrats ripped that argument by saying the bills would instead force taxpayers to pay public sector management overtime for having to conduct union business outside of normal business hours.

"If those employees affected (by this legislation) continue to go on leave without the accrual of pension credits during leave, those costs get shifted to the School Aid Fund, because the salaries would be removed from the pension system. So we are stranding these costs that are currently remitted to the system by outside organizations," Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) said in a speech against the bills on the floor.

He said the bill, according to a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis, would cost the School Aid Fund $900,000, which would remain as long as payroll is stranded and until the unfunded accrued liabilities are accounted for in the pension system. Mr. Knollenberg would later try to knock that argument with a fiscal analysis of the companion bill, SB 280, that says schools could see total cost savings of $2.7 million due in part to that legislation.

"The facts behind Senate Bill 280 are that it is a solution in search of a problem. Union organizations already reimburse public employers for the salary paid to those union officials applicable to the amount of time taken out of their work day to conduct union business on behalf of their organization," Mr. Knezek said. "There is no additional cost to the public employers as a result of our current way of conducting business. There is a reason that labor organizations and business organizations alike oppose Senate Bill 280."

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) called the legislation "nothing more than another bill in a long line of bills attacking collective bargaining."

"That's all it is, that's all it ever was. To say this is some sort of savings to taxpayers - grievances will still be grieved, now they'll be grieved after hours, and taxpayers will have to cover the bill for the management side," Mr. Ananich said. "The unions will still cover their side. So what you're doing is putting more burden ... on the taxpayer, on management. This has nothing to do with saving money. This is nothing more than a long line of vindictive practices going after labor unions."

Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield), Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) and Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) all shared personal experiences as well in an attempt to get their colleagues across the aisle to vote against the bills.

"This bill will hurt more than just unions - it will hurt a lot of the supervisors, the employees, these companies that employ the unions, the teachers, the school districts - you cannot call a union representative in to represent that person, you will create more of a problem," Mr. Gregory said.

And Mr. Bieda added, "Collective bargaining is a collaborative process, and it's meant to better public sector working conditions. There's also a management component in this that I don't think the sponsor, in a very short-sighted approach on this bill, appreciates. Having a union

representative to be able to help work with management on issues that may arise within the work place will alleviate a lot of different problems."

Still, SB 279 cleared the chamber 25-12, with Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) joining all Democrats in opposition, and SB 280 passed 20-17, with Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba), Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth), Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), Mr. Rocca, Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Ida) joining Democrats in opposition. Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) was absent from session.

The Michigan Education Association protested passage of the bills.

"Those school boards that negotiate with local associations for release time do so because they believe it is necessary for the efficient operation of their school district," MEA President Steve Cook said in a statement. "Politicians in Lansing should not be dictating to local boards how to run their districts."

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE: The chamber also passed SB 110 to change the Oakland County executive election to gubernatorial election years. Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), sponsor of the bill, said it would create symmetry among Southeast Michigan executive elections since Oakland County's neighbors, Wayne and Macomb counties, also vote for their executive in at that time.

Bay County also votes for a county executive, and the bill would give them the option of which election year they want for that election, Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said in defending the bill's passage to reporters after session.

Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield), who represents a portion of Oakland County, staunchly opposed the bill's passage.

"As both a resident and an elected official of Oakland County, I just don't understand why the Senate majority doesn't trust the voters of Oakland County to make decisions on their own," Mr. Gregory said. "If you go forward with this vote, there will be 33 votes from senators who do not represent Oakland County residents. What about the voice of the Oakland county voter?

"The election process for the Oakland county executive has been the same for 40 years since the position was first created. In those four decades, there has never been any issue when the election has been held. Why is there a need for a change without a vote of the people?" he said.

And he was further outraged by language added to the bill on the Senate floor that the date by which the Oakland County Board of Commissioners has to approve the legislation is April 1, 2016, and the filing deadline for the election of county executive is 15 days later.

"Usually people run for a county executive (position) a year in advance," Mr. Gregory said. "We're telling Oakland county voters you have 15 days to decide if you want to decide for Oakland county executive. Who does that?"

If the county decides to make the switch, the winner of the 2016 election would serve a two-year term with the next election for a four-year term in 2018.

But Mr. Robertson said the bill is "common sense."

"What's good for the Wayne and Macomb County goose is good for the Oakland County gander," he said.

The bill passed 25-11, with all Democrats except Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit), who did not vote, voting in opposition. Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) also opposed the bill. Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) was absent from session.

FRANCHISE EMPLOYEES: The Senate also passed a pair of bills that would allocate employer responsibilities for employees between franchisor and franchisee (SB 492) and establishes conditions that that determine when a franchisor is an employer of an employee of a franchisee (SB 493).

The bills come in response to a decision by the National Labor Relations Board in December 2014 when it charged McDonald's Corporation as a "joint employer" with its individual franchises in a series of unfair labor practice complaints, meaning the worker plaintiffs and all franchise employees effectively have two bosses: the local business that pay them and the corporate parent.

The new rule would have expanded the size and influence of unions and organized labor in general, but the bills passed by the Senate codify the existing standard in Michigan that, absent clear intent to the contrary, a location employee's employer is that particular franchisee.

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) said the bills sought to solve a problem that doesn't currently exist and were "an assault against the National Labor Relations Board," he said.

And Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) charged the majority with another attempt at "union busting."

"The only thing that makes sure workers in this state get a fair shake is their right to organize and their right to be heard, and we are taking that away from them today," Mr. Young said. "Haven't the workers of this state been through enough?"

SB 492 passed 27-10, with Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) joining Republicans in support of the measure, and SB 493 passed 26-10, Mr. Smith again joining Republicans but Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) having left session prior to the vote and thus not voting.

The National Federation of Independent Business praised passage of the bills.

"The bottom line is that the NLRB actions were encouraged by the Obama administration in order to make it easier for big labor unions to strike and organize franchise business employees and small independent businesses," said NFIB State Director Charlie Owens, in a statement.

"The Michigan Senate is taking action to be sure that, in matters of state law, the ruling by the NLRB will not affect the traditional and correct interpretation of the employer and employee relationship that has governed franchise law in our state for decades."

Federal legislation has also been introduced in Congress to nullify the actions of the NLRB, with U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland), U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Upton), U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-Zeeland) and U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) listed as co-sponsors on the "Protecting Local Business Opportunity Act," NFIB noted.

EPA To Audit DEQ Drinking Water Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman announced Tuesday that the agency would conduct an audit of the Department of Environmental Quality drinking water program in response to the Flint drinking water crisis.

The region will examine the department's implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act and related rules on lead and copper, total coliform, nitrates and ground water, it said in a statement issued Tuesday.

"EPA is conducting this audit to ensure that MDEQ maintains reliable drinking water supplies that meet all of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act," Ms. Hedman said. "This comprehensive audit will provide Flint residents and the people of Michigan with more information about DEQ oversight of public water supplies and will identify actions that may be needed to strengthen the Michigan drinking water program."

During the audit, EPA Region 5 staff expects to go to DEQ offices to review state files on public water system compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. It will also review department oversight of public water systems.

The audit will consist of "a full programmatic review that supplements the reviews of the Michigan drinking water program that EPA conducts each year," the statement indicated.

The EPA expects the on-site audit to take several months, but as soon as it is complete, the agency will prepare a report to be made available to the public, it said.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) welcomed the announcement but said the audit should be in addition to legislative hearings he has called for on the Flint water crisis.

"This EPA review is an important part of the comprehensive examination that is necessary to get to the bottom of how this crisis occurred," he said. "Considering the Center for (Pubic) Integrity's report just yesterday that Michigan ranks dead last for executive branch accountability, an aggressive, thorough series of Senate oversight hearings remains a crucial part of getting all the facts."

And U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint) also welcomed the news with caution.

"While this meeting was an important step forward and provided answers to a number of my concerns, it raised additional questions about the actions of MDEQ and other state officials, including the emergency financial manager, and the decisions they made that led to this crisis," Mr. Kildee said, "An audit is a critical next step that will help uncover the facts and ensure that the appropriate people are held accountable."

DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel, in a statement to The Flint Journal, said the agency welcomes the EPA audit and the department has pledged its full cooperation.

Kivela Arrested For DUI, Seeks Treatment For Alcoholism

Rep. John Kivela was arrested late Monday for operating a vehicle while under the influence and said in a statement he is seeking help for alcoholism.

"I am truly sorry to my wife, family, and constituents for letting them down. I have battled with alcoholism for most of my adult life. My dependence on alcohol has become a problem, and I plan to seek treatment immediately," Mr. Kivela (D-Marquette) said in a statement.

Mr. Kivela was arrested in Clinton County. The Clinton County Sheriff's Department refused to confirm or deny an arrest or release any details about an arrest until after an arraignment.

He will be arraigned November 19in the 65th District Court in St. Johns.

Mr. Kivela is serving his second term in the 109th House District.

House Panel OKs Banning Second Trimester Abortion Procedure

A common second trimester abortion procedure would be banned and deemed a felony under legislation reported by the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday.

HB 4833 and HB 4834 were sent to the full House on party-line votes with the five Republicans voting in support and three Democrats voting in opposition. The bills ban the dilation and evacuation abortion procedure, which is used for 95 percent of second trimester abortions.

In 2014 there were 26,321 reported abortions in the state, with 2,264 being dilation and evacuation procedures, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

"The committee's approval of these bills is a step in the right direction to ensure that this barbaric form of abortion is no longer practiced in Michigan," said Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia), the bill sponsor, in a statement. "As a mother myself, I cannot stand by and allow this gruesome practice to continue any longer."

Proponents of the bill call the procedure a "dismemberment abortion," focusing on the procedure's technique - a physician dilates the uterus and removes the fetus with forceps, often in parts.

The bill defines "dismemberment" abortion as "an abortion in which the physician, an individual acting under the delegation of the physician, or any other individual performing the abortion deliberately and intentionally uses any instrument, device, or object to dismember a living fetus by disarticulating limbs or decapitating the head from the fetal torso and removing the dismembered fetal body parts from the uterus regardless of whether the fetal body parts are removed by the same instrument, device, or object or by suction or other means."

Under the bills, anyone who performs the procedure - except to save the mother's life - would be charged with a felony punishable by two years in prison and/or a $50,000 fine.

"Today is a sad day for the health of women in our state," Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright (D-Muskegon) said in a statement after the committee vote. "With this vote we have effectively dismissed the best advice of medical professionals and substituted the ideological agenda of special interest groups. In no other circumstance would it be acceptable for a bunch of politicians to step into the exam room and dictate how a doctor performs his or her job. Making criminals of doctors who work every day to deliver the best medical care possible is unconscionable and reveals the true agenda of our colleagues across the aisle."

Kansas and Oklahoma both passed similar laws this year and are being challenged in courts. Ms. Cox said during her original testimony last month that she would be prepared to fight a challenge in court.

A group of medical students from Michigan State University joined the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and watched the bills get reported Tuesday, hoping to testify, but the committee did not take any additional testimony.

One student, Jacquelyn Davis, said they are taught to do no harm to their patients.

"This kind of bill would force us to give substandard care," she said. "And we don't want to be practicing in a state that is forcing us to provide poor care to our patients."

Another student, Lindsey Flaquer, noted there are several medical universities in the state and keeping those physicians practicing in Michigan is important.

"We want to keep the future of medicine, progressing in ways that the world is moving, and to implement this policy in hospitals is only going to inhibit Michigan's standard of care," she said.

The full House will now consider the bill.

DHHS AGENTS: The committee also heard testimony on legislation allowing the director of the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint agents of the Office of Inspector General with limited arrest powers to enforce laws pertaining to fraud regarding the federal food assistance program, authorize the agents to carry firearms and allow them to make warrantless arrests under certain circumstances

Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Rockford) said SB 384 and SB 385 focused on the retail side of bridge card fraud rather than the recipient side.

"(The bills) will provide OIG agents with another tool to help limit this kind of fraud," Mr. MacGregor said to committee members. "This legislation is for a specialized unit ... this legislation is not for all OIG agents and definitely does not include human services case workers."

According to the House Fiscal Agency, SB 384 would have no financial impact on local governments and SB 385 would not impact the state's budget.

But the Department of Health and Human Services estimates that the cost of equipping and training up to eight agents within the Office of Inspector General for the implementation of the first bill would be approximately $300,000.

The analysis said the start-up costs would include a custom training program provided by the Department of State Police, as well as any necessary firearms and equipment. These additional costs are anticipated to be funded by existing department resources.

Democrats Launch Ads Blasting Transportation Plan

With the House Democratic leader calling the transportation funding package that Governor Rick Snyder signed Tuesday a "garbage" set of bills, Michigan Democrats launched a series of targeted radio and online ads blasting the proposal as one that will financially hammer the middle class, cut spending to critical programs and provide benefits to the wealthy and corporations.

The ads now are focused on four House Republicans - Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville), Rep. John Bizon (R-Battle Creek), Rep. Holly Hughes (R-White River Township) and Rep. Jason Sheppard (R-Temperance) - whom Democrats are already targeting for the 2016 election. But Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon said there could be ads in other spots.

Mr. Dillon would not say how much the party would spend on the ads, but called the buy significant. The ads would run in the areas for two weeks, he said.

As part of the press conference held to announce the ads, Mr. Dillon and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) urged Governor Rick Snyder to veto the package that they said would not help repair Michigan's roads. Mr. Snyder already had signed seven of the nine bills less than three hours earlier, and about two hours later, he signed the rest of the package at a ceremony in Alaiedon Township.

Mr. Greimel said the plan would provide a "Band-Aid on our crumbling roads and bridges" while cutting as much as $800 million in spending from education, public safety and health care supported by the General Fund.

The package calls for $600 million in gas tax and registration tax increases, and $600 million in revenues from the General Fund. The changes do not start until 2017. The package also calls for an income tax rollback, which both Mr. Dillon and Mr. Greimel said would help upper income individuals more than the middle class.

The package also calls for an increase in the Homestead Property Tax Credit, which Democrats have urged since cuts were made in the program in 2011. But Mr. Greimel said it would have been better for the property tax cut to be part of a "good roads funding plan."

And he charged the package was "part of a trend that we have seen this year of a complete inability and unwillingness on the part of the Republican majority in the House to responsibly govern. And as a result we end up with this garbage package of proposals that fails to fix the roads, number one, and also piles ever higher taxes on those who can least afford them."

House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said the ads proved his argument that Democrats' goal was to position for 2016 elections, not to govern.

"This underscores the point that I've been making all along ever since these quadrant talks broke down, that for some, in this case for the House Democrats, this is all about politics," he said.

And highlighting the different take on the political implications of the package, among the Republicans on the dais with Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cotter was Ms. Hughes. Mr. Cotter said their members will be fine because they will educate the public about the plan.

"We've seen over the five years that I've been in the Legislature that the public actually rewards those that take and tackle tough issues. It's not about wrestling around in the mud, throwing political bombs at each other," he said. "Those members that are eligible for another term will be back."

Snyder Confident GF To Roads To Remain Robust Even In Downturn

ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP - Governor Rick Snyder and legislative leaders celebrated Tuesday as Mr. Snyder signed legislation that would by 2021 dedicate $1.2 billion more in spending on roads before a cheering throng of road builders, trade associations and lobbyists who have fought for years to upgrade revenues for roads.

Mr. Snyder signed two of the nine bills on the grounds of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association in front of road construction trucks and equipment and with vehicles buzzing past on nearby I-96. He signed the other seven bills earlier in the day.

"This is the largest investment in transportation in Michigan in the last 50 years," he said. "Let's remember that. Let's be proud of that."

The package has taken some criticism. The new revenue would not begin to flow in earnest until the 2018 construction season and would not hit the full $1.2 billion in new revenue until 2021. Of the $1.2 billion, $600 million would come from redirecting money out of the General Fund,

which historically has not served as an ongoing source of revenue for transportation, and that $600 million would phase in during the 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 fiscal years.

Mr. Snyder said Tuesday that he anticipated the $600 million would come out of future General Fund growth and not require any cuts to other programs reliant on the General Fund.

"This is not about cutting someone else," he said. "This is about growing the pie."

Asked if the General Fund commitment could survive an inevitable economic contraction and fall in revenues, Mr. Snyder said adjustments might become necessary in all programs, including roads, but that roads would remain a priority.

"I think we're in a good position. You never take it for granted," he said. "Any time we have economic uncertainty and challenges, we always have to make adjustments. ... We're always going to be cognizant of understanding that you can have economic cycles."

Mr. Snyder noted the unexpected need a year ago to reduce spending from the General Fund because of businesses claiming an unanticipated large number of Michigan Business Tax credits.

"We addressed them with no material impact on most people in our state," he said.

House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said the forecasted growth in the General Fund "will create a situation where there shouldn't have to be any cuts."

"To the extent that there's a downturn, and I always acknowledge that, I said it's not a question of if there will be a future downturn, but when, if that were to happen over the next handful of years, we'll have to make some decisions and we'll have to prioritize," he said. "But as I've been saying all along, roads have to be on a very short list of priorities. We look at things like public education, we look at things like public safety, but we also have to look at roads as something the state has to be investing in first."

Democrats have pounced on the plan and are trying to tie it to the most vulnerable House Republican incumbents (see related story). Some conservative activists also have chastised the plan for raising $600 million in new taxes and fees.

Rich Studley, president of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and one of the most long-time ardent supporters of raising new revenue for roads, had a gentle message to those opposed to the plan.

"In the spirit of relentless positive action, I would say to the critics and to the naysayers, thanks for the feedback, but it's time to move forward together," he said.

The credit ratings agency declared Tuesday that the enactment of the road funding package was "credit positive" for the state.

Mr. Snyder signed the following bills:

HB 4736, PA 174 VEHICLE REGISTRATION (McCready) Increases passenger vehicle and motorcycle registration fees.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: April 1, 2016

HB 4737, PA 175 TRANSPORTATION DEBT SERVICE (McCready) Earmarks revenue from increased vehicle registration fees to debt service under 1951 PA 51.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: April 1, 2016

HB 4738, PA 176 MOTOR FUEL (McCready) Modifies wholesale rate for motor fuel.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: January 1, 2017

HB 4614, PA 177 TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (LaFontaine) Includes tax on motor fuel and alternative fuel in streamlined sales and use tax revenue equalization act.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: January 1, 2017

HB 4616, PA 178 TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (McCready) Eliminates flat tax rate and establishes an 18-month limitation period for filing refund claims.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: January 1, 2017

HB 4370, PA 179 INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX (Hughes) Eliminates limitations and restrictions on deduction of certain retirement or pension benefits and restores treatment of senior citizens and the homestead property tax credit.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: 90 days after sine die adjournment

SB 414, PA 180 INCOME TAX (Schmidt) Reduces income tax rates.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: November 10, 2015

HB 4610, PA 181 COMPETITIVE BIDDING (Miller, A.) Provides for requirement for competitive bidding by county and road commissions on certain road projects involving townships.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: October 1, 2015

HB 4611, PA 182 COMPETITIVE BIDDING (Canfield) Changes bidding requirements enfettered into by Department of Transportation and local road agencies and allows the state department to borrow money from local road agencies.

Signed: November 10, 2015; Effective: October 1, 2015

Suspicion-Based Drug Testing Pilot In Clinton, Allegan, Marquette Counties

The Department of Health and Human Services has chosen Clinton, Allegan and Marquette Counties to carry out the suspicion-based drug testing pilot program enacted by the Legislature last term.

Terry Beurer, deputy director of field operations administration for DHHS, said the counties are a reflection of Family Independence Program customers statewide.

Mr. Beurer said two people so far, in the seven weeks the program has been running, answered questions indicating they may have a substance abuse problem. But he said both tested negative for substances.

The department named the pilot program the Family Independence Substance Abuse Disorder Pilot because DHHS is mainly focused on helping families and their children, Mr. Beurer said.

Through a questionnaire, the pilot aims to identify those who may have a substance use disorder. They would then be sent to the local community mental health providers for further screening and possibly treatment.

If the community mental health providers are determined to have a problem, they will be tested and possibly receive treatment. He said it is projected that the cost of testing the referrals would be $125, $50 for screening and $75 for the test.

Mr. Beurer said if they receive treatment, it is expected that Medicaid will pick up the costs.

Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) questioned the process because it relies on a questionnaire filled out by the customer. He said that is a "self-reporting" method and didn't think anyone would bluntly say they were using drugs.

However, the department looks at answers to certain questions to identify barriers and the possibility of a substance use disorder. For example, one question asks if taking a drug test would be a barrier to employment or if they are interested in substance use treatment for themselves or a family member.

He said the department is paying particular attention to heroin and meth use in the counties but is largely focused on all illegal substance use.

Jones Plans To Tie Medical Marijuana To Roadside Testing Bill

As the Senate Judiciary Committee continues to take testimony on medical marijuana legislation, Sen. Rick Jones, the committee chair, said one change he intends to make is tie-barring the bills to separate legislation establishing a pilot roadside testing program for motorists driving under the influence of drugs.

That bill, SB 434, is now pending on the Senate floor.

Under that bill, the Department of State Police would develop a pilot program to test for motorists driving under the influence of drugs. The program would occur in three counties, chosen by the State Police, for one year. Police in the pilot counties would have a swab-based drug detection kit designed to identify the presence of six different controlled substances within saliva and a breath test designed to detect the main chemical in marijuana.

Mr. Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said after Tuesday's hearing that he sees two to three more weeks of work on the medical marijuana bills (HB 4209 and HB 4210).

"I think we're very close to arriving at something we'll be able to vote on," he said.

On Tuesday, the Judiciary Committee heard from several law enforcement organizations: the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, the Michigan Sheriff's Association, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police and the Department of State Police.

All sounded a similar theme: They could never support medical marijuana, but in accepting it as the law of the state, want to make the law more workable.

Ingham County Sheriff Gene Wriggelsworth and Sgt. Amy Dehner of the Department of State Police both urged the Legislature to end or phase out the caregiver model in the medical marijuana law. Caregivers can assist medical marijuana users in obtaining their marijuana.

A major problem, police said, is the overage in marijuana the caregivers grow to treat patients and what happens to that surplus.

"The problem that we have is diversion is still going to continue under these bills," Ms. Dehner said.

Several law enforcement groups also suggested that patients be asked to choose whether they planned to obtain their marijuana from caregivers or dispensaries, but not both.

Mr. Jones said the obstacle to changing the caregiver model is enormous. The Legislature would need a three-quarters majority in both houses to change or eliminate the caregiver model because caregivers were part of the 2008 voter-initiated act.

"I don't have the votes to get rid of that. People need to understand that is something I can't control," he said.

Another point of emphasis from law enforcement Tuesday was on ensuring the secure transport of medical marijuana. The bills contain a licensing regime for secure transporters, but Ms. Dehner asked the committee to prohibit Internet sales because they would be difficult to track. She also called for prohibiting private delivery services, which she labeled "Uber Weed."

Full House OKs Insurance Code Changes

The House on Tuesday passed the first major changes to the state's Insurance Code in 20 years designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers.

HB 4933 and HB 4934 passed 105-1, and HB 4935 passed 103-3.

The legislation would allow health maintenance organizations to offer administrative services organization plans without a financial risk. While currently many HMOs have separate administrative services organization businesses, they are not within the same network.

Under the bills, an HMO would be able to operate an administrative services organization and keep the same network, helping enrollees keep the same doctors.

Other changes included in the bills:

- Medicaid HMOs would still have to have a third of their governing boards comprised of enrollees or representatives of membership, or they would have to create a consumer advisory board;
- Experimental drugs would have an expedited process for approval;
- Minimum dollar coverage for substance disorder services would be eliminated;
- Coverage for illegal activities that include driving with an illegal blood alcohol level or operating a meth lab is excluded;
- Delivery of documents electronically would be allowed under certain conditions; and
- In the Patients Right Independent Review Act, the deadline for filing would change from 60 to 120 days.

MOTORCYCLE FEES: The House also passed legislation that would increase the maximum fee for a motorcycle safety course from $25 to $50.

HB 4853 passed 95-11 and HB 4854 passed 101-5. The bills would increase the fee and require the Department of State to waive the written knowledge test, road signal test and driving skills test for an applicant who had successfully passed a private or public motorcycle safety course.

Under the current program, the public entities providing the classes submit a grant request to the department for reimbursement. Supporters of the bill have said because the fee is low and the Motorcycle Safety Fund has shrunk, they are not always reimbursed for the full amount spent.

The fee has not been changed since 1982 and entities would still be allowed to charge less than $50 if they choose.

House Panel Approves Credit Union Oversight Modernization

Credit unions could see some updates in the way they are regulated under legislation reported Tuesday from the House Financial Services Committee.

The bills, all reported unanimously, are intended to be model legislation for credit union regulation, an analysis said, but they were also a compromise between the credit unions, the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and banks, Rep. Anthony Forlini (R-Harrison Township), chair of the committee, said.

The most substantial change in the substitutes adopted for most of the bills (HB 5017, HB 5018, HB 5019, HB 5020, HB 5021 and HB 5022) was retaining DIFS oversight of credit union bylaws, Mr. Forlini said.

Among some other changes, credit unions would still be able to create charitable accounts, but they would have to notify DIFS of the account.

The institutions would also have to give DIFS a week's notice if they move and would have to provide notice of any emergency closure.

The substitutes reinstate language giving DIFS oversight of loans to credit union officers and requiring the institution's board to meet to make decisions, rather than documenting decisions by signed letter.

The department would still be able to offer best practices recommendations during examinations, but it must re-evaluate the examination process. The examinations are confidential, but can be subject to in camera court review.

Credit unions praised the progress.

"Today's committee vote is a victory for credit unions, but it's only the first step," Ken Ross, executive vice president of the Michigan Credit Union League and Affiliates, said in a statement after the meeting. "We'll continue pressing for these important regulatory reforms designed to reduce unnecessary burdens and improve our competitiveness."

The Michigan Bankers Association and the Community Bankers of Michigan, in a letter to the committee dated Tuesday, said the groups still opposed the bills because they said the new provisions on trust services did not align with current law for other institutions and because the bills would allow credit unions to offer services beyond their geographic footprint

"These items, that we have greatest opposition to, have nothing to do with the easing of the credit unions regulatory burden in the current market," the groups said in the letter. "They are, however, an enormous overreach that expands their business model and their excessive profits to the detriment of community banks throughout Michigan."

The bills now head to the full House.

Education Board Adopts New Science Standards

Michigan students should be doing more science than reading science under standards adopted Tuesday by the State Board of Education.

But it could be as long as seven years before those standards are fully implemented.

The new standards received general praise from science teachers, as they have throughout the development process, but also got some final concerns from parents.

Emily Pohlanski, president of the Network of Michigan Educators, said the new standards would be a welcome change. "They encourage kids to be part of the action," she said.

Among the key changes supporters noted is a shift from separate standards for each grade to coordinated standards that range across the grades, with blending particularly in the middle school grades.

But the board also heard from parents Tuesday concerned that the standards are not high enough and arguing that the state could do better than to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) again urged the state to adopt some of the changes he had recommended, and gathered backing from other legislators.

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) noted the board was not adopting the national standards (which have been tied to the Common Core State Standards adopted by the board but reviled by many conservatives), but Michigan-specific standards that borrow from those and other sources.

"Already, we're seeing results on the whole of Next Generation Science, which we're not adopting," Ms. Weiser said.

She and others said it was time to update the state's standards.

She said the recent results of the Michigan Student Test for Educational Progress "beg for a solution."

"We're not using the same phones we used 10 years ago; we're not using the same computers we used 10 years ago; we don't have the same glasses we did 10 years ago," board member Lupe Ramos-Montigny (D-Grand Rapids) said. "In my mind, the changes are well overdue for the science standards."

But board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said the standards are turning over too quickly.

Pointing to statements from both staff and other board members that the state plans to change its standards at least every 10 years, "That means no one has 12 years under the same standards. There's something dysfunctional about a system like that."

Mr. Zeile also questioned being able to make science fully interactive without some of the rote work required to build the foundation for experimenting. "I don't believe that there's a way to teach and skip that tedium stage," he said.

Department officials also outlined an implementation plan that would have the standards in place in between five years and seven years.

And to some of the opposition to the standards, officials said it was important to note the difference between those, curriculum and instruction. The latter two items are key and are decided at the local district and classroom level, they said.

Mr. Zeile was the sole opposition in the 7-1 vote to adopt the standards.

Education Board Urges Faster Move To Elected Detroit Board

In what became one of its more contentious discussions in recent time, the State Board of Education issued a statement Tuesday welcoming Governor Rick Snyder's plan to reform education in Detroit, but urging that the final product at least include more appointees by city officials.

The board's statement did not directly address the governor's plan, with members noting it had not been introduced as of the end of their meeting, but the statement said the board would support proposals that would improve education and end the debt in Detroit.

"The State Board of Education eagerly awaits the release of draft legislation depicting the Governor's announced plan for Detroit schools," the board statement said.

Key to the final plan, though, has to be quality schools, debt relief for the district and a quick return to an elected board, the statement said.

In particular, the board urged that all of the debt relief come from the state. "The State Board of Education supports proposals whereby the State assumes responsibility for paying off this debt before it grows larger without penalizing other schools and students in Michigan," the statement said.

That statement led to dropping one proposed amendment to the language. The board, in the statement, said its members "support proposals that provide democratic governance and oversight of Detroit's public schools that is educationally and politically accountable to Detroit residents."

Board member Kathleen Straus (D-Detroit) briefly urged that the statement read that the schools also be financially accountable to Detroit residents.

"It could be interpreted as they're going to pay off their own debt," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said in urging against the language, which Ms. Straus withdrew.

Ms. Straus also appeared convinced that the language accommodated her desire for immediate movement to an elected board for the schools.

"They should be in charge of the new district," Ms. Straus said of the current elected board (which has been superseded by an emergency manager). "Let the governor's appointed board be in charge of paying off the debt."

Mr. Austin said the statement accommodates that idea and also pushes for a majority of the members of the Detroit Education Commission to be appointed by the mayor rather than the governor, as Mr. Snyder has proposed.

The statement still gave too much support to Mr. Snyder, board member Pamela Pugh (D-Saginaw) said.

"I cannot applaud the governor and his leadership," Ms. Pugh said. "Not with what we've seen with the EAA and not with what we have seen in Flint."

Ms. Pugh said the statement also should join Detroit residents, who spoke during public comment, in calling for an audit of the district before any changes are made.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston said the complication in supporting the audit request was it was not clear what should be audited. He said all districts have an outside financial audit every year that has to be submitted to the Department of Education.

The board removed language that board members said was too inflammatory from its original draft.

The resolution had originally, in calling for more control by Detroit residents, said, "It's time to restore political accountability to the people of Detroit."

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) said the return to local control was one of the points being negotiated in the plan and asked that the board not take a hard position.

Board member Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) took issue with a statement that "For too long, they have not been served well by such a system."

In addition to some grammatical concerns with tying the sentence to the one before it, Ms. Fecteau said it was not universally true.

"My kids have been served well," she said.

She acknowledged that there were problems in the district, but she said the statement as written indicted everyone in it. "There are problems that make educating difficult and challenging," she said, but she said there are many who are still trying.

"It's important to me to recognize that it's not just the children, it's the families, it's the people who work in that system who've been struggling," she said.

In the end, though, Ms. Fecteau said the statement was still not strong enough on the needs of the district and so abstained from the vote.

House Bills Would Allow Facility Care For Some 'Medically Frail' Inmates

Legislation introduced Tuesday would allow certain low-risk, medically frail inmates to carry out their sentences in a licensed care facility.

The bills (HB 5078, HB 5079, HB 5080 and HB 5081) are sponsored by Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), Rep. Dave Pagel (R-Berrien Springs) and Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker).

In the bills, the definition of "medically frail" includes a severe mental or physical disability, and the individual is also rendered a minimal threat to society.

Mr. Pscholka, the House Appropriations Committee chair, said the legislation is part of ongoing reforms to the state's correctional system and the result of thoughtful efforts to address an aging and increasingly sickly prison population.

"We're at a tipping point in prison reform in terms of cost and population," he said in a statement. "In the past decade, Michigan's elderly prison population experienced a 46 percent increase. This creates not just a costly medical burden for our state corrections department, but a situation where younger, dangerous inmates could prey on the old and infirm. As a state, we have the legal and moral responsibility of safeguarding these individuals and creating a humane care solution that is safe for both those prisoners and the public."

The medically frail prisoners, in a licensed care facility, would be able to use Medicaid dollars to pay for treatment. Mr. Pscholka said if the "status quo" remains, the Department of Corrections budget will continue to increase.

Mr. Pagel's bills would allow every prisoner to be considered for medical parole while also addressing the rights of victims in determining the appropriateness of medical parole.

Mr. Pagel, who chairs the Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee, said parolees would not be able to leave the medical facility as a condition of their parole. After voluntarily agreeing to a medical parole, they would finish out their sentence in the placement facility.

"The reality is that we find ourselves in a situation where typical incarceration isn't beneficial for anyone involved," he said. "The state is on the hook for treatment that is not available at every prison facility to fully provide for the inmate's health. Under our bills, victims and victim families will be notified of the medical parole and can submit a written request to appear before the parole board to advocate for or against the parole."

The bills have 19 co-sponsors from both parties.

Gun-Free Zone Exceptions Head To Snyder

The Legislature on Tuesday sent Governor Rick Snyder bills that would allow retired corrections officers of a county sheriff's department and active or retired parole, probation or corrections officers to carry a concealed weapon in gun-free zones.

The Senate passed HB 4159 28-8 and the House concurred in Senate changes 82-23. The House passed SB 516 83-23 and the Senate concurred in changes 28-8. Both bills were ordered enrolled by their respective chambers.

The bills are tie-barred. The Senate bill outlines definitions, including one for "acceptable proof" of the qualifications needed for the active and retired individuals to be exempt from the prohibition on carrying a concealed pistol in a no-carry zone. It also revises the process by which a concealed pistol license is suspended if the holder is charged with a criminal offense and is reinstated if the individual is acquitted or the charges dropped.

The House bill simply outlines those who are exempt. The bills cleared both chambers with no debate.

LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE: HB 4836 was also sent to Mr. Snyder after the Senate unanimously passed the bill Tuesday. The House unanimously passed the bill last month. Under the legislation, Michigan residents who purchase long-term care insurance could become eligible for Medicaid without having to divest of assets.

HB 4836 allows for creation of partnership policies as provided under federal law. Those purchasing the policies would first receive coverage for care costs under the policies but, if there are excess costs, those could be covered by Medicaid without the current requirement that the patient sell or otherwise divest of substantial assets.

To qualify for the partnership program, the policies would have to include at least some level of inflation protection for those obtaining the policy before age 71.

Revenues Fall Slightly Short Of Estimates As Final Numbers Compiled

Michigan revenues from its primary taxes fell slightly short in October, according to figures released Tuesday by the Senate Fiscal Agency, and ended the 2014-15 fiscal year $156 million short of estimates.

While the initial estimate of $21.61 billion during the 2014-15 fiscal year is still a 3.1 percent increase from 2013-14, it fell shy of the 3.9 percent growth the state's Revenue Estimating Conference had projected.

Final year-end figures will be issued at the state's book-closing, which will probably be in December.

But the report showed that revenues in October and for the year also displayed strong growth in the personal income tax and the Corporate Income Tax.

However, the sales tax fell short both in October and for 2014-15. Forecasts had been for it to gain 2 percent from 2013-14, instead it increased 0.7 percent from that year.

While the state's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30, taxes are collected through October and accrued into the fiscal year.

The SFA said the state collected $1.2 million more in the General Fund in October than expected, but fell $45.1 million below expectations in the School Aid Fund. October revenues were also $2.6 million short in constitutional revenue sharing.

The personal income tax raised $723 million, up 8.2 percent from the year before. For the full fiscal year, the tax raised $8.9 billion, a 9.6 percent increase.

The Corporate Income Tax raised $127.5 million in October, up 54.3 percent from the year before, and netted $1.06 billion for the year, up 13.5 percent.

The state education property tax was up by 1.6 percent from October 2014, raising $955.9 million, and was up by 2.6 percent for the year, netting $1.85 billion.

The state was also helped in October by lower than anticipated refunds for the old Michigan Business Tax.

And the tobacco tax was up by 1.5 percent in October, collecting $83.8 million. It was up by 0.5 percent to $944.7 million for the year.

Most the other specific taxes collected in October were down compared to October 2014.

Sales tax collections were down by 6.7 percent compared to October 2014, totaling $616.5 million. For the entire fiscal year, the sales tax raised $7.27 billion, down by 0.7 percent.

The use tax fell 18.4 percent in collections, netting $104.3 million. For the year it was up by 0.6 percent to $1.34 billion.

And the real estate transfer tax was down by 11.3 percent in October, raising $25.7 million. For the year, however, it was up by 14.9 percent, raising $261.5 million.

Committee Roundup

ELECTRONIC COURT FILING FEES: The House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a six-bill package that sets out a schedule of electronic filing fees for court actions, as well as creating a Judicial Electronic Filing Fund that would collect fees and use some of the funds to maintain the system.

Reported, all with substitutes, were HB 5028, HB 5029, HB 5030, SB 531, SB 532 and SB 533.

Capital Notebook

WORTHY NAMED ONE OF GOVERNING MAGAZINE'S OFFICIALS OF THE YEAR: Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy has been named one of Governing magazine's nine public officials of the year for her dogged work to ensure the testing of 11,000 long-ignored rape kits in the possession of the Detroit Police Department.

CWD CAMPAIGN: The Department of Natural Resources announced a new Keep the U.P. CWD Free! campaign aimed at encouraging Upper Peninsula residents, and those traveling there, to prevent introducing the disease into the region.

Chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological disease, has been found in both the Lower Peninsula and Wisconsin, officials said.

"To keep CWD from reaching the U.P., hunters need to educate themselves and they need to help educate others," John Pepin, DNR deputy public information officer in Marquette, said in a statement announcing the campaign. "There are restrictions on bringing deer back to the U.P. from infected states and provinces, and dangers for the U.P. deer herd if these rules are not followed."

The department is producing brochures on preventing spread of the disease, as well as bumper stickers and billboards to bring attention to it.

CASINO REVENUES: The three Detroit casinos saw revenue down in October compared to October 2014, but brought in 3.1 percent more year to date compared to the same period in 2014, the Gaming Control Board said in its monthly revenue report.

All three casinos saw revenue up from September. But only MGM Grand Detroit, at $47.48 million, and MotorCity Casino, at $37.77 million, saw increases over October 2014 (0.9 percent and 0.3 percent respectively). Greektown Casino's $27.59 million was down 3.7 percent from last October.

Campaign Notes

JOHNSON RESIDENCE: Republicans issued a release Tuesday questioning Lon Johnson's residence.

National Republican Congressional Committee spokesperson Chris Pack, in the release, said a Zillow listing of Mr. Johnson's address in Kalkaska did not show a house. "This appears to be nothing more than a parcel of land or a hunting cabin," Mr. Pack said, showing a screen shot of the listing that includes no information on the size of the house.

A search on Zillow did provide the information Mr. Pack referenced. A search on Mapquest put the property north of Zillow's marker. Google could only find the nearest intersection.

Mr. Johnson, who is seeking the Democratic nomination in the 1st U.S. House District, declined any response except that he did live in a house at the address Mr. Pack mentioned.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, November 12

Library of Michigan Board of Trustees, Board Room, Fifth Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, November 12

U.S. Rep. Dave Trott **fundraiser, G. Subu's Leather Bottle, 20300 Farmington Road, Livonia, 5 p.m., ($25 per individual, $100 event sponsor; RSVP to Emily@TrottforCongress.com)**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, November 12

~~**Canceled: House Workforce and Talent Development (Committee Room), (Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**~~

SB 500 **TAXABLE WAGES** (Horn) Modifies benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.

HB 4552 **SCHOOL COUNSELORS** (Roberts, B.) Revises requirements for employment as a middle school and high school counselor.

HB 4813 **ELECTRICIANS** (Price) Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite.

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Low Inflation To Constrain Funds For Hold Harmless Schools

With inflation expected to hold at less than 1 percent nationally, the state might have to return to some system of funding assistance for higher-spending districts, a Senate Fiscal Agency report says.

Under Proposal A of 1994, the state's highest-spending districts are limited to funding increases no more than the rate of inflation, but that could mean no more than 0.2 percent for the 2016-17 fiscal year, Kathryn Summers, associate director of the SFA and the School Aid Fund analyst, said in the fall edition of State Notes.

The administration is watching the issue, Department of Technology, Management and Budget spokesperson Kurt Weiss said. "We are obviously still in the early stages of budget development in preparation for release of the budget recommendation in February, but this issue is definitely on our radar and we are now evaluating potential options," he said.

It was low inflation in 1999-2000 (2.8 percent) that led to creation of Section 20j the School Aid Act that allowed those hold-harmless districts to see essentially the same dollar increase as other districts.

Ms. Summers said holding Bloomfield Hills schools, which receives $12,004 per student, to the projected inflation rate would mean an increase of only $24 per student.

The Legislature could choose to remove the cap from the School Aid Act and the School Code, but that would require a three-fourths vote in each chamber because it would be an increase in the spending cap included in Proposal A.

It could also create a categorical to provide additional funds to the affected districts, but that would leave those funds subject to veto if not in the coming year, then in some future year.

That is what happened to section 20j. Former Governor Jennifer Granholm stuck the funds in a line-item veto during the depths of the budget crisis in the previous decade.

Ms. Summers noted there is already a similar provision in the current year budget that ensured no school district lost money with changes made to categorical funding.

Bush To Campaign More In Michigan

GRAND RAPIDS - Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush spoke to a little more than 200 people at a town hall Thursday, and told reporters he plans to be in the state often leading up to the March primary.

When asked what his strategy would be in the state, Mr. Bush said: "Winning is my strategy."

"Michigan is important because they found a place in the primary where I think there's going to be a huge focus on it. ... I'll be here a lot," he said. "We have a lot of friends and a good organization here so I'll be here a lot."

Mr. Bush has the biggest roster of endorsements from Michigan Republican elected officials of any of the GOP candidates so far and boasts the highest-profile endorsement with Attorney General Bill Schuette enthusiastically backing him.

Mr. Bush acknowledged the last time Michigan voted for a Republican in the general presidential election was in 1988 when his father, George H.W. Bush, won his first term.

"We haven't carried Michigan or Pennsylvania, states that have really been a great comeback because of conservative principles by-and-large," Mr. Bush said. "Good leadership here. I think there is a case to be made that a Republican can carry these states. ... Michigan should be in play because of the economic activity that is a renewal here."

Mr. Bush spoke for about 20 minutes and then took questions from the audience for the last 15 minutes at a town hall in the Kent County GOP headquarters. The former Florida governor visited the state as he seeks to revive a campaign plagued by lackluster debate performances and a Republican electorate that right now, according to polls, is intrigued by new faces.

After questions from an audience member on how to get better health care for veterans, Mr. Bush said the Veterans Administration needs to be reformed, including to allow veterans more choices on medical professionals they can see and to embrace technological advances more, Mr. Bush said, noting the VA is still paper based.

"Reforming this across the board is going to require taking on some very powerful unions. I did that in Florida," he said.

Mr. Bush also said law enforcement deserves the public's support. He said when there are officers who are acting violently when not warranted, the "hammer should be brought down." But he said law enforcement officials will be the first to want that to happen.

"They take care of this themselves," Mr. Bush said.

When asked about others running for president boasting a non-political background, Mr. Bush said it's important to elect someone with a plan and who can beat Democratic frontrunner Hillary Clinton.

"It's logical that people are angry and frustrated. Very logical," he said. "Look at the state of affairs in Washington. But not solving the problem isn't going to make things better, right? I have a set of solutions to fix these things and I have proven record to do it. Actually I think it is important to nominate a person who can beat Hillary Clinton, or nothing is going to get better. We will just double down on failed economic and foreign policies of this president that Hillary Clinton elected."

On his fundraising in the state, Mr. Bush said it is going well.

"We had a huge fundraiser in Detroit a month ago. And unfortunately I missed my own fundraiser here because of the inclement weather, but it was successful as well," he said. "We have the resources to run a competitive campaign. And we will continue to have it."

Mr. Bush was right on time for his town hall event, but did miss a fundraiser because of the weather. He flew in from Iowa and a tornado did hit, which caused the plane Mr. Bush was supposed to fly on to remain in the

hangar longer than anticipated.

"It got so bad, I thought I saw a pig flying by," Mr. Bush joked to attendees at the town hall.

An Uber driver from Ann Arbor attending the town hall asked Mr. Bush about regulations of similar companies. Mr. Bush said he uses Uber often and is "all in."

"People need to lighten the load and let people rise up," he said. "As we say in south Florida, we just need to let the big dog eat."

Mr. Bush, during his speech, also criticized Ms. Clinton for saying Republicans are her enemy.

"Wow," he said. "50 percent of the country is her enemy. ... Democrats are not our enemies."

Mr. Bush's three main points were changing the culture in Washington D.C., prosperity in the country after changing the culture in federal government and the role of America in the world.

He said there should be term limits in Congress and a six-year ban on lobbying by former public servants.

In order to help people rise up from falling wages, he said tax code changes are needed. He said the "left" has insisted 2 percent growth each year is the "new normal", and that needs to be rejected.

"The only way we will grow income ... is to grow the economy, and I know how to do it," he said.

Mr. Bush said regulations need to be decreased and that is the first thing he would do in office.

"Everybody has a possibility to improve their lives," he said. "You shift power back to communities, back to families, back to states."

State Warns Of Inability To Adjust Vehicle Fees Without Source Code From HP

The Department of State will be unable to implement the vehicle registration fee changes Governor Rick Snyder signed into law this week to raise funding for roads unless Hewlett Packard turns over the source code for the troubled information technology project to upgrade secretary of state online services, officials say.

Attorneys for the department added that argument to their case Wednesday at the Kent Circuit Court for a preliminary injunction ordering HP to give the department the source code for the Business Application Modernization project.

Judge Christopher Yates is expected to rule Monday on the preliminary injunction.

The Department of State terminated the contract with HP after years of problems in implementing some of the basic goals. Then it sued the company and HP filed a counter-complaint.

Under the road funding package, vehicle registration fees will increase by 20 percent and a new fee on hybrid vehicles will begin, both taking effect January 1, 2017. The new fee for non-hybrid electric vehicles will begin April 1, 2016. So while there is no immediate issue, the state still has raised the concern that it cannot make changes to registration fees without the source code.

"We wouldn't be able to make changes to the system," department spokesperson Fred Woodhams said. "We need that source code to do so."

Mr. Woodhams said the department hopes for a timely resolution. In the meantime, he said HP staff remain onsite providing transition support. Mr. Woodhams said the department is exploring its options of a new vendor continuing the upgrade project.

SFA: Up To $35M State Commitment Needed To Update Voting Systems

The state has about $25 million leftover in federal funding to update its voting equipment from when it received federal funding through the Helping America Vote Act passed in 2002, but the state still needs another potentially $35 million to get its voting equipment ready for the November 2018 general election when current systems will be more than a decade old, according to the Senate Fiscal Agency.

Former President George W. Bush signed into law the Helping America Vote Act in 2002 due in part to the problems that arose in the 2000 presidential election. While Michigan's voting procedures and equipment were relatively new at that time, it still received a total of $104.2 million in federal funds to update its equipment.

Of that, $34.3 million was used to replace punch card and lever-based systems and other standard voting equipment; $27.4 million was used to install voting machines that were fully accessible to individuals with disabilities, and $17.5 million was spent on meeting other federal requirements, leaving $25 million unspent.

But due to the expected life cycle of the voting machines replaced more than a decade ago, the time has come for Michigan to begin the process of replacing those systems, according to an analysis by the Senate Fiscal Agency. The Department of State estimates that replacement to cost between $55 million and $60 million, with the plan to replace those systems on a rolling basis over a three-to-four-year period, so getting those systems ready for the November 2018 general election will need to happen over the next few budget cycles.

An illustration of just how old the systems are, the analysis noted, is that the machines purchased between 2004 and 2006 use Microsoft Windows XP for their operating system, which has not been available for purchase since 2008, and for which Microsoft has not provided support or security updates for since 2014.

According to the Department of State, the SFA analysis said, the systems are due for replacement with systems that provide "better software and several other notable improvements, 'especially with respect to the processing of optical scan ballots, the programming of voting systems and the resulting compilation and transmittal of elections night results, and options available to disabled voters.'"

And Michigan is not alone in such an undertaking.

The analysis by SFA said it is generally agreed across the nation that the majority of the voting systems purchased with federal funds provided from 2004 to 2006 are beginning to reach the end of their useful life, and a January 2014 bipartisan report by the Presidential Commission on Election Administration issued a warning that an "impending crisis" was looming due to the widespread degradation of voting machines purchased during that time. Making matters worse, the report indicated jurisdictions do not have the funds to purchase new machines.

The Senate had included a $10 million appropriation for voting machine replacements in its budget recommendation for the fiscal year 2015-16, but that was ultimately eliminated by the conference committee and

thus not included in the final enacted budget.

The Department of State, in conjunction with the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, in July issued a request for proposals for voting systems but will be issuing a new RFP in the coming weeks, Department of State spokesperson Fred Woodhams said.

"More information was needed for the state to make a confident decision to award the contracts," Mr. Woodhams said. "Bureau of Elections and DTMB staff held de-briefing meetings with the vendors who did submit a proposal to advise them of what specific information will be needed when they resubmit their proposals."

In the meantime, Mr. Woodhams said the department has been "encouraged" by its discussions with lawmakers about finding ways to pay for the new equipment for the 2018 cycle.

House Democrats Call For Water Service Protections

Residents deserve protection from poorly managed water utilities and water shut-offs, several House Democrats said Thursday on announcing legislation to that end.

Linking the Flint water crisis to ongoing controversy about water shutoffs for those in Detroit, the legislators said water is such an essential part of life that new laws are needed to protect the public.

"None of our citizens should ever be concerned about access to water or the quality of water," Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit) said at a news conference.

In Flint, lead levels have reached the threshold requiring remediation and elevated levels of lead have been found in children's blood. The city, under the direction of a state emergency manager but with the support of top city officials, switched the source of the city's drinking water from Lake Huron to the Flint River.

The Detroit water system cut Flint off of its service after Flint and nearby communities decided to form their own water authority and pull drinking water from a new pipeline to Lake Huron. The Flint River was to serve as an interim source until the pipeline was finished.

On the other issue addressed in the bills, in recent years the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has shut off water service to tens of thousands of residents, citing unpaid bills. That has prompted a heated debate about how to balance the need to ensure payment for water service with the threat to life and health from lack of water service.

The legislation has been submitted for introduction, but not yet formally introduced. It will include establishing water as a human right, increasing transparency about water rates and shut-offs, ensuring water samples are collected using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency procedures and instituting shut-off protections for some persons, among other measures.

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) is the sponsor of the bill declaring water to be a human right. She choked up recounting stories of children being unable to brush their teeth or bathe because their family's water service had been shut off.

Asked what putting into statute that water is a human right would achieve, Ms. Plawecki said, "Are teeth behind

this bill? Possibly not. But at least we are making the statement in Michigan that everyone has the right to those things."

Gilmore Left Off Michigan Republican Primary Ballot

Former Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore has barely registered, if at all, in this year's Republican presidential race, and the Department of State decided he carried so little cachet that he is unworthy of inclusion on the March 8, 2016, Michigan Republican presidential primary ballot.

As part of determining the candidates on the ballot, before 4 p.m. Friday, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson had to release a list of the individuals generally advocated by the news media to be potential candidates. All the anticipated candidates appeared for both parties, except for Mr. Gilmore, whose polling has been so low that he has yet to qualify for participation even in the so-called undercard debate of those with polling too low to participate in the main debate.

Department spokesperson Fred Woodhams said department staff spent the last few months reviewing news stories and the candidates in media-sponsored debates to determine those deserving of inclusion.

"Governor Gilmore did not make that cut," he said.

Mr. Gilmore still has the potential to make the ballot, however. Michigan Republican Party Chair Ronna Romney McDaniel must submit a list of candidates by 4 p.m. November 17, and if she includes Mr. Gilmore, then he is in. Or he could collect at least 10,577 signatures from registered voters to qualify.

Asked about whether Ms. McDaniel would include Mr. Gilmore, Sarah Anderson, Michigan Republican Party spokesperson, said the party's Credentials Committee meets next week, so no decision on the list has been made.

House Panels Seek Success Reports From Sexual Assault Grants

Members of the House Appropriations Higher Education and State Police subcommittees asked for reports on the outcomes of a series of grants to colleges and universities to address sexual assault on their campuses after hearing the low numbers of those assaults reported, and some of the reasons why, at a joint meeting Thursday.

The committees heard about programs at Central Michigan University, Grand Valley State University and the University of Michigan, but the hallmark of the hearing was a U-M survey that showed 11.4 percent of students at the Ann Arbor campus had been victim of unwanted sexual contact, including unwanted penetration experienced by 9.7 percent of all females.

But of those assaulted, only 46 percent told anyone and only 3.6 percent made any kind of official report, William Axinn, a professor at the university, said.

As a check, Mr. Axinn said he compared the results to the actual sexual assault complaints investigated on the campus during that year. His survey results, when extrapolated to the campus population, were off by two cases.

The survey results raised two concerns, Mr. Axinn said: that assaults were not being reported and that police would not likely be able to handle the work if they were.

"If we could get to 50 percent, we would be investigating 2,000 cases, not 34 or 35," he said.

But he said the survey also showed a need for changes in attitudes toward sexual assault.

While many were not reporting the assaults for fear of embarrassment or that the report would not be taken seriously, he said many were simply not concerned about the assault.

"Even for unwilling penetration, the most common response was 'other: it was no big deal,'" he said.

He said some 30 percent of those saying they had not reported the assault offered that reason.

Unlike some other surveys designed to get more national data, Mr. Axinn said the survey was designed to get the highest possible response rate. Surveyors went as far as personal visits to get selected students to answer the survey, he said.

The result was 67 percent participation, compared to 18 percent for a national survey on the issue in which he also participated. He said the national survey also opened itself to some skewing.

For instance, that survey said some 75 percent of female students had been victims of sexual harassment, compared to 35 percent in the U-M survey. The latter survey more tightly defined the harassment as an action that continued after the victim had asked it to stop, he said.

But he said more study, and so more money, would be needed to answer some of the more detailed questions committee members asked. For instance, the low rate of reporting also made it difficult to draw any conclusions about any of the response programs, Mr. Axinn said.

While he said he would welcome any push for annual surveys on the issue, as surveying is his area of expertise, he said the Legislature would have to decide the best use for resources. "Whether to put it into research or action is a tough one on this," he said.

He also warned against trying to develop a standard survey for all of the universities and then expect the results the U-M survey provided. He said the survey process was specifically designed around the campus' population and calendar to get the desired participation rate.

Committee members said it would be important, when the state grants were completed, to get reports on the programs they funded. Department of State Police officials who oversaw the grants said they did not include outcomes in their measures, leaving that to the recipients.

Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker) urged language in upcoming budget bills to require reports.

"It's important at the end of these processes we get some kind of report," he said.

"We're not trying to step on anybody," Rep. Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis), chair of the State Police subcommittee, said in agreeing with Mr. VerHeulen. "We want to know what does work so we can fund that."

Kelly Urging Consideration Of Education Savings Accounts

Michigan's constitutional ban on using state funds for private K-12 schools is putting the state behind in the race to attract economic development, Rep. Tim Kelly said in launching his effort Thursday to reverse that ban.

Mr. Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) did not pretend sufficient support exists for HJR B that would allow education savings accounts for special education students. But he said the issue should at least be part of the discussion of reforming education in Detroit.

Jason Bedrick, a policy analyst for the Cato Institute whom Mr. Kelly brought in to bolster the case for the change, said education savings accounts are expanding around the country.

Mr. Bedrick pointed particularly to Arizona as a success story for implementing the accounts, which can be used for private school tuition or any other allowed educational need (including college tuition), noting the state's supreme court had overturned an earlier attempt to use vouchers.

Mr. Kelly said Michigan's Constitution was not likely so flexible. "If you could do it, it would have happened," he said.

As to removing the prohibition, he acknowledged that not only was he unlikely to see support from Democrats, but many members of his own caucus also would currently oppose the plan, which would need two-thirds majorities in both houses and then statewide voter approval.

But he said upcoming education reform discussions could open the door. "Detroit presents itself an opportunity to do something drastically different," he said.

Most of the ESA programs currently focus on special needs and low-income students. "In Detroit, you've got both," he said.

Mr. Kelly said one factor in improving schools, and the economy in general, in Detroit is attracting new jobs and investment. But he said the changing education environment in other states is making them more attractive.

"Why would I come to Detroit if I'm going to be told when and where my child goes to school?" he said.

Mr. Bedrick noted Michigan is surrounded by states that allow some form of vouchers.

"As of this year, more than half of states have some form of public school choice," Mr. Bedrick said.

While he said it would be some years before data would back the value of ESAs, he said there is data showing improved performance for students using vouchers. And he said there is satisfaction data showing while fewer than half of parents were happy with their traditional school, all were now satisfied with the program they had available through the ESA.

Mr. Kelly said he did not anticipate any further hearings beyond the joint meeting Thursday of the House Education Committee and Appropriations School Aid Subcommittee directly on the issue of ESAs or the resolution, but he will be urging discussions on the issue.

Unions File Administrative, Legal Challenges Over Grand Rapids Veterans Home

Unions have protested privatized direct-care workers in the Grand Rapids Veterans Home since the idea was first broached, and they are now filing administrative and legal complaints claiming the deterioration in service they predicted has happened.

A coalition including Michigan American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 25, the Metro-Detroit AFL-CIO, the Michigan State AFL-CIO and the United Auto Workers announced Wednesday it was filing a complaint with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration over staffing levels and care in the facility. And it is planning a lawsuit over those issues.

"On this Veterans Day, labor has come together to protect the protectors of our nation's freedom," Ed McNeil, spokesperson for Michigan AFSCME Council 25, said in a statement. "Our veterans have suffered too long at the hands of a negligent state bent on valuing the idea of cost savings over decent care. A penny saved should not be a penny earned at the expense of our retired servicemen and women. We intend to use every means at our disposal to make sure our veterans get the quality care they deserve and have earned for their service to our country."

The unions are also calling on the state's congressional delegation to pressure the U.S. Veterans' Administration to complete and publish an audit of the facility that the unions said is overdue.

And they are asking the Legislature to approve the State Oversight Contract Sunshine Package (HB 4700, HB 4701, HB 4702, HB 4703, HB 4704 and HB 4705). The bills have been in the House Government Operations Committee since June and have not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

State Implementing Integrated Service Delivery In DHHS Merger

With the mergers of the Departments of Community Health and Human Services into the Department of Health and Human Services now in its 11th month, officials said the department is employing a strategy of "integrated service delivery" to help improve overall service.

A key goal of the merger is to make the department able to step in to provide a family and individuals assistance before they find themselves in crisis, Department Director Nick Lyon, joined by Chief Deputy Director Tim Becker, told members of the House Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

As part of that effort, the department has focused on improving its largest services, which include family independence, food assistance and the Medicaid program, he said.

The merger has allowed the now one department to formally establish a collaborative business model that had operated informally between the two departments before, subcommittee members were told.

That has also meant officials have been reviewing the hundreds of programs the departments handled to find ways to make those programs more "person-centric" and proactive.

The use of integrated service delivery will help ensure that programs meeting a family's health, nutritional, housing, educational, child care and other needs can be better coordinated, the officials said.

In terms of improving overall integration, the department is focusing on five specific areas, committee members were told.

Those are:

- Strategic alignment to ensure the department's programs are integrated and transparent.

- Holistic assessment to determine a person's specific needs;
- Common connector, which includes a common application and referral service, to create a single point for a person to apply for services;
- "Robust self-service", which will allow a client through online and telephone services to seek additional support; and
- Streamlined renewal to minimize difficulties in assessing clients and allowing them to seek continuing help with a minimum of "administrative burden."

Once the effort to integrate the programs, such as Medicaid and food assistance, is completed the department will begin working on integrating the next level of programs, which would include behavioral health and supports for the aging, Mr. Lyon and Mr. Becker said.

Court Allows Suit Against State To Continue

A lawsuit brought by a former state worker against the state's Gaming Control Board can proceed, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals held, to determine what role, if any, comments made by the plaintiff to reporters affected the decision to fire him.

The per curiam decision in *Devlin v. Kalm* (USCOA docket No. 14-2991) - issued by Judge Julia Smith Gibbons, Judge Jeffrey Sutton and Judge Raymond Kethledge - held the comments made by Patrick Devlin on whether the state was failing to uphold liquor enforcement laws when it came to Indian reservations and casinos, were a matter of public concern and that his speech was protected.

What was unclear, the court said, was whether those comments played a significant role in Mr. Devlin being fired by the Gaming Control Board. Therefore the U.S. Court of Appeals held the lower court was correct in denying the state summary judgment.

This was not the first time the case had been before the circuit court. Mr. Devlin was first employed by the state in 2001 and he raised objections about how the state was enforcing liquor control and gaming laws on native lands. Mr. Devlin was a compliance officer for the Indian Gaming Section.

Because nothing, in his view, was done to promote enforcement of those laws, Mr. Devlin filed suit against then Attorney General Mike Cox and a separate action challenging the failure of the state to promote him.

He spoke to reporters about his lawsuits and repeated his criticisms. Shortly thereafter, the state fired him, and he then filed the employment action.

The Court of Appeals held that his speech was protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Not only did the matter of the speech deal with an issue of public concern, it could be shown the speech dealt with matters that outweighed any valid state interests in preventing the speech from being public.

The state claimed that his comments did disrupt the workplace of the Gaming Control Board, but the court said there was nothing shown to indicate that the workplace or other employees were in fact disrupted.

And, while Mr. Devlin called Mr. Cox a "deadbeat," the court said comments could not have interfered with Mr.

Cox's abilities to enforce the law, though they may have been in poor taste.

Whether his comments were a significant factor in his firing is a matter of fact that a jury should find, the court held.

Schmidt, Sheppard Endorse Kasich For President

Sen. Wayne Schmidt and Rep. Jason Sheppard on Thursday announced their support for Ohio Governor John Kasich in his bid for the Republican nomination for the 2016 presidential election.

The pair join Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) and Rep. Tom Leonard III (R-DeWitt), both of whom serve as co-chairs of Kasich for America's Michigan Leadership Team. Former U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra is an honorary co-chair as well.

"Governor Kasich provides the kind of realistic conservative leadership that our country badly needs right now," Mr. Schmidt (R-Traverse City) said in a statement from Mr. Kasich's campaign. "He's led the way to an economic turnaround that has really paid off for our neighbors to the south, and his message is hitting good notes with voters here in Michigan as well."

Mr. Sheppard (R-Temperance) added, "I'm proud to endorse a candidate with a proven record of success as a leader, someone who brings people together and solves problems. Governor Kasich has the experience and skill to balance the federal budget and put America back on track."

Mr. Kasich, in the statement, expressed gratitude for the endorsements.

"The experience and insights they have to offer will be extremely valuable as we build momentum in Michigan," he said.

Snyder Signs Mixed Martial Arts Regulation

Governor Rick Snyder on Thursday signed legislation designed to regulate mixed martial arts competitions.

The bills (SB 152, PA 183, and HB 4286, PA 184) add MMA to the provisions already regulating boxing and other such events.

The bills also would make it a felony to allow professional fighters to compete with amateurs in a sanctioned event, among other provisions.

Mr. Snyder also signed HB 4239 (PA 185) to allow those with disabilities to hunt from a mobility device.

All of the bills were signed Thursday. The MMA changes are effective February 10 and the hunting changes January 1.

ORR Reaches 2,100 Rule Reduction Mark

The Office of Regulatory Reinvention announced Thursday the net rule reduction of 2,127 administrative rules since its creation in 2011 by Governor Rick Snyder.

Since the creation of the ORR, it has reviewed more than 19,000 rules and 900 rule sets, collected nearly

35,000 pages of non-rule regulatory actions and removed 3,573 unduly restrictive rules, the office, a division of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, said in a statement.

"Every rule in Michigan's regulatory system impacts certain consumers, businesses and state workers," Mr. Snyder said in the statement. "By eliminating bureaucratic red tape, the state has improved the delivery of our services, and can better protect Michiganders and allow our businesses to be successful."

The ORR indicated that many of the rules had not been reviewed in decades, and a large number were found to be obsolete and in need of modernization.

"The ORR has and continues to work closely with all state departments, consumers and stakeholders in order to identify administrative rules that serve no regulatory purpose," department Director Mike Zimmer said. "The success of the ORR is not found in the rescission of one needless rule, but in the elimination of thousands of unnecessary regulatory requirements that allow state government to make more efficient use of our resources."

LARA itself took first place for the net number of rules rescinded at 642, followed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development at 364, the Department of Environmental Quality at 296 and the Department of Natural Resources following closely behind at 288.

The Department of Corrections has had no net rules rescinded, and the Department of Civil Rights has actually seen a net increase in the number of rules at 48 due the adoption of a rule set related to a new statute on the Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act that gave deaf patients the ability to use good-faith judgment to refuse inadequate video remote interpreting services at medical facilities.

A complete list of rescinded rules can be found online.

Many of the rules rescinded are the result of a process utilized by eight Advisory Rules Committees, all of which have publicly released more than 320 recommendations for streamlining and updating the regulatory areas of the environment, inspections and permitting, insurance and finance, liquor control, natural resources, occupational licensing, rulemaking and workplace safety.

Currently, 160 of the ORR's ARC recommendations have been fully implemented, with many resulting in Public Acts. A complete list of the ORR's implemented recommendations can be found here.

Campaign Notes: Rendon's Wife Forms Campaign Committee To Succeed Him

Republican Daire Rendon of Lake City, wife of Rep. Bruce Rendon (R-Lake City), has formed a campaign committee to run for the 103rd House District where her husband cannot seek re-election in 2016 because of term limits.

Capital Notebook

VETERAN ADS: The Veterans Affairs Agency has launched radio and internet ads encouraging veterans to seek out services. The spots highlight the agency's hotline, 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838).

"For the past two years, MVAA has relied on collaborations and partnerships to spread the word about our agency and the resources available through it," MVAA Director Jeff Barnes said. "These ads will help us reach even more veterans quickly and let them know that assistance is just a phone call away."

AFPD GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: AFPD, which represents food and petroleum retailers, has hired Dan Papineau as its director of government relations.

Mr. Papineau, who takes the position January 4, was most recently legislative director for Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township).

Appointments By The Governor

COMMISSION ON MIDDLE-EASTERN AMERICAN AFFAIRS: Adel Mozip of Dearborn succeeds Paul Sophiea, who resigned, for the remainder of a term expiring April 19, 2017. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

COMMITTEE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE: Michael Reynolds of Detroit succeeds Austin Schmidt, who resigned, to represent members who have been or are currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system and under the age of 24 at the time of appointment. The appointment is for the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2017, and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION: Karen Hall of Roseville succeeds Emily McIntyre to represent community-based victim advocates and Democrats, and Brian Mackie of Ann Arbor succeeds Brian Peppler to represent county prosecuting attorneys and Democrats. The appointments are for terms expiring September 27, 2018, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Judith O'Neill of Grosse Pointe Farms succeeds Beverly Hammerstrom for a term expiring July 22, 2019. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD: Cindy Estrada of Whitmore Lake and Sue Jandernoa of West Olive are reappointed for terms expiring October 1, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION: Monica Reyes of Saginaw succeeds Kelly Shipman, and Anthony Garcia-Rubio Jr. of Cadillac succeeds Gilberto Guzman. Noel Garcia of East Lansing, Sonya Hernandez of Muskegon and Carlos Sanchez of Grand Rapids are reappointed. Ms. Reyes will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 10, 2016. All other appointments expire December 10, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY: Shawn Johnson of Okemos succeeds Francesca Pernice-Duca to represent professionals for a term expiring June 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS: Ian Koffler of Grand Rapids succeeds Jeff Buetner, who resigned, to represent the general public for the remainder of a term expiring June 30, 2018. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL: Michael Mittelstaedt of Traverse City succeeds Amy Weber to represent broad areas of film and motion picture making, production of television programs and commercials and related industries for a term expiring September 30, 2019. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, November 18

Certificate of Need Commission Bone Marrow Transplant Standards Advisory Committee, Conference Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)

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Click the ⬚ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 8:56 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For November 13, 2015

News

Senate bill would drop protections for gray wolves (Associated Press, 11/13/2015)

What's so good about land banks? A Q and A (Bridge Magazine, 11/13/2015)

Bills seek to assure clean, affordable water for all (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

Candidates set for 2016 Michigan presidential primary (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

State board to consider Gov. Snyder recall petition (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

County Health Department, state partner to educate Flint area on lead (Flint Journal, 11/13/2015)

Four ways Flint failed in its testing for lead in water (Flint Journal, 11/13/2015)

DHHS improving technology for caseworkers (Lansing State Journal, 11/13/2015)

Snyder's plan for Detroit Public Schools faces serious challenges (Michigan Radio, 11/13/2015)

'I know how to do this,' Jeb Bush says in Grand Rapids (MLive, 11/13/2015)

'Water is a human right,' Democrats say with new bills addressing Flint crisis, Detroit shutoffs (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Big new tenant for Steelcase pyramid is 'a done deal,' says State Rep. Ken Yonker (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Detroit school overhaul unlikely by end of year (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Flint may have failed to follow US water testing rules (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Weather costs Jeb Bush campaign time in Grand Rapids (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Editorials

College affordability will shape Michigan's future economy (Bridge Magazine, 11/13/2015)

When the Free Press met Dr. Ben Carson ... in 1988 (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

Anderson: Road funding "fix" needs to be fixed (Lansing State Journal, 11/13/2015)

Rising resolve is protecting The Great Lakes now and in future (Macomb Daily, 11/13/2015)

Is the state to blame for local financial distress? (Michigan Radio, 11/13/2015)

Susan J. Demas: What Snyder gets wrong about welders and higher education (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Clean up regulations, don't forget obligations (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/13/2015)

Dickens: Enforce Detroit pot laws with care (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Our Editorial: Michigan growing, but not fast enough (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Williamson: Let's transform Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Snyder's OK of road bill has basis (Toledo Blade, 11/13/2015)

Blogs

A Little Analysis On Medicaid Expansion Across The States (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/12/2015)

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Volume #54, Report #225 -- Friday, November 13, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Nesbitt Eyes Early December For House Energy Vote

Clearing key legislation out of the House Energy Policy Committee last week was important to give the full House enough time with the bills so when the chamber returns from its Thanksgiving break, members will possibly be ready to vote, Rep. Aric Nesbitt, the committee chair, said Friday.

The committee, last week, after meeting nearly 7 hours, reported HB 4298, HB 4297 and HB 4575. The bills make a variety of changes to the state's energy laws, including requiring alternative energy costumers to remain with a utility for a certain number of years if they return from the choice market and setting a goal for utilities to reach 30 percent of production from renewables and energy efficiency by 2025.

Mr. Nesbitt (R-Lawton) said he hopes to vote on the bills in the full House shortly after the Legislature returns from its break on December 1.

"It is important to provide the full House time to come up to speed with the rest of committee members, so we gave them plenty of weeks," Mr. Nesbitt told Gongwer News Service.

Mr. Nesbitt said he has remained in contact with Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek), the chair of the Senate Energy and Technology Committee, as the process has moved along. Mr. Nofs said he is still planning on moving SB 437 and SB 438 through his committee and Senate floor.

Mr. Nesbitt said he would like the issue to be wrapped up by the end of the year. Mr. Nofs said it would be difficult, but is possible.

As the committee worked through the bills, it became clear Mr. Nesbitt was negotiating with Democrats to get the votes needed to win the votes for committee approval, which meant additional language regarding renewable energy.

Those close to the issue had said Mr. Nesbitt had a choice of either negotiating with those who wanted to expand the 10 percent energy choice market in the state or with environmentalists.

Mr. Nesbitt said expanding the choice market would risk capacity in the state. But, the additional language still didn't put a mandate on utilities. Mr. Nesbitt called it a strong, bipartisan solution that is good for ratepayers.

"We continue to work on going away from mandates and going to an all of the above energy approach," he said.

On the goal for utilities to reach 30 percent production through efficiencies and renewables, Mr. Nesbitt said at least six other states have goals instead of mandates. He said it allows more flexibility, especially with various requirements coming down from the federal level.

"As you look at them in the next 15 years, we will continue to have pressure from the federal government on reducing carbon emissions from Michigan's power plants," he said. "Instead of heaping other regulations on them, it is best to look at what new technologies are coming in and how to look at that."

Critics of the legislation have accused Mr. Nesbitt of doing the bidding of Consumers Energy and DTE Energy. On if there is a perception that Mr. Nesbitt is in the "pocket" of the utilities, he said: "I think that is, as you look at the legislation, there is stuff that the utilities don't like." Mr. Nesbitt pointed out a change in the self-implementation of rates.

He said the bills will lead to more affordable and reliable energy in the state.

"It has been a large bipartisan compromise," he said.

The process leading up to the committee vote was long, and some members, like Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), the vice chair of the committee, said not enough time was given to members to digest the substitute language.

But Mr. Nesbitt said an original draft was sent to members Friday, the following Tuesday a final substitute was handed out, and 48 hours later he began taking amendments to the legislation before reporting it.

"I think that is a fair process," he said. "I think the process works and a lot of times you know when people who are opposed to legislation, they say it is moving too fast. When they are supportive, it is not moving fast enough. ... Sometimes we just have to agree to disagree."

On if the issue has become personal for him, Mr. Nesbitt said it is about finding the best policy for the state.

"We're trying to look at what's best for the long term potential of the state," he said. "I definitely have a passion on energy issues and that is something where I find it is a very important issue in terms of the backbone of our modern economy."

In terms of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce's position on sustaining the choice market in the state, Mr. Nesbitt said he has met with the group on the issue.

"That is part of the reason why ... the sub and with my amendments were trying to ... balance ending subsidies, sustaining choice and ensuring we meet long-term capacity needs," he said.

Finally, Mr. Nesbitt said the process has worked the way it should, and he even came a long way from his first proposal, which would have ended the choice market in the state. Critics still

contend the bills would kill choice, but the initial version was much more overt about returning the state to an electric market dominated by incumbent utilities.

"I believe it has been an open process and I have compromised greatly from my original position, and I get it, that is part of the legislative process and you've got to move the ball forward," he said.

Green Criticizes Snyder Veto Threat On Gun Bill

Governor Rick Snyder's threat to veto legislation that would end the ability to openly carry a firearm in areas now off-limits to guns, but allow those with concealed pistol licenses to carry a concealed firearm in those locations, prompted strong criticism Friday from the bill sponsor.

Appearing WJIM-AM's "The Steve Gruber Show," Mr. Snyder was asked about SB 442, which is pending on the floor of the Senate. Mr. Snyder said he favors letting each school decide whether to allow firearms on its property.

Referring to a 2012 bill that contained a more wide-ranging change to gun laws, including ending open carry in gun-free zones but allowing concealed carry in them, Mr. Snyder said, "I vetoed it once, I'd veto it again is my position at this point in time."

Bill supporters have said it would solve a major concern voiced by school leaders about people openly carrying firearms on school property, prompting the schools to go into lockdown and contact police about a possible shooter.

But the bill also would result in the end of the gun-free zones established when the Legislature and then-Governor John Engler made Michigan a state where any adult without a serious criminal conviction or history of mental illness could obtain a license to carry a concealed gun.

That law, enacted in 2000, prohibited guns in schools, sports arenas, bars, hospitals, houses of religious worship and day care centers. SB 442 would end the ability for those with concealed pistol licenses to openly carry a firearm into those venues, but allow those with a CPL to carry a concealed firearm.

Mr. Snyder has been cool to the bill all year, but Friday's were his most pointed remarks yet.

"Michigan's a very diverse state," he said. "You could find parts of the state clearly locally not wanting to have weapons in the school at all and you might find other communities saying they think it's a good thing, they think it's a constructive thing. But shouldn't they be able to make that decision themselves?"

The bill sponsor, Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) - also the sponsor of the vetoed 2012 bill - said Mr. Snyder's comments do nothing to resolve the issue.

"Clearly he doesn't understand what this bill does or he wouldn't have said that because he's never had a bill like this before him," he said. "He's never vetoed a bill like this. He needs to

have a discussion with us about it, but he never wants to. He just wants to sit back and veto whatever we send him on guns."

Mr. Green said the complaints about people openly carrying firearms in schools will continue to grow absent this type of change.

"If he wants to veto it, that's his option, but it will get bigger eventually and he'll be asking us," he said.

There are discussions, as there would be with any bill on the Senate floor, about changes to the legislation, Mr. Green said.

No particular change has traction at this point.

"I've got superintendents screaming at me. I've got gun people screaming at me," he said. "So we're trying to craft something maybe a little bit different, that maybe it could come a little closer to people agreeing to some parts of it."

Court Denies Stay, Allows Immediate MEA Resignations

Techers and other school employees, at least for now, can resign from the Michigan Education Association at any time under an order issued by the Court of Appeals this week.

The order, publicized Friday but signed Wednesday, denied MEA's request for a stay of the Employment Relations Commission's order overturning its resignation policy.

The union had, for many years, allowed members to leave the union only in August.

That policy was among several that made the MEA a target of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. The Center's legal fund prosecuted the case brought by three teachers who tried to resign outside the designated period.

"Teachers deserve to decide which organizations they want to be part of and which they do not, and this week's ruling ensures they are truly able to exercise their rights," Patrick Wright, director of the Mackinac Center Legal Foundation, said in a statement about the order. "Despite workers gaining the right to work, the MEA has continued to force teachers to pay into the union well beyond the point they decide to drop membership. That should stop now."

Judge Patrick Meter issued identical orders in the six consolidated cases (*Saginaw Education Association v. Eady-Miskiewicz*, COA docket No. 329419).

Major Data Center Rumored To Be Heading To Michigan

Switch, a Nevada-based data storage center with international appeal, may be finding a place to locate at least a portion of its business on the west side of the state, and it may have help from the Legislature to do so.

Six bills, three in the House and three in the Senate, were introduced Tuesday that would allow certain data centers to be exempt from the sales tax, use tax and property tax under certain conditions.

Those bills are HB 5074, HB 5075, HB 5076, SB 616, SB 617 and SB 618.

Late Thursday, West Michigan Business, on its MLive website, broke the news the company was "poised to take over" the former Steelcase Incorporated pyramid in Gaines Township (Kent County), and on Friday, Rep. Ken Yonker (R-Gaines Township), one of the sponsors of the bills in the House, told MLive "it's a done deal" with Switch. The legislation, Mr. Yonker said, gives the type of tax breaks the state has historically given to manufacturing companies, as well as waives sales taxes on their equipment purchases.

Mr. Yonker said the decision by the company would create 1,000 new jobs and a destination for 1,700 business travelers a day. He said he has a "handshake agreement" with executives from Switch, the article notes.

Mr. Yonker was not able to be reached by Gongwer News Service on Friday, and some of the other West Michigan bill sponsors - Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker), Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) and Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Rockford) - did not return calls seeking comment. A message left by Gongwer with a spokesperson at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation was also not returned.

If true, the company's presence could be huge not only for west Michigan, but the state and the region as well. Switch currently operates in Las Vegas and Tahoe Reno, both in Nevada, and touts a "one state advantage" on its website. It also has a location in Luxembourg, Germany, known as SuperNAP International, which would develop data center facilities worldwide based on the design of the SuperNAP data centers in Nevada.

The international locale is the exclusive licensee outside the United States of the 218 patents and patents pending in data center technologies held by the Switch SuperNAP founder, its website indicates.

Final Proposed Health Plans For Medicaid Contract Named

A list of the final Medicaid HMOs the Department of Health and Human Services recommends take part in a new contract beginning in January has been released.

The list, released late Friday, is little different from the list of companies the state released in October. The companies, if approved now by the State Administrative Board, would handle care for the state's Medicaid recipients, acting in newly designed regional areas to care for those patients.

After the initial list was announced, companies that had been left out - some of which had provided care in previous state contracts - appealed. It appears however, the department made no changes in the companies recommended.

Protesting companies can still attempt win changes through the State Administrative Board.

The companies selected by the state to work in a variety of the 10 newly designed regions are: Upper Peninsula Health Plan, McLaren Health Plan, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan, Molina Healthcare of Michigan, UnitedHealthCare Community Plan, Blue Cross Complete of Michigan, Priority Health Care, HAP Midwest Health, Aetna Better Health of Michigan, and Total Health Care.

Report Urges End Of Tax Cap, Land-Based Tax To Help Detroit

Detroit has emerged from bankruptcy, but its growth will continue to be inhibited without some changes in how property taxes are treated by both the city and the state, a report from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy said.

The report, Detroit and the Property Tax: Strategies to Improve Equity and Enhance Revenue, recommended the city move to a land-based property tax, which it said would provide more equity in taxation, but also would require state legislative changes. It said the state also needs to remove the cap on taxable value increases, which would require a constitutional amendment.

The institute said the city could improve its property values, and its revenue, by reducing current assessments for all properties and by taking some of the tax-reverted land it holds off the market.

Among the key recommendations in the report is to shift the city's taxes from value-based to area-based. The report said the city could cut its statutory rate, which is based on the value of property, but impose a new special assessment tied to the size of a parcel.

In an example, the report said the city could reduce its general millage by 43 percent, to 11.3 mills, and impose a special assessment of 2.98 cents per square foot and remain revenue-neutral. But the change would shift the tax burden, with residential property seeing a 3.98 percent increase and commercial property a 23.8 percent cut. Industrial property would take a larger share of the burden with a 40.9 percent increase.

The report questioned the city's use of abatements, arguing they rarely produce new revenue from attracted development.

The state could help the city by scrapping the current taxable value system and the associated cap on increases, and instituting a tax based on the actual value of the land.

"(R)eplacing the current real property tax with a pure land value tax would result in a considerable shifting of the property tax burden among classes of property owners," the report said.

But the change would also require re-assessing all property in the state. The report noted some other studies have shown properties in Detroit could already be substantially over-assessed.

Though the report acknowledged that the change would be difficult to accomplish, particularly in the current political climate, it said the current cap on taxable value increases is a substantial impediment to attracting particularly residential growth.

"By rewarding owners who do not move, the taxable-value cap subjects recent entrants to the market to a greater effective tax rate," the report said. "This inequity creates differentials in effective tax rates and distorts the local housing market by discouraging in-migration and mobility."

And the report noted Detroit needs to see particularly in-migration. Since 2000, the city has approved construction of 9,500 residential housing units, but has demolished 37,400. And, of the total remaining, 29.3 percent are vacant, the report said.

While some tax changes could improve values and so collections, the report said the city is also artificially holding down values by keeping excess land on the market.

"The 2012 Detroit Future City report calls for the reclamation of land for parks, forests, industrial buffers, greenways, retention ponds, community gardens, and even campgrounds," the report said. Some of the current parcels are valuable and should remain on the market, it said, recommending designating some of the current vacant lands for parkland or other non-development and holding some other parcels off the market for now to be offered for sale should development warrant it.

Improving property values in the city will also mean improving the services they fund, the report said. It urged the city to continue improving, but also urged the state to regionalize some services.

"A start has been made in regionalization of functions, but much more could be done," the report said.

Improving services could, over time, further reduce tax delinquency rates, the report said.

"Clearly, economic decline, falling property values, and the reduced ability of owners to pay taxes have resulted in higher rates of tax delinquency," it said. "However, some individuals - particularly those who own lower-valued properties - may ask themselves why they should pay their taxes at all."

Appeals Court Says Part Of FOC Fee Is Actually Tax, Remands Case

The portion of the monthly $3.50 fee paid with child support orders that is remitted to the Department of Attorney General is actually a tax, the Court of Appeals ruled on Friday.

In making the decision on that 25-cent portion of the fee, the court ordered *Trantham v. State Distribution Unit* (COA docket No. 322289) back to the Court of Claims to determine if the tax was lawfully enacted.

Judge Michael Gadola, joined by Judge Joel Hoekstra and Judge Michael Kelly, wrote the decision.

Jeffrey Trantham, acting for a class of people paying child support payments through the Friend of the Court system, charged that the monthly $3.50 fee attached to the payments was an unconstitutional taking.

The Court of Claims rejected the argument, and mostly so did the Court of Appeals. The Appeals Court said most of the fee is appropriately collected to meet the costs of different state departments for processing child support payments.

Plus, the court said, the fee is so small it cannot be argued that it amounts to a taking in violation of the constitution.

But the portion, 25-cents of the total, that goes to the attorney general is not limited to just expenses related to the child support enforcement, the court said. It is a general revenue raising amount, and therefore a tax.

Mr. Trantham argued that if the portion is a tax, then it was unconstitutionally enacted because it created a second purpose to the enacting statute which was not cited in the legislation.

Because of that question, the Appeals Court sent the issue back to the Court of Claims to establish if the tax was properly established.

Supreme Court Lets Three Decisions Stand

Slightly more than a week after hearing arguments on whether it should grant full appeals in three cases, the Supreme Court ruled Friday that it would not hear any of the cases because it was not persuaded it should deal with the questions.

The decision means that a Court of Appeals ruling in favor of Roberto Landin, in *Landin v. Healthsource Saginaw*, stands. The health care company had argued Mr. Landin, who was fired after reporting actions by another employee he thought led to a patient's death, should have his claim dismissed, but both the trial court and the Appeals Court ruled that Mr. Landin could bring a claim under the state's Public Health Code.

Also left standing is the conviction of John Wooten, in *People v. Wooten*. Mr. Wooten was convicted of second-degree murder following a shooting outside a strip club. His first trial had been dismissed, and he argued in his second trial that his right against double jeopardy was violated because the prosecution goaded his defense into seeking a mistrial at first. The Court of Appeals rejected the claim.

Finally, in *Cullum v. Lopatin*, the Supreme Court let stand a decision in a medical malpractice case that an expert witness for the plaintiff could testify, even though some of his testimony was considered speculative.

Capital Notebook

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE: The incidence of chronic wasting disease appear to be spreading, with the Department of Natural Resources announcing Friday a fourth deer is suspected to have the disease, the first found outside Meridian Township (Ingham County).

The deer was taken by a hunter near DeWitt earlier in the week. Samples have been sent to a national laboratory for confirmation of the disease.

CANVASSERS REJECT SNYDER RECALL PETITION: The Board of State Canvassers voted Friday against approving a proposed recall petition against Governor Rick Snyder, finding it failed to factually state reasons for recall. The person seeking the long-shot recall attempt cited the Flint water situation as the reason for recall.

This Week On The Gongwer Blog

On the Gongwer blog this week were posts about what feels like the first major shot in the 2018 race for governor, an analysis of the economic characteristics of the states that expanded Medicaid and the Bureau of the Lottery getting in on the Friday the 13th action.

Appointments By The Governor

96TH DISTRICT COURT: Karl Weber of Marquette succeeds Judge Dennis Girard, who resigned. Mr. Weber will have to stand for election in 2016 to serve a full six-year term. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT: Brian Berger of St. Joseph succeeds Judge Thomas Nelson, who resigned. Mr. Berger will have to stand for election in 2016 to complete the remainder of Mr. Nelson's term and then run again in 2018 for a full six-year term. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, November 17

Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Developmental Disabilities, Dombrowski Board Room, Fourth Floor, Hannah Building, 608 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)

Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Agenda)

Administrative Board/Finance and Claims Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Special Meeting Agenda (bottom of the document))

Wednesday, November 18

Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development, ConCon Conference Room, Lower Level, Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Veterans' Facilities Board of Managers, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Avenue Northeast, Grand Rapids, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Thursday, November 19

Health Information Technology Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 1 p.m. (Agenda)

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Thursday Michigan Report should have quoted Jason Bedrick from the Cato Institute as saying more than half of states have some form of private school choice.

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 16, 2015

News

Michigan moves toward renewable power goal (Associated Press, 11/16/2015)

Nearly 100 apply but no pardons yet in 2015 from Snyder (Associated Press, 11/16/2015)

Pure Michigan sells its return on investment in new campaign (Bridge Magazine, 11/16/2015)

FAQ: Michigan moves toward renewable power goal, not mandate (Crain's Detroit Business, 11/16/2015)

Big issues left for Legislature: DPS and energy reform (Detroit Free Press, 11/16/2015)

Study delays difficult decision on Isle Royale wolves (Detroit Free Press, 11/16/2015)

Report: Families file lawsuit in Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/16/2015)

Dogs and booze: 17 laws from Greater Lansing lawmakers (Lansing State Journal, 11/16/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Senate Republicans flex muscle following road funding deal (MLive, 11/16/2015)

Sexual assault 'no big deal' survey response baffles those addressing it on Michigan campuses (MLive, 11/16/2015)

Snyder vows to veto bill allowing concealed guns in Michigan schools: 'It should be a local option' (MLive, 11/16/2015)

Lapeer County prosecutor will not prosecute Joe Gamrat (The Detroit News, 11/16/2015)

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Michigan Report for Monday, November 16, 2015

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Volume #54, Report #226 -- Monday, November 16, 2015

Snyder Pause On Syrian Refugees Prompts Divided Reaction

Supporters of enabling more refugees from Syria to settle in Michigan sharply criticized Governor Rick Snyder's decision to suspend state efforts on that front in response to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Lebanon, while several Republicans praised the move, saying bringing the refugees was a horrible idea from the beginning.

Mr. Snyder has made a big point during his nearly five years in office of labeling himself the most pro-immigration governor in the country. And in the wake of the Syrian civil war, now raging for four years, hundreds of thousands of Syrians have fled the country as refugees, some 200,000 to Europe and another 4 million in other Middle East countries, according to the United Nations.

The governor's administration had been working with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan to intensify the state's efforts to place Syrian refugees, but those will now be put on hold, Mr. Snyder said. He is asking the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to review its procedures on vetting refugees to enter the country to determine whether strengthening is needed. He sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson making the request.

"It's important there are people in need across the world and we're open to those folk," Mr. Snyder told reporters Monday. "We just want to make sure we're following the best practices and keeping our country safe."

Several other governors declared they would block Syrian refugees from entering their states as well, and Mr. Snyder made a point of noting he is not permanently barring them from Michigan.

"It just seems prudent that we pause for a moment, pause for some time to work with the U.S. government to see are there are revisions in their procedures and practices that should be made given new information," he said.

How long the pause will last is up to Homeland Security in its review, Mr. Snyder said.

There already were 20 refugees in the pipeline going through the process of settling in Michigan. What happens with them is up to the federal government, Mr. Snyder said.

Several Republican members of the Legislature and Michigan's U.S. House delegation commended Mr. Snyder's move.

"With so many unknowns, the United States has a duty to pause and develop the necessary protocols before processing Syrian refugees," U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) said in a

statement. "Our number one priority is keeping our families safe here at home, so I commend Governor Snyder for suspending his efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan at this time. America will always be a nation of immigrants, but without adequate background information to crosscheck, it would be more than irresponsible to push ahead and simply 'hope for the best.'"

U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township) said in a statement she had been worried about the Snyder administration's efforts on Syrian refugees from the start.

"Throughout his tenure, I think that Governor Snyder has done great things for Michigan, but I was very distressed about this particular initiative that he and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley were pursuing," she said. "The fact is, as evidenced by Friday's horrific attack in Paris, terrorist organizations like ISIS are looking for any and every opportunity to exploit a nation's hospitality to carry out their barbaric attacks against the innocent. Anyone who says we can adequately and safely vet these refugees is wrong because there is no database in Syria and no way to identify who's who."

Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema, a virulent critic of Islam, said in a Facebook post he was "most pleased that (Governor) Snyder finally agrees with me concerning the security crises that the Syrian refugee(s) posed to Michigan and the U.S."

Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) and Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) were among those in the state Legislature hailing the move.

The Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, which Mr. Snyder recently created and appointed, offered its condolences to those who lost loved ones in the two terrorist attacks and backed the governor's decision.

"While these events have a huge impact on us here at home, we all must remain united in order to defeat terrorism. Governor Snyder has paused the noble efforts Michigan is undertaking to welcome new refugees pending the complete and full review of security clearances and procedures by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Department of State," the commission said in a statement. "We support the Governor's step that is designed to ensure the safety and security of all Michiganders."

But liberal organizations deplored the actions of Mr. Snyder and other governors.

"Some politicians have attempted to fabricate a link between the tragedy in Paris and the resettlement of Syrian refugees to the United States," Cecillia Wang, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Immigrants' Rights Project, said in a statement. "Making policy based on this fear mongering is wrong for two reasons. It is factually wrong for blaming refugees for the very terror they are fleeing, and it is legally wrong because it violates our laws and the values on which our country was founded."

Progress Michigan called Mr. Snyder's action a cowardly reversal.

"This type of behavior is the exact cowardice and capitulation that the terrorists seek to force out of our elected leaders," Progress Michigan Executive Director Lonnie Scott said in a statement. "Instead of stoking the fear that drives his party to a frenzy, Gov. Snyder should do the right thing and show Michiganders that we're a state that will accept responsibility as global citizens to do our part to help people in crisis and that we can do that in a way that is both safe and responsible."

Court Rules For State In Dispute With HP

HP Enterprise Service must turn over to the Department of State the source code used as part of the Business Application Modernization project to upgrade the department's online services, a judge ruled Monday.

Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates granted the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering HP to turn over the code, essentially calling it an obvious move.

The state terminated its contracted with HP after several years and more than $30 million spent to improve online services for customers on licenses and registration. But HP refused to turn over the source code, saying the contract clearly called for that to happen only upon completion of the entire project.

But the state warned of a potential massive collapse of the department's online services, as well as the inability to implement changes in vehicle registration fees that are part of the just-enacted road funding plan, without the source code.

"The state has paid for that source code and thereby obtained ownership of it, the state has previously received source code on three occasions without any adverse consequences, the state cannot move forward in implementing the registration-fee enhancements for the road funding plan without the current source code, the state cannot address potential security vulnerabilities without the current version of the source code and the state cannot effectively define the tasks for HP's replacement without the current source code," Mr. Yates wrote in his opinion. "To put it plainly, this is a situation that cries out for a straightforward injunctive order directing HP to turn over the current source code ... immediately."

The state's lawsuit alleging breach of contract, and HP's countersuit, remains pending before the court.

"We respect the ruling of the court, and its recognition that the state was wrongfully deprived of property it had fully paid for," Secretary of State Ruth Johnson said in a statement. "It's a shame we had to take them to court to force them to honor their agreement and responsibilities."

A message left with HP was not immediately returned.

'Extortion' Texts Saga Ends With No Charges, Gamrat's Husband ID'd As Culprit

The Lapeer County prosecutor is deciding not to press charges against Joe Gamrat for sending harassing text messages to his wife, former Rep. Cindy Gamrat, and former Rep. Todd Courser, with whom she was having an affair.

Mr. Courser said Monday Mr. Gamrat's actions were not what someone working to heal their marriage would do.

"That is abuse," he said.

The decision was unsurprising. Legal experts who reviewed the texts Mr. Gamrat sent to Mr. Courser said they did not rise to the level of extortion because he never made a demand for anything of value in exchange for staying quiet.

Lapeer County Prosecutor Timothy Turkelson said in a statement the investigation showed Mr. Gamrat sent the messages in an effort to end the extramarital affair. The messages urged Mr. Courser to resign from office or the affair would be revealed.

"A scheme was implemented to contact Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat through text messages sent from a pre-paid cell phone," the statement said. "The motivation behind the text messages sent from the individuals involved was to assist Joe Gamrat in ending the extramarital affair. The messages therefore do not rise to the level of criminal extortion."

The Department of State Police report, obtained by MLive, shows Mr. Gamrat recruited a friend from work - David Horr - to purchase the phone and send the text messages. The police used GPS to determine the texts were sent from where the two men work. Neither man would cooperate with the police when initially asked if they were involved.

Mr. Courser initially was hesitant to give police his phone in case they bugged him, the report showed, though he did eventually relent.

The report also shows Mr. Gamrat bugged Ms. Gamrat's bag and was conducting surveillance on Ms. Gamrat since the summer of 2014. Mr. Gamrat allegedly told Dan Courser, Mr. Courser's brother, he had audio of his wife and Mr. Courser having sex.

Ms. Gamrat posted Monday on Facebook that she has not yet seen the report or spoken to the prosecutor. She said the text messages she received were disturbing and intimidating.

"As you can imagine, I was devastated to hear that the investigation appears to show that a number of individuals, including my husband, former staff from my office, and others, collaborated and had some degree of involvement together," Ms. Gamrat wrote. "However, I have not personally spoken with the prosecutor nor have I seen the full report.

"After I have taken the time to look at the full report, I will thoughtfully consider what the right action is to take to move forward in regards to this," she said.

Mr. Courser said he does feel slightly vindicated. When he initially released the texts, many suspected Mr. Courser himself sent them, similar to the fake email he had distributed claiming he had paid for sex with a male prostitute as a way of tainting any future subsequent allegations of an affair as part of a smear campaign.

"It was not me," he said. "I wasn't lying."

Mr. Courser has held that the reason he wrote the email, which also claimed he was addicted to drugs, alcohol and porn, is because of the intense pressure he felt from whoever was texting him.

A former staffer recorded the conversation of Mr. Courser asking him to send the email, which led to the House Business Office conducting an investigation on the two former lawmakers. The investigation found they had misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gain.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter, said the text messages were never seen as relevant in terms of the House investigation that led to Ms. Gamrat's expulsion and Mr. Courser resigning just before being expelled.

"We've held all along that the 'blackmail' was irrelevant to whether or not they were fit to serve in office," Mr. D'Assandro said. "That was the real question for the House to consider."

The police report also assumes the former staffers - Keith Allard, Joshua Cline and Ben Graham - were in contact with Mr. Gamrat and provided some information to him.

It also shows the State Police investigator became upset with Mr. Courser after "Trucker Randy" Bishop, a tea party activist, called the officer and said he heard from a source the police were not moving forward with an extortion charge.

The officer, according to the report, told Mr. Courser he was manipulating others to become involved in the case.

And it appeared the officer and Mr. Turkelson were prepared to offer Mr. Horr immunity if he told them everything. But in the end, Mr. Turkelson did not press charges.

Mr. Courser said he has made no decision on whether or not he will take legal action against any of those involved in sending the messages.

Mr. Turkelson said no one involved came to "the table with clean hands."

"All bear some responsibility in creating this embarrassing and costly chapter in our county's history," he said. "Under these circumstances I see no benefit in prolonging this saga at the expense of Lapeer County taxpayers in a prosecution that would be tenuous at best."

With this matter put to rest, the next question is whether the investigation the Department of State Police and Department of Attorney General are conducting into whether Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat committed any criminal misconduct will lead to any charges.

Switch Confirms Michigan Campus Pending Passage Of Legislation

Switch, a Nevada-based data center company with international locations, confirmed Monday that it is indeed looking to build an eastern campus in West Michigan pending legislation introduced in both the House and the Senate that would exempt it from certain sales, use and property tax, and the committee chair of House Tax Policy expects a hearing on the bills as soon as possible.

"We'll be taking it up on the Tuesday of our return, though the bills will probably change from the way they were submitted," Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), said of HB 5074, HB 5075 and HB 5076, referring to December 1 when the Legislature returns from its break.

Mr. Farrington said the details are being worked out right now, so the changes are not likely to be significant.

"I think it's a good idea all around," he said.

Identical bills were introduced in the Senate last Tuesday as well (SB 616, SB 617 and SB 618), and while the chair of the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee where the bills were sent was not immediately available late Monday to speak about their fate, the majority leader's spokesperson expressed enthusiasm about them.

"(This is a) great opportunity for Michigan and for the entire eastern half of the country," Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), said Monday. "The Senate will work to help facilitate this new investment in our state."

Rumors had been swirling late last week that the company - whose 1,000 clients include eBay, Intel, Shutterfly, Dreamworks, HP, JP Morgan Chase and Google - was looking at a location previously owned by Steelcase, known as the Steelcase pyramid, but most legislators associated with the legislation were tight-lipped last week about early reports about the company being Switch (See Gongwer Michigan Report, November 13, 2015).

The announcement, coming in a joint statement with The Right Place, Incorporated, was met more cautiously by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, to which Governor Rick Snyder has referred questions to about the project since being asked at recent events.

The MEDC said it does not comment on questions or pending legislation regarding potential business attraction deals, but it appreciated the public excitement and talk about the potential economic impact "when any business locates in Michigan and commits to creating high-paying jobs and a substantial private investment," MEDC CEO Steve Arwood said in a statement.

"We remain open to all options the Legislature provides us in leveling the playing field creating new business attraction opportunities in Michigan," he said.

If sent to Mr. Snyder, the legislation would mark a significant departure for an administration that moved away from using tax incentives to woo new business to the state, though the types of

jobs the data center would eventually bring in are exactly what Mr. Snyder and his administration has been looking toward.

Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place, said the impact Switch could have on the greater Grand Rapids area and the entire state of Michigan could not be overstated.

"The unparalleled technology and data infrastructure investments planned by Switch will unleash countless new possibilities for growth in our state," Ms. Klohs said in the statement with Switch. "The future of business will be driven by data, and Michigan will be well positioned as a hub of data innovation."

Indeed, Switch could be one of the most significant businesses to land in Michigan during the Snyder administration. The company had been looking for an eastern U.S. data center campus, and if all goes well, Michigan will be the home of the 2 million-square-foot, $5 billion data center campus. The total capital investment reflects the costs for both the data centers and the computer servers that would be placed inside the buildings over a multi-year period, the company said.

"The campus will create thousands of well-paid construction jobs over the estimated 10-year build out of the entire project. Similar to their construction projects in Nevada, a vast majority of Switch's contractors will be hired from the local workforce," Switch said in the statement. "In addition, at full-build out Switch and its clients are projected to employ 1,000 people to work in the data center campus. With a current workforce comprised of 70 percent veterans, Switch will continue its commitment to hire the men and women who have served."

Pending passage of the legislation, SUPERNAP Michigan would be the largest data center campus in the eastern United States, Switch said, adding the campus would provide transformational infrastructure and serve the eastern U.S. by offering "the only Uptime Institute rated Tier IV Gold carrier-neutral colocation data center location outside of the SUPERNAP facilities in the western U.S."

"We are excited to be working with Governor Snyder, the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and The Right Place, Inc. to bring Switch and its 1,000+ clients that make up the largest data center ecosystem in the world to Michigan," Adam Kramer, executive vice president of strategy for Switch, said in the statement. "Before Switch can finalize its announcement, it will work with the Michigan Legislature to pass new data center legislation that creates an equal playing field between Michigan and its neighboring states."

MICHIGAN ADVANTAGE: The company said it sought a location - similar to its home base in Nevada - that would be able to serve its necessary major markets without the obvious increased risk of natural disasters associated with coastline locations.

"Switch's enterprise business clients will collectively place billions of dollars of equipment at these selected Prime hubs, which is why geographic safety is critical," it said in its statement. "The Michigan SUPERNAP Prime would join those ranks and share the infrastructure attributes as well as follow the Switch site selection criteria."

Its location in Las Vegas, for example, is seven milliseconds from Los Angeles and 14 milliseconds from San Francisco. And SUPERNAP Tahoe Reno, the company's most recent expansion, is six milliseconds from Silicon Valley and 14 milliseconds from San Diego, Switch said.

Michigan's advantage, other than fewer natural disasters, Switch said, is its data center operations to be two milliseconds from Chicago and 14 milliseconds from New York, among other major population hubs, "without being burdened with the high power prices, taxes and earthquake/hurricane risks associated with those cities."

Groups Announce Lawsuit Over Flint Water

The Natural Resources Defense Council and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan announced Monday their intent to file a federal lawsuit over the water crisis in Flint.

The groups argue city and state officials have continued to violate federal drinking water standards despite the recent move back to the Detroit water system from the Flint River water that caused problems.

Anjali Waikar, NRDC attorney, said Flint's water source is expected to change again next summer but neither the city nor the state have spelled out how they will ensure water remains safe.

"They haven't identified the manner in which they plan to amend their monitoring and testing protocols," Ms. Waikar said. "They may have conceded there were problems in the past."

Unlike some other lawsuits that have been filed regarding the water crisis, Ms. Waikar said the NRDC/ACLU lawsuit is not seeking damages. While the groups are planning to move forward with the lawsuit at this point, she said they would also see it as a victory if the city and state provided monitoring plans that she said have so far been missing.

Federal law requires that plaintiffs issue a notice of intent to sue before actually filing their case. Ms. Waikar said that period is designed precisely to give the government time to comply without court intervention.

"If they come forward with proposals and assurances, we would be delighted," she said.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for Governor Rick Snyder, declined to comment on the threatened lawsuit because she said the administration had not yet been served, but the state and the city have taken steps to resolve the issues with Flint's water system.

"The governor has outlined a detailed multiple step action plan for both immediate, mid and long term," Ms. Wurfel said. "He has also appointed a task force doing a very important job of reviewing all past actions. They are a bipartisan group of people of the highest integrity, experts in their fields and widely respected who are going to do a very thorough, objective review."

City officials did not respond to requests for comment.

Republican Attorneys General Defend Schuette On Clean Power Fight

Attorney General Bill Schuette is working in the state's best interests when it comes to fighting the federal Clean Power Plan, the Republic Attorneys General Association said in an ad released Monday to counter spots released last week by environmental groups.

Independence USA PAC is running television ads in Michigan and other states arguing that attorneys general involved in challenges to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan were putting the interests of the coal industry ahead of those of their constituents (See Gongwer Michigan Report, November 6, 2015).

But the RAGA, of which Mr. Schuette is now president (see separate story), counters it is Michael Bloomberg, the primary financier of Independence USA, who is not looking out for the best interests of Michigan residents.

"The Obama/Bloomberg plan would raise your electric rates and kill jobs here in Michigan," the RAGA ad says. "Schuette fights Washington to save jobs in Michigan, keeping your energy costs down."

The RAGA is running similar ads for Attorney General Pam Bondi of Florida and Attorney General Brad Schimel of Wisconsin.

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, the other target of the Independence USA ads, is a Democrat.

RAGA officials did not return calls to clarify where or when the ads would run.

Schuette Named Chair Of GOP Attorneys General

Attorney General Bill Schuette was named chair of the national Republican Attorneys General Association, and he said he looked forward to working with the other GOP state lawyers to "fight to protect free enterprise, liberty and our constitution."

But a liberal organization said Mr. Schuette should dust off the U.S. Constitution because it is the job of the legislative and judicial branches to provide checks and balances to the president. A state attorney general's job is to protect the people of a state from criminals, pollution and corruption, they said.

The GOP organization, which now has 27 state attorneys general as members, was meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, when Mr. Schuette was elected chair of the group.

He will serve as chair through the 2016 elections.

Mr. Schuette is in his second and final term as attorney general and is considered a potential GOP candidate for governor in 2018.

Mr. Schuette said it was his "honor to serve as chair during this critical time in which federal government overreach is hurting job creation and economic growth in our states and our country."

Progress Michigan blasted Mr. Schuette for "using his elected position to defend polluters, fight to take away health care from Michigan citizens and attack individuals' freedoms," it said in a statement.

Radio Ad Calls For Competitive Energy Generation

A group called Unleash Michigan Energy has launched a radio ad calling for the Legislature to adopt competitive bidding on new energy generation similar to the concept of competitive bidding that was included in the highway funding package that is now law.

If competitive bidding will be good for the state in terms of driving down costs on road construction and maintenance, the same concept would help keep down energy and electrical generation costs, it said.

The ad released by the group, a 501c4 organization, also said Governor Rick Snyder has called for competitive bidding in all state services, so it would make sense to have it with energy policy too.

Where the ad is playing and for how long it will play was not released by the organization, but the group said the ad is its first.

The group consists of both legislators and businesses, including Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) and Midland Cogeneration Venture.

Along with saving money, competitive bidding would also help attract more businesses to the state and create more jobs, the ad said.

'Sunshine Squad' Seeks To Increase Ethics, Transparency

Progress Michigan announced Monday it would launch a new website as part of a broader "Sunshine Squad" campaign seeking to make the Legislature more accountable on the heels of a report that indicated Michigan ranked last nationally when it comes to ethics and transparency laws.

The website features every member of the Legislature, not including the seats yet to be filled by special elections, broken down by committee assignment and House or Senate district. Each legislator-specific page currently features committee assignments and searchable financial contributions so residents can find where their legislator's financial support is coming from, the group said in a statement.

"Our elected officials in the legislature have gotten away with shielding themselves from public scrutiny for too long. This campaign will shine some light on their actions and who is putting money into their campaign coffers," Executive Director Lonnie Scott said. "The Sunshine Squad's goal is to promote transparency, increase public disclosure and to hold our state lawmakers accountable. The launch of the website today is only the beginning."

Financial information included on the site comes from the National Institute on Money in State Politics via FollowTheMoney.org, and voting records are pulled directly from the House and Senate journals, the group said.

"Donation information and voting records, while public, can be difficult to find and track at times, so this website will be a one-stop resource for the public to hold their elected officials to account," Mr. Scott said. "Unlike some of the other voting sites out there, we hold no editorial sway over any of the information included on the website, we're just putting out the facts and letting the public use it how they will. It's important to see how money is influencing the voting tendencies of those in power."

Progress Michigan also said as the campaign moves forward, there will be additional elements added to the site and the information will be updated regularly.

Campaign Notes

DEMOCRAT FILES TO RUN IN 24TH HOUSE DISTRICT: Democrat Dana Camphous-Peterson of Harrison Township announced on Monday she has filed to run in the 24th House District where Republican Rep. Anthony Forlini of Harrison Township cannot seek re-election because of term limits.

Ms. Camphous-Peterson works as an executive project coordinator in Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel's office and the co-founder of the child advocacy center, Care House.

"As a Macomb County employee, I've seen how decisions in Lansing affect our families and local businesses. I look forward to sharing my experience in local government and how that could help me speak for the residents of Harrison, Macomb and Clinton Townships," she said in a statement.

MIELKE TRYING AGAIN IN 99TH HOUSE DISTRICT: Democrat Bryan Mielke of Mount Pleasant will try again to win the 99th House District, this time with House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) unable to seek re-election because of term limits.

"While I came close in 2014, close is not enough for the people of Isabella and Midland counties," Mr. Mielke wrote on his Facebook page.

Mr. Mielke criticized the recent road funding solution Mr. Cotter crafted with his Republican caucus.

"(The road funding) law gives a tax break to the wealthiest in Michigan while raising registration fees, and adds cuts to fire and police services, education funding and health care. This disservice to the people of Michigan from lawmakers in Lansing has to stop. That's why I'll continue what I started in 2014," he said.

DRISKELL ENDORSEMENT: The Sierra Club has endorsed Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline) in her challenge to U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Tipton) in the 7th U.S. House District.

"Gretchen Driskell earned Sierra Club's endorsement because of her commitment to protecting Michigan's Great Lakes' way of life," Richard Barron, political chair of Michigan Sierra Club, said in a statement announcing the endorsement. "She understands the importance of clean air, clean water, and public health. We are confident that she will work to protect Michigan's environment for our families and our future."

ANTI-BISHOP ADS: The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee launched a series of radio advertisements this week hitting U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) on his opposition to prevailing wage requirements and arguing loss of prevailing wage would disproportionately affect veterans.

"Michigan vets want politicians to stand up for their wages, but Mike Bishop would rather take the same side as the billionaires backing the anti-prevailing wage petition - and his campaign," the ads, which are running in the Lansing and Detroit markets, say.

The ads urge veterans particularly to call Mr. Bishop's office on the issue.

REPEAL PLEDGE: Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-Saint Clair), who is running for the 10th U.S. House District to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township) has signed Independent Women's Voice's pledge to repeal the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the group announced Monday.

"Phil understands the harm that ObamaCare has already caused and will continue to cause if it's not turned back," Heather Higgins, president and CEO of the group, said in a statement. "He recognizes that ObamaCare hurts seniors and increases costs for families. Moreover, he knows that ObamaCare means bigger government and less freedom, places government bureaucrats between doctors and their patients, and reduces our choice and control in health care decisions."

Capital Notebook

MSU SAYS IT BEATS OTHER SCHOOLS IN PLACEMENT: A new website launched by Michigan State University shows that 92 percent of students with undergraduate degrees are either working or in graduate school.

That means MSU's placement rate for students with undergraduate degrees is 12 percent higher than the average college in the U.S.

The Spartan Success website uses data derived from the annual destination survey conducted by the university's career services network. The data shows 63 percent of the graduates remain in the state and another 15 percent getting jobs or going to graduate school in the Midwest.

The website also shows 58 percent of the graduates working have salaries of $40,000 a year or above.

VETERAN-FRIENDLY EMPLOYERS: The Veterans Affairs Agency on Monday recognized 37 employers for their efforts to hire and retain veterans among their workforce.

There were 1,000 jobs for veterans among the companies, officials said.

"I applaud those companies committed to helping our veterans build long-lasting careers," Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement. "Veterans are an important source of untapped talent in our state, they bring valuable skills to the workforce and are an integral part of Michigan's continued reinvention."

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Michigan News & Opinion For November 17, 2015

News

City blues: MSU study finds state tax policies cripple cities (Bridge Magazine, 11/17/2015)

Gamrat husband ID'd as person who sent Courser texts (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Parole for medically frail inmates proposed by House (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Study: Economy adds to traffic, which raises road deaths (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Class action lawsuit claims Snyder, Flint put water cost above safety (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Howard Croft, Flint official responsible for water oversight, resigns (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Lead-exposed Flint kids need better nutrition now, Stabenow says (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Attorneys discuss a Flint water class action lawsuit (Michigan Radio, 11/17/2015)

'People should be outraged' by allowing guns at school, Grand Rapids superintendent says (MLive, 11/17/2015)

7 takeaways from police investigation into Todd Courser, Cindy Gamrat 'extortion' texts (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Switch confirms plans for $5B investment, 1,000 jobs at West Michigan data center (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Syrians, advocates on Michigan's refugee stance: 'They forget that we're all humans' (MLive, 11/17/2015)

National group defends Schuette on pollution fight (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Report: Joe Gamrat denied he planned threatening texts (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Snyder among at least a dozen governors not taking Syrian refugees (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Editorials

Editorial: Be straight with voters (Battle Creek Enquirer, 11/17/2015)

Why collective bargaining still works (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Editorial: Roads funding plan is a start (Lansing State Journal, 11/17/2015)

Brian Pannebecker is dead wrong on overturning prevailing wage in Michigan (Macomb Daily, 11/17/2015)

Candice Miller: Gov. Snyder's prior willingness to accept Syrian refugees was 'off the mark' (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Lupher: Initiative petition process cries for reform (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Blogs

Runner's World Covers Calley, Bernstein Running NYC Marathon Together (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/16/2015)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 8:49 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For November 18, 2015

News

Michigan moves toward renewable power goal, not mandate (Associated Press, 11/18/2015)

Democrats target Rep. Mike Bishop in ads (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

Michigan could potentially see more Syrian refugees (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

EPA group to take testimony on Flint water crisis as it weighs rule changes (Flint Journal, 11/18/2015)

Read resignation letter of Flint official in charge of city water (Flint Journal, 11/18/2015)

Lawmakers push to expand Promise scholarship in Michigan (Michigan Radio, 11/18/2015)

After Syrian refugee stance, is Michigan's Rick Snyder still the most pro-immigration governor? (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Bay County group opposing guns in school heads to Lansing with 1,584 signatures (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat 'shocked' by police report that detailed her husband's involvement (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Army Corps gets $1.35M to study upgrade for Soo Locks (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Michigan can't bar refugees; it's up to feds (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Editorials

How technology can disrupt divide over government's role (Bridge Magazine, 11/18/2015)

Protecting and preserving our Great Lakes (Holland Sentinel, 11/18/2015)

Keeping guns out gets us nowhere in staying safer (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Bieber: Shine a light on state contracts (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Bill a step toward fair, secure energy for Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Editorial: Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Sen. Colbeck: Healthcare option could finance roads (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Blogs

Tax Breaks To Lure Data Center Set Up Intriguing Switch For State (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/17/2015)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 8:36 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For November 19, 2015

News

Anti-fracking group falls short in signatures for ballot (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Flint lead problems raised at national water hearing (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Scientists to feds: Great Lakes wolves not endangered (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Refund Flint $2 million for cost of Detroit water, Kildee tells Gov. Snyder (Flint Journal, 11/19/2015)

Story of Flint water crisis, 'failure of government,' unfolds in Washington (Flint Journal, 11/19/2015)

Schor on union leave time ban: 'What's the point?' (Lansing State Journal, 11/19/2015)

Todd Courser says he was a 'bad victim' in extortion text scandal (MLive, 11/19/2015)

Study: Eight Michigan companies receive perfect scores in LGBT equality (Oakland Press, 11/19/2015)

Bush group buys $1.8M in TV ads for Michigan primary (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

FAA seeks to fine Detroit Metro airport $200,000 (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Flint officials, experts hit lead contamination law (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Patterson to Pontiac: Don't take Syrian refugees (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Skillman leader: Don't expect foundation rescue of DPS (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Editorials

Facts about refugee resettlement should ease fears (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Snyder talks tough on refugees, flunks social studies (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

What federal transportation bill will mean for Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Teacher evaluation bill set (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/19/2015)

Snyder trying to clear his record in statements on refugees (Michigan Radio, 11/19/2015)

To prevent Great Lakes oil spills, map the risks and strengthen rules (MLive, 11/19/2015)

Buss: The UAW's short view (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Editorial: Pause on refugees can't be permanent (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

McNeilly: Lawmakers need workplace oversight (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Blogs

Trails Expanding, But Still Lacking Some Key Amenities (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/18/2015)

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Volume #54, Report #231 -- Monday, November 23, 2015

MacGregor Zeroes In On Planned Parenthood Funding

The newly formed Senate Oversight Committee could begin meeting next Thursday to discuss funding to Planned Parenthood and how it relates to the reception of federal money by Michigan, the committee's chair told Gongwer News Service in a recent interview.

The close look at Planned Parenthood comes after Republicans were in an uproar over the summer about secretly recorded videos of various officials affiliated with the organization speaking about the organization's practice of providing fetal tissue from its abortions for research.

Although the Michigan extension of Planned Parenthood continues to deny any of its offices partake in such practices, Mr. MacGregor (R-Rockford) and his committee will take a deeper dive into the issue.

"We're trying to answer, is this happening in Michigan? Could it happen? And how it could be prevented from happening," Mr. MacGregor said. "I've been meeting with all the different groups involved with Planned Parenthood and how it relates to Title 10 dollars, other dollars, how they fit into community health and the rest of our state.

"I'm trying to get all the puzzle pieces of who it affects and how it affects so if decisions are made down the road on the state's use of Planned Parenthood, I'm informed as best (as possible) on how that's going to affect our state," Mr. MacGregor said.

Mr. MacGregor is the majority vice chair on the Senate Appropriations Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

When Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) created the committee in mid-September, he pointed to Mr. MacGregor as the perfect choice to lead such a committee.

Asked about that, Mr. MacGregor said: "I think the Senate majority leader and others realize that a lot of times it's not what you know, it's how you listen, and I tend to pride myself on being a good listener. In the private sector, my motto is listen, commit and follow through, and I try and use that as a legislator.

"I'm going to do a lot of listening with the Oversight committee, and from there, we'll commit to our citizens that, if there needs to be some change or something has to have a spotlight on it, we'll do that," he said, though noting that may not always be solely his decision. Rather, a "team decision" on what he, his team and the majority leader agree could end up on the docket.

Although Mr. MacGregor told Gongwer the committee's purpose is to "be able to look at issues in front of the Legislature or state government (that) doesn't relate to any bill that's hanging out there," there has been several anti-abortion type bills sent to the committee so far.

Those bills are SB 564 and SB 565, related to abortion compensation; SB 573 requiring DHHS to specify a facility must be licensed as a freestanding surgical outpatient facility and prohibiting abortions from said facilities until it becomes licensed; and SB 575, which requires the state to "refrain from allocating funds to an entity that considers an elective abortion to be part of the continuum of health care for the purposes of family planning or comprehensive reproductive health services," as well as prohibits state or federal funds to an entity performing more than 120 abortions per year.

Mr. MacGregor said the committee's first hearing has been posted for the first Thursday the Legislature is back in session in December, December 3. Although the committee would typically meet at 8:30 a.m., it had not yet officially noticed for that date, so that is subject to change.

FLINT WATER CRISIS: Mr. MacGregor said he's had several colleagues give suggestions on what topics his Oversight Committee should look into, but he will not make those decisions in a vacuum, he said. "These decisions are made in conjunction with leadership."

"I will consider any topic that someone puts in front of me, but I'm not going to use the Oversight Committee to trump another Senate member," Mr. MacGregor said when asked if he would consider a suggestion recently by Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) to review what happened in Flint and how it came into its current water crisis where lead has found its way into the tap water.

And other priorities could inevitably come up, he said. Preference, of course, would be given to members of the committee, which include Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township), Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland) and Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) in addition to Mr. MacGregor.

"Sitting on Appropriations is also a concern, that we'll be getting in the budget cycle, so I want to give each topic the appropriate time and attention that's needed," Mr. MacGregor said. "It could be busy early winter here. We may reduce the time we're going to meet when the budget starts to come around, so timing is going to be key, because I don't want to shortchange any one of the issues that come up."

Singh Defends Refugee Vetting Process

Rep. Sam Singh on Monday called the country's vetting process for refugees extremely comprehensive and said he disagrees with Governor Rick Snyder's "pause" on working to bring Syrian refugees into the state following terrorism attacks in Paris.

"One of the areas that I have long agreed with Governor Snyder on is the need for Michigan to be a welcoming state that encourages immigration and cultural diversity," Mr. Singh said in an

email to supporters. "That is why I was profoundly disappointed to hear Governor Snyder call for a 'pause' on bringing Syrian refugees to Michigan. Fear has overtaken cool-headed, rational thought."

Mr. Singh is a board member for the Refugee Development Center in Lansing. He said the vetting process in the United States is comprehensive and conducted by the United Nations and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The process takes between one year and three years and includes in-person interviews and multiple background checks, Mr. Singh wrote.

"As elected officials, we should be using our platform to educate people and make sound decisions based on facts rather than creating fear to move forward a political agenda," he said.

Mr. Snyder decided to suspend state efforts to bring more refugees from Syria to settle in the state in the wake of terrorist attacks in Paris and Lebanon. He has said it is a temporary move while the federal government reviews its vetting procedures.

Mr. Snyder has made a big point during his nearly five years in office of labeling himself the most pro-immigration governor in the country. And in the wake of the Syrian civil war, now raging for four years, hundreds of thousands of Syrians have fled the country as refugees, some 200,000 to Europe and another 4 million in other Middle East countries, according to the United Nations.

The governor's administration had been working with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan to intensify the state's efforts to place Syrian refugees, but those will now be put on hold as the governor awaits response from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to his request for a review of its procedures on vetting refugees to enter the country to determine whether strengthening is needed.

Snyder spokesperson Dave Murray did not say if Mr. Snyder has made a decision on what he thinks of the vetting process.

"Governor Snyder continues to be engaged in discussions with the departments of State and Homeland Security," Mr. Murray said. "Our priority is to keep Michiganders safe, and Governor Snyder continues to work to get answers to the questions and concerns expressed by Michigan residents."

Mr. Singh said as a member of the Refugee Development Center, he knows the refugees who come to Michigan are decent and hard-working people.

"These families come here often after fleeing unimaginable horrors that few of us could imagine," he wrote. "They come here to escape persecution, protect their loved ones and live without fear."

MSEA, AFSCME Ratify New Contract, Other Unions Still Voting

Two of the five major unions representing state government employees have ratified the proposed new contract.

The Michigan State Employees Association counted votes last Thursday and announced the results Friday.

"I would like to thank all the members who participated in the democratic process of voting on the tentative agreement," MSEA President Ken Moore said in a statement. "Participation is what makes us union strong."

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 25 members ratified the contract shortly after the announcement of a tentative agreement, said Nick Ciaramitaro, AFSCME director of legislation and public policy.

The other major unions are still voting. Ballots from members of the United Auto Workers Local 6000, the largest union of state employees, will be counted December 11. They are due December 10.

The ballots from the Service Employees International Union 517m are due December 2 and will be counted the same day.

Ballots for the Michigan Corrections Organization will be counted November 30.

Under the tentative agreement the state reached with unions in October, there would be a one-year contract for wages and health care starting October 1, 2016, that provides a 1 percent base wage increase, and 1.5 percent lump sum payment for employees in October 2016.

Other portions of the contracts would last the traditional three years. However, the Office of State Employer pushed for a one-year deal on the wages and health care components out of concern about what will happen with the federal excise tax on premium health care plans, MCO said in an October bulletin to its members.

That is the so-called Cadillac tax in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Under that law, starting with the 2018 tax year, if the aggregate cost of the health care coverage an employer provides exceeds a statutory dollar limit, then the excess is subject to a 40 percent excise tax.

State officials have said they will not comment on the new contract until the ratification process concludes.

Juvenile Justice Reforms Won't Be Reported Until 2016

The House Criminal Justice Committee is taking up a 20-bill package making various reforms to the juvenile justice system in the state - including ending the practice of automatically trying all 17 year-olds as adults - but the committee chair said the bills won't clear the committee until next year.

Michigan is one of only nine states to automatically consider juveniles who are 17 as adults for criminal offenses. Another bill in the package would prohibit the placement of youth under the age of 18 in adult jails and prisons and provide access to "age appropriate" rehabilitation.

Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth Township), chair of the Criminal Justice Committee, said he will take testimony on the legislation at its December 1 meeting, and possibly the week after.

"I think that these are important bills, and it is something I certainly want to see happen," Mr. Heise said Monday. "I also think it is consistent with the governor's smart justice message. But I want to take our time on it; I want to do a good job and not rush it."

The bills were introduced in October and Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit) has helped lead the charge on the reforms. Recently he launched a website promoting the legislation: Raisetheagemi.org.

The other bills in the package would:

- Increase the County Child Care Fund reimbursement rate for qualifying community-based services for youth by 25 percent;
- Omit bank or safe robbery, escape from a juvenile facility and drug possession or delivery of up to 1,000 grams from the list of specified juvenile offenses;
- Require equal consideration of all mitigating factors prior to waiving jurisdiction in traditional juvenile waiver cases;
- Require public monitoring and oversight of youth under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections who entered for an offense committed prior to turning 18 years old;
- Ensure age-appropriate programming and outdoor exercise for youth under 21 years old in administrative segregation in prison; and
- Establish a family advisory board within the Department of Corrections to ensure effective partnerships with families and victims.

The bill numbers are HB 4947, HB 4948, HB 4950, HB 4951, HB 4952, HB 4953, HB 4954, HB 4955, HB 4956, HB 4957, HB 4958, HB 4959, HB 4960, HB 4961, HB 4962, HB 4963, HB 4964, HB 4965 and HB 4966.

The Criminal Justice Committee will take testimony on the legislation on at 9 a.m. December 1.

Conyers Announces Campaign For 27th Term

U.S. Rep. John Conyers Jr. announced Monday that he is seeking to hold his place as the longest-serving current member of Congress, and he already has a long list of supporters in that effort.

Mr. Conyers, 86, will face a fight for the Democratic nomination in the heavily Democratic seat from Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey, who announced in September that she would challenge Mr. Conyers in the 13th U.S. House District.

Still, other potentially strong challengers in recent years have made little dent in Mr. Conyers' support base. He has won renomination in landslides.

"I'm running for another term in Congress because there are fights yet to be won," Mr. Conyers (D-Detroit) said in a statement announcing his re-election bid. "Winning full employment, health care for all, and protection of the right to vote won't be easy, but I know the type of leadership that it will take to fight and win these battles."

Mr. Conyers touted both his work in Congress and his efforts in the community as reason to keep him in office.

In Congress, he said he continues work on jobs, including continuing to introduce the Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act to provide job training for all residents.

He said he was also a leading force behind recent revisions to surveillance policies.

In the community, he has continued to oppose emergency management in Detroit, and other communities, and has worked with community leaders to prevent water shut-offs, he said.

Mr. Conyers saw endorsements from the state elected officials in the district: Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights), Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park), Sen. Coleman Young III (D-Detroit), Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit), Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit), Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit), Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit) and Rep. Frank Liberati (D-Allen Park).

He also saw support from Detroit City Councilmembers Janee Ayers and George Cushingberry, as well as Oakland County Commissioner Nancy Quarles.

Mr. Conyers' biggest problem in 2014 was a lackluster campaign operation that nearly botched his place on the ballot with insufficient valid signatures. He appears more organized this time around, having hired the Grassroots Midwest political consulting firm.

Juvenile Overdose Deaths Tripled In Michigan, Report Says

With federal and state officials working to better track drug overuse, a national report said drug overdose deaths among young people in Michigan had tripled in just over a decade.

The results from Michigan were among the worst, though not the worst, of findings from the states as the study looked at steps states are taking to help ensure young adults, teens and younger kids do not get access to drugs and alcohol.

The report said 35 states had seen the rate of deaths among young people more than double or more from 2001 to 2011-13. Michigan was one of 12 states where the death rate had tripled.

The report, from the Trust for America's Health, said that from 1999 to 2001, not one state had a rate of overdose of deaths of more than 6.1 percent per 100,000 population of younger people.

Now, 33 states had had death rates that exceeded 6.1 percent per 100,000 of people aged between 12 and 25.

The report did not have any raw totals on the actual number of deaths in Michigan or nationally related to drug overdoses of young people.

However, a 2014 report from the then Department of Community Health - now the Department of Health and Human Services - said that in 2012 there were 941 deaths from drug overdoses of people of any age in Michigan.

In 1999, that same report said, there were 235 deaths from drug overdoses.

The report from Trust for America's Health said that in 1999-2001, drug overdose deaths of people aged 12 to 25 in Michigan was 2.1 percent for each 100,000 people in that age group.

By 2011 to 2103, the death rate for those young people from drug overdoses had had gone to 8.1 percent. For males it was 11 percent, and for females it was 5.1 percent.

The death rate involved all drugs, including illegal drugs such as heroin and prescription drug abuse.

Along with Michigan, the death rate tripled during that time frame in Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Utah and West Virginia.

Overall, the Great Lakes did not do well in terms of low percentages of drug overdose deaths of young people. Minnesota had the lowest rate among them at 5.7 percent, followed by New York at 6.9 percent. Michigan was the third-lowest, followed by Illinois at 8.2 percent, Wisconsin at 8.8 percent, Ohio at 9.1 percent, Indiana at 9.6 percent and Pennsylvania at 11.8 percent.

Overall, North Dakota had the lowest rate at 2.2 percent. West Virginia had the highest at 12.6 percent.

Michigan also did not rank highly, according to the national group, in terms of steps it took to discourage young people from obtaining and using drugs and other substances. Out of 10

proposed actions the report proposed, the state uses five (Minnesota with the lowest rate in the Great Lakes states uses all 10).

According to the report, Michigan also did not have at least 80 percent of its high school students graduate; it did not have in place comprehensive laws to prevent bullying; it did not increase funding for mental health services; and it did not have in place billing codes in health insurance for screening and referral to programs, nor did it have in place yet immunity for good Samaritan actions.

Last month, a state task force did call for the state to take steps to update its Michigan Automated Prescription System to help track down potential prescription drug overuse.

Despite Job Growth, Report Says Michigan Is Low Prosperity State

After nearly a decade of struggling in a single-state recession, and then fighting with the rest of the United States through the Great Recession, Michigan has become a leader in terms of job growth. But its drop in overall per capita income and lower number of adults actually working, as well as a low number of persons with college degrees, means the state has become a low-prosperity state, a report issued by the organization Michigan Future Incorporated argued.

And the report said that continuing to improve the state toward higher-education attainment and a focus on the service sectors of the economy that rely on higher-skilled individuals is needed for the state to move into a knowledge-based economy that has a higher prosperity profile.

The report was prepared by Lou Glazer, president of Michigan Future, and Don Grimes at the Institute for Research on Labor, Employment and the Economy at the University of Michigan. The report was funded by the Hudson-Webber Foundation.

Mr. Glazer, a former state official, has long urged the state put a greater focus on improving educational outcomes and increasing the number of residents with college degrees.

The report acknowledges Michigan has in the last five years been a national leader in terms of overall job growth.

And a forecast issued last week by the Research Seminar for Quantitative Economics at U-M said job growth for the state should continue over the next two years.

But the report also said growth in the auto industry, which once fueled greater prosperity in the state, is no longer enough.

States that are considered high prosperity tend to have a large number of knowledge-based service sector jobs in insurance, finance, health care, education, information and corporate management, as well as a large number of residents with at least a four-year degree.

However, Michigan ranks 34th in the nation with the number of individuals with four-year degrees. It also ranks 26th in terms of total wages stemming from high-knowledge industries.

The two largest regions in the state also lag the nation in terms of higher education attainment, the report said.

Metro Detroit stood 42nd in terms of population with four-year degrees and 33rd in proportion of wages earned in knowledge-based industries.

Grand Rapids was 34th in terms of those with four-year degrees and 52nd in terms of wages earned in knowledge companies.

The state has also lagged other states in terms of income growth. At the beginning of the 21st Century Michigan, was 17th in terms of overall per capita income. By 2013, the state had fallen to 37th in terms of per capita income.

And while the state's unemployment rate is down, Michigan ranks low in terms of the total percentage of adults between the ages of 25 and 64 who are working. Michigan now ranks 42nd in terms of total adults with a job, the report indicated.

Audit Cites Veterans Affairs For Maintenance Program

While the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' maintenance program is at least moderately effective, Auditor General Doug Ringler said in a report issued Monday, the lack of central records left both building condition and overall preparedness in question.

The performance audit, for the period October 1, 2012, through May 31, 2015, of the Construction and Facilities Management Office found that its efforts to maintain facilities was only moderately effective because it lacked a central maintenance record.

Auditors noted that inspections in 2014 found a number of maintenance issues that could have been prevented with earlier work.

Officials said they were working to develop a centralized maintenance tracking system, but were hampered by lack of resources.

Auditors also cited the office for not properly tracking installation status reports, which indicate the readiness state of each of the state's 43 armories. Auditors reviewed 16 of the 90 reports filed for fiscal years 2012-13 and 2013-14, and found half did not include supporting documentation.

In six of the reports, the rating in the final report did not match the scores in the supporting documents, with two of those being typing errors.

The office said it met National Guard Bureau reporting requirements, but would develop a better system for storing the reports and related documentation.

The report said the office was effective at administering construction and maintenance projects, particularly noting its ongoing five-year capital outlay budget to keep projects prioritized.

But auditors, in reviewing 15 sample projects, found the office had not kept copies of 54 of the 127 documents tied to those projects showing contractors were complying with requirements. The office also had not documented on-site inspections for six of the 15 projects.

The office said it was developing processes to better collect and track the reports.

HP Turns Over Source Code To State

Hewlett Packard met a judge-imposed deadline of 5 p.m. Friday to turn over the source code for information technology projects it had been pursuing for the Department of State, a department spokesperson said Monday.

A week ago, a Kent Circuit judge ordered HP Enterprise Services to turn over the source code for the ExpressSOS website, the Penske application and current data migration code, saying it was clear the code belonged to the state. The department cancelled HP's contract for the Business Application Modernization project after years of delays and problems.

The department warned that without the state having the source code, the entire online system, which thousands of residents use to renew license plates and conduct other business, was at risk of crashing.

Capital Notebook

MANISTEE CHILD CARE SUSPENSION: The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems, has summarily suspended and issued a notice of intent to revoke the license of a Manistee County child care center provider, Suzanne Hamilton, of the Manistee Historic Red School House CDC child care center.

Ms. Hamilton has held a license to operate a child care center since January 2013 for 60 children, but effective immediately, she may no longer operate her child care center at 284 First Street or at any other location. She may no longer accept children for care after that date and must inform all of the parents of children in her care that her license has been suspended and she can no longer provide care.

LARA did not indicate why her license will be revoked, only saying the action came as a result of a recent investigation of a complaint into the child care center she operates.

DTE GAS CUSTOMER INCREASE: Residential natural gas customers of DTE Gas Company will see an increase of 19 cents on their monthly bills effective July 2016 as a result of an approved expansion of the company's gas main replacement program by the Public Service Commission.

The expansion is to enable the utility to replace more miles of gas main and will result in an increase in spending in 2016 and 2017, the PSC said in a statement (Case U-17701).

"Replacing higher risk and poorer performing gas mains will continue the MPSC's focus on enhancing safety and reliability for customers and reduce the risk of failures or leaks," said PSC Chair John Quackenbush.

DEQ WEBSITE: The Department of Environmental Quality has redesigned its website to be more user-friendly.

The site includes scrolling highlights, links to recent news releases and buttons for each of its divisions.

The home page also includes a link to environmental emergency reporting processes.

WOLF POACHING: The Department of Natural Resources announced Monday it is offering a reward for information leading to the conviction of the person who shot a wolf in Houghton County over the weekend. Officials said the poacher likely shot from a vehicle parked along M-26 south of Twin Lakes on Saturday.

Conviction for the poaching is a misdemeanor carrying up to 90 days in jail, $1,000 in fines and $1,500 in restitution to the state.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, November 24

Board of Social Work, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

Wednesday, November 25

Canceled: ~~Board of Mechanical Rules, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 9 a.m.~~

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, December 1

House Criminal Justice (Committee Record), **(Chr. Heise, 373-5795), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**

HB 4947 **JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE** (Lucido) Modifies age of juvenile court jurisdiction and location of juvenile detention in some instances.

HB 4948 **JUVENILE SENTENCING** (Howrylak) Revises code of criminal procedure to reflect increase in age limit and factors for consideration when sentencing juveniles prosecuted in the same manner as adults.

HB 4949 **JUVENILE COURT AGE** (Pagel) Modifies age of juvenile court jurisdiction in

juvenile diversion act.

HB 4950 **JUVENILE COURT AGE** (Garrett) Modifies age of juvenile jurisdiction in youth rehabilitation services act.

HB 4951 **JUVENILE MENTAL HEALTH** (Forlini) Modifies age of juvenile in disposition of persons found not guilty by reason of insanity.

HB 4952 **JUVENILE SENTENCING** (Webber) Revises the code of criminal procedure to reflect increase in age limit and factors for consideration when sentencing juvenile prosecuted in the same manner as adults.

HB 4953 **DEFINITION OF ADULT** (Afendoulis) Modifies definition of adult in Michigan indigent defense commission act.

HB 4954 **JUVENILE COURT AGE** (Santana) Revises the code of criminal procedure to reflect an increase in age limit and factors of consideration when sentencing juveniles prosecuted in the same manner as adults.

HB 4955 **JUVENILE COURT AGE** (Santana) Revises the code of criminal procedure to reflect an increase in age and factors for consideration when sentencing juveniles prosecuted in the same manner as adults.

HB 4956 **JUVENILE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** (Guerra) Modifies factors to consider when determining jurisdiction over juveniles in certain circumstances.

HB 4957 **JUVENILE DETENTION** (Heise) Modifies detention of juveniles in certain circumstances.

HB 4958 **JUVENILE SENTENCING** (Heise) Revises the code of criminal procedure to reflect increase in age limit and factors for consideration when sentencing juveniles prosecuted in the same manner as adults.

HB 4959 **JUVENILE DETENTION WITH ADULTS** (Heise) Prohibits placement of youth under 18 with adults during confinement, trial or transport.

HB 4960 **SPECIFIED JUVENILE OFFENSES** (Kesto) Eliminates certain offenses that do not require adult sentencing from the list of specified juvenile offenses in code of criminal procedure.

HB 4961 **JUVENILE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** (Kesto) Modifies specified juvenile violation definition in the revised judicature act.

HB 4962 **JUVENILE VIOLATIONS** (Kosowski) Modifies specified juvenile violation definition in probate code of 1939.

HB 4963 **JUVENILE CORRECTIONS** (Kosowski) Requires monitoring and oversight of juveniles under the age od 18 placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and provides for certain reporting.

HB 4964 **COUNTY CHILD CARE FUND** (Love) Increases county child care fund reimbursement rate.

HB 4965 **FAMILY ADVISORY BOARD** (Chang) Established family advisory board.

HB 4966 **JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE** (Howrylak) Develop policies to limit rime confined in cells for incarcerated individuals under 21 years of age.

House Appropriations (Medicaid Subcommittee of Health and Human Services) (Committee Record), **(Chr. Afendoulis, 373-8080), House Appropriations, Capitol, 10:30 a.m.**

- **Presentation by the Medical Services Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services**

House Judiciary (Committee Record), **(Chr. Kesto, 373-5176), Room 521, House Office Building, 12 p.m.**

SB 176 **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** (Schuitmaker) Provides for department of state oversight of ignition interlock servicing centers.

SB 357 **ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK MECHANICS** (Schuitmaker) Includes breath alcohol ignition interlock mechanics and servicers in motor vehicle service and repair act.

HB 4599 **WILLS AND ESTATES** (Schor) Allows designation of funeral representative to make disposition arrangements for decedent. (Testimony only)

HB 4795 **PISTOLS** (Chatfield) Prohibits local ordinances dealing with pistols and other firearms and provides penalties. (For referral to the Local Government Committee)

HB 4869 **JURY DUTY** (Schor) Exempts physicians from jury duty under certain circumstances. (Testimony only)

HB 4980 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** (Kesto) Revises guidelines for crime of knowingly providing false information concerning an ignition interlock device.

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Keep guns out of Michigan schools, poll respondents say (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Snyder to sign road funding package Tuesday (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

State Sen. Tom Casperson announces congressional run (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Flint students can be tested for lead after toxic levels found in schools (Flint Journal, 11/10/2015)

Stamas, Pettalia welcome Miss Michigan to Capitol (Midland Daily News, 11/10/2015)

How much does it cost to demolish a house? Here's a look at the price tag in five Michigan cities (MLive, 11/10/2015)

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Michigan Report for Thursday, December 3, 2015

Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

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Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

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Volume #54, Report #237 -- Thursday, December 3, 2015

Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Although the agreement on just how much of a sales/use tax exemption colocation centers such as Switch, a company out of Nevada looking to expand in Michigan, should receive varied from Thursday morning to Thursday afternoon, the Senate ultimately decided to allow such entities to receive the full extent of an exemption on a 21-15 vote.

SB 616 and SB 617 on the sales and use tax exemptions saw minimal discussion on the Senate floor, but outside of the Capitol, the debate roared, especially among traditional allies for Republicans.

The House, although it was widely expected to, did not vote on similar legislation in its chamber on Thursday.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Republicans, said members still have a lot of questions on the issue and want to take more time to discuss the legislation before making decisions.

Sources familiar with the situation speaking on background said the caucus is struggling - ideologically - with the concept of providing a tax break for one industry. There are also questions about existing data centers, which have operated in the state without the exemptions being proposed now.

Leading the charge of conservatives against the legislation was the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Rich Studley, the chamber president and CEO, lambasted the legislation repeatedly on Twitter. And it was the strong opposition from his organization that sources said had slowed efforts to pass the bills in the House.

"We are very disappointed with the Michigan Senate's decision to hastily grant hundreds of millions of dollars in sales and use tax breaks to an out-of-state company without the guarantee of a single job," Mr. Studley said a statement. "It's time for state lawmakers to stop the bait-and-switch approach to tax policy. From failed state battery credits to ineffective Hollywood film subsidies, we've seen this movie before, and it ends badly for Michigan taxpayers."

Besides Mr. Studley, the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan ripped the bills, hitting them with criticism sure to sting usual legislative Republican allies that the legislation was Granholmian. And then prominent Republican strategist Greg McNeilly called legislation "corporate cronyism" and "sad" on his Twitter feed and made sure to mention the House and Senate Republican caucus Twitter accounts to be sure they got the message. U.S. Rep. Justin Amash (R-Cascade Township) said the legislation would "destroy" jobs.

The bills would provide a 15-year exemption from the sales tax and the use taxes at the full rate of 6 percent - a version that cleared the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee earlier in the day permitted only exempted 4 percent - for collocated data centers.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said the change from 4 percent to 6 percent was a result of their belief of what the House would end up doing as well.

The bills go on to specifically define "internet data center," "data center equipment," and a "collocated business." The bills were expected to apply only to collocated data centers, a relatively small number, not captive data centers, of which there are more.

But they do not include another provision the Chamber sought to have included, Tricia Kinley, senior director of tax and regulatory reform for the Chamber, said.

"In their rush to pass this legislation, senators declined to protect businesses already located in Michigan by refusing to adopt a simple amendment to close the door on the Treasury Department's relentless effort to impose the sales tax on cloud computing and data services," she said in a statement.

And Charlie Owens with the National Federation of Independent Businesses-Michigan likened the proposal to Democratic former Governor Jennifer Granholm's "failed economic development policies" that are "still haunting our state with more than $9 billion in unclaimed credits," he said, likely referring to the now defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority tax credits.

"While we appreciate attempts to broaden the focus of the bills to include all data center operations, the legislation is still a narrowly targeted proposal," Mr. Owens said. "We offered, in both House and Senate committees, an opportunity to make changes to these bills to broaden their scope by increasing the current small business Personal Property Tax exemption of $80,000 of True Cash Value to $160,000. Since more than 90 percent of all businesses in the state are small businesses ... this change would have made the proposed legislation a more broad-based economic development proposal."

But without that change, he said, NFIB Michigan cannot support their passage.

And U.S. Rep. Justin Amash (R-Cascade Township) tweeted that the "corporate welfare deal" would "result in higher taxes on everyone down the road, harm Michigan's economy and destroy jobs." He later sent followers to his Facebook page for a more detailed explanation on why the "targeted tax breaks" were a bad idea.

But contrary to those opinions, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce said it supports the legislation, recognizing that its views differ from the state chamber.

"(Our members are) excited about the potential of supporting and growing this industry in Michigan," Andy Johnston, vice president of government and corporate affairs, told Gongwer News Service in a phone interview. "Our board has been extremely supportive of the legislative package."

In committee and on the Senate floor, some senators, especially Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor), took issue with the potential loss of revenue for schools.

"(The legislation) doesn't bind us to any future payments to these companies, but it shortchanges our School Aid Fund and our General Fund and funds to our local communities that they would otherwise be getting. That's a concern," she said. "We have gone through this process many times where we have considered tax policy that makes carve-outs and special exemptions to a particular industry or a particular industry that has made it very difficult for our budget. And we have found too often in the past that the promises in the press releases don't end up being honored on the ground here."

An amendment by Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) was adopted on the Senate floor to SB 616 that assures the appropriation of money from the General Fund to the School Aid Fund if any SAF funds were lost as a result of the legislation.

And Mr. Johnston said the GRCC's members hadn't really raised such a concern on schools.

"The question before policymakers is whether or not we want to have a competitive tax structure in order to grow this industry in Michigan. It's about making sure we do it in a way that's best for Michigan," Mr. Johnston said. "We're happy to see the Senate take action today and move the process forward."

Ms. Warren said she and the rest of her caucus wanted to get to a "yes" vote, but "we need assurances the taxpayers' monies are going to be protected, these jobs are going to be protected, that those investing in our state aren't going to be harmed by a competitor ... that doesn't have to play by the same rules."

She continued, "I can't assure my colleagues we've done our due diligence. I can't assure my constituents we're being good stewards of the taxpayer money, and I can't assure them this company is even going to come, let alone spend a dollar or hire one employee, because we have no assurances of that at this time."

To that end, Mr. Meekhof said such requirements are worth discussing, and they may become part of the final product, but for now, "It's kind of like a poker game - we have to put the ante in to be able to compete, and we put the ante in, so now we're ready to compete."

PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION: The chamber also passed on a 21-15 vote SB 618, which provides a 10-year exemption for eligible internet data center property if the local governments approved the exemption no later March 31 of the first year the eligible Internet data center property would be subject to the collection of those taxes, or if the local governments did not reject the exemption via resolution or ordinance by April 1, 2016.

Mr. Knezek and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) broke with the majority of their party to support the bills while Republicans Sen. Judy Emmons of Sheridan, Sen. Joe Hune of Whitmore Lake, Sen. Rick Jones of Grand Ledge, Sen. Marty Knollenberg of Troy, Sen. Phil Pavlov of St. Clair

and Sen. Tory Rocca of Sterling Heights voted in opposition against the majority of their party. Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland) and Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) were absent.

Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Clerks could no longer be open during most weekends to process or issue absentee voter ballots, nor could they issue absentee ballots from a satellite office under a bill introduced Thursday in the Senate.

SB 639, sponsored by Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), the chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, is sure to create a fury among Democrats as the latest potential salvo from Republicans to skew the electoral playing field to the GOP's advantage, coming as the Legislature also moves on a separate bill to end straight ticket voting and change the schedule for electing the Oakland County executive.

The prohibition on weekend hours to process absentee ballots or issue those ballots would begin 45 days before the election and run through Election Day, although the existing requirement that clerk offices remain open until 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election to receive absentee ballots would remain.

The bill also would prohibit city, township and village clerks from processing or issuing absentee voter ballots at satellite locations and mandate such activities only occur at the clerk's main office.

Mr. Robertson said the bill is about equal protection regarding election laws. The state should not have a patchwork of communities with some clerks opening during the weekends and having satellite offices and some not having those options.

"We want to make certain that the equal protection concerns are addressed," he said. "If you operate a satellite office in one place and not another, aren't you putting your thumb on the scale in favor of one municipality making it different than another."

But Angela Wittrock, spokesperson for the Senate Democratic Caucus, said the state should be making it easier for registered voters to cast their ballots.

"This bill, as written, appears to be nothing but another attempt to limit access to the ballot box. That's not something Senate Democrats will ever support," she said.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, past president of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks and a member of the association's legislative committee, said the bill "would be a catastrophe for voters."

Lansing uses a city building on the city's south side as an additional location for voters to obtain an absentee ballot that Mr. Swope said is more convenient than the clerk's main office at City Hall in downtown Lansing. There is free, close parking, unlike City Hall.

"Taking that away doesn't seem to benefit voters in any way," he said.

The loss of weekend and non-regular hours also would cause problems, Mr. Swope said. Besides the Saturday before the election (required now by law and maintained as an exception in the bill), the Lansing clerk office also opens two Sundays before the election to handle absentee ballots.

If voters work far from their home municipality, getting to the clerk's office during regular 9 to 5 hours will be difficult, Mr. Swope said.

"Eliminating the ability to have extra hours in jurisdictions that need it to accommodate their voters just seems punitive to voters," he said. "I'm kind of flabbergasted."

Mr. Robertson said he expected his committee to take up the bill soon.

Straight-Ticket Voting Elimination Stalls In House Committee

The House Elections Committee on Thursday did not report a bill that would end voters' ability to choose a party's slate of candidates with a single selection on the ballot after listening to nearly 2 hours of testimony, mostly in opposition of the legislation.

The committee met for about an hour and 15 minutes, and then went at recess for House session. At 4:30 p.m., the committee reconvened for another half an hour but did not adopt amendments nor vote to report it.

"We are going to discuss this with the committee members. There were several amendments put before us. I want to take some time to look at several of those," said Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), chair of the committee. "And take some time to digest a lot of the information we heard today and do some research on my own and come back next week and see where we go from there."

Ms. Lyons is also pushing for her bill (HB 4724) on "no-reason" absentee voting. Under the bill, a person would have to come show their ID to get their ballot for each election. Many testifying Thursday called for the bills to be formally linked via a tie-bar. Ms. Lyons said that is an option she is considering.

"Secure no-reason is something I am pushing, so we will continue to talk about what the best procedure and the best strategy to move forward on all of our election policy over the next ... week," she said.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) has said he opposes no-reason absentee legislation, but Ms. Lyons said the two are discussing the issue and will continue to do so.

She said next week is the last week bills originating in the House can pass for the first time, so she will be advocating a floor vote on the bill.

Rumors have been swirling that Ms. Lyons will run for Kent County clerk when she is term-limited out of the House next year. She said Thursday she is actually "tempted to go off the grid."

"I've got 13 months left in the House. I don't know where that will take me. It's something I have looked at, but we have an incumbent clerk there who I think has done a good job. ... I've got a lot of options," she said.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of County Clerks and the Michigan Townships Association all expressed opposition to the straight-ticket elimination bill, saying it would likely create longer lines, confusion and frustration at the polls.

Sarah Bydalek, the Walker city clerk, told the committee eliminating straight-ticket voting would take the last tool out of the toolbox for clerks to help run election days more smoothly. She did say pairing the bill with HB 4724, no-reason absentee voting, would help.

However, the House bill would require a voter to come into the clerk's office each election to show ID and get their ballot in person, which she said still disenfranchises the voter. Ms. Bydalek said true no-reason absentee voting would be better.

Ms. Bydalek said the average wait time in the state is 22 minutes to vote, and that would likely double under SB 13.

"It will be chaos," she said.

Ms. Lyons said anecdotal evidence was presented by both sides of the issue, and she could not say for certain if the "chaos" described is an exaggeration or not.

Both Rep. Bradford Jacobsen (R-Oxford) and Rep. Eric Leutheuser (R-Hillsdale) said they had never seen long lines at the polls.

Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) said if rural communities and more affluent suburbs are not waiting in line at the polls, that means those who do wait are waiting much longer than 22 minutes.

Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), sponsor of SB 13, dodged questions on if he would be willing to couple the legislation with other reforms to shorten lines, such as no-reason absentee and online voter registration.

"I am focused on this particular bill," he said to questions from Democrats on the panel.

He said voters would still be able to vote for all Republicans or all Democrats if they chose to, and if voters had to wait longer so they could read all the names, that is a good thing, he said.

While Mr. Knollenberg said the bill makes elections about the actual candidates instead of political parties, Mr. Irwin countered it shouldn't be about the candidates, but the actual voters.

And Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline) said SB 13 "puts the cart before the horse" because other measures, like no-reason absentee voting, that would reduce wait times at the polls, should be implemented as well.

The bill also includes a $1 million appropriation, which would make it referendum-proof.

Mr. Knollenberg said that could be used to educate elections workers, new voting equipment or other things. He said it was left open for the Department of State and local clerks to decide.

However, the bill stipulates the funding should be used for the following:

- Assess the impact of eliminating straight party ticket voting;
- Assist in ongoing compliance and fraud prevention in elections;
- Conduct thorough post-election audits of selected precincts after each election;
- Provide remedial follow-up with local election officials to correct any election errors and to correct any compliance issues;
- Audit file maintenance by local election officials; and
- Provide equipment to facilitate the integrity of the election process.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said the appropriation in the bill would provide no additional funds for clerks to address the additional cost that would come from the legislation.

Tom Frazier, with the Michigan Townships Association, said the group would remove their opposition if no-reason absentee voting was tie-barred to SB 13.

He said the state already has one of the longer ballots in the country and moving people through polling lines quickly is important. He said eliminating the option to vote straight party will make voting take longer.

Rep. Klint Kesto (R-Commerce Township) also suggested during the committee that more polling precincts in communities might help move lines along faster.

However, Mr. Frazier said that is not an option because many schools are hesitant to let the general public into their buildings given various shootings that have taken place in recent years.

W. Paul Mayhue, representing the Grand Rapids group Voices Not Heard in Michigan, said the bill had "racist" undertones. And Frank Lynn, a Grand Rapids man advocating for senior citizens and people with disabilities, said the bill would disenfranchise those voters as well.

Ms. Lyons said she will thoughtfully consider those comments going forward.

Eric Doster also testified in support of the bill. Mr. Doster serves as general counsel for the Michigan Republican Party, but said he was representing himself and "democracy."

"By reducing the influence of the candidates' political parties in elections, this legislation represents an important step in helping Michigan turn the page on partisanship," he said.

Ms. Lyons said she does not think eliminating straight-ticket voting would necessarily benefit one party more than the other.

"I am from west Michigan, I have a very high Republican seat, I don't necessarily think that is the case statewide," she said of Republicans having the disadvantage when it comes to straight-ticket voting. "I think straight-ticket voting can cut both ways, which is why I don't want to view this as a party issue."

And the Michigan AFL-CIO wrote a blog post saying two Republicans, Rep. Holly Hughes of White River Township and Rep. Klint Kesto of Commerce Township, benefited from straight-ticket voting.

The post notes Mr. Kesto won his seat in the 39th House District with 51.4 percent of his 16,740 total votes from straight-party ballots, and his Democratic opponent, Sandy Colvin, only received 43.3 percent of his 15,300 votes from straight-party tickets.

"Kesto defeated Colvin by a margin of 1,440 votes. His 1,984-vote margin among straight-party ballots was more than enough to put him over the top," the blog said.

Ms. Hughes' close election tells a similar story, the blog said, as she received 47.5 percent of her 12,734 total votes from straight-party ballots, while her opponent - former Rep. Colleen Lamonte (D-Montague) - received 45 percent of her 12,681 total votes from straight-party tickets.

"Hughes defeated Lamonte by a margin of just 53 votes, which made her 343-vote advantage among straight-party tickets decisive," the blog said.

Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

The number of deficit districts has declined for the first time since 2002-03 and 20 districts emerged from deficit at the end of the most recent school year, Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston reported Thursday, but 11 deficit districts are also now slated for preliminary review by the Department of Treasury under the new early warning system for financially distressed schools.

Only five new deficit districts - the Bay City Academy in the Bay-Arenac ISD, Tahquamenon Area Schools in the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Sarah J. Webber Media Arts Academy in Oakland Schools, Posen Consolidated School District #9 in the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, and Gaudior Academy in the Wayne RESA - joined the list in 2014-15, the fewest since 2002-03.

Twenty-one districts were able to reduce their deficits in 2014-15.

All told, the state dropped from 56 deficit districts in the 2013-14 school year to 41 at the end of June. Under the new structure of the early warning system, 24 of those deficit districts will stay with the Department of Education while the other 17 will be under the oversight of the Department of Treasury.

And 11 of those districts have deficit elimination plans projected to take longer than five years, subjecting themselves to the preliminary review. The highest projected end balance of those schools goes to Hazel Park City School District, part of Oakland Schools, which projects to have a 25.1 percent deficit based on revenue as of June 30, 2016.

Following Hazel Park is Mackinaw City Public Schools (24 percent deficit), Flint Community Schools (14.9 percent), Westwood Community Schools in the Wayne RESA (12.4 percent), Mount Clemens Community School District (10.9 percent), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (3.3 percent), Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District (2.5 percent), Vanderbilt Area Schools (0.2 percent) and Southgate Community School District at 0 percent deficit.

Also on that list of 11 is New Haven Community Schools, which projects to come out of its deficit with a 0.4 percent fund balance at the end of this school year, and Clintondale Community Schools, which projects a 1.1 percent fund balance.

While most of the members of a joint committee of the House and Senate Appropriations School Aid subcommittees were pleased with the progress, some were still cautious.

"It's discouraging to see that schools under our watch are growing deficits," Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township), chair of the House subcommittee, said.

But Mr. Whiston said he will continue to work with the administration to ensure all districts, especially those in deficit, will not fall by the wayside. One key to that, he said, will be to ensure those schools losing students and thus putting themselves at further risk of financial instability can at least maintain, or even attract, students based on their academic offerings.

"If you're losing kids on a constant basis and you're making cuts, you're losing programs parents want. We have to improve educational offering so more kids come back," Mr. Whiston said. "We have to find that balance between balancing budgets and offering an education program that entices people to stay or come back to that district."

And he said he is working with various school officials on such issues.

But Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-Saint Clair) still had some concerns. He questioned how some schools getting substantially more in a foundation allowance could continue to have performance issues if finances are following quality as Mr. Whiston and Treasurer Nick Khouri suggested.

"There are additional dollars going into the school buildings that have poor academic performance, yet that performance isn't following the dollars," Mr. Pavlov said.

"In these days with limited resources, we look for ways to provide economies of scale, to provide the services more efficiently," Mr. Khouri said, but that doesn't always work out, Mr. Whiston added.

"And that's okay," Mr. Whiston said, noting that the state will be in a continual process of development with these schools and, consequently, their students.

And Rep. Sarah Roberts (D-Saint Clair Shores) suggested it might be worth reviewing schools of choice, especially the way in which a charter school, for example, can open a new building whenever it wants for whatever reason, which then draws students out of other buildings and increases the financial distress for districts, she said.

Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Since being moved to the Executive Office earlier this year from the Department of Education, the state's School Reform Office has the tools it needs to help drive Michigan's worst schools to improve, the Senate Education Committee was told Thursday, as the office can focus now on working with district superintendents and use data to better drive improvements.

Committee members pressed Karen McPhee, Governor Rick Snyder's education policy director, and Natasha Baker, the state's school reform officer, to say if the strategy the state was pursuing now to deal with Michigan's worst performing schools means the strategies used since 2010 had failed.

"We are refocusing the effort," Ms. McPhee said to chair Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair). The state cannot solve the problems of its lowest performing schools without fully understanding what the dynamics are that drive problems, she said, and "it takes tremendous capacity to do that."

And the state was somewhat caught during those previous years trying to improve its poorest schools while also competing with other states for promises of major federal funding for school improvement efforts, she and Ms. Baker said.

The state now has 214 schools designated as priority schools. While the largest number is in southeast Michigan, the schools are spread across the state. Most tend to be in urban districts. A total of 100,000 students attend those schools.

Since the state began identifying in 2010 the lowest performing schools - those in the lowest 5 percent of all schools - there have 331 marked as priority schools. Of those, 73 closed and 44 released after improving.

Earlier in 2015, Governor Rick Snyder issued an executive order moving the school reform office out of the Department of Education into the Executive Office. The move was greeted with some controversy, especially as Mr. Snyder has promoted efforts such as the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit that has been under ongoing fire and has been investigated by law enforcement.

But Ms. Baker said since the move, the office has been better able to customize its efforts to work with districts and the individual schools.

One step she has taken is to work with the district superintendents more than the individual school buildings. "We are more triage, more like an emergency room," she said.

While the department can work with the specific building personnel, her office sends the superintendent data on a variety of factors, including attendance, every six to eight weeks.

"We can customize intervention based on data," Ms. Baker said.

She and Ms. McPhee also said that while other states have had greater success in terms of turning schools around, it was important for Michigan to develop its own plan to fix low performing schools.

Even so, one of the primary elements of making that fix will be to focus on actual instruction, they said.

Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

A bill establishing licensing criteria for midwives in Michigan passed the House on Thursday despite the two physicians currently serving in the House opposing the legislation.

HB 4598 cleared the House 79-25. Both Rep. Edward Canfield (R- Sebewaing) and Rep. John Bizon (R-Battle Creek) voted in opposition. Rep. Ken Yonker (R-Gaines Township) also voted no and was originally a co-sponsor.

During the committee process, Mr. Yonker said he may remove his support on the floor because of concerns about cost.

Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), the bill's sponsor, said he would continue to work with stakeholders in the Senate, including those in the medical profession. He said many stakeholders came to him at the final hour asking him to wait on the bill.

Mr. Canfield said he does not want to limit a person's choice, but he is hesitant to license someone "who has a very limited education."

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs would license a person for midwifery if they paid the posted fees and met the following criteria:

- Received a high school diploma or passed the general educational development diploma test or any other high school graduate equivalency examination approved by the board;
- Completed an educational program or pathway accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council or a successor organization;

- Holds the credential of certified professional midwife from the North American Registry of Midwives or holds an equivalent credential from another accredited midwifery training program approved by the Michigan Board of Licensed Midwifery created in the bill; and

- Successfully passes an examination approved by LARA in consultation with the board.

The fee for the license under the bill is $200. There is also a $450 one-time, start-up fee to get the program going. However, that fee is expected to drop to $75 after the department covers its costs to start the licensure program.

Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Since October 1, data indicates that 30 adults and children of 1,361 tested in Flint had elevated blood lead levels, the state said Thursday in releasing its first report as part of the state's efforts to assist in resolving the Flint water crisis.

The state called on helping the city deal with health issues as part of its efforts to restore safer drinking water to the city.

In October, after more than a year of the city getting its drinking water from the Flint River - it ended a contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage System largely over cost issues and is working on a new water system that will draw from Lake Huron - and after more than a year of complaints on taste, smell and safety of the water, the city switched back to Detroit water when it was discovered lead levels in some children were elevated because of the water system.

In the report, the Department of Health and Human Services said 969 children were tested and 21 showed elevated lead levels. Another 392 adults were tested and nine had elevated levels.

The report also showed the number of Flint children with higher lead levels declined during the summer months this year - lead levels tend to be higher in the summer, the report said - to 6.4 percent from 7.5 percent a year ago.

However, in 2013, before the city switched from Detroit water to the Flint River, the percentage stood at 4.1 percent. That was down from percentages as high as 8.3 percent in 2010.

Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

Airports in the state would receive state funding to help with repair and maintenance costs under legislation approved by the Senate on Thursday.

The bills (SB 418, SB 425, SB 426, SB 612, SB 613 and SB 614) would dedicate 2 percent of the sales tax on aviation fuel with to aviation purposes and split those funds, as well as the current 3 cents per gallon tax, between the Aeronautics Fund, overseen by the Aeronautics Commission, and the Qualified Airport Fund, which provides for capital projects at certain airports.

"This is a matter of fairness," Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City), sponsor of most of the legislation, said in a statement. "The legislation makes sure Michigan's airports - including those in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula - receive the needed funding for routine maintenance and repairs."

The new fund would appropriate to the state's airports via a formula based on volume of air traffic and resources used.

"As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, I've fought to secure additional dollars in this year's budget for the airport improvement program to help support projects at our local airports," Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart), sponsor of SB 613, said. "Passage of this legislation will create a reliable, dedicated funding source for the State Aeronautics Fund that will ensure the continued safety and efficiency of Michigan's aviation system."

House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Students would be required to take a civics test similar to the test taken for immigrants to become citizens under a bill the House Education Committee debated Thursday.

Under HB 4136, all Michigan students would have to take the test and pass with 60 percent in order to receive their high school diploma. The test must include only identical questions to some or all of the civics portion of the naturalization test.

If a student does not receive 60 percent, they could retake the test as many times as necessary. Local school districts are permitted under the bill to determine when and how to administer the test, and what questions to use.

Rep. Peter Lucido (R-Shelby Township), sponsor of the bill, said students should be required to know the information on the test, as they are "privileged" enough to be born in the United States and will eventually be the ones working in state and federal government.

"We are trying to accomplish the basic elements that a non-citizen has to perform," he said. "If we are going to have a real dear desire and appreciation of American government, we should be able to pass basic questions that an immigrant, who so pridely and privileged wants to be a member of this country, (can pass)."

Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland), vice chair of the Education Committee, said social studies standards in the state already include a civics component. She also noted the lack of civics understanding among students is one of many crises in education, including reading proficiency.

She also said there is a fundamental problem about civics understanding and told the committee her own retired government teacher called her "congresswoman" the last time they spoke.

"If we expect our students to know, we first and foremost need our teachers to understand," she said.

Bob Kefgen, with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, said the group is opposed to the bill. Mr. Kefgen said the naturalization test does not represent what they want students to know.

He said the questions on the test would mostly involve students memorizing facts, and they would like to see students analyzing and critiquing concepts.

But Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) countered students cannot analyze and critique what they do not know.

"You can only analyze something that you know. You can only critique something that you know," he said. "Before we teach kids how to read, normally we make them memorize the alphabet. Before kids can analyze their government and how it operates, and critique it ... they have to know it. And the fact is, they don't."

The committee did not act on the bill.

Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

Sen. Goeff Hansen on Thursday said he remained optimistic about introducing legislation to resolve Detroit Public Schools' $715 million debt problem even as a legislative week passed without the introduction of any such legislation.

"We're hoping to do it before the first of the year. I think we're close on that with some changes that were made, and I think by the first of the year we should be able to put it in," Mr. Hansen (R-Hart) said. "We're waiting for some drafts right now. I want to see how it's written and then shop it with some of my colleagues."

Mr. Hansen said there seems to be consensus on the number at hand - estimated by Governor Rick Snyder to be $715 million over 10 years - but there are other "ancillary things" like governance where discussions are still being had.

"Somewhere in there," Mr. Hansen said on the number by Mr. Snyder. "It's like when we got to the point with the road funding that all the sudden $1.2 billion was the number and ... then we worked on how we get there."

He said he was first able to present some of his ideas to the caucus earlier this week but has otherwise been very tight-lipped with only a handful of relevant players like Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, legislators, emergency managers, the school board president and various foundations, among others.

Mr. Hansen said there were a lot of questions from his caucus, but "I think people are willing to be part of the solution," he said. "But it has to be the right solution. We have to make sure we have things in place to make sure it doesn't go way back into the same issues."

And ensuring it is the right solution will remain paramount throughout the process, he said.

"We're trying to be very sensitive to my Detroit colleagues, working with them, trying to make sure that this is Detroit's solution," Mr. Hansen said. "It's not Lansing's solution. It has to be Detroit's solution."

House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

About 30 House Republicans on Thursday signed a letter asking the State Administrative Board not to approve a $1.2 million grant increase to Planned Parenthood because it goes against the "spirit" of a budget amendment adopted this year.

On December 8, the Finance and Claims Committee of the State Administrative Board will take up a grant increase for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. The increase will come from the restricted dollars in the Maternal Children's Health Fund (8 percent); federal funding (35 percent); fees generating through the clinic (49 percent) and local dollars (8 percent).

Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), joined by Rep. Thomas Hooker (R-Byron Center), who sponsored the budget amendment saying the state will not allocate funding to Planned Parenthood, Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville), Rep. Lee Chatfield(R-Levering) and Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia), among others, are urging the grant to not be increased.

"We believe this is a clear violation of the spirit of the budget amendment that was voted on and passed by the Legislature during the last appropriations process," the letter reads.

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the grant increase does not go against the budget.

When the amendment was adopted, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said no clinics would lose money because of the amendment. He said during the last two budgets Planned Parenthood had not received any state dollars (See Gongwer Michigan Report, April 28, 2015).

The committee is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on December 8.

Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

An ex-employee of Aramark, the state's former prison food service provider, has been convicted of trying to recruit an inmate to orchestrate the assault of another inmate.

A statement from the Department of Attorney General said Michael Robert Young, 27, of Kincheloe, was convicted in the 91st District Court on one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Assault with Intent to Cause Great Bodily Harm.

Mr. Young was an employee of Aramark at the Kinross Correctional Facility at the time of the crime. The inmate he wanted assaulted was housed in a different prison.

The inmate whom Mr. Young was convicted of trying to have assaulted was in prison for murdering one of Mr. Young's family members. But the inmate Mr. Young asked to arrange the incident instead reported the conversation to prison officials.

"No matter the situation, our system of justice demands that individuals not take the law into their own hands, for revenge or any other reason," Attorney General Bill Schuette said in a statement.

Mr. Young faces up to five years in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

Days after her funeral, the Senate briefly memorialized former Rep. Rosetta Ferguson, who became known for one of the most controversial incidents in legislative history during her 10 years in the House.

The House is planning to memorialize Ms. Ferguson, who died on November 18 aged 95, at a later time. The Senate acted after Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) asked to remember her.

Ms. Ferguson was born in Florence, Mississippi, and will be buried there. She attended schools in Mississippi, New Orleans and Detroit, and spent much of her career in business. She was politically active for the Democratic Party before being elected to the House in 1968.

Among the issues Ms. Ferguson was proudest of was legislation requiring that textbooks purchased and used in Michigan schools fairly recognize the history and accomplishments of all ethnic groups.

But she became best known for her ferocious opposition to drugs, especially the legalization of marijuana, and abortion.

Her intensity against the two was so strident, she said in a long speech on the House floor in the 1970s - when the House debated legislation imposing just a civil fine on the use of marijuana - that if she could find a way to let white people have drugs and abortion but save African-Americans from them she would do it.

It was during those debates on marijuana that Ms. Ferguson became known for the "ashtray incident."

The debates took place over an intense series of days. The late former Rep. Perry Bullard of Ann Arbor - who everyone acknowledged was brilliant but extremely short-tempered - was leading the effort to loosen penalties on marijuana. He was a controversial figure who had taken part in Ann Arbor's notorious hash bashes.

During one of the debates, former Rep. Matthew McNeely, also now gone, gave an impassioned speech against marijuana, focusing on his son who had died following drug addictions. Ms.

Ferguson sobbed so loudly during the speech that she was led from the chamber to compose herself.

On one day, the House approved the marijuana measure. On the next, after reconsideration, it defeated the bill.

After the bill failed, a furious Mr. Bullard stormed over to Ms. Ferguson and accused her of lying in one of her speeches on the issue. He turned to leave and Ms. Ferguson - who was a heavy smoker in the days when smoking was allowed on the floor - grabbed her glass ashtray and threw it at Mr. Bullard, hitting him in the head, while she screamed he was a drug user.

Of course, the House exploded in an uproar. Mr. Bullard turned to charge back at her, and Ms. Ferguson was ready for him. Other members intervened, blocking the two. Mr. Bullard regained his composure as he was led away, but other members had to restrain Ms. Ferguson.

A famous photograph of the aftermath shows Mr. Bullard, head slightly bowed, being led away by former Rep. Gil DiNello (who died in the 1990s) while others hold on to Ms. Ferguson who was continuing to shout.

Both lawmakers later apologized to the House. Some months later, the last reconsideration vote on the bill was held - around much joking that the House had ordered all ashtrays glued to the desks - and while the debate was pointed, it never reached the fever pitch it had earlier. The bill failed in that attempt, and until the passage of the state's medical marijuana act in 2008, there were no serious efforts to change marijuana laws following the 1977 debates.

Ms. Ferguson decided not to seek re-election in 1978 but remained active in the anti-abortion movement.

House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio

The ratio of apprentices to master or journeyman electricians on jobsites would go from one-to-one to three-to-one under a bill reported Thursday by the House Workforce and Talent Development Committee.

As originally introduced, the bill would have gone with a two to one ratio and only allowed three to one if one of the apprentices met certain training thresholds.

HB 4813 cleared the committee on an 8-6 party-line vote.

Also winning approval on a party-line 8-6 vote was HB 4552, which would require school counselors to receive at least 25 hours of professional development on college preparation and selection and another 25 hours on career counseling prior to having their credentials renewed since the credential was last authorized.

The professional development courses would have to be approved by the Department of Education.

Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

October saw little change in regional unemployment rates across the state.

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia region reported the largest unemployment rate increase among the seven regions with increases, going from 5.7 percent to 6.3 percent. The Bay City region reported a decline of 0.1 percentage point. Jobless rates in the remaining nine areas were unchanged.

Ottawa County reported the lowest unemployment at 3 percent, leading 15 counties with rates below 4 percent. Schoolcraft County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent, followed by Wayne County at 7.7 percent. Oakland's rate was 5.1 percent and Macomb was 6 percent.

Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

Detroit Pastor Angelo Scott Brown said he is not yet done trying to oust Governor Rick Snyder for his handling of the Flint water crisis, after the Board of State Canvassers issued its second unanimous rejection of a proposed recall petition.

Mr. Brown has officially submitted three recall petitions against the governor, but withdrew the second before the board took it up.

"I've done recall petitions before. I know it's a process," Mr. Brown said after the vote. "I'll refine my words."

But he argued the board, two Republicans and two Democrats, was too easily rejecting his language. "We're getting to the point where we're insulting the intelligence of the people of Michigan," he said.

In his testimony to the board, he said the governor's response to his language amounted to a personal attack.

"He's hinting at my intelligence rather than the content of the petition. ... There's a lot of mean-spirited things," he said of the response. "That's not clarity and the facts of the petition."

Mr. Brown said his petition language was clear and, as required, laid out a factual basis for removing Mr. Snyder from office.

"Governor Rick Snyder in 2015 the first nine months did not take the right action when it came to the drinking water crisis in the city of Flint in the meantime the people of Flint were put at risk from harmful corrosive water and lead Governor Rick Snyder did not protect taxpayers did not ensure the residents basic service of clean water," the hand-written petition said.

"I think the reasoning is clear and it is the fact," Mr. Brown told the board.

John Pirich, attorney for Mr. Snyder, said the petition was largely opinion.

"It's neither factual nor accurate," Mr. Pirich said of Mr. Brown's first assertion that Mr. Snyder did not take proper actions regarding Flint water. "It's an opinion, plain and simple."

The same was true, he said, of the assertion that the governor did not protect taxpayers.

As to leaving Flint residents at risk from corrosive water and lead, "it fails to connect what governor Snyder did or failed to do ," he said.

Mr. Pirich also took issue with the assertion that his rebuttals were personal attacks. "It's not based on character assassination," he said. "It's based on what was filed."

The board found that Mr. Brown's petition was not factual and so did not meet the requirements in the statute.

OUT-OF-STATE CIRCULATORS: The board continued its discussion Thursday on how to address the new requirement that allows essentially any adult to circulate petitions.

In response to court rulings that overturned the state's requirement that petition circulators be registered to vote in the state, new law requires that the petitions carry a check box to indicate that the circulator is not a Michigan resident.

The board appeared united in the idea that, where a non-resident does not check the box indicating that, the petitions are invalid. But there appeared some split on the notion that petitions would be invalid if a Michigan resident did check the box.

"Check boxes are tricky things," Elections Director Christopher Thomas said. "Sometimes they are missed. Sometimes people check them all to be safe."

Mr. Thomas said the law is clear that non-residents have to check the box, but it does not address what happens if a resident does.

"It just seems harsh," board member Julie Matuzak said. "I hate to discount all of those signatures because someone was trying to do a good job."

But board member Colleen Pero said the petition also makes it a crime to provide false information. "At the end of the day, they are incompatible," she said of being a resident and indicating one is not.

There was some agreement, though, to bold or enlarge the words "If the circulator is not a resident of Michigan" to bring attention both to the box and who should mark it.

In response to questions, Mr. Thomas said the law mandates minimum font sizes and does not speak to bolding.

"I never heard anyone complain about a font being too big," Mr. Thomas said.

The hitch with the new law may come in the requirement that circulators provide a home address.

The first petition filed to carry the new language was the recent prevailing wage repeal attempt. Mr. Thomas said the petitions, which fell to evidence of massive duplication of signatures, showed relatively high compliance with the new residency indication.

But Mr. Pirich, who represented the opposition that helped to uncover the signature duplications, said the circulator addresses were also problematic.

"We were unable to locate over half of the out-of-state circulators," he said, adding that many listed addresses, and sometimes cities, that did not exist.

"Without some enforcement, I'm not sure how we're ever going to know that this is being done correctly," he said.

Mr. Thomas said an improper address for the circulator would be a reason to challenge a petition, but he indicated that, absent a requirement that circulators be registered to vote, it would be difficult for his bureau to check the addresses.

"We all know residency is Jello on the wall sometimes," he said.

Mr. Thomas said campaign finance disclosures would have to provide the mailing addresses of any circulators paid more than $50, even if they were hired by a signature gathering firm.

"You could certainly be talking about a fraudulent situation if these people put down false names and false addresses," he said.

It would not, though, help in keeping an issue off the ballot because the information would be available too late in the process. To questions from board members, he said the Legislature could require that the filings be made sooner, but he said that requirement might be difficult to meet.

EXPIRING SIGNATURES: The board also began discussing concerns over the process for verifying signatures on petitions where signatures begin expiring. The board's current policy requires, in some cases, obtaining an affidavit both from the signer and from the local clerk that the person was registered to vote at the time he or she signed the petition.

Jeffrey Hank, an attorney representing one of the marijuana legalization efforts, urged the board to reconsider that policy, adopted in 1986, and instead use the Qualified Voter File as the check on those registrations.

"Using the QVF is the simplest and makes the most sense," Mr. Hank said. "What we would propose is simply submitting a QVF report and someone signing an affidavit that they prepared the QVF report."

Mr. Thomas said the system would provide the historical information.

But Mr. Pirich said the change would require statute, not merely a policy from the board.

Mr. Thomas said at least some of the change could come through policy. "It's not really self executing. It needs something," he said of the statutory provision.

NEW PARTY: The board did approve the form of a petition to add the Working Class Party to the ballot.

Campaign Notes

RUBIO PLANS WEDNESDAY RALLY IN WATERFORD: U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida brings his presidential campaign back to Michigan next Wednesday and will hold a 4:15 p.m. rally at the Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township.

Capital Notebook

FLAGS LOWERED: Governor Rick Snyder on Thursday ordered state and U.S. flags lowered to half-staff in the Capitol Complex until sunset Monday in memory of those killed and injured in Wednesday's San Bernardino, California, mass shooting in which 14 died and 21 were hurt. Mr. Snyder encouraged all residents and organizations to lower their flags as well.

ELK POACHING: The Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday that it is seeking information on the person who killed a large bull elk last month. The carcass was found November 16 near Lewiston.

Anyone with information can call DNR Law Enforcement Division at the Gaylord Customer Service Center at (989) 732-3541, extension 5100, or the Report All Poaching Line at (800) 292-7800.

Appointments By The Governor

BOARD OF MEDICINE: Michael Chrissos of Ann Arbor succeeds Richard Burney, and Mohammed Arsiwala of Novi, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley of Ann Arbor, Louis Prues of Grosse Pointe Park, James Rogers of Williamsburg and Dennis Szymanski of Benton Harbor are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION: Laura Reyes-Kopack of Livonia succeeds Augustin Arbulu, who resigned, to represent Republicans for the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016, and Rasha Demaskieh of Fort Gratiot and Deloris Hunt of Farmington Hills are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD: Yvonne Bradley of Bay City, Elizabeth Pollard Hines of Ann Arbor and Jeffrey Sauter of Grand

Ledge are reappointed, all for terms expiring December 4, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

GAMING CONTROL BOARD: Patrick McQueen of Bloomfield Hills and Andrew Palms of Chelsea are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT: Tana Bridges of Canton succeeds Gary Anderson to represent health and mental health professionals; John Hohman Jr. of Saline succeeds Kenneth Tacoma to represent judges and attorneys; and Veda Thompkins of Detroit succeeds Larry Watkins, who resigned, to represent the law enforcement community.

Robinjit Eagleson of East Lansing, Fred Gruber of Riverview and Nick Lyon of Lansing are reappointed. Ms. Thompkins will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016. The remaining terms, which are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, expire December 31, 2018.

MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COUNCIL: Milton Mack of Wayne succeeds John Hohman Jr., who resigned, to represent the State Court Administrative Office for the remainder of a term expiring January 30, 2016. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITIES BOARD OF MANAGERS: Paul Potter of Grand Rapids succeeds Ernest Meyers, who resigned, to represent Veterans of Foreign Wars. The appointment is for a term expiring February 28, 2017, and is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Friday, December 4

Waterways Commission, Morris Learning Center, First Floor, Museum Archives Wing, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Agenda)

Monday, December 7

Utility Consumer Participation Board, Training Room, Fourth Floor, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 12:30 p.m. (Agenda)

Thursday, December 10

Certificate of Need Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda; MRI Standards)

Canceled: ~~Complete Streets Advisory Council, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 2 p.m.~~

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Wednesday Michigan Report incorrectly described bills addressing aviation fuel taxes. The bills as reported dedicate 2 percent of the sales and use tax on aviation fuel to the aviation funds.

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 7, 2015

News

Lawmaker apologizes for racially insensitive comments (Associated Press, 12/7/2015)

Michigan data center tax breaks show rift over strategy (Associated Press, 12/7/2015)

Data center tax breaks win narrow approval from Michigan Senate (Crain's Detroit Business, 12/7/2015)

Audit finds $3.4M discrepancy in prison meal counts (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Election law front and center in newly introduced bills (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Lawmakers blast alleged plan to charter Detroit schools (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers (Flint Journal, 12/7/2015)

Audit: State paid Aramark $3.4M for unverified meals (Lansing State Journal, 12/7/2015)

Concealed pistol licenses increase sharply (Macomb Daily, 12/7/2015)

House bill would make citizenship test a high school graduation requirement (Michigan Radio, 12/7/2015)

Sen. Gary Peters applauds Army review of soldiers' mental health-related dismissals (MLive, 12/7/2015)

Loan forgiveness sought for Flint to replace lead pipes (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

No-reason absentee voting bill pushed in Michigan House (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

Editorials

What's your take: Straight-party voting (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/7/2015)

Hit the books, Michigan, and get smart about economic growth (Bridge Magazine, 12/7/2015)

All the risk, none of the rewards for Michigan cities (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Anders: The house that Gary built (Midland Daily News, 12/7/2015)

Let local laws determine how to reduce dog attacks, restrict breeds (MLive, 12/7/2015)

Editorial: Raise juvenile age in Michigan (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

Finley: Gun laws won't stop terror (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

Letter: Bill benefiting telecom firms risks roads work (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

George Weeks: Multi-media push for more open gov't (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 12/7/2015)

Blogs

Conservation Officers Saving Lives, And The DNR Knows How To Tell It (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/4/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 8, 2015

News

A year post-bankruptcy, Detroit still has a long to-do list (Bridge Magazine, 12/8/2015)

Michigan officials: Let cops keep military surplus (Detroit Free Press, 12/8/2015)

Crusading Flint doctor says 'we're not done' fighting fallout of lead in water (Flint Journal, 12/8/2015)

Kildee: Forget firings and apologies in water crisis, take care of Flint kids (Flint Journal, 12/8/2015)

Medical marijuana may go the way of alcohol in Michigan Senate (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Michigan House conservatives fight Planned Parenthood family planning grant (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Should utilities build new plants? Groups push for competitive bidding (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Two presidential candidates to speak in Michigan on Wednesday (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Why Michigan Gov. Snyder's $715M Detroit schools rescue plan won't get done in 2015 (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Daily fantasy sports sites under review in Michigan (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

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House Eliminates Straight-Ticket Voting, Adds 'Secure' No-Reason Absentee

The House narrowly approved a bill to eliminate straight-ticket voting Wednesday and also cleared legislation establishing "secure" no-reason absentee voting with Democrats mostly in staunch opposition to both during a long and contentious session.

Seven hours passed with the House mostly at a standstill before it finally took up SB 13 to eliminate straight-ticket voting - a voter's ability to vote for a slate of candidates from one party by checking off a single box - and HB 4724, which would allow a voter to bring identification to their local clerk's office to receive an absentee ballot.

SB 13 passed with the bare minimum amount of votes needed, 54-51 (there are still three vacancies in the House). All Democrats voted no and Republicans Rep. John Bizon of Battle Creek, Rep. Ben Glardon of Owosso, Rep. Martin Howrylak of Troy, Rep. Dave Pagel of Berrien Springs and Rep. Phil Potvin of Cadillac also voted no.

HB 4724 fared a bit better, passing 59-46, with Democrats Rep. Jeff Irwin of Ann Arbor and Rep. Derek Miller of Warren voting yes with most Republicans and Republicans Rep. Thomas Hooker of Byron Center and Mr. Potvin voting no with the rest of the Democrats.

Democrats said the straight-ticket elimination would disenfranchise voters, particularly those of color in populous urban precincts, and the no-reason absentee bill requires a voter to go to their clerk's office before every election to get an absentee ballot.

Mr. Howrylak said he voted against SB 13 because it includes a $5 million appropriation, which makes it referendum proof. He said legislation passed should be able to stand on its own merits.

Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) offered amendments to SB 13 to strip the appropriations - a $1 million appropriation was originally in the bill but later removed through a Republican amendment - and then asked for a roll call vote.

Her request was denied and Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) then called a point of order asking for a roll call vote. His motion was ruled not proper. Democrats said they were told he did not ask a question.

Mr. Singh said: "I am using this point of order to ask you to listen to one-fifth of the members here to demand a record roll call vote at the Constitution demands."

The House then went at ease while House Republicans and their staff huddled with House Clerk Gary Randall. Mr. Singh's request was not granted.

"They did this because they want the debate struck from the journal. Why strike Singh's point of order? They

have the majority and can vote in favor of the chair's ruling," said Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Democrats of the Republicans.

The bill still includes a $5 million appropriation making it referendum proof. Voters rejected a similar law in 2002.

Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) said barriers should not be put in front of those wanting to vote.

"I take this very personally, because one of the most proud moments I had when I turned 18 is when I went to register to vote. And I took that responsibility very seriously, because I understand the legacy and the history," she said of African-Americans fighting for the right to vote.

Mr. Irwin called the bill electioneering. He also said the bill would lead to longer wait lines at the polls on Election Day.

"If the average wait time is 22 minutes, and some of these folks aren't waiting at all, that means a whole of other folks are waiting a whole lot longer than 22 minutes," he said. "And who are these people? The people who are waiting are the people who live in crowded precincts. They live in crowded urban precincts with more voters, more voters per voting booth, more voters per poll worker and that is why they have to wait. ... Sometimes they wait hours to vote."

Mr. Singh said Republicans were backing the bill because they have not been able to win education board seats.

"If you can't win an election fair and square, let's steal the election. And that is what happening here today," he said.

But Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) said straight-ticket voting is an antiquated practice from when "party bosses" actually created ballots.

"It is time for change. And it is time for choice," he said.

And Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), sponsor of the House bill and chair of the House Elections Committee, said voters should choose candidates based on people, not parties. And she said the no-reason absentee measure would allow for more people to spend more time with their ballots if necessary.

"The simple truth is this is good policy. It's not pro-Democrat, it's not pro-Republican. It's pro-voter," Ms. Lyons said. "Together these bills are good policy. Together they are the right policy. They complement each other and I ask you for your vote on both."

Amendments adopted to HB 4724 would eliminate a provision that would have required the Election Day rule against campaigning within 100-feet of a polling location to apply to a clerk's office during the 45 days preceding the election.

Another amendment states it is the Legislature's intent that the law is invalid if a court finds it is invalid.

Democrats attempted to amend SB 13 at least 19 times, and all failed. Many of the amendments would have tie-barred the legislation to other elections reforms the Democrats support. One amendment would have allowed a person to use their concealed pistol license as voter identification and another would have allowed disabled

persons or seniors to skip the lines at the polls.

Maturen Leading House Workgroup On 'Dark Stores'

Rep. Dave Maturen has begun heading up a workgroup on what to do, if anything, about how large retail stores' property is assessed with the goal of introducing legislation in the first quarter of 2016.

Mr. Maturen (R-Vicksburg) owns a real estate appraisal firm.

It underscores that one major issue of 2016 is likely to be whether state law should be changed to address "dark stores," the phenomenon in which large big box stores see lower than expected property valuations because the property is valued based on comparable sales of other properties instead of true cash value.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), chair of the House Tax Policy Committee, said Wednesday there is a problem. Local governments say the current method of valuing large retail store properties is eroding their tax base.

"Anyone with reasonable perspective understands there is an issue, the question is how we solve that problem?" Mr. Farrington said after his committee concluded a second hearing on the issue Wednesday.

Mr. Farrington does not think legislation previously introduced (HB 4909 and SB 524) adequately address the issue. Those bills would require assessing such properties at their highest and best use and bar the use of negative deed restrictions.

Local government advocates and officials told the Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday that without changes to the method of assessing large retail stores' property, they would have to either cut services or increase millages to maintain services.

Cities, counties, villages and townships have mounted a campaign to change state law on how local assessors value those properties following Michigan Tax Tribunal decisions requiring the comparable sale method to be used. Local governments say the reduced valuations are spreading to the point where revenues are falling everywhere.

Three Rivers Mayor Tom Lowry told the committee as Tax Tribunal decisions have been made, the city and its surrounding townships have had to give back money to big box stores, and some of the decisions have been retroactive.

He said the city is approaching 10 percent of its General Fund budget being used on the "dark store theory."

Steve Currie, with the Michigan Association of Counties, said the group would like to see a restoration of a "fair system" in assessing property.

"The dark store theory the Michigan Tax Tribunal has adopted has disrupted what is a fair system ...and extended special privileges to a sector of the market," he said.

MAC, which spoke to the committee alongside the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Municipal League, said the solution to the problem is to prevent deed restrictions that "distort" the market and require use of cost, sales and income assessment approaches based on the particular circumstances.

However, Tricia Kinley, with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said the big store taxpayers have challenged local governments on assessments and won. Also, on the deed restriction issue, she said the owner of a property could choose to sell or not sell to whomever they want.

"This has been characterized, or mischaracterized, as a new or dark store theory," she said. "But these taxpayers that are the focus of this discussion have legitimately challenged over assessments and the Michigan Tax Tribunal has repeatedly found that the assessment approach of valuing these retail operations by local governments over recent years is not valid."

But she also said if abuses are pointed out, the Chamber will consider the issue with an open mind.

HICA Extension Heads For Senate Floor

The Senate Appropriations Committee moved quickly on Wednesday to advance a bill extending the sunset on the Health Insurance Claims Assessment that generates matching federal funds for Medicaid.

The HICA tax has been a thorn in the side of legislators, especially Republicans, essentially since its inception. The assessment imposes a 1 percent tax on all claims paid on or after January 1, 2012, for health and medical services provided in Michigan to Michigan residents. It was created to provide funding for Medicaid, but the tax has long fell short of its anticipated revenue.

The House just passed HB 5105 on Tuesday to extend HICA into 2025 despite very vocal opposition from usual allies of the Republican majority like the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the Michigan Manufacturers Association, the latter of which again testified in opposition to the bill in the Senate committee on Wednesday.

"HICA is a Michigan-only tax. It's in great contrast to the many strides that have been made in the past couple years that have positioned Michigan as a leader in the nation and the world," said Delaney McKinley of the Michigan Manufacturers Association. "Action now on the HICA tax is unnecessary and premature."

Ms. McKinley estimated the cost to employers yearly is about $250 million, and if the sunset is extended for another eight years, it would be an additional $2 billion for health care purchasers, she said.

The bill, a last-minute addition to the committee's agenda, was reported to the full Senate on a narrow 9-5 vote. Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Rockford), Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph), Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) and Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) voted in opposition, and Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) and Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) abstained from voting. Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) was absent from committee.

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee and sponsor of the bill, said he has been disappointed in the stance the Chamber has taken.

"This is not a tax increase, this is a freeze in a fee," he told reporters on the House floor. "I don't know what lobby math can be used to try to make this look like an increase. I don't know if this is Washington, D.C., math. This is the same rate going into 2025."

Mr. Pscholka said there would be huge budget implications if the nearly $400 million raised in revenue through the fee no longer existed.

"This is the same organization that asks us to pass a 15-cent per gallon gas tax increase. And they want business tax credits for large manufacturers. They don't like a tax freeze and they don't like the Switch deal," Mr. Pscholka said. "This is really odd to me that the Chamber of Commerce is coming out for tax increases and against tax freezes and reductions. That is where they are on those four issues."

Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said there are members within the Senate Republican Caucus who have "a lot of concerns" about the bill, "but we wanted to move the process forward" and have a full conversation in caucus.

He said he was still optimistic that the bill could be out before the end of the calendar year but wanted to see where other members of his caucus were on the bill.

Asked if keeping the tax was the fiscally responsible thing to do, Mr. Hildenbrand said, "Everything can always be changed down the road. The sunset is set to expire December 2017, so we're kind of getting in front of that. But we can always turn a bill in down the road to change the rate, do a different set of things.

"So this is just the proposal that's out there right now that the governor is supporting as well, that we can get some certainty in the short-term and down the road we can change it if that's the will of those serving at that time," he said.

UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITIES: The committee also approved a bill (SB 292) that would require the governor to include statements of annual required employer contributions toward total unfunded retiree health care and pension legacy costs for each department, and for the legislative and judicial branches as well, at the time the budget is provided to the Legislature and fiscal agencies.

Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph), sponsor of the bill, said he recognized that that has been provided already by the governor in at least the past two budget cycles, but wanted to put the requirement into statute for future governors.

"This governor has been great to put it in the budget. We'd like to see that going forward," he said of his bill. "I think this is responsible budgeting (and) will ensure future legislators have full knowledge about post-employment benefits and how we're going to pay those down."

The bill saw unanimous approval from the committee.

CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS: Also seeing unanimous approval from the committee was HB 4095 to appropriate $400 for four $100 planning authorizations.

The governor's fiscal year 2014-15 capital outlay budget recommendation for the State Building Authority-financed projects include new capital outlay planning authorizations for Ferris State University (Swan Building annex renovations), Lake Michigan College (Napier Academic Building renovation and upgrade) and West Shore Community College (technical center renovation and addition).

On March 11, 2015, the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee approved fiscal year 2014-15 planning authorizations as recommended by the governor, but the House passed this bill earlier this month to change them to a supplemental appropriation for fiscal year 2015-16.

House Continues Work On Switch Tax Bills

The House continues to work with its members to get the votes needed to pass legislation that would provide sales, use and property tax exemptions for data centers in the state, something inspired by Switch, a Nevada-based center looking to move into West Michigan.

The House Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday reported the Senate bills (SB 616, SB 617 and SB 618) to join the House bills (HB 4074, HB 4075 and HB 4076) on the floor.

Changes to the Senate bills include extending the sunset to 2035 like the House bills, and other more technical changes. The first two bills were reported 8-5 with Rep. Pat Somerville (R-New Boston), Rep. Martin Howrylak (R-Troy), Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) and Rep. Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak) voting no.

On the final bill, the same five members voted no, and Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) abstained.

The bills have not yet come up on the House floor and Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), chair of the Tax Policy Committee, said there are a variety of different issues for members. Those include making the bills "fair" for all data centers and answering whether the tax changes are a "carve-out" for one industry.

"My take on it is it is new tax policy for an industry that didn't exist 15 years ago," Mr. Farrington said. "And there's been discussion on why would you change this for one industry? And I retort back banks are taxed differently, service companies are taxed different, we have a complex tax code that makes a lot of changes based on what a company does."

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said he is still waiting to see the hit to the General Fund the bills could create.

"I am hearing a number of $25 million, it gets my attention," he said. "Anything more than that and I start to get a little worried."

Mr. Pscholka said there are General Fund hits in other bills as well, like the aviation fuel legislation (SB 418, SB 425, SB 426, SB 612, SB 613 and SB 614) sitting on the House floor. Though he said that should have been done "years ago."

Still, "We've got to be careful," he said.

Mr. Farrington said he expects changes on the House floor to the bills.

The Michigan Data Center Alliance has been lobbying for a "fairness" amendment that would keep all current data centers in the state paying the same taxes as they are now, but allow new data centers going forward to get the exemptions.

Under the bills, to get the property tax exemptions, a local community would have to approve the center.

Mr. Farrington said the amendment is not bad policy, but local governments and the data centers are not coming to a compromise.

"At the end of the day, this isn't the state's money, this is the local's money," he said. "When we did PPT reform a couple of years ago, we reimbursed it all. We are not in this case. I think the best and more fair way to do it is to

leave it up to the locals to decide if they want those jobs in their community or not."

But the alliance is calling for the House not to act on the property tax piece (SB 618 and HB 4076).

"We are deeply dismayed that members appear willing to give special treatment to an out of state company over those that have been paying taxes, creating jobs and playing by the rules here in Michigan for years," Yan Ness, spokesperson for the alliance, said in a statement. "We urge lawmakers in both parties to delay action on a flawed personal property tax bill that creates an uneven playing field. Lawmakers must recognize that ramming through bad policy in the frenzy to bring one company to Michigan could drive many other existing businesses out of our state."

Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing), sponsor of the personal property tax bill in the House, said the data center group is looking to strip the bill of the local control piece so the date centers won't have to pay property taxes on new investments. And, he said, the amendment they want to see would actually reimburse local governments for their property taxes through a formula.

"I think the personal property tax bill is going to be held back because there is more work that needs to be done on it to make everybody comfortable. You've got the locals, you've got the data centers, there's just a variety of questions," he said.

Mr. Schor said he is disappointed it is his bill that will not pass. But noted he is not in the majority so does not know for sure.

Bill Would Revise Sinking Fund Millages For Schools, Likely To Move In '16

The House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday discussed a bill that would allow local sinking fund millages to be used for security and technology purposes, and revise the amount of mills and time it could be authorized.

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), the chair of the committee, said he won't move HB 4388 this year, but it will likely move out of the committee in early 2016.

Currently schools are able to use sinking fund millages for school construction and repairs and to purchase real estate. Under current law, sinking fund millages can be authorized for 5 mills and a duration of 20 years.

Under HB 4388, sinking fund millages would also be able to cover security improvements and technology, and the fund could be authorized for up to 3 mills and 10 years.

Rep. Michael McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills), sponsor of the bill, said the legislation provides a needed update to the law.

Mr. Pscholka said the change fits with the spirit of Proposal A of 1994, and said the business community has come on board with the changes because it is good for property tax payers.

"As you look at the numbers, this is actually good for property tax payers, whether you are business payers or residential payers," he said. "What we are doing here by changing the terms, reducing the millage rate, but allowing for a couple of other uses, is actually good for property taxes."

Mr. McCready also said the change in the time frame of sinking funds would simply require schools to make the case to voters more frequently that the funds are needed.

The Detroit Regional Chamber supports the bill and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce is neutral.

Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) asked why buses, or transportation, are not a part of the expanded uses of sinking funds.

Mr. Pscholka said, practically, the bill would not pass if that were included.

"If you start adding a laundry list of items, you will lose votes and we won't be able to pass the bill," he said.

Chris Glass with the West Michigan Talent Triangle, representing Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon Intermediate School Districts, said there has been an increase in technology needs among school districts, and when using bonds to fund short term capital, like technology, schools and taxpayers end up paying more with interest and other fees.

Those opposed to the bill include the Great Lakes Education Project and the Michigan Association of Public School Academies. Charter schools do not have the authority to create sinking funds.

A House Fiscal Agency analysis shows currently 170 districts levy sinking funds, and 12 of those districts levy more than 3 mills. The analysis says if the revised cap were in effect now, it would have reduced revenue for those 12 districts by $2.8 million.

The analysis also says the reduction in the duration of the sinking fund would likely just make districts put the question on the ballot every 10 years instead of 20, instead of resulting in any real revenue reduction.

Senate Panel Hears No-Fault Proposal To Require Health Insurance To Pay First

Legislation that would require health insurance coverage to pay an injured motorist first before automotive no-fault insurance would pay was presented to the Senate Insurance Committee Wednesday and failed to get much support.

Also considered was legislation that would have the Department of State collect the fees paid to the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association, which also got little support.

The committee took testimony only on SB 313, SB 412 and SB 413, all sponsored by Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy). The bills are the latest in an ongoing series of efforts to find some way to change Michigan's automotive no-fault insurance to reduce premium costs.

Mr. Knollenberg told the committee that, while most complaints on no-fault have focused on the MCCA, the real problem the system has is with personal injury protection coverage. When compared to PIP costs in other states, Mr. Knollenberg said, PIP in Michigan is two times to 10 times higher than those states.

SB 313 would require essentially a type of coordination of benefits, with an injured motorist having to have his or her health insurance pay for care before the PIP coverage pays for it. Mr. Knollenberg acknowledged the bill could cause some cost increases for health insurance, but said it would save money overall.

The legislation would not affect those whose health insurance is through Medicare or Medicaid, and it would not affect persons whose health insurance comes through self-insured plans.

Aside from auto insurance companies, however, the bill was opposed by most of the people attending the meeting, including automotive companies, consumers groups trying to preserve no-fault and health insurance companies.

Steve Sinas, legal counsel for the Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault, said the bill would take away the option motorists now have to purchase coordinated coverage - which does require use first of health insurance before PIP covers an injury - or uncoordinated coverage, which draws from PIP for automotive injuries. That would rob customers of a choice they now have, he said.

Plus, for those legislators critical of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the legislation would in fact make the state more dependent on the controversial health care system, he said.

That brought a sharp retort from Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage), who said consumers cannot now effectively choose to use their health insurance, and that any attempt to tie the legislation to the ACA was "hypocritical."

Margaret Kroese with the Michigan Brain Injury Providers Council said the bill opens too many pitfalls to patients seeing interruptions in coverage they need. A health insurance company could decide to stop covering for an injury because in its view the treatment is no longer medically needed, but the auto insurance company could refuse to pick up coverage because not all the medical benefits have been used up.

And Mark Cook, vice president at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, said the bill could force a huge increase in the cost of health insurance that would be borne largely by companies.

But a large number of companies and individuals wouldn't even be affected if they are on self-insured plans or government-provided coverage. Mr. Cook said "north of 60 percent" of the more than 4.5 million people who have BCBSM insurance participate through self-insured plans.

Dominick Pallone with the Michigan Association of Health Plans also said the bill would force a big increase in health insurance premiums, but how large was unknown because the health insurance companies did not know what the actual costs of covering automotive injuries would be.

In terms of SB 412 and SB 413, Pete Kuhnmuench of the Insurance Institute of Michigan said his group opposed the bills because even if the payments are shifted, the insurance companies retain all the liability for a specific insurance claim.

The Department of State opposed the bills because of the difficulty of managing them. Registrations on some vehicles, particularly historic vehicles, are in place for 10 years. And some persons, such as disabled veterans, pay nothing for their registrations, the committee was told.

Conforme: EAA Has Made Changes Needed To Improve

The Education Achievement Authority has already moved three of its 15 schools out of the bottom 5 percent, and changes are in place to move the rest over the next five years, Chancellor Veronica Conforme told the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday.

Ms. Conforme acknowledged there were substantial problems with both academics and fiscal controls when the entity intended to be a statewide reform district launched in 2012, but she told the committee she has spent the last year implementing changes to correct those problems.

"There's no doubt the EAA has had its share of challenges since its inception," she said.

"Our mission is to turn the lowest performing schools into the highest performing schools," she said. "By working with the EAA, we expect them to be over the 50 percent line in five years."

To questions particularly from Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights), Ms. Conforme acknowledged the district had lost students and had a substantial turnover of teachers and principals.

The loss of teachers and principals, she said, was a function of the locale.

All of Detroit's public schools have been losing students, she said. In addition to trying to improve educational outcomes to keep students, she said the district is working to improve safety at its schools. And a recent survey showed that effort was paying off.

"Retention is a challenge in all of Detroit and we have to continue to focus on that," she said of the struggle to keep teachers. In addition to offering a higher starting salary than Detroit Public Schools and many other districts in the region, she said the district is implementing programs to develop teacher leadership to make the job more attractive.

The efforts are starting to pay off, she said, with retention rates up to about 70 percent, a 10-point increase.

"So we have to think of more ways of supporting and rewarding them," she said.

But she said the principal changes were in part by design.

"Leaders we're hiring for a particular standard," she said. The district has been seeking new principals with experience turning a school around.

"This work is incredibly hard and learning on the job is really hard to do," she said.

Administrators also face more stringent standards under the district's evaluation system, she said. For teachers, 50 percent of their evaluation is based on student growth, but for administrators, it is 60 percent. The latter, she said, have more control over the environment that leads to education improvement.

Among other differences, principals in the district have full personnel control in their buildings, she said.

Ms. Confrome said the district was also taking efforts to reverse the trend Mr. Knezek pointed out that many of the EAA schools are showing little academic improvement.

Part of the problem, she said, was the computer system that had been the initial focus of the reform effort in the district.

The system had been designed to allow students to advance at their own pace, and original Chancellor John Covington had said the program was the key to pulling the schools out of the academic hole.

But Ms. Conforme said Mr. Covington had overstated its abilities and that the system, as implemented, actually detracted from education.

"There was an over reliance on technology, technology that was not properly set up," she said. "More focus should have been spent on developing and implementing a curriculum so the technology could have been used well."

Ms. Conforme said she has made those changes.

The district, she said, has been looking at best practices around the country and, to the extent possible, implementing those ideas.

For high school students, the district is also working to develop better career and technical education programs, she said.

"One of the things we need is a metric that tells us whether they're workforce ready and what does that mean," she said.

The district is working with a variety of partners, and looking for more, to develop both the programs and the measures, she said.

The district is working on a variety of efforts to get parents more involved, she said. Among those is having students run parent-teacher conferences, which she said gives the students more ownership over their progress.

Ms. Conforme also acknowledged the fiscal questions and allegations of criminal misconduct that are dogging the district.

"It is appalling that anyone entrusted with educating our children would use these resources for personal gain," she said.

In addition to cooperating with a FBI investigation into some former leaders at the district, Ms. Conforme said the district had implemented new purchasing processes, as well as controls over credit card use and travel, designed to reduce opportunities for impropriety.

"It's nice to see that we're trying to move forward in a productive way," Mr. Knezek said.

Senate OKs Independent Expenditure Committee Bill Amid Criticism

Senate Democrats slammed majority Republicans for their support of a bill that Republicans say merely codifies the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on First Amendment rights in its *Citizens United* decision in 2010, but Democrats said the bill goes further than even the high court intended.

Citizens United essentially asserted government could not restrict independent political expenditures by a nonprofit corporation, which has also been extended to for-profit corporations, labor unions and other associations. The bill by Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), SB 638, creates independent expenditure committees within the Michigan Campaign Finance Act and allows those committees to make unlimited contributions to other such committees.

In doing so, the legislation merely codifies existing practice, some legal experts and supporters of the bill have both said (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 8, 2015). But Senate Democrats on Wednesday said such a characterization was being disingenuous.

"Let's be very clear here. This has nothing to do with speech and everything to do with power, specifically the power of those who have it and are rigging the system against those who don't," Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said in a no-vote explanation on the floor. "This legislation can be compared to seeing a building on fire and deciding that dousing it in gasoline is the best way to put it out.

"Everyday, regular folks already don't believe their government works for them. This bill will not help change that perception," he said.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren), in an impassioned speech against the bill, said codifying and expanding the reach of *Citizens United* "flies in the face of what Michigan citizens actually want."

"Michiganders do not want more money in politics. Michiganders do not want corporations interfering with elections. What they do want is something better than an F when it comes to transparency," Mr. Bieda said. "This bill firmly points Michigan in the wrong direction towards a future of dark money and convoluted electoral processes."

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) said the bill would expand the loopholes of Michigan's already dated campaign finance laws, allowing Super PACs to get involved with referendums and ballot initiatives.

"No one outside of this chamber, and I mean no one, believes we need more special interest money in politics. Only those that are sitting here and benefit from it believe that is the case," Mr. Hertel said. "We talk a lot about accountability and metrics in this chamber. We talk a lot about reviewing things. We were ranked dead last in accountability. We're just going to make it worse with this bill."

Still, the bill was passed on a 25-13 vote and given immediate effect, the latter of which the Senate has largely refrained from doing this term in an effort to help state departments and agencies have time to prepare for any pending changes resulting from legislation.

Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) was the only Democrat to support the bill's passage while Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights), Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) split from the majority of their party to oppose the bill's passage.

"It is not a power play by Republicans. It's a codification of free speech as defined by the Supreme Court," Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) responded to a question on such after session. "Democrats benefit from it just as much as we do ... It has been recognized as a form of free speech and participation in the democratic process. It's something that political parties both engage in, so why not make sure it's clear in state law so we don't have any issue going forward?"

The bill now heads to the House for consideration.

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION: The Senate also passed a bill, SB 581, revising the definition of loitering when it comes to sex offender registration. The bill came after a federal judge ruled that sex offenders could go back on school grounds because the state's previous language regarding the "1000-foot rule wasn't clear," Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), sponsor of the bill, explained.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) said he would vote for the bill (which passed on a 37-1 vote with Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) voting in opposition) on the floor just as he had in the Senate Judiciary Committee, but he still had several concerns on some language in the bill. He said a potentially "detrimental" change to the bill is its very premise of revising the definition of loitering, noting that the definition lacks any standard of mens rea, or the intention or knowledge of wrongdoing that is part of a crime.

"I think it's something the House needs to take a look at," Mr. Bieda cautioned.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS: The Senate also passed a bill originally by Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing certain prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency.

HB 4843 saw unanimous approval from the Senate.

"Our laws exist to protect and preserve the public well-being," Mr. Pscholka said in a statement. "That translates, ultimately, to providing safety, health, and a bright future for all. If this bill saves even one young life, it's a success."

MOVEABLE BRIDGE FUND: Legislation that would assist communities in the cost of operating and maintaining movable bridges by creating a Moveable Bridge Fund (SB 105) cleared the Senate on a 33-5 vote on Wednesday. Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township), Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor), Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) and Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) voted in opposition.

"Taxpayers and local communities around the state are being shortchanged because of the presence of these bridges," Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "By assisting local governments with operating costs, we will actually save tax dollars, allowing dollars to be directed toward local roads."

MILLIONAIRE PARTIES: The Senate also passed SB 187 providing general amendments to bingo and charitable gaming millionaire parties. Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland) won an amendment to the bill that would add the spouse of a "bona fide member" of a qualified organization and require a millionaire party licensee to file a financial statement containing a list of the qualified members of the licensee who were present for each event and all related receipts and expenses.

The bill passed 34-4. Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit), Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit), Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) voted in opposition.

Commerce Begins Conversation On 'Alternative Project Delivery Act'

The Senate Commerce Committee on Wednesday began taking testimony on a pair of bills that would authorize a public authority to enter into a public-private agreement to develop certain projects, especially those related to infrastructure.

The primary bill, SB 627, creates the Michigan Alternative Project Delivery Act to make such an authorization and require a public authority consider and compare various methods for developing a project, as well as identify the proposed delivery method. Any lawful source of public and private funding could be used for such projects, and the public authority would have to submit a proposed project summary to the Senate and House Appropriations committees for review if the state or an agency of it intended to be a party to such an agreement.

Officials with the governor's office were early supporters of the legislation, saying an alternative project delivery proposal is important to the continued reinvention of the state. The package as drafted would provide a permissive and flexible avenue for an alternative project delivery project, as well as ensure the state has a wider array of tools available to it that also ensures projects are cost-effective, said Joe Pavona, director of Michigan's Office for Public-Private Partnerships.

Mr. Pavona pointed to legislation in Governor Rick Snyder's first term that essentially approved a public-private partnership to help the city of Detroit fund the repair of many of its highway lights that prior to such help were often not working.

"The state has received positive feedback from the private sector and other states keen on advancing similar projects," Mr. Pavona said. "Investors at project companies are now closely following Michigan's project pipeline looking to invest in long-term projects."

The Detroit lighting project is just one example the state can point to when investors, who seek risk-adverse ventures, inquire about the state's commitment to its infrastructure and "alternative project delivery projects," he said.

More than 30 other states have similar legislation on alternative project delivery, Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township), sponsor of the package, told the committee.

The other bill in the package, SB 628, requires the secretary of state to suspend a person's license upon receiving evidence the person was subject to a final decision or order for the nonpayment of a user fee and associated costs. It also provides that failure to pay such fees would be a civil violation punishable by a fine of three times the amount of the user fee in addition to the fee itself.

The National Motorists Association took issue with this portion of the package, saying it would create a third category of traffic ticket whose purpose was to "do an end-run around existing Michigan law that requires traffic tickets to be delivered in person by a police officer witness the violation," said James Walker, speaking for the organization.

"Michigan is free of automated traffic enforcement except at railroad crossings, and it must stay that way," he said.

The group also took issue with the authorization of toll roads that could result from the legislation, specifically SB 627.

"The bill allows state or local authorities to create (public-private partnerships) to do almost anything including exercising eminent domain with no legislative oversight, control, or right of veto," Mr. Walker said. "Michigan is blessedly free of toll roads and most other tolled facilities, and it must stay that way unless each individual project is approved by the Legislature after open public hearings."

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) raised a similar concern with a project in Colorado where the agreement included a provision that the roads around the particular zoned property could not be improved, forcing more people to use the toll road or else drive on unsafe roads. He asked if there was any way to protect from something like that, to which Mr. Kowall said he "whole-heartedly" agreed with Mr. Hertel's concern and would continue to work on the legislation to prevent such a thing from happening if possible.

The bills were not reported from committee.

Poll: Majority Backs Presumptive Parole

A majority of Michigan voters supports the concept of paroling inmates found to be low-risk once they serve their minimum sentence, according to a poll released Wednesday.

The survey, conducted by Denno Research for Public Sector Consultants and Michigan Radio, showed 53 percent were somewhat or very supportive of presumptive parole. Thirty-eight percent said they were somewhat or very opposed to the idea.

The poll comes as the Senate has all but quashed the presumptive parole bill, HB 4138, sitting in the Senate Government Operations Committee. Opposition among Senate Republicans appears strong.

Voters were divided on the question of whether juveniles serving life sentences should be eligible for parole. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled automatic sentences to life without parole are unconstitutional, but that a judge should still have the discretion to issue such a sentence. Forty-one percent said juveniles convicted of a life sentence should be eligible for parole while 39 percent said they should not.

And voters had an extremely negative view of how the Legislature handled road funding. Some 78.5 percent of those surveyed rated its performance as bad or terrible with 16.3 percent rating it good. Just 0.3 percent said excellent.

The survey of 600 likely November 2016 general election voters was conducted November 3-5 with an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Oakland Executive Election Change Clears House Committee

Legislation that would likely lead to Oakland County voters electing the county executive in midterm election years, no longer presidential ones, won approval from the House Elections Committee on Wednesday.

The party-line vote to report SB 110 comes amid speculation about when longtime County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, a Republican, will eventually decide not to seek re-election. Mr. Patterson has said he intends to run, and he has proven invincible on the ballot, winning election six times even as Democratic presidential candidates carried his county in all six of those elections.

But with Oakland County's changing demographics and tendency to go for Democrats in the presidential cycle (Democrats now control the clerk, prosecutor, treasurer and water resources commissioner posts), Republican concern about a Democrat succeeding Mr. Patterson is real. And Oakland County still tends a bit Republican in midterm cycles.

So if Mr. Patterson did win a final term in 2016, the bill, if it becomes law, would make it a two-year term with the next election taking place in 2018.

The one potential benefit to the Democrats of the bill is that it would allow their current countywide officers, who would be their strongest candidates for executive, to run for the post without having to give up their current office.

Officially, supporters of the bill have said it makes sense because Macomb and Wayne counties also elect their executives in the midterm election year and other countywide offices in the presidential year.

The bill would not automatically change the timing of the election, instead giving the Oakland County Board of Commissioners the power to switch if it wishes. With the board's Republican majority, there is little doubt it would do so.

Discussion of the bill in the committee was brief. All five Republicans voted yes and all three Democrats voted no. The committee made no changes to the bill.

PAC DONATIONS: The committee unanimously reported SB 571, which would make clear that organizations can include a request for a donation to their political action committee on the same form they request dues payments from members.

The Department of State had signaled a combined form could violate the Michigan Campaign Finance Act if the member submitted one check and the funds first went to the organization's general treasury before the portion for the PAC was then paid.

The bill would allow the organization to receive the funds and then pay out the funds to the group's PAC.

The bill also would end the existing requirement that employees participating in an organization's automatic payment or payroll deduction plan to the organization's PAC affirmatively assent annually to participate. Individuals would still have to provide their permission, but the annual requirement would cease.

House OKs Credit Union Act Revisions

Legislation that makes a variety of changes to credit union regulations passed the House overwhelmingly on Wednesday.

HB 5017 passed 104-2, HB 5018, HB 5020 and HB 5021 passed 105-1, HB 5022 passed 104-1 and HB 5019 passed 89-17.

The bills would establish the Credit Union Regulatory Fund and make numerous changes to the regulation of credit unions, as well as modernizing definitions of terms; address the supervision of domestic credit unions and bylaws and the authority to organize or invest in service organizations that provide trust and other services; revise the examination process by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services; deal with credit union mergers; and allow loan and savings promotional raffles.

Court Rules 'Knock/Talk' Not Illegal Search

A divided Court of Appeals on Wednesday ruled that the police technique of "knock and talk" to a suspect, particularly when they ask to speak to a suspect inside the person's residence, does not amount to an illegal search.

The court ruled in *People v. Frederick* and *People v. Van Doorne* (COA docket No. 323642) on remand from the Supreme Court, which had the court consider whether the "knock and talk" technique was an illegal search in light of a U.S. Supreme Court decision in a case, *Florida v. Jardines*.

In the Florida case, police had been tipped off that the suspect had been growing marijuana in his house. They approached the house with a drug-sniffing dog, which reacted to the scent of marijuana as they approached the front entrance. The police then obtained a search warrant for the house.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled use of drug sniffing dog amounted to an illegal search. But the court also held that a police officer could "knock and talk" at the door because that is what people do at a house.

In the two cases, Michael Frederick and Todd Van Doorne were Kent County corrections officers who also were medical marijuana patients. The police were told each had quantities of marijuana butter. The police came to each man's house in the pre-dawn hours, knocked, conversed briefly with each man, were invited into their house, then asked if he had marijuana butter. The individuals said they did and showed the police the butter. They also signed forms waiving their rights under the *Miranda* rule.

Judge Michael Talbot, joined by Judge Kristin Frank Kelly, rejected the defendants' arguments that the searches violated the scope of what was allowable in the *Jardines* case. But Mr. Talbot said the *Jardines* case did not turn a "knock and talk" situation into an unlawful search.

Before the *Jardines* case, the court had held "knock and talk" situations were constitutional.

But the *Jardines* case makes it plain, the court said, that approaching a residence, knocking at the door, talking to a suspect, even for the purpose of gleaning information that could lead to the person's arrest, does not violate the constitutional line. Just showing up at the house to conduct a search without a warrant would do so, the court said.

Judge Deborah Servitto said the totality of the situation - the early morning hours, no one being awake in the houses, the police officers having higher rank than the corrections officers, the suggestion they may have committed a crime - put the instance into a framework where the defendants were unlikely to deny the officers access or accede to their requests. When balanced in totality, she said, the "knock and talk" searches did violate the two defendants' Fourth Amendment rights.

Cyber Squadron Assigned To Battle Creek

The Battle Creek Air National Guard base will see 70 new jobs with the assignment of a cyber operations squadron to the base.

Battle Creek will house one of the four new squadrons intended to defend the nation against computer-based attacks.

The base has housed a cyber range hub, part of the state's system to experiment with defenses against various types of online attacks, since 2014.

"Cyber-attacks are an unfortunate reality of a world that is becoming increasingly more dependent on technology," Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement announcing the squadron assignment. "I'm proud of the work we've done to establish Michigan as a national leader in this field. The new cyber unit will help ensure we remain on the forefront of this mission and provide new and future opportunities for growth."

Canvassers To Consider Snyder, Schmidt Recall Petitions

The Board of State Canvassers will meet next week to consider yet another attempt to recall Governor Rick Snyder as well as a recall petition against Sen. Wayne Schmidt.

The board will also review its procedure for determining whether a signature is still valid where a petition drive goes past 180 days.

Detroit pastor Angelo Scott Brown has filed a fourth recall petition against Ms. Snyder for his handling of the Flint drinking water crisis.

"The people of Flint City did not have the basic service of clean water for nine months," Mr. Brown said as part of his argument for recalling the governor.

Two of his prior petitions have been rejected by the board and he withdrew a third.

William Bailey is seeking to launch a recall effort against Mr. Schmidt (R-Traverse City) for his November 3 votes on the transportation package.

And in the final matter, Jeffrey Hank, a proponent of one of the marijuana legalization measures, had asked the board at its last meeting to change how it determines whether signers of a petition that goes past 180 days were properly registered at the time they signed to checking them against the qualified voter file from the current method of obtaining affidavits from the signer and the local clerk.

Legislative Black Caucus Invites Knollenberg To Meeting

In a letter to Sen. Marty Knollenberg, the Legislative Black Caucus invited him to attend a special meeting of the lawmakers on Thursday "to have to have a more open dialogue" following comments Mr. Knollenberg made last week at a Senate committee meeting.

Mr. Knollenberg (R-Troy), responding to a presentation that said many of the failing schools are in economically struggling communities and held mostly minority students, said: "We can't make an African American white. We can't fix that."

He later apologized and said it was a poor choice of words.

In the letter, the caucus wrote Mr. Knollenberg's comments were concerning and his "misinformed perspective" receives a great deal of legislative backing.

"Your views of a nonwhite deficit are deeply problematic, and speak to the Republican perception of blackness as a dysfunction or deformity, something that you 'cannot fix,' the implication being that issues in nonwhite urban communities are inherently unsolvable, thereby absolving our government of its responsibility to take care of its people," the letter said. "The perpetuation of this stigma by a democratically elected official is disheartening, particularly when many of your constituents commute to work and are deeply invested in the growth and vibrancy of urban areas."

The caucus wrote, if Mr. Knollenberg attends their meeting, they hope "to have a more open dialogue on what is necessary to move both your opinion, and urban education in Michigan, toward positive progress in this next year."

Capital Notebook

SURPLUS SALE: The state surplus store has announced special Saturday hours for December 12. The store, at 3111 West St. Joseph Street, Lansing, will be open 8 a.m. to noon.

The store traditionally is only open during weekday business hours, and many of its items are available on the MiBid website.

CASINO REVENUE: All three of the Detroit casinos saw revenue decline in November from October, and two of the three saw it fall from November 2014, the Gaming Control Board reported Wednesday.

MGM Grand Detroit saw a substantial jump in revenue from November 2014, up 7.3 percent to $46.71 million. But that was down 1.6 percent from October. MotorCity Casino, at $36.24 million in November, was down 1.6 percent from November 2014 and down 4 percent from October. Greektown Casino, with $25.73 million, was down 2.5 percent and 6.8 percent over the respective periods.

RECYCLING COUNCIL: The Governor's Recycling Council is taking public testimony at a meeting January 12 at Lansing Community College's West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. The council meets from noon until 2 p.m. and is taking comment from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Those wanting to participate in the meeting, either in person or via the webcast, have to fill out the request form on the council's website.

STATE OF THE STATE: Governor Rick Snyder will deliver his sixth State of the State speech to a joint session of the Legislature at 7 p.m. on January 19.

CONSENT AGREEMENT ENDS IN RIVER ROUGE: The Department of Treasury has released the city of River Rouge from the consent agreement under which it has operated since 2009 because of financial problems. Treasury officials will continue to meet with city officials quarterly.

"The city has made significant progress over the last few years to address the financial emergency in River Rouge," Treasurer Nick Khouri said in a statement. "Local officials have made numerous critical decisions and taken important steps forward to ensure continued fiscal stability. As a result, the city has complied with terms of the consent agreement, therefore a release from the agreement is justified."

FENTON BUSINESS EXPANSION: The Michigan Strategic Fund has approved a $150,000 grant to Performance Fabricating, LLC, headquartered in Fenton, for the company to construct a new corporate headquarters and manufacturing facility in the township, investing more than $9 million and creating 52 jobs.

SETTLEMENT REACHED IN FLAT ROCK OVERFLOWS: Attorney General Bill Schuette and the Department of Environmental Quality have reached a settlement with the Flat Rock owners of Arbor Americana Manufactured Housing Community. The residents of the community had been subjected to repeated exposure of untreated raw sewage, as well as partly treated sewage, because the owners would not repair or replace a dilapidated wastewater treatment system.

As part of the settlement, the owners are to replace the system and certify it meets state law by April 15, 2016, and pay a civil fine of $300,000 as well as $15,000 to the state's General Fund.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, December 10

House Fiscal Agency Board of Governors (Chr. Pscholka, 373-8080), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 8:30 a.m.

- Quarterly report presented by Mary Ann Cleary, Director of the House Fiscal Agency

Senate Transportation (Committee Record) (Chr. Casperson, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

HB 4459 **DRIVER LICENSE** (Lucido) Allows for encoding emergency contact information in driver's license.

HB 4460 **STATE IDENTIFICATION** (Lucido) Allows for encoding emergency contact information in identification cards.

SB 595 **MEDICAL CONDITION DRIVABILITY** (Casperson) Revises and clarifies examination regarding existence of certain medical conditions affecting applicant's ability to operate safely.

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brandenburg, 373-5312), Room 100, Farnum Building, 9:15 a.m.

HB 4462 **REFUND INTEREST** (Clemente) Aligns interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.

House Oversight and Ethics (Committee Record) (Chr. McBroom, 373-8474), Room 326, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

HB 4540 **CIVIL RIGHTS** (Heise) Exempts public body records, documents or information disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act.

Tuesday, December 15

Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security (Committee Record) (Chr. O'Brien, 373-5314), 110, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.

HCR 7 **VETERANS HEALTH CARE** (Hughes) Urges the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the United States Congress to create a pilot program in Michigan instituting a flexible Veterans Choice Card system structured similar to a traditional health care program for all veterans in Michigan.

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Newsmaker Friday: Maturen Works 'Dark Stores' Issue

Rep. David Maturen is bringing his 40 years of work in real estate appraisal and assessing to bear in heading up a workgroup examining what, if anything, to do about how the assessment of large commercial real estate properties works, and Mr. Maturen said Friday in an interview there is clearly a problem.

The workgroup has held two meetings with a third planned for next week. It is the last one scheduled at this point. Mr. Maturen (R-Vicksburg) said he expects to submit legislation for introduction in early 2016.

Even as the issue of energy continues to consume considerable oxygen in the Capitol, the topic of "dark stores," the phenomenon in which large big box stores see lower than expected property valuations because the property is valued based on comparable sales of other properties instead of true cash value, looms as perhaps the biggest issue in 2016.

Cities, counties, villages and townships have mounted a campaign to change state law on how local assessors value those properties following Michigan Tax Tribunal decisions requiring the comparable sale method to be used. Local governments say the reduced valuations are spreading to the point where revenues are falling everywhere.

But business groups are mounting a furious defense of existing law and policy.

The workgroup includes all the major players - local assessors and equalization officers, the Department of Treasury, the State Tax Commission, legislators with heavy interest in the issue as well as some expert background, retailers, manufacturers, business organizations and realtors.

"I'm trying to see what kind of consensus we can get, if possible. I think everybody will probably not be on board," Mr. Maturen said. "I'd rather address the arguments up front than put something out there and have it shot full of holes."

Mr. Maturen owns his own real estate appraisal firm. In the 1970s and 1980s, he was a level three assessor in the Property Tax Division of the Department of Treasury.

It was this background that prompted both Mr. Maturen and Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), the chair of the House Tax Policy Committee, which has held two hearings on the issue so far, to agree Mr. Maturen should helm the workgroup.

"I almost felt an obligation when I heard about this to get involved," he said.

The workgroup has gone into greater nuance than the committee, Mr. Maturen said, delving deeper into the arcana of the General Property Tax Act and the Tax Tribunal rules.

"I think the way the Tribunal has approached valuation of these big box retail stores, in my opinion, doesn't represent sound appraisal principles," he said. "They're down a pathway that I would like to change. I think lots of folks recognize that."

Mr. Maturen said a new Costco in Kalamazoo County is a case in point. It is on a prime piece of real estate and is a primary entryway into the Kalamazoo area. Between what Costco paid for the land and listed on its building permit, it spent $17.5 million to build the store. Assessors, using the true cash value standard valued it at $8.5 million, and Costco immediately countered by claiming it was worth $4 million under the comparable value standard.

"I tell people this and they scratch their head and say 'you're kidding me,'" Mr. Maturen said. "That's the extension of the theory that the Tax Tribunal has accepted for the valuing of these large retail facilities. Most people would think that's not the type of property tax system we would want in this state."

Mr. Maturen said his goal is equal treatment among properties.

There is a bill now in the Senate requiring the use of true cash value as the assessing model, but Mr. Maturen said he had some concerns about it specifying when property could be used for comparable purposes. He said that is an inappropriate role for the Legislature.

Mr. Maturen also mostly dismissed questions that business groups have raised about the constitutionality of the Legislature changing the standard. He said there is sufficient permission in the law for the Legislature to change the definition of true cash value.

Bills Ending DHHS Vaccination Rule Will See Hearing

Rep. Thomas Hooker introduced legislation this week that would end the Department of Health and Human Service's new rule requiring parents planning to enroll their children in public schools to meet with local health department staff before acquiring a nonmedical waiver not to vaccinate their children, and Rep. Mike Callton, chair of the House Health Policy Committee, plans to give the bills a hearing.

The bills, HB 5126 and HB 5127, would prohibit DHHS from promulgating rules more stringent than state law and would bar local health departments from stopping unimmunized students from attending school as a disease control measure unless there is an epidemic.

The new rule, promulgated this year, requires those wanting nonmedical vaccination waivers for children entering a licensed child care facility, kindergarten, or the 7th grade, or moving into a new school district, to first receive education on the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease from their local health department.

On the second part of the bill, Mr. Hooker (R-Byron Center) said health departments would be able to prevent students who were not vaccinated from going to school if even just one student had measles or a similar disease.

Mr. Hooker said the department wanted to make it harder for parents to receive a nonmedical waiver. He said those parents have a right to the waiver, and in some cases, like in Kent County, parents had difficulty making an appointment, were harassed and were asked to bring their children with them so they could hear from a nurse their parents were putting them at risk.

Mr. Hooker said those instances have since stopped.

"Some statistics indicated more children had died from immunization than died from measles," Mr. Hooker said. "There are health reasons why people don't do it."

Jennifer Eisner, spokesperson for DHHS, said the department is responsible for promoting the health of residents, and it takes that very seriously, especially when it comes to children and vulnerable populations.

"High immunization rates help protect individuals in the community who cannot be vaccinated because they are too young or have complicating health factors. While parents maintain the ability to opt out of vaccinations with a waiver from their local health department, we stand behind the importance of immunizations and know that they work best when everyone who can be vaccinated is vaccinated," she said. "The current rules are based on sound public health practice and we believe they are in the best interest of schools and communities in Michigan. We look forward to discussing the outcomes of the new waiver rule with our legislative partners as that data and information becomes available."

Mr. Hooker said he had not yet talked to any families with medical waivers, but said his colleague Rep. Joseph Graves (R-Linden) cannot receive vaccinations because of medical conditions, and he supports the bill.

Amy Zaagman, executive director of the Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health, said those who choose not to vaccinate their children for philosophical reasons are a small, but vocal, minority. Ms. Zaagman said early data she has seen shows the DHHS rule is working.

"What the lower waiver rate says to us is parents were not fully educated or were exercising waivers out of convenience," she said.

But Mr. Callton (R-Nashville) said parents choosing philosophical waivers are educated.

He said it is a parent's right to decide what to put in their child's body. He said parents are being "talked down to" at local health departments.

"Is that insulting or what? That a parent can't exercise their right to their child's education or health," he said. "And they have to talk to a counselor before they can have a waiver. Most of these parents are not ignorant. A lot of these parents are very well educated."

Ms. Zaagman said the officials with whom she has spoken said they were trying to give balanced information.

Mr. Hooker said he met with local health officials in Kent County who told him they were seeing more cases of preventable diseases than they had seen in a long time. He said he asked the nurse if undocumented immigrants in the state could have been "a little bit of the problem."

"She said she didn't think so," he said, noting others in the room indicated they could look at that as a potential cause.

Mr. Hooker said he was vaccinated and he knows others on either side of the vaccination debate. He said he's not introducing legislation to take a side, but rather because he thinks parents should have a right to choose.

Mr. Callton said there could possibly be a compromise with the department to have parents read the information online rather than having to go to a health department.

"Why can't you make it so they can read the information online easily at their home. ... some of these people it is really difficult to get an appointment, go down to the health department, get talked down to by a health department worker, and then go all the way back home," he said. "To exercise your right and make your own decision about what goes into your child's body. So I am open to the idea."

Ms. Zaagman said if the information was being read online, a parent would not be able to ask questions of a professional if they had any.

On how concerned she was about the bills potentially moving through the Legislature, Ms. Zaagman said those with medical waivers, children who cannot receive vaccinations because of medical conditions, were not being heard from enough. She also said parents not seeking waivers are not being considered.

"I think we are very concerned that legislators haven't really heard from the 'pro-vaccine' parents," she said. "Ninety percent of parents choose to vaccinate. ... We are reasonably concerned that legislators only hear from the small minority."

New Federal Education Law Sees Praise, Questions

There was general support among Michigan education groups the day after the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act was reauthorized, but most were also still trying to pick out the details of what will now be known as the Every Student Succeeds Act.

The new act, which replaces the oft-maligned No Child Left Behind Act, still requires states to focus on the bottom 5 percent of schools and on the poorest-performing groups within each school, but otherwise gives more flexibility to states to set standards and measurement systems.

States also would have more authority over the sanctions schools and districts might face for not reaching the standards.

"The Michigan Department of Education is excited about the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the opportunity to craft a meaningful assessment, accountability and support system that we can align with our goals to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years," Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston said in a statement. "This new law is very complex and we will need time to unfold its layers and see what this will look like for our state, our schools, our educators and our children. This will be a process involving multiple stakeholders, and require more than MDE's input. We look forward to developing and implementing a high quality system over the coming months and years."

"For the first time in many years, states will have significantly more ability to set their own policies, without constant fear of federal intrusion and repercussions," Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said in a statement. "It will be important to remain vigilant about the state agencies that will now hold much more power."

And Brad Biladeau with the Michigan Association of School Administrators said, "The bill wasn't necessarily perfect, but it got more right than it did wrong."

Mr. Biladeau said he did not expect much change, at least in standards.

"Our standards still remain high," he said. "The reality is our standards are firmly in place and we don't expect those to change."

There have been some concerns raised as the bill made its way through Congress that the move back to state-led standards would also mean a move back to differential standards where some states lower the bar to improve proficiency numbers.

The new law could, though, mean more teaching time during the school year, David Crim with the Michigan Education Association said.

"The reduction in the amount of standardized testing is huge," Mr. Crim said. "They recognized that there's been far too much emphasis and proliferation of standardized testing."

The teacher union is also praising the inclusion of teachers in decision making at all levels.

A key win for schools appears to be the move away from the waiver system that had dominated NCLB compliance in recent years.

"We're happy we finally have a reauthorization," Jennifer Smith with the Michigan Association of School Boards said. "I think it's going to stop some of these piecemeal waivers."

"School districts needed to be free from the conditional limits of the current waiver process," Mr. Biladeau said.

He said districts will continue under the current waiver process for the next year (the law calls for the waivers to expire in August 2016), then begin "trial" implementation of the new state and district improvement plans for the 2016-17 school year.

The new law officially takes effect for the 2017-18 school year.

A win for conservatives was prohibition against the U.S. Department of Education requiring or even promoting any particular standards. The measure was a swipe against the Common Core State Standards that many conservatives have argued were developed and then imposed by federal officials.

Michigan is among the states that have adopted the standards developed by a consortium of states but then promoted through the federal Race to the Top grant programs.

Sandra Kahn, president of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan, said in an open letter that the law did not go far enough to eliminate Common Core or federal control over education.

"The mechanism for government control of education was not removed from this bill," Ms. Kahn said. "In fact, it has expanded its tentacles into pre-school. Race to the Top has been replaced by Race for the Tots. Government, it seems, cannot get its hands on our children early enough."

While the law does prohibit the federal department from imposing standards, she said there is no enforcement mechanism for that prohibition.

Mr. Biladeau also noted in an analysis for his organization that there is an early education component in the law that would create a program in addition to Head Start.

It was unclear Friday what, if any, effect the new law might have on funding for schools.

Mr. Biladeau said he is still reviewing that, but in his analysis said school improvement grants had been melded into Title I for at-risk youth, with the added requirement that schools cut no more than 10 percent of their prior year spending to continue to receive the federal funds.

Education Week, in an analysis before the bill was enacted, said it combines most of the federal education programs into a block grant but puts some strings on those grants for districts that receive more than $30,000 in a school year.

But too much of the funding will go to support charter schools, Mr. Crim said.

"We're a little concerned," he said. "The ESSA includes authorization of hundreds of millions of federal tax dollars to support the increased growth of charter schools."

Attorney For Allard, Graham Plans To Call Cotter To Stand In Case

Sarah Riley Howard, the attorney for fired former House staffers Keith Allard and Ben Graham, said she will call House Speaker Kevin Cotter to testify in their whistleblower lawsuit against the House.

The two former staffers lost their jobs after their former bosses, ex-Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, initiated their firing, which was signed off on by Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and his top staff. They claim Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat fired them for reporting their misconduct to Mr. Cotter and his staff, and that Mr. Cotter and his staff allowed the firing to take place.

Ms. Howard, appearing on Michigan Public Television's "Off the Record," said she is not sure whether Mr. Cotter actually will testify. During settlement negotiations, attorneys representing the House raised the issue of legislators having immunity from testifying. Ms. Howard said there is some case law giving precedent for a legislator having immunity from being deposed. She said that topic has been significantly litigated and she suspected it would be litigated more in this case.

"Our position is this is a sort of we win either way," she said. "We either get him on the stand, we get him deposed, or he takes legislative immunity and says I'm not talking about it. That kind of says what we need to know, I think, at that point."

Ms. Howard said there is no question that if Mr. Cotter refuses to testify it will help Mr. Allard's and Mr. Graham's case.

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro said there have been no discussions about whether Mr. Cotter or any other legislator might invoke immunity from testifying in the case.

Settlement discussions took place prior to Mr. Allard and Mr. Graham filing their lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids on Monday, Ms. Howard said. She said court rules bar her from disclosing details of those talks.

As to how close the two sides were to a settlement, however, she said, "I wouldn't classify it as being all that close." Mr. D'Assandro said the House could not comment on the subject.

Mr. Allard and Mr. Graham "wanted nothing more than to settle and resolve this and put it behind them," Ms. Howard said. "We tried hard to settle this case, and in the end we couldn't get fairness for our clients."

The next step in this case will be for the House to file a formal response to the lawsuit. Then the House surely will make a motion to dismiss the case, and Judge Gordon Quist will have to decide whether to grant the motion or let it proceed to trial. Ms. Howard said she was confident the case would easily survive a motion to dismiss. She would not disclose how much Mr. Allard and Mr. Graham are seeking in damages, but said what they unearth in discovery would affect the that amount.

Ms. Howard was the Democratic candidate in the 30th Senate District in 2014 against Sen. Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), and she is an active Democrat.

Monday, news of the lawsuit's filing was broken by Democratic groups. On the program, Ms. Howard was asked if she tipped off Democratic groups that the lawsuit would be filed to give them the chance to jump on it. Democratic groups spent much of Monday teeing off on Mr. Cotter and the House Republicans.

Ms. Howard said she made no calls to Democratic groups, but she did meet with media strategists to prepare her and her clients for how to handle the ensuing media storm after the lawsuit was filed.

How the information about the pending lawsuit traveled from that point on, Ms. Howard said she did not know.

"I know a lot of people have talked to a variety of people who know about it, so I don't know exactly," she said.

But Ms. Howard said no one should think the case is about anything other than obtaining compensation for her clients.

"It is absolutely not about inflicting political damage. I did not want to file this suit because it's not in my clients' best interest," she said. "It's outrageous to me what's been done to these two."

And as to Mr. Allard and Mr. Graham, both deeply conservative Republicans, hiring an active Democrat to lead their case, Ms. Howard retorted, "There isn't really such a thing as a Republican who's a plaintiffs' lawyer doing plaintiffs' employment and civil rights, so if they wanted to go to someone in their own party, I don't think would have been able to."

Presuming the case survives the motion to dismiss, Ms. Howard said it could take one to two years before it gets resolved.

UAW Local 6000 Ratifies New State Contract

The last of the five unions representing state employees has approved a proposed new contract with the state.

With the overwhelming 91 percent yes vote from United Auto Workers Local 6000, the largest state employee union, the final step is approval from the Civil Service Commission, which meets Wednesday.

Under the tentative agreement the state reached with unions in October, there would be a one-year contract for wages and health care starting October 1, 2016, providing a 1 percent base wage increase and 1.5 percent lump sum payment for employees in October 2016.

Other portions of the contracts would last the traditional three years. However, the Office of State Employer pushed for a one-year deal on the wages and health care components out of concern about what will happen with the federal excise tax on premium health care plans, one union said in an October bulletin to its members.

Feds: 24 Michigan Hospitals Have Too High Rates Of Hospital-Acquired Infections

As part of an ongoing program by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to improve performance in controlling infections and other illnesses patients can get in hospitals, 24 Michigan hospitals will see their Medicare payments cut by 1 percent in 2016.

A spokesperson for the Michigan Health and Hospital Association said the program is unfairly designed because it is required to find 25 percent of a state's hospitals out of compliance, and it targets larger, teaching hospitals which generally treat the sickest patients.

But the president of the Economic Alliance of Michigan said the study shows that hospitals have to do more to control for these conditions. Bret Jackson also said patients should look at data to determine which hospitals are the safest for them to seek treatment at.

The findings were the second annual set of findings released by the federal CMS on the issue. Under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, beginning in 2014 the CMS had to issue the findings nationwide in an effort to push hospitals to improve their efforts to lower the incidence of patients acquiring infections and other conditions in the hospital.

Nationwide, the CMS said this week that 750 hospitals would see their Medicare payments reduced because of scores showing they had too high incidents of hospital acquired conditions.

In 2014, Michigan had 21 hospitals on the list. This year eight hospitals that were listed in 2014 made it off the list, but 11 hospitals not listed in 2014 were added.

Many of the hospitals were smaller and in more rural areas. But the list included such well-known names as Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, Sinai Grace in Detroit, Spectrum Health Butterworth in Grand Rapids, and both McLaren and Hurley hospitals in Flint.

Laura Wotruba, spokesperson for the MHA, said the act requires the CMS to find 25 percent of hospitals in the lowest percentage and subject to the fine, no matter how much the hospital may have improved its incidences of hospital acquired conditions.

And Michigan hospitals are engaged in a series of efforts, including partnering with Illinois hospitals, to reduce hospital-acquired conditions, she said.

But Mr. Jackson said every time a patient on Medicare or Medicaid gets a hospital-acquired condition, that ends up costing the taxpayers more money for additional treatments and therapy.

DTE Electric Rates To Increase

The Public Service Commission and DTE Electric Company reached an agreement to allow the utility to hike its electric rates by $238.2 million annually.

That will result in an increase of $8.22 monthly for residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month. The last rate case for DTE was in October 2011.

The increase is 36 percent below what the utility had initially requested (case U-17767), the commission was quick to point out in a statement about the rate hike (the company originally sought a rate increase of $370 million).

"Customers will benefit from improvements in the reliability and safety of DTE Electric Company's electric distribution system and the acquisition of two natural gas-fired plants to generate electricity," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement. "The rates approved today are 36 percent below what the utility requested and will result in a more reliable system, a cleaner environment and rates that reflect the ongoing effort toward affordability."

Commercial customers will also see a rate increase of 3.4 percent as a result of the agreement, and industrial customers will see a rate decrease of 2.4 percent.

The new rates are effective December 17, and the total amount approved on Friday represents an increase of 5.3 percent over the rates set in its previous electric rate case (case U-16472).

INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY: The PSC also approved a settlement agreement authorizing Indiana Michigan Power Company to implement its 2016-17 energy optimization plan that will result in an increase of 5 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month beginning with the January 2016 billing month (case U-17773).

The PSC and the utility also approved a settlement reconciling the company's 2014 renewable energy plan surcharge revenues, as well as to amend its plan and revise the charges. That will add another 43 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers effective with the January 2016 billing cycle (case U-17794 and U-17805).

SEMCO ENERGY COMPANY: SEMCO Energy Gas Company will implement its 2016-17 energy optimization plan effective January 1, 2016, which will result in residential customers using 100 ccf of natural gas a month seeing an increase of 16 cents on their monthly bills (case U-17790).

MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION: The utility has been authorized to increase its base rates by $3.4 million annually resulting in an increase of $1.72 on the monthly bills of residential customers using 100 ccf of natural gas, effective January 1, 2016 (case U-17880).

PRESQUE ISLE ELECTRIC & GAS CO-OP: The company and the PSC approved an agreement to revise its monthly regulatory cost charge resulting in a decrease of 80 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers in the Hillman Village and Allis Township effective with the January billing month (case U-17848).

Chronic Wasting Disease Found Spreading

Chronic wasting disease has now been found in wild deer in two counties, the Department of Natural Resources announced Friday.

Officials confirmed a deer taken by a hunter in DeWitt Township in Clinton County had the fatal prion-based disease.

The prior three confirmed positives for the disease had been found in Ingham County, but officials said DeWitt Township was still within the core monitoring area for the infection. They have, though, asked hunters in Eaton County to also bring all deer to DNR check stations for testing.

Officials were not planning any regulatory changes before the end of the current deer season but said they would be reviewing regulations for 2016.

Supreme Court Rejects Arguments In Wrongful Entry Case

The Supreme Court rejected a call on Friday for full arguments on whether a police officer wrongly entered a house to arrest a suspect, but Justice Bridget McCormack said attorneys and the trial court were wrong in their beliefs that a police officer had an automatic right to enter a house if a suspect's name is listed on the Law Enforcement Information Network.

The court unanimously decided not to hear full arguments in the case, *People v. White* (SC docket No. 150661), after hearing arguments in October on whether to take the case. In its order rejecting the case, the court said it was unpersuaded the questions raised should be reviewed.

But Ms. McCormack, joined by Justice Richard Bernstein, said while she agreed with the court's decision on hearing the arguments, Stephanie White's lawyer did not fully understand the legal concept that permitted a police officer entry into a home without a warrant.

In the case, Ms. White's son, Stephen, was wanted. A police officer came to her house. Mr. White initially came to the back door when the officer knocked, but then moved to the front of the house when he saw it was a police officer. The back door was not completely shut and the officer entered the house. Ms. White then confronted the officer, saying her son did not live there and that the officer needed a warrant to search her house.

The officer said he did not need a warrant because he had just seen Mr. White. When she attempted to stop him from searching the house, he handcuffed her and put her in his patrol car.

Courts have held that an officer has the right to enter a house that a suspect lives in if the officer has reasonable belief the suspect is there. But Ms. McCormack said in this case the trial judge, prosecutor and defense lawyer mistakenly said the officer had the authority to enter the house based on information from the LEIN system.

Ms. McCormack said that was not correct. Determining whether a police officer has the authority to enter a house is a question for a jury, and in this case, she said, the issue to be resolved is whether the officer had a reasonable belief that Ms. White's residence was also her son's residence.

The Supreme Court refusing to hear full arguments in the case still permits Ms. White to seek further proceedings on that question, Ms. McCormack said.

Kivela Attorneys Working With Prosecutor

A pretrial hearing scheduled for Rep. John Kivela was waived on Friday as his attorneys continue to work with the Clinton County prosecutor.

Mr. Kivela (D-Marquette) is facing charges for operating while intoxicated with high blood alcohol content and for having an open intoxicant in the vehicle. Josh Pugh, a spokesperson for Mr. Kivela, said his attorneys have been working "productively" with the prosecutor's office.

"John had a great week of session and is grateful to all of his colleagues, constituents and friends who have offered support and encouragement," Mr. Pugh said.

After being pulled over while driving drunk last month, Mr. Kivela said he has been struggling with alcoholism for most of his adult life. He has since received treatment.

Mr. Kivela is scheduled for a plea hearing at the 65A District Court at 8:30 a.m. December 18.

Audit: School Retirement Plan Needs Better Controls To Monitor Some Assets

Michigan's Public School Employees Retirement System needs to improve its oversight of the allocations of net pension liabilities between universities and non-universities, an audit report from Auditor General Doug Ringler said.

Because the system had not adequately controlled for transfers, the university allocation was overstated by $21 million, and the non-university section was understated by the same amount.

Since 1996, new university employees have not been permitted to join MPSERS, and the seven universities that were part of the system had to take care of any unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities.

But the audit said the system did not have sufficient controls in place to ensure allocations of those assets were performed correctly.

That failure did not materially affect the actual allocations of pension benefits, the audit said, but improved system would make following the asset allocations better overall.

The system concurred with the findings and said it has made the changes needed.

Capital Notebook

FLINT LEAD REPORT: The latest report on lead testing in Flint, released Friday by the Department of Health and Human Services, showed that 39 adults and children out of 1,836 tested had elevated blood lead levels since October 1.

The first report, issued earlier this month, showed 30 adults and children out of slightly fewer than 1,400 people tested had elevated blood lead levels.

The tests and reports are part of the effort of the state to monitor and reduce blood lead levels that were discovered after Flint had its city water system use Flint River water. The system has since been reconnected to the Detroit water and sewer system until a new Flint system drawing water from Lake Huron is completed.

MAPPER: The Department of Environmental Quality announced Friday it had released the latest version of its Michigan Environmental Mapper.

In addition to updating locations of contaminated properties and well heads, the program also now includes a layer to show property where brownfield funds have been used to incent redevelopment.

MASON RETIRING: Marylou Mason, executive director of the Michigan Hispanic/Latino Commission, is retiring at the end of the month, the Department of Civil Right announced Friday.

Ms. Mason has been with the commission, and its predecessors, since March 1986 when she became assistant director of the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs. She became director of that commission in August 1986.

Among the highlights of her time in office was initiating the Michigan Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

"Marylou Mason has spent her career working with Michigan's Hispanic-Latino community," Civil Rights Director Agustin Arbulu said in a statement. "We are grateful for her many years of service to the state, and congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement."

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, December 14

Health Professional Recovery Committee, Conference Room 3, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Governor's Talent Investment Board, Training Center, Operating Engineers Local 324, 1550 Howard Street, Detroit, 10 a.m. (Meeting Materials)

Pipeline Safety Advisory Board, Con Con Conference Room, Atrium Level, Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. (Agenda)

9-1-1 Committee, 1917/Millennium Room, State Police Headquarters, 333 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, 2 p.m. (Agenda)

Tuesday, December 15

Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Agenda)

Wednesday, December 16

Tax Commission, Holiday Inn Express and Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Veterans' Facilities Board of Managers, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Avenue Northeast, Grand Rapids, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Canceled: ~~Manufactured Housing Commission, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m.~~

Board of Veterinary Medicine, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. (Disciplinary Subcommittee Agenda)

Thursday, December 17

Board of Psychology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

Canceled: ~~Health Information Technology Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 1 p.m.~~

Friday, December 18

Board of Audiology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

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Banks Pushing Auto Insurance Reform Bills

The Coalition Protecting Auto No Fault and the Insurance Institute of Michigan are at odds in regards to Rep. Brian Banks' new legislation reforming the state's auto insurance laws to provide rate rollbacks and tax credits for insurance companies, among other changes.

The bills (HB 5134 and HB 5135) were introduced last week and sit in the House Insurance Committee.

The bills, modeled after a Texas program, propose a 12 percent rate reduction of the average annual premium for consumers, those who are eligible would:

- Reside in an area with a population of 500,000 or more;
- Live in rural or urban municipalities bordering the areas that meet the population criteria;
- Live in an city, township or village where 35 percent of drivers are uninsured; or
- Live in a designated zip code or a community bordering a designated ZIP code.

Insurance companies that participate in the reduced rate auto insurance plans would receive a $500 tax credit for every previously uninsured household that signs up under the program, though Mr. Banks said this might have to decrease to $300.

The legislation also would allow Michigan auto insurers to require a co-pay for Personal Injury Protection benefits.

While CPAN said the bills are worth a discussion, Pete Kuhnmuench, with the Insurance Institute of Michigan, said the group opposes the bills, as they are anti-insurance industry.

But CPAN said it will urge lawmakers to view the legislation as a potential compromise.

"Michigan has been in need of comprehensive no-fault reform that reduces medical costs to insurers, addresses fraud in a balanced way and offers real savings to drivers," CPAN President John Cornack said in a statement. "CPAN has not had the opportunity to review Rep. Banks' proposals in full detail, but his legislation hits on all of those notes - and it maintains quality injury protection for catastrophic accident victims."

The bills would also create a fraud authority to investigate both consumer fraud and the accusations of unfair claims practices by auto insurers, and limit hospital reimbursement rates by auto insurers to no more than 80 percent of their standard charges. This limitation would apply

only to licensed hospital facilities and not to independent medical practitioners or post-acute rehabilitation facilities.

Mr. Banks said currently the votes are not there for SB 248 and SB 249, which passed the Senate in April and have sat on the House floor since then.

"We are trying to work with all stakeholders to get to a place where we can get something comprehensive done," he said.

Mr. Banks said he will continue to meet with stakeholders, including insurance companies, to try to come to an agreement.

Rep. Tom Leonard III (R-DeWitt Township) chair the House Insurance Committee, did not return a call for comment on if the bills would see a hearing.

Mr. Banks said he believes the bills can be the solution stakeholders are seeking.

"Michigan citizens are required to buy auto insurance, and yet we all know that there are thousands of uninsured drivers on the road because, based on where they live and not on their driving record, their policy is simply unaffordable," he said in a statement. "My bill would encourage insurance companies to participate in this plan and lower rates by also giving the company a tax credit for each household that signs up.

""This is the best kind of tax credit because it actually puts money back into the hands of consumers, in the form of lower rates, so that they have more to spend in their local shops and stores. This is a win for everyone," he said.

Washington: Presumptive Parole Bill A Narrow Change

For all the intense debate surrounding legislation that would enhance the ability of prisoners deemed likely to succeed to be released at their earliest release date, the Department of Corrections already releases most such inmates at that point and the Parole Board would retain some discretion not to release them under the bill, Corrections Director Heidi Washington said Monday.

In an interview with Gongwer News Service, Ms. Washington said already the Parole Board grants parole to 75 percent of those prisoners at their earliest release date judged to have a high probability of success outside of prison. Inmates are judged as having a high, average or low probability of success.

"There's a lot of emotion inserted into the discussion which tends to take away from how really narrow this piece of legislation is," she said.

HB 4138 passed the House, but has stalled in the Senate, where the bulk of the Republican majority is fiercely resisting the change. Attorney General Bill Schuette and a bipartisan group of local law enforcement leaders also have sharply attacked the legislation.

Mr. Schuette and the bill's critics have called the proposal "autopilot parole," removing any discretion the Parole Board now has to stop the parole of a prisoner.

Ms. Washington said, however, the bill specifically lists exceptions - there are six - that would allow the Parole Board to prevent the parole of an inmate judged as having a high probability of success outside of prison.

"What this legislation does is simply says for the 25 percent of cases that fall in the high (probability) range that aren't getting paroled now, that the board will articulate one of the stated reasons as the reason for the parole denial," she said. "That's all it says. So I think the important point is those decisions are already being made."

Since Governor Rick Snyder promoted her to director in July, Ms. Washington has had several major issues to address in addition to the presumptive parole question.

Trinity Services Group is now fully in control of prison food services after the state and Aramark parted ways.

Overall, Ms. Washington said she is pleased with how Trinity is handling the contract.

"I think there's always room for improvement. We're at the beginning of this relationship. We are making progress with Trinity," she said. "They are making progress, and we will continue to move in the right direction with them. They've been very accommodating, very responsive, very willing to move with us, to find ways of doing things, correcting problems. Things are going well so far. It's something that we will work on every day to strengthen our position."

One of Ms. Washington's early priorities was to set up a new contract monitoring unit for the department and that is now in place. Three staffers each oversee specific contracts with analysts working underneath them on the day-to-day monitoring duties.

"It's an important step to making sure that we are consistently monitoring all of our contracts, that we are using the same tools within a contract among our different monitors and that we are doing it in an efficient manner and bringing timely information and communication to the vendor and to the administration, our administration, to make sure we all stay on the same page and address issues as they arise."

Another key item is the rebidding of the contract for health, mental health and pharmacy services for the department. Outside vendors already handle those services, but the department is looking for one vendor to handle them all.

Bids had been due last Friday, but that deadline has been extended to December 21.

The 2015-16 fiscal year budget assumed $15 million in savings as a result of the new contract. Already the department has said that is unlikely given that a new contract would not be in place until near the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Washington said she did not know how short of the $15 million the new contract would fall until the bids are in and a vendor chosen. And she said she could not say as of yet whether the department could find savings internally or would need a supplemental appropriation.

"We will do our best, as I think we do in all areas of this department, to be very wise stewards of the taxpayers' money, and if there are savings to be realized, we will do that," she said. "That's our job."

Ms. Washington was a top aide to several previous Corrections directors and was later a warden, so she said there have been no surprises in the job now that she is director.

"I sort of came at this position with a lot of history and knowledge, that when I finally got here as director, a lot of things that might have surprised other people didn't surprise me because I had spent so many years working side by side, hand in hand with all the previous directors," she said.

House Dems Fundraise On 'Ejecting' Speaker Cotter

House Democrats on Monday sent a fundraising email to supporters calling for House Speaker Kevin Cotter to resign.

The email says it is time to turn the "heat" on Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant).

The call cites the lawsuit from former staffers to ex-Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat against the House, charging it violated their First Amendment rights and the Michigan Whistleblower Protection Act as well as invading their privacy.

"Speaker Cotter failed to protect House employees who exposed the abuse of power among members of his own party. His actions have tarnished the House, and the Office of the Speaker," the email said. "That's why we're launching the Eject Cotter Project to expose Speaker Cotter's cover-up and tell him it's time to resign. And we need you to help get this project off the ground."

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills), when asked if Mr. Greimel was calling for Mr. Cotter to resign, said: "Speaker Cotter has been clear on behavior of House members. We should hold all members accountable to that level of behavior and it should be applied to everyone."

Keith Allard and Ben Graham, the staffers, released audio of Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat in August, which began the investigation that eventually led to Ms. Gamrat being expelled and Mr. Courser resigning.

At the time, Mr. Cotter had called for the two lawmakers to resign in the wake of their extramarital affair and asking Mr. Graham to send a bizarre cover up email.

The Democrats are charging Mr. Cotter should also resign using that logic.

"Throughout this entire investigation, Speaker Cotter has said that if any reports of misused tax dollars and other ethical or legal violations were true, then those representatives should resign," the email said. "Speaker Cotter should make good on his own words and resign."

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for Mr. Cotter, said the Democrats are supporting Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat.

"So it isn't that surprising that they would support these two as well," Mr. D'Assandro said of Mr. Allard and Mr. Graham.

Board Planning For Alternatives, Risk Analysis For Straits Pipeline

The Pipeline Safety Advisory Board put most of the final touches Monday on its plan to hire contractors for risk and alternatives analyses on the Line 5 pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac.

The board is hoping to issue requests for a proposal in February, said Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant, who co-chairs the board. The board's next meeting is in March.

Based on discussions from the board, the alternatives that contract would explore would range from leaving the pipeline as it is, to further limiting what it could carry, to shuttering it and moving the oil and gas it currently carries to other pipelines, trucks or barges.

But board members also urged language in the contract that would limit the exploration of some options.

The risk assessment contractor would have to look at a worst-case spill from the line, determining how long it would take and what it would cost to clean up the spill and what short- and long-term economic and environmental damage it might cause.

There was some discussion among board members what might constitute a worst case.

Chris Kelenske with the Department of State Police emergency management services said a worst case had to look at both full ice cover and open water.

Jeff Pillon with the National Association of State Energy Officials said the risk analysis should also look at some possibilities that, while less than worst case, might be more likely and so more hazardous. "In risk analysis, that's always part of the equation," he said of those lesser events.

Jennifer McKay with the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council urged for pushing the contractor beyond events for which Enbridge Energy, the owner of the pipeline, might have planned. "Typically what we see is not foreseeable," she said of major spills.

Michael Shriberg with the National Wildlife Federation noted, for instance, that some recent training scenarios have looked at containing a spill where the line breaks and the automatic shutoffs engage. He said the worst case should look at situations where those fail-safes fail.

On the alternatives assessment, Mr. Pillon urged the board to limit exploration of some of the options. "Do we really want to go from a pipeline to barges on the Great Lakes?" he said, adding replacing the pipeline with trucks would be economically unviable.

But Mr. Shriberg said the board should look at some additional alternatives. "One of the options we have to look at is decommissioning without making it up through alternative methods," he said, noting a proposal to that effect submitted to the board (see below).

He said it might also be reasonable to limit the pipeline to natural gas, which he said would cause less environmental damage if the line leaked.

Guy Meadows with Michigan Technological University questioned the role for public universities in the process.

"It would be hard to imagine a contractor being able to do the kind of modeling the federal government or the universities would be able to do," he said.

Mr. Wyant said the process would be open for universities either to bid on the project or to act as subcontractors to the bidder.

There was also some interest among board members to conduct a pre-bid conference and for board members to be involved in that to allow them to interact with potential bidders and clarify some of the questions raised Monday.

Some board members also appeared interested in increasing the meeting schedule from the current quarterly dates rather than developing subcommittees and potentially losing some member's expertise on an issue.

Carol Isaacs, chief deputy attorney general, urged the board members to submit any studies or reports on the issues they felt might contribute to the discussions.

"We are going to need a body of credible evidence," Ms. Isaacs said.

ALTERNATIVE PLAN: The environmental group For the Love of Water released its own report Monday arguing that the best alternative was to close the pipeline under the Straits. The oil that flowed through Line 5 could be shunted to Line 6B, which runs through Wisconsin to Chicago and then east to Detroit, the group said.

The western line was rebuilt since it burst and spilled oil into the Kalamazoo River and can carry substantially more product, the group said.

"Decommissioning Line 5 in the Great Lakes would not disrupt Michigan's oil and propane supply," Liz Kirkwood, executive director of FLOW, said at a media roundtable before the board meeting. "Enbridge effectively built its own version of the now-rejected Keystone Pipeline."

The group's report said Enbridge could still use the portion of Line 5 remaining in the Upper Peninsula to deliver the natural gas to the propane refinery in Rapid River.

The group urged the board to recommend that the line be closed under the Straits until the board makes its final recommendations, likely sometime next year.

Enbridge spokesperson Jason Manshum said he had not seen the FLOW report, but said it was, at this point, just that group's opinion.

Mr. Manshum said the company's focus is on helping the board find the right contractors to assess potential options and risks.

"We wouldn't operate Line 5 if we didn't think it was safe and reliable," he said.

Supreme Court Refuses To Hear Grand Rapids Marijuana Case

A divided Supreme Court ruled against hearing an appeal that challenged a Grand Rapids voter-approved city charter amendment decriminalizing possession and use of marijuana.

The decision on a 5-2 vote lets stand a decision by the Court of Appeals that held the charter amendment did not violate either the Michigan Constitution or law.

The order was issued on Friday, released to the public on Saturday and has not yet generated much response. However, the court's action could help spur more cities to adopt charter amendments decriminalizing marijuana.

So far 20 cities, including Grand Rapids, have decriminalized marijuana - subjecting its use and possession to civil fines, with no incarceration - and the decision comes as organizations are trying to raise signatures to put an initiative on the ballot legalizing or decriminalizing marijuana statewide.

In its order, the Supreme Court said it was not persuaded the questions raised needed to be reviewed.

Justice Stephen Markman and Justice David Viviano dissented, and each wrote separately they believed the case should have been heard.

Grand Rapids voters approved the charter amendment in 2012, making a first offense of possession and use of marijuana a $25 fine. Subsequent offenses can lead to fines as high as $100, but nothing higher, with no incarceration. The amendment also prohibits Grand Rapids police officers and the city attorney from referring any offense under the charter to another law enforcement agency.

The amendment does not restrict county sheriff's deputies, State Police or federal authorities in the city.

Michigan's statewide statute says possession and use of marijuana - unless under the medical marijuana statute it is possessed and used by a registered patient or caregiver - can lead to imprisonment for up to one year and $2,000 in fines.

The Kent County prosecutor filed suit against the city, charging the decriminalization amendment was at variance with state law that prohibits a city provision from conflicting or contravening a general state law.

The Court of Appeals, in a non-published decision issued this past January, said the charter amendment in fact does not contravene the state law, it creates separate provisions.

If the city had passed an ordinance decriminalizing marijuana, that would have violated the law, but a charter amendment falls outside the state law's enforcement, it said.

Mr. Viviano, in his dissent, said the case presented, "an important constitutional question concerning whether a home rule city may, through its charter, encroach upon a county prosecutor's broad power to enforce state law."

The prosecutor is the proper person to decide whether to charge a person with violating state laws, not local police or city officials, Mr. Viviano said.

And since the court was not hearing the case, Mr. Viviano called on the Legislature to clarify the rights of police officers and prosecutor should they make an arrest under the state marijuana statute. Or, he called for the Legislature to amend the state's Home Rule City Act to include a charter action along with an ordinance as a provision that cannot contravene state law.

Mr. Markman wrote separately to say the case should be looked at to see if the charter amendment in fact both contravenes and conflict's with the state law.

Along with Grand Rapids, other cities that have decriminalized marijuana include Detroit, Flint, Saginaw, Lansing, Ann Arbor, East Lansing and most recently Portage and Keego Harbor.

House Retains Dickinson Wright For Whistleblower Lawsuit

The House is retaining Dickinson Wright to handle the whistleblower lawsuit filed by the former staffers of Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat.

Since the Department of the Attorney General is still investigating the matter criminally, the House retained outside counsel, said Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Republicans.

The cost of hiring the firm is unknown at this point, with the length of the proceedings being the main factor, Mr. D'Assandro said.

Ben Graham and Keith Allard, who worked for former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat and provided the evidence that led to Mr. Courser's resignation and Ms. Gamrat's expulsion, are

suing the House for violating their First Amendment rights and the Michigan Whistleblower Protection Act, and for invading their privacy.

Canvassers Continue Consideration Of Rebutting Signature Petitions

The Board of State Canvassers on Monday rejected two recall petitions and continued discussion on a request that the board revise its policy on how to rebut the presumption that a signature on a petition proposing a constitutional amendment or initiative legislation is stale and void if made more than 180 days after the petition was filed.

At the request of Elections Director Christopher Thomas, the board took no action on the request submitted by Jeffrey Hank in verifying signatures on petitions where signatures begin expiring. Mr. Hank is an attorney representing one of the marijuana legalization efforts who is urging the board to instead use the Qualified Voter File as a check on registrations.

Discussion on the request began earlier this month, and Mr. Thomas said Monday his staff has begun work on a draft policy. Among its provisions are to separate and identify all of the sheets that include signatures gathered earlier than 180 days prior to the date of filing from the remainder of the filing, and to attach a copy of each signer's QVF record to those sheets.

He also suggested submitting an affidavit by the individual who reviewed the signers' voter file records to assert review and that evidence had or had not been submitted to rebut the statutory presumption of expiration.

"What we're bringing forward essentially tracks what was attempted to be done in 1986," he said, referencing the year in which the policy in question was adopted.

Signatures in question would be able to be released to the board but not to the general public, Mr. Thomas noted.

Mr. Hank urged the board to consider tweaking the policy that currently prohibits address history from being available to the general public. And he said it might be difficult to attach a QVF to every petition sheet.

But he said the suggestions were still "a good step forward."

"I think this would go a long way to the purity of elections," Mr. Hank said.

But any changes would likely have to be made statutorily through the Legislature, to which attorney John Pirich say he was unsure "what the haste is" to resolve the issue.

"The Legislature has a lot of authority, and what I'm hearing is a system that's going to be a hybrid of a system," Mr. Pirich said. "I think we have to be careful when we come up with issues of this nature that we don't react to a single issue or a single component and have a clear understanding of the impact a proposal like this could have."

Mr. Pirich said he also had faith that this issue would be something the Legislature would be looking at very closely next year.

Board member Julie Matuzak said she would be interested in a way to solicit comments for the next meeting from those who work in the field or are involved with petition gathering, and Mr. Thomas said he had planned to already.

RECALLS DENIED: A petition to recall Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City) for "his votes on November 3, 2015 increasing fuel taxes and licensing fees," according to the petition, was rejected after its language was determined to insufficiently state factually and clearly - as is required by law - the reason for the petition.

William Bailey, the man who filed the petition, included Senate roll call votes on the road funding package that was passed that day in the Senate, but because Mr. Schmidt's specific votes on specific legislation was not included in the petition language, it was rejected.

Yet another recall petition by Detroit Pastor Angelo Brown against Governor Rick Snyder was rejected for the same reason. Mr. Brown was not at the meeting on Monday.

The petition, citing Mr. Snyder's failure to provide the city of Flint with safe drinking water in 2015, was Mr. Brown's second of three attempts to recall the governor (another attempt by Mr. Brown failed earlier this month, and yet another attempt will likely be heard at the board's next meeting).

CALIFORNIAN FILES TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT: San Diego businessman Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente has filed to run as a Democratic presidential nominee in Michigan by way of submitting nominating or qualifying petitions. Mr. De La Fuente submitted 20,166 signatures at the end of last week, according to his affidavit.

Mr. Thomas said his office is in the process of canvassing those petitions.

Campaign Notes: Trump Returning To Michigan

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump will make his second appearance in Michigan as a presidential candidate next week, visiting Grand Rapids.

Mr. Trump will speak at the Deltaplex Arena and Conference Center at 7:30 p.m., December 21.

CLEMENTS VIDEO: Paul Clements, the Democrat challenging U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph) in the 6th U.S. House District, released a new video Monday discussing his positions on the economy.

"Here in Southwest Michigan, we've been seeing declining wages," Mr. Clements said in the video. "It's because the deck is stacked in favor of the big corporations and against the small and medium sized businesses because it's the big corporations that are buying the politicians."

He called for a tax structure that would favor small business.

He also urged more participation in the Peace Corps. "The Peace Corps is a way for Americans to go and provide service in developing countries and work together to figure out what the challenge is and how we overcome that and how we work together," he said. "And that's the same spirit of cooperation and working together that we need for our broader economy."

MICHIGAN NOW ENDORSES ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BALLOT PROPOSAL: The Michigan National Organization for Women said Monday it is backing the proposal from Fair Michigan expanding the state's anti-discrimination protections by extending the existing constitutional prohibition on the denial of civil or political rights based on race, religion, color or national origin to sexual orientation, gender and gender identity.

"People just assume that women's rights are guaranteed and that discrimination is illegal," said Michigan NOW President Danielle Troia. "Unfortunately, that's not the case. I firmly believe that the people of Michigan want women to be treated fairly and that they will vote for the Fair Michigan ballot initiative."

While most of the focus on the proposal has centered on its expansion of protections for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons, it also would extend to gender.

Capital Notebook

HOUSE MEETING EARLIER WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY: The House has changed its schedule this week and will meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

LIBRARY HOURS: The Library of Michigan is expanding its hours effective January 9, the Department of Education announced Monday.

The main library will be open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Currently, the library is open only the second Saturday of the month.

ROADS PLAN: The Department of Transportation is seeking public comment on its 2016-20 transportation plan.

The updates to the plan are posted at www.michigan.gov/mdot5yearplan.

Comments are being accepted through January 9 to Geralyn Ayers, Department of Transportation, Environmental Services Section, P.O. Box 30050, Lansing, MI 48909, ayersg@michigan.gov, (517) 373-2227 or (517) 335- 5696 (FAX).

ROAD WATCHERS: The department is also looking for people to tell it how the roads look in the northern Lower Peninsula this winter.

Essentially, the volunteers would call in between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. to report on road conditions of major thoroughfares in the regions north of M-55. Department officials said the information would help them more effectively deploy resources.

Those interested can get more information at www.michigan.gov/roadwatchers.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, December 15

Administrative Board/Finance and Claims Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Special Meeting)

Indigent Defense Commission, Third floor, 200 North Washington Square, Lansing, 1 p.m. (Agenda)

Wednesday, January 6

Criminal Justice Policy Commission, Senate Appropriations Room, Third Floor, Capitol, Lansing, 9 a.m.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, December 15

Senate Local Government (Committee Record) **(Chr. Zorn, 373-5323), 100, Farnum Building, 9:30 a.m.**

HB 4563 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** (Leutheuser) Authorizes contracting for services to assist victims of domestic violence.

SB 399 **COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY** (Schmidt) Clarifies limits on permit fee for a government entity or telecommunication provider working within a county right-of-way, and clarifies bonding and insurance requirements for telecommunication providers working within a county right-of-way.

Senate Banking and Financial Institutions (Committee Record) **(Chr. Booher, 373-5323), 100, Farnum Building, 11 a.m.**

SB 599 **RECORDING DOCUMENTS** (MacGregor) Revises fees for recording documents.

SB 600 **LIENS FOR LABOR ON OIL AND GAS WELLS** (MacGregor) Clarifies fee for recording and indexing a statement claiming a lien.

SB 601 **FEDERAL TAX LIENS** (Zorn) Modifies fee for filing and indexing liens and notices.

SB 602 **STATE TAX LIENS** (Zorn) Modifies fee for recording or filing and indexing liens and notices.

SB **MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACT** (Booher) Modifies fee for recording

603 or discharging lien in the Michigan employment security act.
SB 604 **SECURED TRANSACTIONS** (Hertel) Clarifies recording fees for mortgages that are effective as financing statements.

Wednesday, December 16

House Session (Chr. Cotter, 373-1789), House Chamber, 10 a.m., Webcast

- Calendar

Thursday, December 17

House Session (Chr. Cotter, 373-1789), House Chamber, 10 a.m., Webcast

- Calendar

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 15, 2015

News

Low-income workers must 'make it stretch' (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

Hillary Clinton campaign forms Mich. Leadership Council (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Report: Straits of Mackinac oil pipeline not necessary (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Mayor Karen Weaver declares water crisis state of emergency in Flint (Flint Journal, 12/15/2015)

Chief justice: State worker ruling unrelated to right-to-work (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Where are tax dollars most at risk? (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Lawmakers to argue energy overhaul, data center tax breaks in last week of 2015 (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

Long-shot Dem seeks ballot access in Michigan primary, Donald J. Trump adds middle initial (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Detroit ranks No. 2 in Affordable Care Act contest (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Donald Trump returns to Michigan for rally next week (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Election board rejects recall petition against Snyder (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Gov. Snyder 'open' to ending EAA school reform (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Editorials

The forest-loving Farm Bill at 25 (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

New bills boost legislators' attack on democracy (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Editorial: Body camera footage is public (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Worse than Citizens United (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

As Legislature considers medical marijuana proposals, facts must overcome fiction, myths (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Rick Haglund: Michigan business tax incentives here to stay — for now (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Courser-Gamrat scandal now threatens to take down House GOP in 2016 (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Blogs

Even The Oversight Chair Can (Unofficially) Lose Control Of Time (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/14/2015)

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Volume #54, Report #246 -- Wednesday, December 16, 2015

GOP Muscles Through End To Straight Ticket Option

The Republican legislative majorities, in one of the more relentless legislative steamrollers seen in some time, powered to passage Wednesday a bill that would end the ability of voters to choose a party's entire slate of candidates with a single selection.

With final passage in the House about 10:30 p.m., SB 13 will soon land on Governor Rick Snyder's desk, and while the governor has insisted he has made no decision on whether to sign the bill, it would be an enormous shock if he did not.

It marked the last voting session of 2015 for the House and Senate, which called for the sine die adjournment to occur swiftly, at 11:45 a.m. Friday in both houses. Formal sessions will recommence starting January 13.

Two significant issues saw no action this week and will wait until 2016. In the House, there had been some talk of work on major energy legislation, but that petered out, and in the Senate, a bill to extend the sunset on the Health Insurance Claims Assessment remains pending on the floor.

Presuming Mr. Snyder signs the elimination of the straight-ticket option, it will end a mechanism that on the whole has helped Democrats more than Republicans, especially on the races for the statewide education boards.

And a Republican source said in addition to ending a key Democratic tool, it also would provide some defense to House Republicans, seeking to defend their majority this year, in the event Donald Trump or U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas wins the Republican Party presidential nomination. This source said voter recoil at the Republican candidate could prompt heavier than usual straight Democratic voting and cost the GOP its House majority.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) labeled the legislation "the Donald Trump is going to be your nominee and you're terrified bill."

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said, no, Mr. Trump's potential nomination was not behind the legislation.

"That was a pretty funny line, but I don't think it had anything to do with it," he said. "In fact, I'm going to call him and tell him that was pretty funny."

Mr. Meekhof said the bill is "a very progressive idea" that puts Michigan in sync with 40 other states that do not offer a straight-ticket option.

"We did a fair amount of checking on (the effect on voting lines)," he said of other states. "There was minimal to no effect on voting lines and things like that, so we thought it was the right thing to do. More and more people don't identify by party, so not having a party label on it was probably a good idea as well."

Left in the dust was a separate bill, HB 4724, which would have allowed voters to vote via absentee ballot for any reason, provided they picked up the ballot in-person at a clerk's office and with photo identification, and its champion, Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto). Ms. Lyons, the House Elections Committee chair, had insisted on the bill to alleviate longer lines and convinced her House Republican colleagues to tie-bar it to the elimination of straight-ticket voting.

That upset the chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), a staunch opponent of no-reason absentee voting. The question going into this week was who would prevail, and there was no doubt Wednesday night that Mr. Robertson was the victor.

House Republicans cast aside Ms. Lyons' insistence on tying the two bills together and concurred in the version of the bill without the tie-bar on a 54-52 vote, the minimum needed for passage. But that was merely the capper on about five hours of wild action.

For much of the day, it appeared an effort by local clerks, who fear longer lines with voters having to pick candidates individually in each race, had succeeded in bottling up the bill in the Senate unless it contained the tie-bar to no-reason absentee voting.

Just before 5:30 p.m., Mr. Meekhof's spokesperson sent word to reporters on the Senate floor that the Senate would adjourn for the year in a matter of moments. The Senate moved on to Statements, usually a precursor to adjournment. Cheery Merry Christmas and Happy New Year speeches took place. Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) took to the microphone, with all expectations he would move to adjourn.

But then he moved for a "very brief recess." The recess was not brief. Sources said House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) decided he did not want the issue lingering into 2016, and decided to round up the votes for the bill without the tie-bar despite Ms. Lyons' position. On the House floor, as the inevitable vote neared, she looked displeased.

Senate Republicans, with their enormous 27-11 majority - which is functionally 28-10 given that Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) is so estranged from his caucus that he routinely votes with the GOP on key tactical matters - were at no risk of not passing the bill once they got rolling.

But they unleashed a fury of parliamentary tactics to minimize the Democrats' ability to attack the legislation. The biggest surprise, and one not seen in some time, was the move to clear the Senate floor of all staff, except Mr. Meekhof's. That left Democrats with no staff on the floor, and the Senate Democratic Caucus was furious (see separate story).

Democrats said the bill would lengthen voting lines.

"Straight-ticket voting has its place in our state," Mr. Bieda said. "We have a long ballot. People have the convenience of voting the way they'd like to vote. You shouldn't be going in there micro-managing how they're going to vote."

No Republican spoke to the bill in either chamber.

"Reforms have done away with political machines and party bosses. Likewise, we should open up the voting process and do away with their broken, archaic method of rubber stamping candidate slates with a single vote," said Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), the bill sponsor, in a statement.

Two top Republican strategists, Greg McNeilly and Stu Sandler, congratulated Republicans on passing the bills and said Democrats had overblown the issue and been hypocritical. Overblown because 40 other states have no straight-ticket option and hypocritical because House Democrats criticized the GOP for breaking the tie-bar to no-reason absentee voting, which they voted against earlier this month.

In the House, all Democrats also voted no and were joined by Ms. Lyons as well as five other Republicans - Rep. John Bizon of Battle Creek, Rep. Ben Glardon of Owosso, Rep. Dave Maturen of Vicksburg, Rep. Martin Howrylak of Troy and Rep. Philip Potvin of Cadillac.

Mr. Maturen originally voted yes on the bill when it passed last week. Rep. Dave Pagel (R-Berrien Springs) voted yes on Wednesday but voted no last week.

Ms. Lyons said in a statement she has supported eliminating straight-ticket voting because she thinks voters should choose candidates based on who they are, not parties.

"I have consistently cautioned that we need to be mindful of the impact this will have on Election Day, and that we need to provide tools - like offering Michigan voters secure no-reason absentee voting- to mitigate longer lines at the polls," she said in a statement. "Because this bill falls short of addressing very legitimate concerns, in the end I could not support it. I do not believe this policy alone is in the best interest of Michigan's voters, and it is unfortunate that the Legislature squandered the opportunity to enact good election reform that is not pro-Republican or pro-Democrat, but pro-voter."

Mr. Cotter did not speak to reporters following Wednesday's lengthy session. But his spokesperson said Ms. Lyons did not get "rolled" in the process of passing SB 13.

"When we put bills up, we ask if the House supports them or not, the House supported a tie-barred version and the House supported a version of SB 13 that stood on its own so we went ahead and supported the bill," Gideon D'Assandro said.

Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) said the bill was a bad bill when it cleared the House last week, and its only saving grave was its link to HB 4724, "secure" no-reason absentee voting.

"If we want to be responsible legislators the answer is clear, we have to vote against Senate changes to SB 13," she said.

House Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) said many Republicans told him when the bill originally passed last week, linked to no-reason absentee, that at least they tie-barred it.

"Where is that conviction my friends? I don't see that here today," he said. "I ask you and my colleagues from across the aisle to stand with your original conviction and vote this down."

Snyder: Inaction Could Leave DPS In Judge's Hands

If the state is unable to restructure the Detroit Public Schools in the early part of 2016, the possibility exists that one or more school district creditors could take DPS to court over unpaid bills, Governor Rick Snyder said Wednesday.

Mr. Snyder has announced two plans for the district this year, one in April and one in the fall, both containing the same core principles - breaking the district into two, with an old district carrying the debt and a new one to run educational operations. The 18-mill property tax applied to non-principal residences in the city would, instead of going to the School Aid Fund for all school districts, become dedicated to paying down DPS's $715 million debt.

But both landed with a thud in the Legislature. Republicans recoiled at the use of $715 million over 10 years from the School Aid Fund, and Democrats said the plan needs to return power to an elected school board sooner. Despite several projections the bills would be introduced "soon," that has yet to happen.

"This is a case where, with a school district if you have major creditors, creditors could take them to court and you can end up in a situation where then a judge could potentially even appoint a receiver or do other solutions that would move from a proactive solution to a reactive solution that could have negative financial consequences beyond the school district," Mr. Snyder said in an interview with Gongwer News Service.

Exactly when the district could face such a scenario is unclear, Mr. Snyder said, because there is no telling when a creditor might decide to go to court. Mr. Snyder said he believes several legislators understand the risks of inaction. But "it would be really helpful" to complete legislation by March, he said.

Asked if he was confident the Legislature would act, Mr. Snyder said, "The goal is clearly to take legislative action, and I think there's a reasonable opportunity to see that get done."

GOVERNOR NONCOMMITTAL ON DATA CENTERS: Mr. Snyder said he has not decided whether to sign legislation (SB 616 and SB 617) soon to land on his desk that would exempt collocated data centers from the sales and use taxes.

Lt. Governor Brian Calley, sources have said, was heavily involved in the negotiations on the bill, but Mr. Snyder said until he gets a chance to see what the final bill looks like, he cannot commit to a decision on legislation.

Mr. Snyder did say of the legislation that "a lot of discussion and progress (was) made." But he also pushed back for the first time against criticism that signing the bills would be hypocritical because he has strongly opposed targeted tax breaks.

"I do emphasize to people this is not a tax credit because I've had people say, 'Well governor we know you don't like tax credits,'" he said. "Well this is not a tax credit situation. This is an exemption for a category just like there are a number of exemptions for sales and use tax."

Mr. Snyder said he is researching whether data centers are a cyber equivalent of the industrial processing exemption when customers pay sales tax on the finished good.

"Is this an expansion of something that already exists reflecting the new world versus saying this is fundamentally like an outlier?" he said.

SNYDER URGES DISTRICTS TO PLAN LONG-TERM ON ENROLLMENT: The slow boil continues among K-12 public school leaders for a serious effort to overhaul school finance given that enrollment is declining statewide and, with funding following students under Proposal A of 1994, less money will flow into the School Aid Fund as a result.

Even as the state has put more money into K-12 schools overall in recent years, many districts with relatively flat or declining enrollments are hurting financially. Mr. Snyder said it is indeed challenging.

But he put the issue back on the school districts to an extent and said they should plan years in advance on enrollment.

"I don't want to oversimplify, but assuming you get (the students) when they're 5 years old or so, you had potentially four or five years to help figure out what's going on in your community to help you plan," he said. "And so that's one of the questions, how many school districts actually have an effective planning model to look out that many years because if you have a longer time horizon you can more effectively manage?"

Mr. Snyder said much the same as he always has on the topic of school finance: "At some point we could get into the broader questions of school finance, but I'm not teeing that up at this time."

FAIR MICHIGAN PROPOSAL: Mr. Snyder offered no opinion on the ballot proposal to expand the state's anti-discrimination protections by extending the existing constitutional prohibition on the denial of civil or political rights based on race, religion, color or national origin to sexual orientation, gender and gender identity.

Mr. Snyder said he would reiterate his call to the Legislature "to do Elliott-Larsen," referring to the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, the statute that prohibits discrimination based on race, sex,

religion, age and other classes in housing, employment and public accommodations. Efforts to broaden that law to sexual orientation and gender identity have gone nowhere in the conservative Legislature.

"I've got enough issues and priorities I'm going to stay focused in on and people are free to do what they deem best in terms of their own efforts to do ballot initiatives," he said.

As to how he might vote on the proposal from Fair Michigan if it makes the November 2016 ballot, the governor said, "That's the beauty about going into a ballot box where you can just sort of make your decisions about how you're going to vote as an individual."

UNIVERSITY FUNDING: In less than two months, Mr. Snyder will deliver his budget recommendation for the 2016-17 fiscal year to the Legislature. The governor said it is "too soon to say" whether he will propose bringing all public universities back to the funding level they had before a 15 percent cut in the 2011-12 fiscal year, Mr. Snyder's first budget.

"I'm quite clear that, relative priorities, I would like to see it brought back up at least to what it was," he said.

MEDICAID EXPANSION/HEALTHY MICHIGAN: Mr. Snyder said he sees "reasonable progress" in the state's efforts to win a waiver from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services enabling the state's Medicaid expansion program to proceed. A decision is due by the end of the year.

As to what the state might have to consider regarding concerns that it will bump up against the trigger ending the program if it costs the state more money than it saves, Mr. Snyder said only that the concern would be it would create more pressure on the General Fund.

Of his original proposal to set aside savings from the expansion to pay for the state's share of the program, which will start in the coming years, Mr. Snyder said it was a "good idea," but "didn't work." Those savings were instead directed to other spending priorities.

FLINT WATER: Mr. Snyder would not say whether there was anything he has learned from the Flint water crisis, saying he does not want to prejudge the report being assembled by a group of environmental experts about what went wrong that resulted in levels of lead in the city's water requiring remediation and elevating blood lead levels in the city's children.

While the crisis "clearly is one of the biggest problems" his administration has faced, Mr. Snyder said his administration was proactive, providing free water tests, filters, blood testing and follow up care; returning the city to the Detroit water system; and encouraging overall lead awareness.

Meekhof, Jones At Odds On Medical Marijuana

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof is not at a point where he is willing to discharge legislation from the Senate Judiciary Committee that would create a tiered system of regulation

for medical marijuana because "then it becomes my problem to fix whatever people want to do or not to do," he told Gongwer News Service in a recent interview.

"I'd prefer that agreement be made before it comes to the floor. I wouldn't be their greatest champion," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said.

And he said he "may or may not" vote on the bills even if they are reported from committee.

"It's a really difficult issue for me personally," he said. "Not discounting the fact that medical marijuana has some medical properties and does do some things for people, but if it's medicine, how do we regulate and control it like medicine so it doesn't become recreational and other things that aren't beneficial to our communities?"

The revelation comes on the heels of a statement by Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) just one day before that he was hoping the majority leader would discharge the bills (HB 4209 and HB 4210) before the calendar year, but given the limited number of session days remaining, was hoping to see movement on the bills after the first of the year.

Mr. Jones on Wednesday said he was surprised by the majority leader's position.

"I can only repeat what he said, that there were too many issues this year, that he would look at discharging them next year and he's not necessarily supportive of the marijuana bills, but he would consider letting the Senate decide," Mr. Jones said.

The bills have not been able to come out of his committee because the votes are not there on all bills relating to medical marijuana regulation, but he believes he can get the votes on the floor, he said.

"There's no bills that I have the votes for at this time," he said. "I do think I have the votes on the Senate floor."

Mr. Meekhof said in his interview with Gongwer that legislation permitting the use of marijuana-infused products - the other medical marijuana regulation legislation Mr. Jones was perhaps referencing - may have even more of an uphill battle. Legislation to that effect in the Senate, SB 140, has been sitting in the Senate Judiciary Committee, and House legislation, HB 4210, passed the House in October and is also in the Judiciary Committee.

"Once it's baked into something, how do you measure the potency of it? If it's sitting around in somebody's house, how does a kid know that's a brownie he can't have?" he said. "Again, not saying it isn't effective, but when you put it in that form, is it really medicine? Could it be construed as something else?"

Mr. Meekhof said there hasn't really been a "wide caucus discussion" on the tiered regulation bills. Mr. Jones has talked a little bit about them to leadership to give the basics and allow people to start forming opinions and questions, but that's it, he said.

Senate Erupts In Straight-Ticket Voting Fury

Senate Democrats accused majority Republicans on Wednesday of trampling over Senate protocols in an effort to limit debate on controversial legislation to end the straight ticket voting option.

Sen. Steve Bieda and several other Senate Democrats were especially heated with their colleagues across the aisle on when, after hours of recessing and no voting, Republicans decided to vote on a bill eliminating straight-ticket voting at the eleventh hour.

The day in the Senate began as running through, rather quickly, its tentative agenda that had been sent out on Tuesday night after another 12-hour-plus session. By noon on Wednesday, the chamber had whizzed through that agenda and recessed until 2 p.m.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) after session on Tuesday had already indicated his caucus would follow the lead of Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee Chair Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), who was adamantly opposed to the tie bar included by the House of the elimination bill, SB 13, with HB 4724, providing for "secure" no-reason absentee voting, as bill sponsor Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto) has referred to it. The tie-bar was allegedly critical for the House GOP - it eventually reversed course and assented to dropping it - but never settled well in the Senate.

Several hours passed when the Senate returned from recess in mid-afternoon, and by roughly 5:30 p.m., Mr. Meekhof's spokesperson, Amber McCann, indicated to the press that the caucus would be waiting on another bill, SB 571, to come from the House, but would not do straight-ticket voting elimination that day. She also said the Senate would adjourn for the year, meaning the issue would not be taken up again for about a month while the Legislature was on break for the holiday.

And all seemed to continue heading in that direction too, as Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) made a motion for statements shortly thereafter. The statements from both sides of the aisle were generally jolly in nature, wishing best wishes to colleagues and complimenting one another on the professional tone of the Senate for its first year of most of the senators' second terms.

Mr. Meekhof, in his speech, even noted how the Senate had passed more than 400 bills together in 2015, many in a bipartisan fashion. Then just as it seemed the Senate would adjourn, Mr. Kowall asked for a "very brief recess."

The tone changed dramatically over the next three hours, and with it came creeping insecurities from straight-ticket voting elimination opponents that the bill would still come up.

First, Mr. Robertson called for a Senate Republican caucus. Upon emerging from it, Mr. Kowall then made a motion to concur in the House substitute on SB 13, and proposed amendments lit up the list of actions that would need to be fulfilled before taking a concurrence vote. Among those

amendments was one by Mr. Robertson that, as Mr. Meekhof suggested the night before, broke the tie-bar with HB 4724.

But first came an amendment by Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) to remove the $5 million appropriation contained within the bill (an increase the House included from the Senate first including $1 million), as well as an amendment by Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) to tie-bar the bill to HB 5114 making Election Day a state holiday. In the five minutes Mr. Knezek had to speak about his amendment, he spoke very, very slowly so as to ensure he would use up all of his permitted time (and delay further action on the bill).

PROCEDURALLY SPEAKING: Both amendments were defeated, and for at least an hour after that, Senate Republicans and Democrats dusted off their procedural rules books. Mr. Kowall had earlier excused Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) from the balance of session, which opened a can of worms when he then decided after Mr. Knezek's amendment to make a motion for a call of the Senate - which locks the doors of the chamber and forbids senators from leaving the chamber - and ordered that all Senate staff "except for the Senate majority" be removed from the floor.

That was a rarely, if ever, seen move that deprived minority Democrats of any staff on the floor. And that, as much as anything, triggered the furious Democratic response that ensued.

Under that call of the Senate, the sergeants "may arrest any or all of the senators absent without leave," which would seem to have included Mr. Green, and Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) fought for his inclusion in the call of the Senate and to be present on the Senate floor. But the rule does note that those senators allowed leave do not have to attend, and ultimately, Mr. Green was granted an excuse despite Mr. Hood's objections.

But Mr. Hood continued objections and "point of order" calls for removing staff from the floor and the eventual decision by Lt. Governor Brian Calley, presiding as the president of the Senate, to cease all further debate on SB 13. Democrats had about seven more amendments after the chamber adopted Mr. Robertson's amendment breaking the tie-bar that Mr. Kowall moved to be considered en bloc, forcing one single vote to wipe out all the amendments and prevent further debate on them, for or against.

And Democrats, especially Mr. Bieda (D-Warren), were fired up, especially when they requested to give a no-vote explanation prior to voting on concurrence and Mr. Calley told them they could "provide it to the secretary at any time." Mr. Calley would later explain that once the question on concurrence has been called, the no vote explanation has to be offered after the vote.

"This episode today is so embarrassing on how the Senate is handling itself and how the majority party is handling itself that you really truly should be ashamed," the normally mild-mannered Mr. Bieda said in his no vote explanation. "This is really disgusting. You restrict the ability of people to speak on amendment - it wouldn't have cost you much to stay another half hour or so to at least listen to some debate!

"But no, you decided to cut it off. You decided to cut it off, and it's a big disregard to each of the voters that sent each one of us up here. And they'd be ashamed to see this tonight. I'm sure they would be, because you have to be honest when you're dealing in this Legislature. You have to be transparent. We're fighting that. You're doing all the worst that you see in these banana republic(s). You're seeing fascist dictatorship. This is not something you do in a constitutional, representative democracy," he continued.

Mr. Bieda said he had never seen such an infringement on the right of elected officials to speak to an issue.

Mr. Hertel also spoke in ardent opposition to the vote and how it was handled.

"Well, I guess my colleagues on the other side of the aisle really enjoy irony, because the reason we were told this bill was important was so people wouldn't make strong, partisan decisions, and that's what everybody in this room just did," Mr. Hertel said. "We were told people should take the time to go line by line and consider each vote. And then you, in the idea of expediency, threw all of our amendments to one vote for yourselves. So I guess you guys get a straight ticket. So that's fun. Merry Christmas to the rest of us in this state."

Mr. Hertel ripped Republicans for talking just hours before about bipartisanship, the Christmas spirit, "and the strong work we've done together" that was "ripped apart in one night."

"I hope the people are listening. I hope the people get to see how you guys did this tonight. I hope they see that you forced us, all these amendments into one vote, and you won't give them that same opportunity," he said. "Everyone in this room should be embarrassed. You should be ashamed. I thought a lot of us had better relationships than this, but I guess I was wrong."

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) spoke to reporters after session about the ordeal, saying "it's extremely egregious when they rig the rules in order to rig the system," and that "that's really telling and unfortunate," he said.

MEEKHOF RESPONSE: Speaking with reporters after session, Mr. Meekhof defended the tactics his caucus took in discussion of SB 13.

"That was to focus everybody down on the task at hand, because people were tired and getting a little sloppy, so we just put people in their desk, make them focus on the task at hand, bring the noise down a little bit and get the work done," he said.

As to putting all the Democratic amendments together, he said, "Procedurally, we just thought that was the best thing to do, to move things on."

Campaign Finance Bill Clears Legislature Amid Confusion

Legislation establishing various campaign finance changes and codifying Department of State practices heads to Governor Rick Snyder Wednesday after both chambers approved the bill that

quickly became 41 pages longer through a floor substitute, causing Democrats to mostly oppose the issue.

The House adopted a floor substitute to a campaign finance bill that took the legislation from 12 pages long to 53 pages at the end of a nearly 12-hour session on Wednesday, causing Democrats to challenge the changes as not germane to the original bill.

SB 571 eventually passed the House 58-48 and then the Senate 25-12, sending the bill to Governor Rick Snyder.

According to House and Senate Republicans, the bill would prohibit public bodies from using public resources for communications referencing local ballot questions by radio, television, mass mailing or prerecorded telephone message 60 days prior to an election. That could have a major impact on the ability of local governments and school districts to say anything about local millage and bond questions.

It would also codify existing Department of State interpretations that identification and disclaimer are two separate requirements. The bill says the identification requirement includes the words "paid for by" and a disclaimer is in the same form but contains "not authorized by" or "authorized by."

The bill would also allow a candidate committee to use a contribution that is not designated for a particular election cycle to pay outstanding debts and obligations from a previous election cycle; eliminate February filing deadlines for independent committees or political committees; clarify campaign statement filing deadlines in the bill apply to candidate committees; and require a committee's statement of organization include an email address.

The bill would also require the Department of State to post on its website all "dispositive" materials regarding a complaint for violations and alleged violations within 45 days instead of 60 days.

And amendments from Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto) that were adopted to the bill outline that the treasurer of an incumbent judge or justice following their election or appointment is not required to file a written statement indicating the committee does not expect to receive or expend an amount more than $1,000.

The bill also clarifies an organization can include a request for a donation to their political action committee on the same form they request dues payments from members. And ends the existing requirement that employees participating in an organization's automatic payment or payroll deduction plan to the organization's PAC affirmatively assent annually to participate. Individuals would still have to provide their permission but the annual report would end

Those last components were the original content of the bill.

House Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) had originally challenged the floor substitute as not germane. The Democrats scored a win in a roll call vote on the ruling of the chair that it was indeed germane, which passed on a party-line vote.

Mr. Singh said the Democrats were not able to offer amendments because the substitute was not made available to them, rendering their original amendments useless.

"You are making changes. You are making changes to the way disclaimers are done. You are making changes to in-kind dollars and resources. These are important issues to the public," he said. "This could have been a bipartisan bill. As it was started in the process."

Geiss, Love 'Disappointed' In Caucus Punishment

Rep. Erika Geiss and Rep. Leslie Love are disappointed they were stripped of Democratic Caucus leadership positions in retaliation for voting on a bill other Democrats had opposed last week, the pair said in a statement issued Wednesday.

The statement came through Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit), himself an estranged House Democrat. Ms. Geiss (D-Taylor) and Ms. Love (D-Detroit) said they were stripped of their caucus titles and caucus staff support after voting yes on HB 4686 - sponsored by Mr. Santana. The bill, which would make it harder for individuals to sue municipalities over defective sidewalks, would have been a vote short of passage had the two lawmakers voted no.

"I am extremely disappointed with how this situation has played out," Ms. Love, who was caucus vice chair, said in a statement. "The caucus put me in the position of having to choose between the interests of my colleagues or the needs of my district. With this bill Detroit could save $6 million a year. That is money that could be returned to the taxpayers or used to put a few more police officers on the streets."

Ms. Geiss, who was the assistant caucus whip, said she never imagined she would be punished for voting her district instead of a caucus position.

"The Democratic Party is often compared to a big tent, where everyone is welcomed, but apparently the tent is shrinking," she said. "I find it distressing that the Democratic Caucus, led by Leader Greimel, would insist I choose following a caucus position over the needs of my constituency. I was elected to office by the people of the 12th District - (and) will vote in accordance with their needs. "

The bill would allow municipalities to use the "open and obvious" defense when being sued over defective sidewalks, likely making it more difficult for individuals to sue.

Large Democratic cities - Detroit, Dearborn, Lansing and Taylor - voiced support. However, a major Democratic player - the Michigan Association for Justice, the association of trial lawyers - opposes the bill.

Mr. Santana questioned if the motivation to oppose the bill came from his sponsoring the legislation. Mr. Santana was kicked out of caucus earlier this year and was appointed the minority vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee by House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant). He accepted the position with House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) hoping another Democrat would get the position.

"I think the overwhelming problem in my opinion is this: this is the fourth person of color who has been kicked out of the Democratic Caucus either in the Senate or over here," he said, citing himself, Ms. Geiss, Ms. Love and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit).

"And (these are) two African-American women, one of them is of Hispanic descent, who are being punished for doing (their) job," he said.

Mr. Santana also criticized the caucus for not taking any punitive action against Rep. John Kivela (D-Marquette), who is being charged under the state's "super-drunk" law after driving while intoxicated. He also said caucus members looked for reasons not to vote to expel former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat.

"If it was so difficult to do that to these two people who openly admitted to breaking all of these rules, then why was it so easy for you to remove (Ms. Geiss and Ms. Love) because they voted for a bill that directly benefits their districts," he said. "It's bizarre."

A spokesperson for Mr. Greimel has not officially commented on the incident other than to say the caucus does not comment on what happens within the caucus.

Gongwer News Service has attempted to interview several House Democratic members about the incident. All have refused to comment.

Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) was seen discussing the situation with Mr. Greimel late Tuesday night at the Capitol.

Wednesday, Mr. Johnson said he did not think punishment was warranted. That Mr. Santana sponsored the bill probably made it a "touchy subject" for the House Democrats otherwise the bill is innocuous, Mr. Johnson said. And Ms. Geiss and Ms. Love were voting for a bill with direct benefit to their districts, he said.

"But I think there's a bigger lesson here - they're freshmen lawmakers and if there is a protocol that they failed to adopt or abide by, I think it's a teachable moment for the Democratic leader, and I told him that, so I'm not talking behind his back," he said. "I think it's probably one of those moments he should probably take the opportunity to have an honest discourse with those members, but I don't think punishments are in order. Around here, you got to do something pretty egregious to be punished, per se, so I think you have to be careful with that, probably as much as you're careful with caucus positions because they can be prohibitive in some ways."

Mr. Johnson said he stands with the two lawmakers.

"I am supportive of both women and I think it's an issue that should be put to bed," he said. "The city of Detroit is asking for it and I think it would probably save us a lot of money in lawsuits and whatnot. And I want to be there for freshman members who are looking to earn their keep but to find their way in a Legislature that sometimes doesn't have enough mentors in it, and that's what I expressed to the minority leader."

Republicans are teeing off on Democrats on the controversy.

The Michigan Republican Party said in a statement representatives are elected to serve their constituents, "not trial lawyers."

"This kind of punitive action by House Democratic leadership against lawmakers who voted in the best interests of their districts is preposterous," said Sarah Anderson, communications director for MRP. "They are representing their districts and penalizing them for not voting in lock-step with their caucus demonstrates the House Democratic Leadership's willingness to put politics before people. This is another example of the lack of leadership from House Democrats."

And the conservative Michigan Freedom Fund said in a statement that Mr. Greimel has not taken seriously bribery allegations against Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) and sexual harassment complaints from a former staffer of Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit). A lawsuit was filed against Mr. Banks. No charges have been issued against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi though the U.S. attorney in Detroit has filed paperwork involving others in the case implicating her with accepting a bribe.

"Michigan would be a lot better off if Tim Greimel took sexual harassment and bribery as seriously as he takes his own ego," said Terri Reid, president of the group. "While we may not often agree with Representatives Love and Geiss, we respect their willingness to put their constituents above the feelings of political party bosses. Voters can only wish Greimel took his responsibility to the state half as seriously."

Civil Service Commission Approves New State Contracts

State employees will see a 1 percent pay increase and a 1.5 percent lump sum payment with little changes in their health care coverage for the 2016-17 fiscal year under the contract that received final approval this morning from the Civil Service Commission.

The commission made no changes to the contract that had been approved earlier in the month by the five state employee unions.

The overall contract lasts the traditional three years, with non-economic provisions effective January 1, but the parties will be back at the bargaining table next fall on wages and health care once the implications of the so-called "Cadillac tax" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act are determined.

The commission approved essentially the same pay package for non-union employees and allowed unclassified employees up to a 1 percent increase and 1.5 percent lump sum.

Commissioner Robert Swanson (D-Lansing) praised the two sides for reaching agreements. The prior contract cycle saw a number of items sent to the impasse panel that issued recommendations shifting health care costs to state employees. The unions had vowed this year to block such changes.

NURSES: The commission rejected a request from nurses at state psychiatric hospitals for a larger raise, but urged them to come back in 2016 with more proof for the need for higher pay.

The nurses had asked for a 4 percent raise as part of an effort to recruit and retain staff at the hospitals.

"You can't really pay enough to deal with some of the things we see," Cassandra Craig, registered nurse manager at the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital said.

But she said the difference in pay between the state facilities and private hospitals, combined with the work, makes it difficult to keep sufficient staff.

Carol Madding, director of nursing at the Hawthorn Center, said she needs 24 people each day to properly staff the facility. She said she currently has 20 actually on staff, which means 18 available to work on a given day.

Commission Chair Thomas Wardrop (I-Grand Rapids) questioned why the nurses, members of the Michigan Association of Governmental Employees and not represented by a union, are seeing shortages but the department is not.

He asked MAGE to work with its members to collect data to prove the shortage. "It would help me to have that data in front of me," he said.

Board member Janet McClelland (I-Lansing) urged the group to also conduct a wage survey of the area around the hospitals to show the nursing shortage is limited to the state facilities and that wages are contributing.

Al Quatrin, president of MAGE, said he would work to gather the requested information, but said much of it should be provided by the Department of Health and Human Services, which he said has not been tracking the issue.

"They don't want to know about this problem," he said. "They know it's going to take money to solve this problem."

Mr. Swanson urged both sides to provide the data the commission requested, but also noted that, should the board approve the raises, the state has to include those funds in its budget.

CLASS DUTIES: The commission unanimously approved rules changes designed to reduce the number of prohibited subject of bargaining complaints, but that union officials said would undermine some provisions of their contracts.

The changes to Rule 6-3.2 now include, "A collective bargaining agreement cannot confer exclusive authority to perform specific duties to a classification or bargaining unit."

The most recent dispute related to the change had been over positions in the Department of Transportation, where department officials had added a provision that some members of a unit covered by Service Employees International Union obtain commercial driver's licenses and potentially be trained to drive snow plows, a task assigned exclusively to a Michigan State Employees Association unit.

The move led to a complaint that included arguments by the department that assigning the task was a prohibited subject of bargaining.

Union officials said the rule change would leave it to the department management, and the commission, to decide what work fell to a classification.

"It might seem like an inconsequential rule, but to us in the bargaining unit, it's very significant," George Heath with SEIU said. "It appears that we are creating a patchwork, and it's not by the arbitrators, it's by the management of MDOT."

"We are not trying to undermine the authority of this commission," Peter Clark with MSEA said. "Our contract is meant to uphold those classifications."

Mr. Wardrop said in any case, it ultimately falls to the commission to decide who does what. "If it's in your classification to do a job or duty, shouldn't that be for us to decide?" he said.

GRANDCHILDREN: As part of the coordinated contribution plan adopted for non-union employees, family leave time is expanded to include caring for grandchildren. The commission Wednesday also released proposed rules that would expand that definition of family leave time for all state employees. The change is proposed to be effective January 3.

Franchise Bills Clear House

The House on Wednesday passed Legislation specifying that in franchise operations in the state employer responsibilities belong to the franchisees rather than the franchisors.

The bills (HB 5070, HB 5071, HB 5072, HB 5073, SB 492 and SB 493) would distinguish Michigan from a ruling made last summer by the National Labor Relations Board that franchisees and the franchising companies are joint employers of a franchisee's workers.

The first two bills passed 59-47, the second two passed 6046 and the final two Passed 59-46 and 60-45, respectively.

The ruling is one of the controversial business related issues nationally, and business lobbyists have been working on members of Congress to get them to include language in a required national spending bill that would block or at least delay the effectiveness of the ruling.

The ruling was issued in August, and under it a parent company could be responsible for ensuring the franchisee meets pay and safety requirements. It could also make a franchisor responsible for negotiating with any unions that might organize with the franchisees.

Court Rules For State In Issue Of Test Vehicles

Ford Motor Company could not claim test vehicles used in the 1990s were not subject to the state's sales and use taxes, the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday, reversing a finding the Court of Claims made against the state.

The court held that, under the law in existence at the time, test vehicles were considered licensed for use on public highways and were therefore taxable.

The state changed the sales and use tax laws in 1999 to make test vehicles exempt from the tax, but Judge Michael Gadola, joined by Judge Kristen Frank Kelly and Judge Karen Fort Hood, ruling in *Ford v. Treasury* (COA docket No. 322673), rejected Ford's argument that the 1999 act should be applied retroactively.

The case stems from an audit the state conducted of Ford that covered 1993 to 2001.

Ford filed its action against the state in 2009. In 2010, the Court of Claims found for Ford and ordered the state to refund more than $1.6 million when interest was added.

The two entities argued then over attorney fees, with the Court of Claims holding that the state had to pay Ford more than $112,000 in attorney fees.

But the appeals panel held the Court of Claims was wrong to agree with Ford that the test vehicles were not to be taxed.

While property used for industrial processing was not subject to the tax, before 1999 that exemption did not include test vehicles, the court said. Ford also argued the manufacturer plates only permitted the company to test the vehicles, but the court said the law did permit a vehicle with manufacturer's plates to drive on public roads.

Ford then argued it could not sell the vehicles to the public, therefore they should not be taxed. But the court held the tax law applied to any power or right the manufacturer had over the property, so using the test vehicles still subjected them to the tax.

In terms of the attorneys' fees, the court rejected many of the state's arguments against paying the fees and remanded the case for proceedings in line with its findings.

Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Ticks Up To 5.1%

With more people entering Michigan's workforce during November, the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 5.1 percent.

The October rate was 5 percent, and the national November unemployment rate remained at 5 percent.

Despite the uptick, November's jobless rate was still below the 2015 average jobless rate of 5.4 percent. The 2015 jobless average rate is nearly 2 full percentage points lower than the 2014 rate of 7.3 percent.

And the November 2015 unemployment rate at 5.1 percent is significantly lower than the 6.5 percent November 2014 rate.

During the month, 21,000 more people joined the state's workforce. The total number of 4.764 million people is the highest number recorded in 2015 and marks the fourth consecutive month the state's total labor force has grown.

The number of people working also increased by 15,000 in November, according to the Department of Technology, Management and Budget. That brings the total number of people working during the month to 4.520 million, which is 81,000 more people than were working in November 2014.

However, the number of unemployed people increased by 6,000 to 119,000. That is still 38,000 fewer people than were unemployed in November 2014.

The unemployment rate also increased in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn labor market to 5.9 percent, compared to 5.7 percent in October. However, the November 2014 rate stood at 7.8 percent.

Plus, 6,000 more people joined the Detroit area workforce, putting the total to just over 2 million, with 1.884 million people working. The workforce was still 17,000 people fewer than in November 2014, but the number of people working was 22,000 more.

The state said job gains were fairly well spread out across industry sectors during the month. Construction saw gains of 3,000, and manufacturing, education and health services along with leisure and hospitality services all saw gains of 2,000. Professional and business services did see declines of 5,000 people and government jobs were cut by 2,000 people.

Snyder Signs Bill Allowing Retired Teachers To Substitute

A bill that again allows retired teachers with a background in subject areas seeing a critical shortage of teachers to serve as substitutes was signed into law Wednesday by Governor Rick Snyder.

Years ago, the state enacted a law prohibiting retired school employees from returning to work on a contract or part-time basis. Some superintendents had come under suspicion of double-dipping by retiring, receiving their pension and then being hired back for essentially the same job on a contract basis.

But the law swept up teachers and that limited the pool of substitute teachers.

"Retired educators are a valuable resource," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "Having them back in the classroom will assist schools in filling critical shortage areas where their knowledge will greatly benefit today's students."

HB 4059 (PA 219) was filed with immediate effect.

Mr. Snyder also signed HB 4843 (PA 220) to protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing certain prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency. That law mirrors a similar existing statute regarding minors suffering from alcohol intoxication and takes effect March 15.

Capital Notebook: Colleen Pero Appointed Civil Rights Deputy

Colleen Pero has been named deputy director for the Department of Civil Rights.

Ms. Pero, of Laingsburg, has been a long-time top Republican voice in the state. In addition to currently serving on the Board of State Canvassers, she spent several years on the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board and has worked several Republican campaigns, including her own run for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. She also served under Attorney General Bill Schuette.

Ms. Pero officially took the post November 2, but it was not publicized until this week.

RECREATION GRANTS: The Department of Natural Resources announced Wednesday it had awarded $1.3 million in grants to local recreation programs from recreation passport revenue.

The department issued 33 grants for a variety of projects around the state. Twenty-five of the grants were for the $45,000 maximum the department awarded.

Among the projects was replacement of the glass and boards at the Calumet Colosseum, the oldest hockey rink in the nation; updating a mini-golf course in Ludington; improvements to the Equestrian Center at the Upper Peninsula State Fairgrounds, including addition of an information center for the trail starting at the building; and completion of segments of the Iron Belle/North Country Trail in Luce, Marquette and Ontonagon counties.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Friday, December 18

House Session (Chr. Cotter, 373-1789), House Chamber, Capitol Building, 11:45 a.m.

- Sine die adjournment

Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Meekhof, 373-6920), Senate Chamber, Capitol Building, 11:45 a.m.

- Sine die adjournment

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Monday Michigan Report should have said the Department of Transportation, in its road watchers program, would be emailing participants a survey on their experience commuting along the designated routes during the morning hours. Changes to snow clearing and other winter maintenance would be based on the results of the surveys.

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Click the ☑ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Thursday, December 17, 2015

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Volume #54, Report #247 -- Thursday, December 17, 2015

Feds OK Healthy Michigan Waiver

Michigan government got a Christmas present from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Thursday when the agency approved a waiver that will allow the Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion program to continue to operate for years to come.

Had the state not gotten the waiver from CMS by December 31, the program that provides health insurance for some 600,000 people in Michigan with incomes between 100 to 133 percent of the federal poverty level would have ended on April 1.

The waiver permits the state on April 1, 2018, to require Healthy Michigan recipients who have been in the program for four years to elect to either get coverage through the federal health care exchange or remain with Healthy Michigan and by following healthy behavior requirements have lower cost sharing. The cost sharing on Healthy Michigan for recipients could be as much as 7 percent of their income, but state officials said Thursday it is unlikely most people would pay more than 5 percent of their income.

Earlier this week officials, including Governor Rick Snyder and Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon, said they were confident the state would get the waiver, though as the days wore on state officials were clearly getting a bit antsy for the federal government to issue a statement.

The state received a letter Thursday notifying it that CMS had approved the waiver.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said the federal agency was pleased "we have an agreement with Michigan that will allow nearly 600,000 low-income citizens to continue to have access to quality health services. This agreement is consistent with Michigan's proposal and ensures important beneficiary protections guaranteed" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

In a statement, Mr. Snyder said Healthy Michigan - which was approved by the Legislature after an extensive political battle in 2013 and which then took effect on April 1, 2014 - had given Michiganders "the opportunity to improve their health and wellness by enrolling in health care coverage."

In passing the legislation in 2013, the Legislature required the state to get two waivers from the federal government, with the second waiver setting up the cost-sharing system in Healthy Michigan.

The 7 percent figure caused some concerns with the federal government and was subject to a number of discussions.

Mr. Lyon, in talking with reporters, said the second option will allow the state to focus more on encouraging healthy behaviors of recipients and following those behaviors will help ensure those recipients pay lower cost sharing rates.

Participating in the healthy behaviors means the cost sharing a client will face will not exceed 5 percent, he said.

And, under the waiver, if a person - unless one is considered medically frail - chose not to participate in the healthy behaviors, they will take part in the health care exchange where their total cost sharing is also to be 5 percent.

It would be very rare, Mr. Lyon said, that a person would pay more than 5 percent.

This will only affect recipients on April 1, 2018, who have been participating in Healthy Michigan for four years.

The news of the waiver resulted in enthusiastic responses from a variety of groups.

Rick Murdock with the Michigan Association of Health Plans called the announcement, "good news" for the state and said it brings the state closer to his group's goal of ensuring all persons have health care coverage.

Brian Peters, CEO of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, said the Healthy Michigan plan has helped residents who were previously uninsured "to access the care they need in the right place, at the right time and at an affordable price."

And Gilda Jacobs, president of the Michigan League for Public Policy said the group was "thrilled" at the news of the waiver. "This is tremendous news for our entire state," she said.

Snyder Appoints Hollins To Oversee Flint Water Efforts

Governor Rick Snyder, in response to preliminary recommendations from the Flint Water Advisory Task Force, appointed Harvey Hollins, the director of his Office of Urban Initiatives, to oversee efforts to resolve the water issues in the city.

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said the issue needed stronger oversight than Mr. Hollins could provide.

"Harvey is well-versed in the issues and the challenges faced by our cities and will be effective in this role," Mr. Snyder said.

He said his administration would also work on an Internet dashboard to display progress made on the water issue.

The task force is still working on its final recommendations, but members said they issued the preliminary recommendations - in a letter dated December 7 but released Thursday - to get some of the changes in place more quickly.

"We felt it was imperative to make these initial recommendations to help address the water crisis in Flint instead of waiting until our final report is submitted," Task Force Co-Chair Chris Kolb said. "We appreciate the prompt acceptance of our request for action by the governor and see it as a step forward."

Co-Chair Ken Sikkema also said the initial review presented "a distributing situation."

"While the Task Force is far from done with our work, the initial review has presented a very disturbing situation that will require many actions to help those that have suffered," Mr. Sikkema said. "We saw no reason to wait until the final report to make these initial recommendations. We also anticipate that we will made additional recommendations prior to the final report."

Mr. Ananich urged the Department of State Police, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to take charge of water testing, distribution of water filters and other efforts to control lead exposure in the city.

"Political appointees and public relations people are what got us into this mess, and they aren't who we need leading us out of it," Mr. Ananich said. "Anything less than a professional trained in emergency management or public health will not suffice."

In the letter, the task force said the governor's 10-point action plan was being implemented, but without measures to determine success.

"One primary concern we have at this point is that the current efforts appear to be taking place in the absence of a larger project coordination framework that measures results and clearly delineates responsibilities for continuing actions to protect public health," the task force said in the letter.

Task force members said the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services needed to set goals for the various efforts underway in the city as well as contingency plans if those goals are not being met.

The task force called for a single person or entity to coordinate the efforts.

Mr. Snyder acceded to that request for a coordinator in a letter back to the task force dated December 12. That also was released Thursday.

HICA, DPS, Energy Remain In Senate For '16

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof said late Wednesday he expects to take up an extension on the Health Insurance Claims Assessment as soon as his caucus comes back in January, but

two other huge policy goals will be competing for legislators' time before they dive head-first into the next budget cycle.

The House extended HICA into 2025 via HB 5105, but some senators have "some other ideas" on the tax that helps the state receive federal Medicaid matching funds, "so we weren't in a place where we could vote for it yet," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters.

Asked about the urgency given the current HICA tax does not expire until 2017, Mr. Meekhof said, "That's when we have the time. If we can pick those things up now, before DPS and energy debates start, I think that's wise."

But those last two items cannot be left on an island either. House members will be running for re-election next year, so as the year goes on, it will get increasingly harder to pass such major legislation in the Senate and expect to see the same in the House. And Mr. Meekhof conceded as much.

"It being an election year next year, it's probably less than half of the year that we have for things to work on," he said, acknowledging also that the process becomes further complicated by budget discussions beginning around February. "But we do have time in January that we generally don't have a lot on our plate and ... let's try to get the understanding of everybody what the policy issue is and what we could be doing, because most of it has still been in committee up until this point."

DPS: The struggle in providing funding for Detroit Public Schools to the tune of $715 million over 10 years was expected to see some more clarity with bills introduced before the Legislature left for the year, but that too saw too many hiccups to be made possible. Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart), who is leading that discussion in the Senate (and in the Legislature generally), has been tight-lipped about any kind of details on the policy in an effort to prevent it from falling apart before it starts, and that hasn't seemed to bother most people.

But Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) said that legislation can't fall by the wayside either.

"They're not ready because there's an issue with discerning where you're going to get the money from to pay this $715 million and a new situation called new public schools Detroit, or whatever it's going to be called," Mr. Johnson told Gongwer News Service in an interview. "That's the big issue.

"What cannot happen is we allow the clock to run out, and people, because of political aspirations in the next year, or just sheer reticence to support Detroit issues say 'well, we're just not going to do anything.' Then it gets to be blamed on Detroit, which is not going to happen, not on my watch," he said.

He said there is not just one version of the bills at this point either.

"We've had a lot of compromise discussions between ourselves and Senator Hansen, the governor's office. Everybody has been committed to trying to drive the same message, but then

there's been some hiccups where we've seen some things maybe being done behind the scenes with EAA and DPS perhaps looking to charter a number of schools without us understanding that, and that created a problem for us as well," Mr. Johnson said.

"It's a fluid process, and this is sausage-making, and it's ugly, and it's going to take us some more time," he said. "We'll have some conversations during the break and see if we can come back with a package people can get behind."

ENERGY: One area where the House is seemingly slightly ahead of the Senate is in the area of energy policy. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency collects plan-of-action reports from the state on its federal Clean Power Plan to reduce emissions, the question is how Michigan will respond.

The House Energy Policy Committee reported its version of how that future will look in November, but was unable to move those bills off the floor this week.

The Senate has been a bit slower to move. Despite advertising boasting a "Nofs-Nesbitt energy plan," Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) has been adamant about proposing his own plan separate of what House Majority Floor Leader Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton) is pushing in his chamber, and despite the two do have some similarities in certain sectors of the debate.

Some utilities like Consumers Energy will be shutting down numerous plants in 2016, but even so, the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator - which oversees the energy market for certain states, including Michigan - insists Michigan should not have to worry about a shortage of energy in 2016 (though there is some question as to how much sooner Michigan should worry after that). And Attorney General Bill Schuette is litigating the pressure from the EPA to conform to its Clean Power Plan.

Even so, both sides of the energy debate say Michigan needs to act sooner rather than later.

And while just about every member of legislative leadership will mark energy as a priority for next year, the question still remains where this major policy initiative will be able to fit legislation, debate and voting on that legislation into the big picture of 2016.

Schuette Bets On Bush; Talks Parole Changes, Statewide School Gun Option

In a wide-ranging discussion, Attorney General Bill Schuette on Thursday expressed confidence former Florida Governor Jeb Bush would win the 2016 Republican nomination and said he would be willing to look at a system that allows for easier parole so long as persons convicted of major felonies were not included and would back a consistent statewide approach letting people with concealed weapons permits carry in so-called "gun-free zones."

Mr. Schuette also said that he would think it reasonable for legislators to insist Detroit schools show academic progress if the state agreed to help fix its debt.

And when asked about what he had learned about the same-sex marriage court fight that led the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold that same-sex marriage is constitutional, Mr. Schuette said he was right to fight to protect Michigan's Constitution.

He also was coy when asked about fundraising activities.

Mr. Schuette met with reporters on Thursday to review the year and said besides the thousands of cases his office works on, he had been especially touched by an individual effort to help a woman who was victimized by sex trafficking. Mr. Schuette has played an active role with the state in changing its human trafficking laws.

He also said his office had helped collect more than $22 million in unpaid child support payments, bringing the total to more than $120 million since taking office.

And he and officials from his office also held 1,000 meetings at schools to talk about bullying and threats posed by students against others in the "Okay2Say" program, he said.

Mr. Schuette is one of the most prominent supporters of Mr. Bush for the 2016 GOP nomination for president, and despite Mr. Bush polling well below Donald Trump, Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz and Florida U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, Mr. Schuette expressed total confidence that Mr. Bush would hang on to win the nomination.

"For Jeb there is only one way, and that is up," he said. "There is no quit" in the Bush family in a campaign.

There is no one more skilled or qualified to be president, Mr. Schuette said of Mr. Bush. Mr. Trump is now riding a wave of support because there is genuine fear and worry in the U.S. because of the foreign and economic policies of President Barack Obama, he said.

But Mr. Schuette said he is anxious for the presidential primaries to begin to allow for the winnowing out process of Republican candidates. "They can't come soon enough," he said.

PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE: Mr. Schuette has also led opposition to proposals in the Legislature to allow for a system that would give many prisoners a better opportunity for parole upon reaching their earliest release date. The proposals are backed by a number of people seeking both to reduce the cost of corrections and help individuals get back into normal life.

Joined by numerous county prosecutors and sheriffs, Mr. Schuette has attacked what he calls "auto-pilot parole" as a threat to public safety.

However, in the round table, Mr. Schuette said he and his allies "would be open to a discussion about excluding violent crimes" from the types of offenses that could be considered for automatic parole. Mr. Schuette did not commit to supporting the proposal, but said he could be open to discussing changes.

CONCEALED CARRY: In terms of changing the state's gun laws to allow individuals with concealed weapons permits to go into schools and other areas now off limits, Mr. Schuette said he is an "NRA attorney general. I make no bones about it."

The proposal made by Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) in SB 442 would work best, Mr. Schuette said, because it would provide "a consistent approach across the state" as well as back up the Second Amendment.

Governor Rick Snyder has said he is opposed to the bill, a position he repeated to Gongwer News Service during an interview on Wednesday. Mr. Snyder said there has to be room for each district to make up its own mind on whether to allow for individuals with concealed weapons access to schools.

Mr. Schuette said that sometimes he and the governor have differences, but he still believes a consistent, statewide approach is best on the issue.

DPS: With Mr. Snyder hoping the Legislature will act on a proposal to help Detroit schools deal with its debt and restructure itself, Mr. Schuette said the focus should be on a school system that has continually failed its students.

If the Legislature votes to have the state help pay off the Detroit Public Schools debt, then there has to be assurance on what new outcomes will be had for the district, Mr. Schuette said.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE: During 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, ruled against arguments Mr. Schuette brought defending the Michigan Constitution's provision banning same-sex marriage and any of its equivalent. The nation's highest court held that same-sex couples had a constitutional right to marry.

Mr. Schuette repeated, as he had throughout the years the issue was litigated, that his duty was to defend the Constitution, all sections of it. Asked if he had learned anything from the decision, Mr. Schuette said what he learned was, "I did the right thing" in fighting for the Michigan ban.

FURTHER CAMPAIGNS: Mr. Schuette also was asked about fundraising he had done in Washington D.C. Some of that, he said, was for the Republican Attorney Generals Association, and some was for him.

Mr. Schuette cannot run for re-election but he is seen as a sure candidate to run for governor in 2018. Asked why he would raise money for himself, he said only that "I still got the itch." What he was itching to do politically, he would not say.

In other topics:

- Mr. Schuette said the investigation into former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat is ongoing, but that it should be completed relatively soon;

- He stuck to his prediction that the "days are numbered" for Enbridge line 5 under the Mackinac Straits, but he could not say when the pipeline would be closed or what would be a safer option to move oil and natural gas products. He did say there are ongoing discussions on matters such as increasing the insurance on the pipeline; and

- He did not indicate there would be any charges brought against anyone in regards to the Flint water situation, but his office would defend the state against any suits brought against it.

Snyder Says He Will Not Take Cabinet Job Just To Set Up Calley For Governor

If a Republican wins the White House in 2016, Governor Rick Snyder said in an interview this week he would not accept a job in the Cabinet to enhance Lt. Governor Brian Calley's chances of winning the governorship in 2018.

Speaking to Michigan Public Television for its annual "Evening with the Governor" program, Mr. Snyder showed little to no interest in joining the Cabinet of a Republican administration, but also made it clear he would never leave as part of a strategic move to let Mr. Calley ascend to the governorship to raise his chances of winning in 2018.

Mr. Calley has not said he is running, but expectations are high that he will.

"I'm not going to simply leave office to help with that issue because it's too important being governor," Mr. Snyder said.

And Mr. Snyder signaled a Cabinet post is not of much interest to him personally, saying he is aware every day that he has one less day in office.

"I have a responsibility to the citizens of Michigan," he said.

First Lady Sue Snyder also shed some light on the circumstances under which Mr. Snyder ruptured his Achilles' tendon in early January and how frightening the ensuing blood clot, which led to the governor spending several days in the hospital, was.

"It was a very scary time for all of us," she said, even saying at one point the possibility of Mr. Snyder dying crossed her mind.

The actual injury occurred after Mr. Snyder had concluded a jog on the beach and was walking. Mr. Snyder said he took too long a stride and heard a pop. Ms. Snyder, who had earlier advised him to ease back on his jogging, which he had just taken up, had been by a pool.

"All of a sudden I see him hobbling back. I said, 'What is going on?'" she said.

Mr. Snyder told her, "'I don't know, I think I ripped something.'" Ms. Snyder said she retorted, "I told you."

In the aftermath of the injury, Mr. Snyder, while at work, told Ms. Snyder his leg was swelling. Ms. Snyder said it became so swollen that his pant leg was taut around his leg.

"He says, 'I think I better go to the hospital, to the emergency room,'" she said.

Mr. Snyder during the interview said, when asked whether term limits should change, that the topic is "fair question." He said term limits could be made more flexible instead of limiting members to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate. For years, there has been discussion about a 14-year limit on total legislative service, but it has gone nowhere.

The governor, however, said the eight year limit on constitutional officers is appropriate.

Audit Cites DTMB For Lax Server Security

Auditors have found that most of the state's UNIX servers had not been properly secured, an audit released Thursday said.

The performance audit of statewide UNIX security controls, for the period October 1, 2012, through August 31, 2015, found that of 63 servers tested, 59 had vulnerable security configurations. And 47 of the servers had not had a vulnerability scan conducted in more than a month.

But auditors found the department was moderately effective at both implementing security and access controls on the servers and establishing governance structures over the servers.

The state operates about 950 UNIX servers, the report said.

The department agreed with the findings and said it had purchased software to automate security settings and regular security scans on the servers. It said it is also developing a process to ensure vulnerability remediation is assigned to the correct division.

Auditors also cited the state for not consistently using supported versions of the operating system and not timely applying patches. The department also gave too much control over the servers to the Agency Services Division, allowing the possibility that security measures could be circumvented, the report said.

On the operating systems, the department said it is implementing policies to require all agencies to upgrade to supported versions as well as automated patch management.

It also said it is working to better segregate duties among the various groups overseeing the servers.

Snyder Signs Epi-Pen Bills

Anyone operating an activity where anaphylaxis-causing allergens may be present has the ability under a bill signed into law Thursday by Governor Rick Snyder to make available auto-injectable epinephrine devices, commonly known as Epi-Pens.

The bill, HB 4438 (PA 221), specifically mentions recreation camps, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, nonpublic schools, religious institutions or sports arenas, but does not limit the law's applicability just to them. The law, which takes effect March 16, broadens previous law that limited access to school districts.

The bill enables those entities that stock Epi-Pens to have their employees administer the injections, provided they have undergone training, without risk of liability.

"Making Epi-Pens more readily available is a common sense way to protect those who have severe allergies," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "With this new law, parents can be more confident sending their kids to camp or on field trips without constant worry of a severe allergic reaction that could threaten their health."

Activists working to protect children with food allergies praised Mr. Snyder's signature of the bill.

"Kids and adults with life threatening food allergies will soon be a lot safer thanks to Governor Snyder and the state legislature," Lisa Rutter, the mother of a child with food allergies and founder of the Michigan-based No Nuts Moms Group, said in a statement. "Many parents know that their children suffer from food allergies, but for the thousands of parents in Michigan who have no idea their children are at risk, this new law could make all the difference in the world."

Mr. Snyder also signed:

HB 4594, PA 222	SCHOOL AID (McBroom) Expands shared time participation and reimbursement to kindergarten.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

HB 4790, PA 223	SCHOOL AID (McBroom) Expands counting of nonresident shared time pupils in membership to include kindergarten.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 400, PA 224 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Schmidt) Modifies liquid industrial waste programs.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 401, PA 225	HAZARDOUS WASTE (Stamas) Changes references to liquid industrial waste to liquid industrial by-product in hazardous materials transportation act.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 402, PA 226 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Schuitmaker) Modifies description affected document of false statement concerning liquid industrial by-product.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 529, PA 227 RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT (Emmons) Modifies relative guardianship assistance act to include a successor guardian provision.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

SB 530, PA 228 FOSTER CARE (Emmons) Modifies definition of relative and adds definition of sibling.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

SB 151, PA 229 DNA EVIDENCE (Bieda) Removes filing deadline for petition seeking review of DNA evidence.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

Garcia Bills Aim To Give Schools Autonomy In Calendar Setting

Rep. Daniela Garcia on Thursday introduced two bills that would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and prohibiting calendar items as subjects of collective bargaining.

The bills, HB 5193 and HB 5194, were sent to the House Education Committee.

"I've had the opportunity to speak with school superintendents and administrators throughout Michigan who have asked for increased flexibility at the local level," Ms. Garcia (R-Holland) said in a statement. "As the number of days of pupil instruction increases to 180 in the 2016-2017 school year, we must remove barriers for our schools to meet this new threshold."

The first bill would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and require school districts to hold a public hearing prior to applying for a start date waiver.

"Parents, families and the entire community should be engaged in this conversation," Ms. Garcia said. "The ultimate goal is to ensure that our students are getting a quality education so that they are prepared to be successful and productive members of society."

The second bill includes calendar and scheduling items as prohibited subjects of bargaining and would provide local school districts autonomy in determining the calendar and schedule.

"I have faith in school boards and their superintendents to adopt a calendar and schedule that is in the best interests of students and parents, respects the time and talents of staff and adheres to state law," she said. "This discussion should be centered around our children's education and not be used as a bargaining chip by adults."

Runestad Wants President To Treat ISIS Attacks As Genocide

State Rep. Jim Runestad is asking President Barack Obama to declare ISIS terrorism as an act of genocide against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

Mr. Runestad (R-White Lake) said Thursday the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham's violent terrorist attacks against religious minorities must be considered genocide, which would enable governments and the United Nations to intervene more directly with more resources.

"A resolution was introduced in Congress urging the president to declare the atrocities to be a genocide," he said in a statement. "Southfield resident Bishop Francis Kalabat, head of the Chaldean Catholic Diocese of the United States, testified before a U.S. House Subcommittee on Human Rights, and is working to encourage states to introduce their own resolutions calling for a genocide to be declared. He fully supports my legislative resolution."

Mr. Runestad introduced a similar resolution in the House on Thursday.

"Christians have existed as a cultural group in the Middle East and have lived in peace with their neighbors for 2,000 years until now," he said. "Christians and other religions are being targeted and slaughtered as a cultural minority and we must declare this to be a genocide for the crisis to be stopped."

Capital Notebook: Smith May Not Go To Trial

Embattled Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) was in court Thursday for a pre-trial hearing on his case involving his alleged assault of his ex-wife and shooting at her Mercedes-Benz in May, and while there was no plea agreement announced, Mr. Smith's attorney told Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon it seemed both sides could "work something out."

The Detroit Free Press reported that Mr. Dillard plans to present a proposal to prosecutors before Christmas Day to see if a resolution can be reached before Mr. Smith's trial begins on March 7, 2016 (it was originally scheduled for December 7).

Mr. Talon, the Free Press said, ordered the parties to return to his courtroom on January 15 at 8:30 a.m. so he can be told if an offer to resolve the case had been made and whether Mr. Smith would accept or reject it.

Mr. Smith faces charges of felonious assault, malicious destruction of personal property of $20,000 or more, possessing a firearm during the commission of a felony and a misdemeanor for domestic violence.

RECYCLING CARTS: The Department of Environmental Quality announced Thursday it is accepting applications for grants for local communities to purchase recycling carts.

Department officials said the carts, as opposed to the bins many communities use, increase recycling rates and so would contribute to Governor Rick Snyder's goal of doubling recycling rates.

The DEQ is offering up to $450,000 toward cart purchases. Applications for the grants are posted on the DEQ website and are due March 31.

LATE ELK SEASON: Despite conditions, the late elk season was successful for the vast majority of hunters, the Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday.

The season, which ended Sunday, did not have the usual snow that allows hunters to track and see the elk, but still 46 of the 50 hunters were successful, the department said.

Appointments By The Governor

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT: John Mulder of Spring Lake succeeds Steven Roskos, who resigned, to represent the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. The appointment is for the remainder of a term expiring July 1, 2017, and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

ASPARAGUS MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD: Dwight Fuehring of Mears and Kyle Weber of Watervliet are reappointed for terms expiring November 13, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS: Kelly Mitchell of Grand Rapids is reappointed for a term expiring September 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

CITY OF PONTIAC RECEIVERSHIP TRANSITION ADVISORY BOARD: Doug Bernstein of Royal Oak succeeds Lou Schimmel, who resigned, to represent members with relevant professional experience for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

MICHIGAN BOARD OF OPTOMETRY: Sarah Kile of Gladwin succeeds Robert Perino to represent the general public for a term expiring June 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN CARROT COMMISSION: Nathan Karnemaat of Fremont is reappointed for a term expiring October 31, 2018. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION: Travis Weber of Grand Rapids succeeds Sally Durfee to represent the governor. The appointment is for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 18, 2015

News

Study: Rising lake temperatures may worsen algae blooms (Associated Press, 12/18/2015)

Detroit gets top score in ranks of gay-friendly cities (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Federal government approves waiver for Healthy Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Harvey Hollins tapped to lead Flint water effort (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

M-STEP results: Just 1 EAA 4th-grader passed math (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

MDOC restricts access to day rooms at women's prison (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Questions, answers in Duggan's Detroit demolitions plan (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

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Michigan Report for Monday, December 28, 2015

Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

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Volume #54, Report #252 -- Monday, December 28, 2015

Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Democrats saw "serious failings" of the system in an early report released Monday from the Office of the Auditor General on the state's ability to adequately address a drinking water crisis in the city of Flint earlier this year.

The report primarily consisted of answers to questions posed by Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) in a letter he sent to the auditor general in October during the height of the water crisis, but Mr. Ananich and Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) said in a statement that some of those answers "confirmed that Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the state was responsible for the decision to use the river as the city of Flint's primary drinking water source."

Mr. Ananich also said the results suggest that legislative oversight of the situation was best and expected hearings on the situation to be "high on the agenda" when the Legislature returns.

"What's clear is that corrosion control should have been used and there are serious failings in our system that must be addressed," he said in the statement. "Between the FOIA emails released recently and these findings, it's obvious that legislative oversight is the best way to see how all of these pieces fit together."

But the administration saw the responses differently.

"The letter from the Office of the Auditor General includes some criticisms, but also reflects that state officials were following accepted protocols, or in one case, an interpretation of the corrosion control program that the EPA later clarified," Dave Murray, spokesperson for Governor Rick Snyder, said in a statement.

"But we need to do better in ensuring Flint residents have safe water and tracking children affected by elevated lead levels. We continue to work with the bipartisan task force that is reviewing all the actions at the state, local and federal level and is expected to offer recommendations in a month or so. Governor Snyder is committed to working with Flint Mayor Weaver and officials on these issues," Mr. Murray said.

And DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel said the department agreed with the findings in the AG's review.

"The findings align with our internal department review," he said. "We appreciate the auditor general's work to provide a fair and well considered look at some key issues."

One key finding was supporting the DEQ's decision to drop the two samples with the highest lead content in its second six-month sample. That decision has come under withering scrutiny, but the auditor general report set it was appropriate under federal rules.

The report answered questions on how the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance ensures the data it receives is accurate - to which the auditor general noted two potential improvements for the Flint water sampling process - and what accountability measures are in place for office staff who fail to follow data verification protocols.

"DEQ does not provide any direct oversight over the Flint Water Treatment Plant (Flint WTP) and, therefore, does not have any accountability measures over the Flint WTP's LTR (Lead Copper Rule) data verification protocols," the report indicated. "We did not identify any instances in which ODWMA staff failed to verify that submitted samples were certified by the Flint WTP."

On accountability measures in place for Drinking Water staff who lie or misrepresent information, the auditor general noted only one e-mail exchange between the DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency that appeared to be a "significant contributor" to the concern that the DEQ misrepresented information to the EPA.

"The EPA requested clarification on February 26, 2015 regarding the type of optimized corrosion control **treatment** (their emphasis) the Flint WTP was using. DEQ responded on February 27, 2015 that the city had an optimized corrosion control **program** in place, but DEQ did not provide any program details," the report outlined. "DEQ informed us that the Flint WTP corrosion control **program** included performing lead and copper monitoring for two consecutive six-month periods to determine whether corrosion control **treatment** would be necessary in the future.

"However, it appears the EPA interpreted corrosion control **program** to mean that corrosion control **treatment** was being performed," the audit stated.

Still, based on its review of numerous e-mails, the auditor said it had no specific reason to believe the DEQ willfully misrepresented the information to the EPA.

But Democrats pointed out other issues: In response to the question about whether corrosion control treatment should have been maintained when the switch for the water source was made to the Flint River, the AG letter concludes, "We believe that corrosion control treatment should have been maintained," Democrats noted.

And with regard to how the decision was made about using the Flint River as the primary drinking water source, the letter states, "Although the Flint City Council voted in March 2013 in support of moving to the KWA (Karegnondi Water Authority) pipeline, the vote was silent on the use of Flint River water as a temporary drinking water source," Democrats said.

"This is another example of how the state failed initially, and continues to fail by not treating this situation like the emergency it is," Mr. Neeley said in a statement. "We need answers, we need action, and we need them sooner rather than later."

The full report on the ODWMA within the DEQ is not expected until late February.

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Testing for childhood lead exposure has not typically included water tests, so when Flint-area physicians earlier this year reported children with higher concentrations of lead, the state had to look at what could cause it, Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon said in an interview. And when it was clear the increased levels correlated with the city's switch to water from the Flint River, the state almost immediately took action, he said.

Mr. Lyon also said finding ways of reducing exposure to lead has been a priority of his and the department. The almost unique circumstances surrounding the Flint situation, "is not my issue," Mr. Lyon said. "My issue is how do I reduce the exposure to lead in children of Flint? That's the immediate concern, and then the next concern is, what sort of interventions are needed in the future?"

In one sense, trying to anticipate what future interventions are needed ties into a theme Mr. Lyon stressed repeatedly in the interview, which was how to make the Department of Health and Human Services more pro-active and preventative-oriented to help prevent issues from arising.

If, for example, the department can help a family that appears to have problems before a child is abused or neglected, then the child and the family both are spared traumas that could have dramatic effects years later, and the state will save the cost of the intervention system it has to go through, he said.

Mr. Lyon has also overseen the integration and adjustment of the department - a merger of the former departments of Community Health and Human Services - through 2015 and said it had forced him to "drink from the fire hose" as he familiarized himself with all the programs offered and the people who worked for the combined department.

And one of the things he found that impressed him most was the "trust and optimism the employees of both agencies displayed in a great period of uncertainty" that "really gave me a belief we could accomplish a lot," he said.

In looking back at the year, the Flint water situation was not initially something anticipated.

The city in 2014, then under an emergency manager, decided to switch its water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department system as Flint worked on its own water system that would draw water from Lake Huron. As a cost savings measure, the city moved to have its water come from the Flint River in the interim.

Officials in the Department of Environmental Quality said the water had met requirements for safety. And while almost immediately residents complained about the taste, the smell and the appearance of the water, state officials insisted the water was safe.

But DEQ officials, speaking on background, have acknowledged that the department did not anticipate the effects the water could have on the antique plumbing systems, causing them to leach lead.

That was also not something DHHS had anticipated, Mr. Lyon said. DHHS was brought into the controversy late, and specifically because of the issue of whether children exposed to the water were seeing increased lead levels.

Typically, children are exposed to lead in houses with old lead-based paint that chips and flakes and is consumed by children. They are also exposed to lead in the overall environment. Mr. Lyon said typically lead levels rise in the summer when doors and windows are opened more, releasing chips of paint, and kids are playing outside more.

Plus, data on lead level exposure is kept on a county level.

DHHS did not anticipate an issue with lead in water due to antique pipes, Mr. Lyon said. And that proves to be a lesson to the state, he said: When issues of lead exposure come up it may mean the state will also have to check plumbing systems in older houses.

Nor did the state see any significant changes in lead exposure in county data from Genesee County, he said.

But Flint-area physicians were reporting higher lead levels in children from the area. "We are never dismissive of the data," Mr. Lyon said. "Data is data."

While saying that now, a department spokesperson told The Flint Journal in September the state had better data than Hurley Medical Center on the question of lead exposure. That spokesperson did say at the time the department was reviewing the Hurley data.

When the state got the reports of the higher lead levels in Flint, DHHS scientists had to look at it. That research showed higher levels in the ZIP Codes where the affected children lived.

And that evidence led to state action. Once he had spoken to the Executive Office about the findings, it began to take steps to reconnect the city to the Detroit system, ensure water filters were distributed and began doing additional testing of exposed children and adults.

In terms of better coordinating services a family or individual may be eligible for, local departments will also play a big role with the state in meeting individual needs, Mr. Lyon said. That will mean overall improved communications between the state and local departments, all with an eye towards recognizing that both agencies are serving the same people.

PROACTIVITY AND COMPACT DEPARTMENT: When the merger of DHS and DCH was announced a year ago, Mr. Lyon - then newly on the job as director of DCH - said he wanted to improve overall coordination to ensure a family had easier access to all the services it was entitled to. Some of that already was in the works because there is a large degree of overlap in people who need both food assistance and Medicaid.

But in terms of having the department take on a more proactive attitude, Mr. Lyon said he hopes to find a way "to use our caseworkers more like success coaches." That will take some work in both the state and local offices, as well as getting buy-in from the federal government "to say what can we do when those individuals walk in the door, what can we learn from them and what do they need a self-determination aspect to be successful and how do we craft that person's needs" with available programs.

In addition, given the state's budget situation which will likely prevent his being able to add personnel, finding ways of helping individuals off the system could go a long way to reducing what Mr. Lyon acknowledged were dramatic caseload levels. Caseworkers often find themselves with as many as 600 to 800 cases to handle.

And by helping those individuals work their way out of programs, that would eventually reduce the overall cost of the programs to the state, he said.

As currently structured, state programs are designed to be reactive, Mr. Lyon said. Taking the example of an abused child, Mr. Lyon said the state will get a report of an incident, investigate the incident, if needed put the child in a foster care situation, if needed search out a permanent placement and, again if needed, involve the courts. All those are reactions, Mr. Lyons said.

But if the state gets a tip of problems brewing, it can do nothing unless there is an actual incident of abuse or neglect. That means a child has to suffer a trauma that could have both dramatic effects on his or her physical and mental health in later years, as well as expose the family to trauma and stigma, he said.

Getting a more proactive approach will require federal government approval to shift funding - and Mr. Lyon said he is working on that - that would look at those at-risk families and try to see if there are services they need to help ensure that "initial mistake or event never happens. If you talk to most parents they don't want to abuse their children or neglect this child. I believe that to the core, and if we can find that family and teach them the skills necessary to prevent something bad from happening" again it will save money, he said, but more importantly prevent the trauma both the child and family can experience.

Asked if that would not draw criticisms of the state acting as Big Brother for these families, Mr. Lyon said he would hope the families would understand and accept why the help is being offered.

"If I can prevent something bad from happening to a child that will impact that child for the rest of their lives, that is something I am willing to save from happening," Mr. Lyon said.

Being proactive applies to other areas. Asked, for example, if the state would need to look at reopening the now closed Maxey juvenile justice center, Mr. Lyon said the state should have the capacity needed to deal with youth in legal trouble.

More importantly, he said, is to find ways to help those kids before they get in trouble. Many have behavioral health issues, Mr. Lyon said, "and what are we doing to make sure they are getting the treatment they need? ... Warehousing them in a jail or juvenile facility, I don't think that's right thing to do."

Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

It was a whirlwind of a 2015 for Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who not only saw some ups and downs within his own caucus, but also had to deal with emergency appropriations for a Third World-like water emergency in his hometown this year.

And despite the last-minute push from legislative Republicans to pass major election-related reforms late at night during last two session days of the year, Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said he remains optimistic that his caucus will be united and his relationship with Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) will still be cordial in 2016.

The Senate adjourned late on December 17, passing very little legislation except a couple of major election-related bills and recessing most of the day otherwise. At one point, it seemed like the elimination of straight ticket voting (SB 13), one of those reforms, would be shelved until next year, as speeches of good holiday cheer and well wishes filled the Senate chamber. Both Mr. Ananich and Mr. Meekhof complimented their colleagues on their professionalism for the first year of the new term. And in an interview with Gongwer News Service, the tone was no different.

"The relationship between me and Arlan and our staffs is something that's very strong, and I want to continue that," Mr. Ananich said in an interview on December 17, prior to those controversial elections bills passing. "For 2016, I want to see the Democrats, my caucus and the chamber as a whole doing things in a bipartisan way."

Roughly four hours later, that couldn't have been further from reality, as predominately Republicans eliminated straight ticket voting and substituted what was previously a bipartisan bill (SB 571) for a more divisive one that opponents worry will significantly affect local government and its ability to communicate to citizens about ballot questions (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 16, 2015)

Asked after session if what he viewed as a good, professional relationship with the majority leader may have gone a bit awry with that legislation, Mr. Ananich seemed changed, but not entirely.

"We're going to stand up and have aggressive and robust debates about things and do it in a professional way. We're going to win some and we're going to lose some," he told reporters. "We

think our values are right and their values are wrong, and this is one of those opportunities, but that doesn't change the fact we're going to do it in a professional way. We're still going to fight for what we think we're right, and that's what we did tonight."

And it wasn't the first adversity Mr. Ananich had faced, of course. Earlier in the year, Republicans passed legislation to repeal the state's prevailing wage law. Around the same time, Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) was involved in an incident with his ex-wife that is still playing out in court with potentially felonious implications. Then the Flint clerk told candidates for the mayoral race the wrong deadline to submit their paperwork, requiring a very quick fix in the Legislature or else a costly write-in campaign for most candidates.

And another, more serious situation was developing in his hometown involving lead in the water that would spur numerous headlines in the fall.

To that end, Mr. Ananich said he was in contact with pastors and others working the water issues in Flint, but he was primarily working on the cost of the water initially.

"I heard of a lot of people that were having shutoffs, similar to Detroit, probably proportionally worse in Flint, because the costs are more expensive," Mr. Ananich said in his interview with Gongwer.

Then there was an E. Coli breakout, he said, and other issues, "but we were sure over and over again that this was it, we got it fixed," he said.

Then Mr. Ananich said he saw a report by the ACLU and read findings (sometimes in September) by Doctor Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech professor who has been following the Flint water crisis and recently alleged the Department of Health and Human Services had data showing elevated lead levels in Flint's water but delayed releasing that data to others for review (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 21, 2015).

"I really tried to get the administration and other folks to all come together and fix this problem, and then obviously we saw the administration's sort of denial at first, attacking individuals that were heroes really for trying to help solve this issue, and then they realized they were telling the truth and they started the ball rolling. I expected a lot more urgency," Mr. Ananich said. "I still think it's much more important to protect the citizens than to protect the reputation of certain departments, and I still see a little more of that than I do of making sure we're really addressing this issue, the urgency we need.

"But things are moving in the right direction. I'm going to keep pushing for more action and more tangible results for my citizens, but it's unfortunate it's something some of my citizens are going to have to deal with the ... generation maybe, depending on how bad it ends up being," he said.

In hindsight, Mr. Ananich said he couldn't really complain about the response from his colleagues in the House and Senate, but the administration and some state departments are a different story.

"I was very appreciative of the help with the money and switching back to Detroit, and now we're just going to keep working to make sure the kids get the nutrition they need and the services," he said. "The administration still, I think, seems to lack the sense of urgency that I expect, but they've done some positive steps in the right direction. They still have folks, Brad Wurfel for one, who are still making statements that aren't really true, I think, to the public.

"You can't say it's the faucets in the school. If it wasn't for the corrosive, poisonous water, we wouldn't have a problem. It's another example of trying to make it sound like it wasn't their fault as opposed to just fixing the problem," he said.

Mr. Wurfel, spokesperson for the Department of Environmental Quality, disputed Mr. Ananich's comment.

"The governor's 10-point plan includes an unprecedented look at lead levels in Flint schools, free testing around the community, free home water filters until we can be confident the system returns to acceptable levels, and a series of immediate, near-term and long-term steps to protect Flint families. We are doing the work and presenting the data as it comes forward," he said.

"I'm a department spokesman. I'm as good as the information I get to work with. And we've tried to do a very careful job of making sure folks in Flint get accurate information on this issue, because it is a very serious one for thousands of families. This administration acknowledged an error in October and has been working hard since then to partner with communities and deliver necessary resources to protect kids and families."

But Mr. Ananich did compliment the governor's task force - one of many groups reviewing the issue - whom he believes will come up with an "independent" analysis of the situation. The task force issued some early statements on what it saw as a "disturbing situation" (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 17, 2015).

And on Monday, Mr. Ananich and Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) got some answers they were seeking when the auditor general responded to Mr. Ananich's request for more information on what happened in Flint (see separate story). The auditor general's full response, specifically on the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance within the DEQ, is not expected until late February.

BIPARTISANSHIP AND DPS: Asked about his caucus goals for 2016, Mr. Ananich said they are similar to 2015: "to make sure we felt like a united caucus that stands up for the things we believe," he said. "I think we've done that. I think we showed a sense of professionalism and willingness to work together when we have agreement. I think the difference in the tenor and the differences in the House and Senate is obvious to pretty much everyone."

Mr. Ananich said he is hopeful his caucus and Senate Republicans can do more together, and there will be plenty of opportunities to do that, he said.

Among the policy issues are finding a resolution to the crippling debt of Detroit Public Schools, workforce development, skilled trades funding, education funding and energy law overhaul, the minority leader said.

"I think those are the kinds of things that would be best if they came out of the chamber with bipartisan support, and that's what I want to see us do," he said.

He said he genuinely believed Mr. Meekhof wanted to find a bipartisan solution on DPS, and putting Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart) in charge of the matter "is a very good step in that direction," Mr. Ananich said.

Democrats, especially within his caucus, will be looking for some form of an elected school board, he said, as well as ensuring that when all the debt is retired that there are resources available to provide a quality education for the students in the district and that the Legislature does not have to revisit such a situation again.

And he said he does not believe current teachers, staff or students should be punished in any way for the actions of others that led DPS into this situation.

"There's going to be a lot conversation going forward, and we'll find some things we want, some things they want ... but I think overall the package, if it's going to be successful, will have those elements in it and won't adversely affect other districts to the point that we're hurting other children to help DPS," Mr. Ananich said.

Though Mr. Hansen has kept talks about the DPS legislation tight-lipped, one thing that has so far been cited about DPS talks is a debate over governance. Mr. Ananich said some of those questions are about whether the governor, the mayor, or others should do the appointing officials to fix DPS, or whether they should be elected.

The minority leader said the Legislature needs to get "very serious" about resolving the matter around the first of the year because it will only become more distant and complicated when the state begins determining its next budget in February.

ELECTIONS: Though the Senate is not up for re-election until 2018, Mr. Ananich said his caucus will continue to help the House with its fundraising and candidate recruitment efforts for their 2016 election.

"The relationship between the House and Senate Democrats is the best it's been in a long time," he said.

But he isn't putting off 2018 for long either.

"Like I said before, the relationship between me and Arlan is very good, but we have a fun competition and we plan on being competitive in 2018," he said.

Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

The Supreme Court has ordered arguments in a case where a Kalamazoo County township has challenged an award by the Public Service Commission for an electric transmission line across its property.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, *Oshtemo Township v. Michigan Electric Transmission Company* (SC docket No. 150695), more than 13 months after the Court of Appeals upheld a 2013 order issued by the PSC allowing for the construction of the line in both Oshtemo and Almena Township in Van Buren County.

In calling for arguments, the Supreme Court said the parties should issue briefs on whether the state's Electric Transmission Line Certification Act of 1995 is consistent with the "first sentence" of Article 7, Section 29 of the Constitution.

That sentence reads: "No person, partnership, association or corporation, public or private, operating a public utility shall have the right to the use of the highways, streets, alleys or other public places of any county, township, city or village for wires, poles, pipes, tracks, conduits or other utility facilities, without the consent of the duly constituted authority of the county, township, city or village; or to transact local business therein without first obtaining a franchise from the township, city or village."

A date for the arguments has not been set.

Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

The last remaining bill awaiting presentation to Governor Rick Snyder, a hotly controversial one involving campaign finance issues, was formally presented Monday.

That means the last two remaining bills to win approval from the Legislature prior to adjourning for the year are now on Mr. Snyder's desk. Those bills would end the ability for voters to select a party's slate of candidates with a single mark on the ballot (SB 13) and enact a wide variety of campaign finance changes, notably barring local governments and school districts from issuing any communication regarding local ballot proposals (SB 571).

Mr. Snyder is out of state vacationing with his family this week, press secretary Dave Murray said Monday. Mr. Murray said he does not anticipate any bills being signed or vetoed this week.

Lt. Governor Brian Calley could make the signing or veto decision with Mr. Snyder out of state, but typically Mr. Calley has signed noncontroversial bills in which he has personally worked the issue.

Mr. Snyder has until January 5 to sign or veto the end of straight ticket voting. He has until January 11 to sign or veto the campaign finance bill, which also would prohibit corporations from collecting contributions to political action committees not affiliated with the corporation via employee payroll deduction.

Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

The Dow Chemical Company is disputing how the Department of Treasury calculated its tax credit under the Michigan Business Tax, filing suit in the Court of Claims on how the department applied tax credits.

In September, the department issued a notice of adjustment to Dow regarding its 2008 Michigan Business Tax return, decreasing its tax credit carryover from the 2008 tax year to the 2009 tax year by about $1.6 million.

The dispute concerns the order in which a business applies its credits.

Dow applied its credits "in a specific order," the company said in its lawsuit, including applying its compensation credits, investment tax credits and research and development credits before applying its Single Business Tax carryover credits.

The department, however, applied the carryover credits first.

Dow pointed to an unpublished November 2015 Court of Appeals ruling (*Ashley Capital v. Department of Treasury)* holding that compensation credits and investment credits take priority. Dow also pointed to a Court of Claims ruling earlier this month involving Dow Corning.

Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

A winter storm forecast to coat much of the Lower Peninsula with ice, potentially as much as a half-inch in some locations, prompted Governor Rick Snyder to activate the State Emergency Operations Center on Monday.

The major concern with the projected ice storm is the potential loss of electrical power. A half-inch of ice, coupled with the strong winds expected to accompany the winter storm, would likely lead to considerable tree damage and subsequent damage to electrical lines.

Mr. Snyder also ordered all state offices in the Lower Peninsula to close at 1 p.m. to enable employees to leave early with road conditions deteriorating.

The Supreme Court and Court of Appeals closed their offices early. The House closed its offices at noon.

The worst icing was expected to take place on the west side of the state with between 0.4 to 0.5 inches of ice forecast between an area roughly bounded by I-96, U.S. 127, M-55 and the Lake Michigan shoreline. The state's freeways were littered with traffic crashes by early afternoon.

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 29, 2015

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Mich. elections board to consider gay rights petition (Associated Press, 12/29/2015)

Should Wisconsin city get OK to tap Lake Michigan water? (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

State police probe sought in fatal shooting by officer (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Auditor General's report says Flint water should have gotten corrosion control (Flint Journal, 12/29/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition going before state board for review (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan criminal justice reforms, shelved in 2015, are on the radar for first half of next year (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name top accomplishments of 2015 (MLive, 12/29/2015)

State Rep. Gary Glenn named 'freshman lawmaker of the year' by news service (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Auditor general findings set off Flint water debate (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools slow to gain steam (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

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Black lives, Tamir Rice and America's uncivil history (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Election reform laws headed in wrong direction (Midland Daily News, 12/29/2015)

Helping our veterans in Michigan and beyond (Oakland Press, 12/29/2015)

Lawmakers reinforce contempt for voters (Petoskey News-Review, 12/29/2015)

Bieda: Bills would leave voters in dark (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

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Subject: Michigan Report, Tuesday, December 29, 2015
Attachments: Dec29.htm; 151229dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Tuesday, December 29, 2015

Snyder Apologizes As Task Force Blames DEQ For Flint Water Crisis

DEQ's Mishandling Of Flint Water Claims Wyant

Singh: Many Compromises Made On Bills Before Floor Action

Fair Michigan Petitions To Circulate Next Month

State Local Jobless Rates Fall In November

State, Local Governments, Schools Sought Nearly $9 Billion In Bonding

29 Workers Killed On Job In 2015

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Volume #54, Report #253 -- Tuesday, December 29, 2015

Snyder Apologizes As Task Force Blames DEQ For Flint Water Crisis

Governor Rick Snyder apologized to Flint residents for the failures of state agencies and called on the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services to reach out to experts on drinking water quality in light of additional preliminary findings of the Flint Water Advisory Task Force that put the primary responsibility for the lead contamination in Flint water with the DEQ.

Among the initial fallout of that report was the resignation of DEQ Director Dan Wyant (see related story).

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened. And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure," Ms. Snyder said in a statement Tuesday responding to the task force's second set of initial findings.

Mr. Snyder said the departments should ensure that the state is using the latest research in setting testing protocols.

"Let's share research on water and blood lead level testing so we can arrive at accurate and mutually supported conclusions," he said. "Together, we should work to affirm that we're using the very best testing protocols to ensure Flint residents have safe drinking water and that we're taking steps to protect their health over the short and long term."

Those involved with getting the water crisis resolved welcomed the changes announced Tuesday.

"Governor Snyder's apology over the Flint water crisis is appropriate, as are personnel changes announced today at the Department of Environmental Quality," U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint) said. "Through this ongoing crisis, the people of Flint did nothing wrong - they are victims of this failure of government."

Mr. Kildee called for a state fund to cover ongoing costs for Flint children exposed to lead through the water change.

"We're pleased that he is focused on trying to repair the situation," Kary Moss, director of the American Civil Liberties Union Michigan, said of Mr. Snyder's commitments to future action. "There is going to be far more remediation needed than has happened so far."

Ms. Moss also urged that any new panel of scientific experts have autonomy in making recommendations.

Chris Kolb, co-chair of the task force and president of the Michigan Environmental Council, said the DEQ did not put enough emphasis on lead contamination of drinking water.

"Prior to this, they did not see it as a major avenue or vector for lead poisoning," Mr. Kolb said.

But he said there is a growing body of research on the issue.

"We have been encouraging the administration to look to these outside experts as resources and to take advantage of what work is being done on this issue," he said.

The task force did not specifically call for a panel of scientists. It did fault the DEQ for not only its decisions, but for the philosophy behind those decisions and for its attitude toward those questioning them.

"We believe that in the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA) at MDEQ, a culture exists in which 'technical compliance' is considered sufficient to ensure safe drinking water in Michigan," the task force said in its letter.

And DEQ officials were hostile toward those who tried to point out problems with the water change, the task force said.

"Throughout 2015, as the public raised concerns and as independent studies and testing were conducted and brought to the attention of MDEQ, the agency's response was often one of aggressive dismissal, belittlement, and attempts to discredit these efforts and the individuals involved," the letter said. "We find both the tone and substance of many MDEQ public statements to be completely unacceptable."

Brad Wurfel, the DEQ communications director who made those public statements, also resigned Tuesday although he made no mention of the Flint water crisis in a statement he circulated to reporters.

The task force said, in addition to new information, the DEQ needed a new attitude toward its job.

"A culture change must occur within ODWMA," the letter said. "It must be driven by a mission that is aspirational regarding the role of the MDEQ in ensuring the safety and the quality of Michigan's drinking water. We believe, and have expressed to MDEQ Director Dan Wyant, that as a Great Lakes State, Michigan should aspire to have the safest drinking water in the nation, rather than merely aiming for technical compliance with regulatory requirements."

The task force also faulted DEQ for not properly interpreting and administering federal regulations on the issue. The Lead and Copper Rule, the panel said, calls for corrosion controls, but the DEQ did not require the city to implement them until tests showed they were needed.

The letter said the DEQ has wavered on whether it complied with the rule, most recently citing a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memorandum that DEQ officials said backed their actions.

"We are not convinced," the task force said in the memo. "Even the MDEQ's latest interpretation of the US EPA's November memorandum is overly legalistic and misunderstands the intent of the LCR, which is to minimize risks of lead and copper exposure for human health."

The task force chided Mr. Wyant for his "weak defense" of the department's decision on corrosion controls, in which he cited the EPA memo.

"The decision not to require (corrosion control treatment), made at the direction of the MDEQ, led directly to the contamination of the Flint water system," the report said.

DEQ's Mishandling Of Flint Water Claims Wyant

Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant resigned Tuesday in the wake of interim findings from the task force Governor Rick Snyder commissioned to investigate why Flint's drinking water became contaminated with lead that pointed the finger squarely at the DEQ.

Mr. Snyder, who is out of state this week on vacation with his family, announced Mr. Wyant's resignation in a prepared statement issued by his press office. The governor said Mr. Wyant offered to resign, and he "determined that it's appropriate to accept it."

Snyder press secretary Dave Murray, asked why Mr. Snyder made that determination, pointed to the letter with interim findings the task force sent Tuesday to Mr. Snyder.

That letter, clearly and devastatingly, blames the DEQ for Flint drinking water becoming contaminated with lead in some locations and children suffering lead poisoning (see separate story).

"The task force has done an exceptional job, reviewing stacks of documents and interviewing scores of Flint, Genesee County, state and federal officials," Mr. Snyder said in the statement. "Although the task force's final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed."

Asked if Mr. Wyant offered to resign on his own or if Mr. Snyder asked for his resignation, Mr. Murray said, "Director Wyant offered his resignation." Asked again if Mr. Snyder requested Mr. Wyant's resignation, Mr. Murray said only, "As the governor's statement says, Director Wyant offered his resignation."

It is quite a change from two months ago, when in an October 19 interview with the Detroit News Editorial Board, Mr. Snyder, asked why Mr. Wyant still had a job, said Mr. Wyant had

taken action on his staff, reassigning a key employee. Mr. Snyder also said the first people being addressed were those who had the knowledge and expertise on the issues.

"Dan Wyant's done a great job in responding to all of that. So I appreciate all of Dan's hard work," Mr. Snyder said then.

Chris Kolb, co-chair of the task force, said he had expected Mr. Wyant's resignation in light of the report and a recent review by Auditor General Doug Ringler.

"The timing of Director Wyant's resignation came earlier than we thought," Mr. Kolb said. "But I wasn't surprised that it happened."

He said he had expected Mr. Wyant's resignation to come after the task force's recommendations became public, not at the same time.

Mr. Snyder will name an interim director, though who that will be has not yet been determined. Mr. Snyder also vowed other staff changes at the DEQ to address problems the task force found.

One such change followed just hours after Mr. Wyant resigned. DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel also announced his resignation.

It was Mr. Wurfel's strident defenses of the DEQ that caused the department an enormous credibility problem once it became clear that outside researchers were right and DEQ staff was wrong. In July, he dismissed to Michigan Radio the importance of a leaked U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo raising worries about lead in the water, telling Michigan Radio, "Anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can relax". He called the findings of Doctor Mona Hanna-Attisha, the Hurley Medical Center physician in Flint who discovered elevated levels of lead in children's blood, "unfortunate."

The physician's findings would soon be vindicated.

Mr. Wurfel, in a statement announcing his resignation, made no mention of the Flint water crisis.

"I have been particularly satisfied with work I have done to train department staff to better communicate with the public and the press, and other departments," he said. "I have greatly appreciated my time as communications director at the DEQ, but I am looking forward to pursuing new opportunities in the new year."

Mr. Wyant not only was DEQ director, he also was a group executive overseeing the departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development. Mr. Snyder has not yet named new group executive, Mr. Murray said.

Overall, Tuesday's developments appeared designed to begin the process of restoring trust. Mr. Snyder used that word - "trust" - in his statement, saying the actions he announced Tuesday are designed to restore a culture of openness and trust.

The phone rang busy at Mr. Wyant's home Tuesday.

Legislators who represent Flint said Mr. Wyant's departure hopefully will mean change.

"If these personnel moves and change in tone lead to a more aggressive response and resources to improve public health, then we are finally making progress," Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement. "I still believe that legislative hearings will be required to get all the answers and help shape the necessary policy changes, and ensure this never happens again."

Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) said Mr. Wyant's resignation was long overdue, but good news.

"It was disappointing that the governor didn't step up early on to demand his resignation," he said.

Mr. Neeley said his chief concern with Mr. Wyant was how he responded after outside experts began raising concerns about Flint water. The DEQ took a defensive posture instead of taking outside studies seriously, a move that would have meant efforts to remediate the situation much sooner.

"The early denials of the DEQ show they had very little concern about the residents of Flint," he said.

For Mr. Snyder to regain trust, Mr. Neeley said, he will have to "own this in total" and take major actions.

Singh: Many Compromises Made On Bills Before Floor Action

House Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh said although majority Republicans have used their power to bend the rules, in many other cases this year the two parties were able to work together to find compromises before bills saw action on the floor.

Still, Mr. Singh (D-East Lansing) told Gongwer News Service in an interview last week that the first year of the 2015-16 term was partisan, with a Republican-only road plan passed and ending the year on a divisive note with the passage of the straight-ticket voting elimination.

"I have been pleased with the working relationship that (House Majority Floor Leader Aric Nesbitt) and I have formed over the year. I think we accomplished a lot of things before they even got to the floor," Mr. Singh said. "In instances where ... the majority is using its position of power to bend the rules or to, like in the most recent case (during the final days of session) where they were trying to rig a future election to their benefit, I am going to stand up on the floor. We are going to be critical from both from a procedural standpoint but also speaking in opposition to the actual bills."

In terms of his charge that the majority bent the rules, that focused more on Republicans refusing to recognize Democratic calls for record roll call votes. Mr. Singh has offered some procedural

challenges to the majority party this year, one of the more contentious challenges coming when the House was debating SB 13 (straight ticket voting) the first time around. Democrats called for a record roll call vote on an amendment that would have stripped the bill of its appropriations.

The Democrats' motion was essentially ruled not valid by the Republicans, and arguments over the ruling lasted long after the vote on the bill, and even session.

"When you look at a procedural motion, it doesn't often attract an average voter. But it does, I think, attract those who follow policy, those who are in this arena, those of us who have been around this town long enough to appreciate things used to be done differently. I think they see that and see the value in this," he said.

Mr. Singh said procedural challenges show things have changed during the last 20 years (though in decades past each party would occasionally use its majority to block the minority party's efforts to enact changes to a bill).

"Record roll call votes were very common in the 1990s and early 2000s. That really changed under (former Republican Speaker Craig) DeRoche and then (former Democratic Speaker) Andy Dillon, and that has continued," he said. "But you talk to people who were around here that time, it wasn't just the minority offering record roll votes, it was the majority.

"There are times members of the majority know they have the votes if they cobbled together the Democrats and Republicans, but they are not even able to do that themselves. You're not able to get the full picture of what the bill could be," he said. "Not only are the stifling us, but at times they are stifling some of their own as well."

And Mr. Singh said although compromises were made between the parties throughout the term, it ended on a divisive note. And the road funding package ended up being partisan, though Mr. Singh said he thought negotiations between both parties were headed in the right direction before they fell apart earlier this year.

"You have not heard citizens asking for these types of changes. But really being pushed by the Republican Party," he said. "And the week before we had the final vote the Republican charwoman herself is contacting these members pleading with them to do the straight ticket elimination. To me that shows the partisanship."

Still, looking ahead to 2016, Mr. Singh said it will be a new year and he hopes the two parties can work together on both the budget and energy policy. He said he hopes to see the House wrap up its energy policy legislation before the end of February.

"Even though it has been a partisan year to some degree and ended on a very negative note, I am going to take a look at January as a new year and new challenges," he said. "And I am committed to working with the Republican colleagues to make that budget the best it can be."

Mr. Singh said it is possible for legislative Democrats and Republicans to successfully work together in 2016. He pointed to successful bipartisan policies passed in the previous term.

"There was a series of, I think, important issues that were resolved that were done a bipartisan basis. I don't think that spirit has changed," he said. "Some of the players might have changed. And perhaps both the House and Senate caucuses are much more conservative than they were."

Mr. Singh also said Democrats will be able to come together on a solution for Detroit Public Schools. He said it is "too important for the state and the future of the state for us not to have action on DPS."

"Our Detroit members have been meeting on this issue for months and months now. They have obviously given us in leadership a series of ideas on how to take a look at this issue from their perspective," he said. "Absolutely I think we will coalesce as a Democratic caucus with our Detroit members taking an active lead on this issue."

LGBT PROTECTIONS: Mr. Singh also said providing civil rights protections to people based on sexual orientation and gender identity should be a "no-brainer" for the Legislature. He said a ballot proposal to add the protections could be risky.

"You always get concerned when you put up core civil rights to the vote of the people," he said. "These are things that should be simple. But we have seen at times because the electorate, because they have been given misinformation ... they will actually take away people's rights. We saw that with gay marriage. In 2004 we obviously banned that. And it took a little over 10 years for society to change and for the courts to change that."

However, Mr. Singh also said he understands the frustration coming from advocates on the Legislature not taking up the protections.

"So we will see what happens. Btu to me this should be something that should be a no-brainer for our Legislature," he said. "It's a no-brainer for the business community in our state, it's a no-brainer for local communities that have passed these protections. ... So again, why does the Legislature have to be living in the past instead of being progressive and looking to the future?"

Fair Michigan Petitions To Circulate Next Month

An exact launch date has not been set, but petitions to add gender, sexual orientation and gender identity protections to the Constitution will begin circulating next month, supporters of the move announced Tuesday after the Board of State Canvassers approved the petition forms.

Fair Michigan, the committee behind the measure, submitted the petition that would add gender, gender identity, sex and sexual orientation to the civil rights protections in the Constitution. The measure would also require that statute outlining civil rights protections be construed to include those protections.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for the campaign, said the move did not mean the group would cease efforts to have the Legislature address the issue.

"The end goal is to work with everybody," she said.

To questions whether the issue was dead in the Legislature, she said the time was right to begin circulating petitions.

While polls have shown broad support for changing the state's civil rights laws to include those protections, there have been some concerns over taking the issue to the ballot, particularly in light of the recent loss of such an issue in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Wurfel said the committee would continue to work with all groups to build support for the amendment.

"We feel like the constitutional path is right," she said.

MARIJUANA: The board also approved yet another effort to legalize marijuana in the state. Unlike the prior two petitions that would create new statute regulating the drug, the effort by Abrogate Prohibition Michigan would amend the Constitution to make cannabis plants, in any form, legal. The measure would abrogate all current statutes banning the plants and their derivatives.

Timothy Locke, one of the leaders of the effort, said petitions should hit the street in the next couple of weeks.

Board member Norm Shinkle asked if members could vote against the petition form if they felt the language was unconstitutional. Elections Director Christopher Thomas said they could not. Mr. Thomas said the only reason the board, or the bureau, can look at the language of a petition is, as in this case, to be sure it actually lists all current constitutional sections that would be repealed or abrogated.

He said the petition as filed does include all of the current sections that would be affected.

RECALLS: The board again rejected a series of recall petitions, finding none were clear or presented factual reasons for the recalls.

A proposed petition against Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City) came the closest to approval so far, with Mr. Shinkle moving to accept it, but failing to garner a second.

Mr. Shinkle asked if the board could, with approval of the petition sponsor, amend the petition language to fix a couple of problems. Mr. Thomas again said no.

The remaining board members joined Mr. Thomas in his analysis that the petition against Mr. Schmidt, and a nearly identical one against Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), did not say exactly what the legislators had done to deserve recall.

The petition against Mr. Meekhof saw unanimous rejection, as board members concluded Frank Boersma of Holland, who submitted the petition, had misspelled Mr. Meekhof's first name.

William Bailey of Central Lake, who submitted the petition against Mr. Schmidt, his second try, said he would be back with a third.

"I fear there's a little dance going on here that, no matter what language I present, you're going to reject it," he said. "This should be the simple part."

Both recall efforts were spurred by votes on the transportation funding package.

The third official attempt by Angelo Brown to recall Governor Rick Snyder was unanimously rejected with little discussion.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY: As expected, the board approved Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente to the Democratic presidential primary ballot.

State Local Jobless Rates Fall In November

Unemployment rates in most of the 17 Michigan local labor markets fell in November, according to figures released Tuesday by the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and of those 14 had rates that matched or were lower than the national unemployment rate.

Just the three northern labor markets, the Northeast Lower Michigan, the Northwest Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula labor markets, saw increases in their jobless rates from October to November as summer and fall tourist seasons ended.

Mackinac County, which often has the lowest county unemployment rate during the summer months, had the highest jobless rate of any county during November.

The local rates are seasonally unadjusted rates - compared to the seasonally adjusted rates generally reported for the whole state at mid-month - and most had jobless rates in November of 4.8 percent or less. The national unadjusted rate in November was 4.8 percent, and Michigan's unadjusted rate fell to 4.5 percent during November, compared to 5 percent in October.

Michigan's seasonally adjusted rate in November crept up to 5.1 percent compared to 5 percent in October.

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn market showed the biggest overall drop during the month, falling 1.1 percentage points from October's 6.3 percent to 5.2 percent in November.

It did not have the state's highest jobless rate among the markets, however. That belonged to Northeast Lower Michigan which had a rate of 6.6 percent, followed by 5.5 percent in the Upper Peninsula.

The Ann Arbor market had the state's lowest jobless rate at 2.9 percent, down from 3.4 percent in October.

Washtenaw County tied with Kent and Ottawa counties for the lowest jobless rate among the counties in November at 2.9 percent. A total of 16 counties had November jobless rates of less than 4 percent, and 44 counties matched or were lower than the 4.8 percent national jobless rate.

Mackinac County had the highest jobless rate at 10.5 percent, with Cheboygan County the second highest at 9.1 percent.

Michigan's largest county, Wayne County, had a 6.2 percent November jobless rate.

State, Local Governments, Schools Sought Nearly $9 Billion In Bonding

From school districts to state authorities, Michigan governments sought nearly $9 billion in bonds in 2015.

Governments still have two days left to file with the bond market, but through Tuesday they had filed for $8.999 billion in bond issues. Most were issued by school districts, and most were refundings of earlier issues.

The largest issue was $989.3 million sought by the State Building Authority in August.

Governments took out less in bonds during the second half of the year. From July to December, governments at all levels sought $3.74 billion in bonds. From January through June, they had sought $5.251 billion in bonds.

29 Workers Killed On Job In 2015

2015 appears to be a year in which fewer workers were killed on the job than in 2014, but that still meant that 29 people - with few days left in the year - were killed.

The most recent fatality, which occurred on December 18 in Buckley, involved a 17-year-old girl working as a coop in agriculture. She was found unresponsive an hour after reporting to work in an area where a steam generator was operating and there were high levels of carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide.

An even younger worker, a 14-year-old girl, was killed earlier in the year also in a farming-related incident.

In 2014, the state recorded 37 worker deaths on job sites. In 2009, the state had its lowest number of job-site related deaths at 24.

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Michigan News & Opinion For December 30, 2015

News

3rd marijuana petition OK'd to collect signatures (Associated Press, 12/30/2015)

2015 deaths of famous Michiganders (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Snyder apologizes, Wyant resigns in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Missed Votes Report: See which votes area legislators missed in 2015 (Holland Sentinel, 12/30/2015)

Schools cry foul over bill limiting millage proposal publicity (Lansing State Journal, 12/30/2015)

Detroit watchdog group calls for Michigan State Police to investigate fatal police shooting (Michigan Radio, 12/30/2015)

DEQ spokesman also resigns over Flint water crisis, says city 'didn't feel like we cared' (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition approved for circulation (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder says he's sorry for Flint's lead-in-water crisis (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Flint water report prompts apologies, resignations (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

Rep. Upton plans congressional review of concussions (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

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Editorial: Tell Snyder to veto majority's election 'reforms' (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/30/2015)

Look back: What's it like to own the train station? (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder still doesn't get it when it comes to Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 12/30/2015)

State must pay for justice, not defendants (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/30/2015)

Editorial: Emergency management law working for cities (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

Blogs

The Surprise In Wyant's Resignation Is Timing (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/29/2015)

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Volume #54, Report #254 -- Wednesday, December 30, 2015

Newsmaker 2015: DeBoer, Rowse, Nessel Topple Marriage Limitation

April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse harbored some hesitation prior to deciding in 2012 to broaden their mostly unknown federal lawsuit against Michigan's prohibition on joint adoption by same-sex couples to challenge the state's prohibition on same-sex marriage.

U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman had essentially forced their hand, suggesting they amend their lawsuit to get to the crux of the issue in their bid to jointly adopt their five children. They had 10 days to decide and seriously discussed whether to do it.

"It was a little scary," Ms. DeBoer said in an interview. "It was a little intimidating just because we never expected the focus to be on our relationship or on marriage. So we did have some hesitation in the beginning. But in the long run, the risks we take - angry people - the rewards far outweigh the risks, especially when it comes to protecting the kids and the kids having rights and protections if something were to happen to one of us."

Of course, Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse, a lesbian couple from Hazel Park, did decide to amend their lawsuit. Nearly three years later, their battle ended in victory at the U.S. Supreme Court, which, in a historic 5-4 ruling in the *DeBoer v. Snyder* case, consolidated with others from Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky, held that the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution prohibits states from barring same-sex marriage.

It was this victory, along with the many battles leading up to it, as well as the court case setting up a series of future fights involving the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, that led to Gongwer News Service naming Ms. DeBoer, Ms. Rowse and their main attorney, Dana Nessel, as Newsmaker 2015, the top newsmakers in Michigan government and politics.

Not only did the *DeBoer* case topple Michigan's voter-approved 2004 limitation on marriage to one man and one woman, its 1996 statutory prohibition on same sex marriage and end the ban on joint same-sex adoption in the Michigan Adoption Code, it also intensified a raging dispute about whether to add sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of protected classes in the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. And it turned up the intensity on discussions about enacting a Religious Freedom Restoration Act in Michigan that would provide some protection to those accused of discriminating against someone in the LGBT community provided the action stemmed from a sincerely held religious belief.

Previous Newsmakers of the year

2014: Rick Snyder

2013: Mike Shirkey

2012: Diane Hathaway, Thaddeus McCotter, Roy Schmidt

2011: Brian Calley

2010 Rick Snyder

2009: Andy Dillon

That two apolitical nurses and an, at the time, solo practitioner attorney, would be the ones to take down the ban on same-sex marriage fits in a year when outsiders shaped most of the significant events involving state government and politics.

Among those incidents: Two fired former House staffers, Keith Allard and Ben Graham, blew the whistle on former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, leading to expulsion proceedings and just the fourth-ever expulsion of a legislator in Ms. Gamrat, with Mr. Courser resigning just before a vote to expel him. A young Flint physician, Doctor Mona Hanna-Attisha, and a Virginia Tech researcher, Marc Edwards, discovered what state scientists failed to realize, that Flint's drinking water had dangerously escalating levels of lead. And a loosely organized opposition produced the fourth most lopsided defeat in Michigan history of a proposed constitutional amendment, the ill-fated Proposal 15-1 to increase funding for roads, despite almost every major organization supporting it.

A NEAR ACCIDENT STARTS THE CASE: Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse were returning from a vacation at an indoor water park in Ohio with some friends and their three adopted children. While driving on a two-lane road in snowy conditions, they saw a truck barreling toward them in their lane. Just as they had to decide whether to swerve off the road, the truck veered out of the way.

"That near miss is really what started us thinking about what ifs," Ms. Rowse said. "If one of us had been killed, or both of us, what would have happened to the kids? That's when we really started talking about what we could do about this."

Their initial thoughts centered on wills and guardianships. In talking with friends, they received a recommendation to speak with an attorney named Dana Nessel, a former Wayne County assistant prosecuting attorney who had opened a law practice specializing in family law and criminal defense work.

Ms. Nessel told the couple Michigan law meant a judge would not have to abide by their wishes in a will or guardianship agreement.

The timing was uncanny. Ms. Nessel had wanted to challenge the Michigan Adoption Code in federal court. Another case of hers was ending badly in state court for her client, whose same-sex relationship with another woman, the biological mother of the child they were raising, had ended. Michigan courts had held her client had no custodial rights as a non-biological, non-adoptive parent.

She and her law office suitemate, Carole Stanyar, had already been discussing the possibility of a federal court challenge. Then Ms. DeBoer called.

"I think it was just fate," Ms. Nessel recalled.

Ms. Nessel said she immediately told Ms. Stanyar that Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse were the couple.

"What better people could we find to challenge these laws?" she said.

Ms. Nessel said she told Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse a federal court challenge was the only way she could assure them the protections of a parent.

The couple decided to file suit. It was a dramatic step for two people who had steered clear of politics.

In 2004, when Michigan voters approved putting the state's ban on same-sex marriage into the Constitution, and with it a prohibition on health benefits for same-sex partners of government employees, Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse did not pay much mind to it, they said. Other states were enacting similar limitations on marriage.

"We weren't very politically oriented people," Ms. DeBoer said. "We were trying to establish our lives and trying to figure out who we were. We just accepted what came along and what was going to be. There was a little bit of talk about possibly moving out of state at some point in time, but we were establishing ourselves as nurses in Michigan. And pretty much our friends and support group were here in Michigan.

"It was hard to think of leaving, especially for me because I've lived here all my life. It was hard to think about leaving my family," she said.

At the beginning, the couple thought they would quickly win their case. Perhaps the state, which had approved them as foster parents, would even decide not to contest the case, they said they thought.

"We really didn't have any idea what we were getting ourselves into," Ms. DeBoer said. "We thought it was kind of a very simple, cut and dried case."

But the state would not concede and instead vigorously fought the case, which was filed in January 2012.

A DIFFICULT DECISION TO BROADEN THE CASE TO MARRIAGE: In February, the state would file a motion to dismiss the case. Interestingly, a big portion of the state's argument centered on Michigan law making clear that multiple unmarried persons could not adopt, which in hindsight helped push the case toward the broader question of the legality of same-sex marriage.

And the state, in the motion filed by Assistant Attorneys General Joseph Potchen and Tonya Jeter, made clear it saw no validity in the argument the Michigan Adoption Code violated the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Equal Protection Clause.

"It will not be enough for plaintiffs to complain that the challenged statute discriminates generally," the state said in its motion. "Simply put, all laws classify; all laws discriminate. 'Classifications' and 'discrimination' are essential to and inherent in the law. Moreover, since all laws necessarily discriminate, a court cannot be suspicious of such laws - i.e., all laws - because classification of some sort is normal, inevitable and necessary. The Equal Protection Clause cannot prohibit all discrimination, and a reasonable interpretation of it must focus only on the worst classifying statutory schemes."

But it would be the Equal Protection Clause, in the end, that would lead to the 5-4 ruling legalizing same-sex marriage.

On August 29, 2012, Mr. Friedman suggested Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse amend their lawsuit to include a challenge to the state's Michigan Marriage Amendment limiting marriage to one man and one woman. Mr. Friedman said that was the crux of the issue.

It was a difficult decision, the couple said.

In a case that would see many ups and downs, Ms. Rowse said Mr. Friedman's suggestion was the bottom.

At the beginning of the case, no one mentioned the idea of challenging Michigan's prohibition on same-sex marriage. The general thinking, Ms. DeBoer said, was it would be a difficult case, but they would win adoption rights and move on with their lives.

"Our original lawsuit was about the kids. It wasn't about our relationship with each other," she said. "It was about our children having two legal parents and protecting them, protecting their rights."

They had 10 days to decide and seriously discussed whether to go forward.

"It's a different exposure. It's more personal," Ms. DeBoer said. "People have more personal feelings about marriage than they would about the sympathetic end of these kids that needed to be adopted. It changed the focus to our relationship."

Ms. Nessel said the biggest surprise to her of the entire case was Mr. Friedman inviting the couple to broaden their lawsuit to marriage. She said she never imagined the case would morph into a marriage case.

"In retrospect, I think it was really a brilliant plan or ploy on behalf of Judge Friedman," she said.

The state had argued two people seeking to adopt should be in a legally committed relationship, and so Mr. Friedman seized on that to enable the broadening of the case, Ms. Nessel said.

Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse decided to go for it. It was the best way to protect their children, they concluded.

Ms. Nessel said several groups encouraged her and the couple to drop the case after Mr. Friedman suggested broadening it to marriage. Some activists said there should be no cases in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals with its majority of conservative judges.

The problem with that line of thinking, as would become clear nine months later, is that the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear appeals of pro-gay marriage rulings in other circuits, letting those rulings stand. That is what set the stage for a consolidated group of cases out of the 6th circuit, including *DeBoer v. Snyder*, to become the decisive moment on the issue.

"I think when these things occur, it's best to fight them and not just hope things will get better," Ms. Nessel said. "I know we're a flyover state, but should we not have the same rights as same-sex couples that reside in New York, California or Massachusetts. Are we lesser people?"

The cases ultimately known as *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which included the *DeBoer* case, all were handled by private practice attorneys in the 6th Circuit, Ms. Nessel said.

"Better to fight and lose than never to have fought at all and just concede people's rights and allow terrible things to happen," she said.

A BIG CASE FOR A SMALL PRACTICE: Ms. Nessel knew she would need help for a case of this magnitude. She and Ms. Stanyar had taken the case on a pro-bono basis. Now they knew they would have to commit to the case full-time and not get paid.

Ms. Nessel would hire another attorney to handle the rest of the firm's caseload and ensure it could continue operating. She drew upon her savings. They also would get help from Wayne State University law professor Robert Sedler and attorney Kenneth Mogill.

The case put a tremendous weight on them, but it also presented a huge opportunity, Ms. Nessel said.

"We were just a small handful of lawyers trying to do the right thing," she said. "We weren't some major organization that had a lot of financial backing."

The attorneys would receive some assistance from GLAAD, a national LGBT group, as well as Leslie Cooper from the national American Civil Liberties Union, who conducted a critical cross-examination at trial of Mark Regnerus, one of the state's witnesses who sought to defend Michigan's reliance on heterosexual parenting.

From the time the case became a marriage case through the initial appeals period, Ms. Nessel said the case became an 18 hours a day, seven days a week commitment.

The case was overwhelming at many points, Ms. Nessel said.

She had started out in the law as a Wayne County assistant prosecuting attorney, hands down the most challenging prosecutor's office in the state with the large, complex caseload. That job, Ms. Nessel said, gave her the experience of walking into the office on a given day, having a superior

hand her an armed robbery file and ask her to try a case because the assistant prosecuting attorney assigned to handle it had called in sick.

That built up a tolerance to pressure, she said.

But the live-blogging of the *DeBoer* case brought a new level of intensity, Ms. Nessel said.

"It's literally being sent out all across the nation as you're saying it. That is incredible pressure," she said, recalling getting calls from around the nation about something she said in court that day. "I have a lot more gray hair now."

TWISTS AND TURNS: The case would take a long time to play out. Mr. Friedman heard motion after motion, and the betting money was on the appointee of former President Ronald Reagan, who had issued the decision striking down the University of Michigan Law School's race-conscious admissions policy, ruling for Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse and against the state.

But Mr. Friedman pulled a surprise. Instead of ruling on the case, he ordered a trial.

The move was a letdown, Ms. Rowse said.

Ms. Nessel was livid.

Eventually, they realized the trial worked to their advantage, they said.

"It's funny, as upset as I was with Judge Friedman at the time when we were made to go trial and no other marriage case in the country was there a trial dictated since Prop 8 (in California). At the time, I was like, why? Why us? Why do we have to go to trial? Nobody else has to go to trial," Ms. Nessel said. "But honestly, it was very brilliant on his part. It allowed us to make a record of matters that really needed thorough discussion and thorough cross-examination. What that did is it really laid the foundation for the Supreme Court later to dispose of all bans on same-sex marriage."

The key point of argument at trial was whether the state had a legitimate interest in furthering parents from heterosexual marriages.

Governor Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette made the case that, yes, the state did.

The state presented witnesses and studies questioning the viability of same-sex parents. That did not go well. One of the state's witnesses, under cross-examination, said he believed gays were condemned to Hell unless they repented. Mr. Friedman scoffed, in his ruling, at Mr. Regnerus' work as not credible.

The trial forced the state to make its arguments subject to cross-examination, Ms. Nessel said.

"At the end of the day, at the end of the trial, those arguments did not sustain any credibility with the court, and that's really the same thing the United States Supreme Court found," she said.

On March 21, 2014, after 5 p.m. on a Friday, after intense anticipation, Mr. Friedman issued his ruling. The state's ban on same-sex marriage was illegal, he ruled. He did not stay his ruling.

Some 323 same-sex couples married during the next 24 hours in those counties where clerks opened on Saturday to accommodate those wishing to marry immediately.

But then the 6th circuit would stay the decision. And then the 6th circuit would, eight months later, issue a rare decision among the circuits to uphold a state's one man, one woman marriage law. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Schuette had won a victory.

But Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, and it heard the case in April 2015.

That was frightening, Ms. Rowse said.

"It's going to be the final case and the final answer. And it could go either way," she said.

Ms. Rowse said she and Ms. DeBoer were facing, if the ruling went against them, either living with a negative ruling in Michigan or moving to another state.

"We didn't even want to think about uprooting our whole life," she said.

The waiting for the decision was agonizing, Ms. Rowse said.

"That was probably the worst few months while that was being decided," she said. "It was a lot of up and downs and emotions and not just for us but the attorneys, too, and our supporters."

Ms. Nessel said she never allowed herself to envision the possibility of defeat. Legally, the plaintiffs were not advocating novel concepts, she said. And emotionally, she said she could not keep her inner faith in the case had she considered they might lose.

Finally, on June 26, 2015, came the decision. On a 5-4 ruling, with Justice Anthony Kennedy - as expected - proving the decisive vote, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled for the plaintiffs. Same-sex couples could marry in all 50 states, the court held, citing the Fourteenth Amendment.

DEBOER, ROWSE SAY STATE MISSED OPPORTUNITY: Neither Ms. DeBoer nor Ms. Rowse voiced any ill will toward Mr. Snyder or Mr. Schuette.

"I think Governor Snyder was doing what was expected of him, what his party expected," Ms. DeBoer said. "I think Attorney General Schuette was doing his job. I believe there was maybe some personal feelings behind it, possibly. But they did their jobs. We all have a job to do."

But both saw the case as a waste. The state simply could have conceded second-parent adoption in 2012 and avoided a costly three-year battle that resulted in the state paying $1.9 million in legal cost reimbursements to Ms. Nessel, Ms. Stanyar, Mr. Sedler and Mr. Mogill.

"From purely a taxpayer perspective, I thought, 'Why would you waste money on this?'" Ms. Rowse said. "Why would you spend the money and risk losing?"

Pointing to Mr. Snyder's and Mr. Schuette's conservative supporters, Ms. Rowse said, "I think they probably politically didn't have a choice."

Ms. Nessel said, "I've long wondered if I sat down in a room, just me and Bill Schuette, and asked, 'Well, was it worth it?'"

Mr. Schuette has said there is no price on defending the Constitution.

NESSEL LAUNCHES ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PROPOSAL: There were two major pieces of fallout from a public policy standpoint after the Supreme Court ruled.

First, some conservatives began pushing for a Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which as written in the Senate (SB 4) would prohibit governments from passing laws and ordinances requiring residents to act against strongly held religious beliefs unless the government can prove there's a compelling public interest and no less restrictive way to accomplish its objective than imposing that burden.

That swiftly faded under a veto threat from Mr. Snyder.

From the other side of the political spectrum, supporters of expanding the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act - which bars discrimination against various classes in employment, housing and public accommodations - to include sexual orientation and gender identity called again for broadening that law. Republican legislative leaders made clear their caucuses had no interest in such a proposal.

There had always been talk of a ballot proposal, but that had fallen quiet. The groups most involved in fighting for the issue in the Legislature, Equality Michigan and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, had largely ruled it out, preferring to keep battling for a legislative answer rather than risk a voter-led defeat.

Ms. Nessel sprung a big surprise October 30 with the announcement she would co-chair the Fair Michigan proposal to amend Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution - which-prohibits discrimination in the exercise of civil or political rights based on religion, race, color or national origin - to include sexual orientation, gender and gender identity.

Ms. Nessel said the *DeBoer* case emboldened her in pursuing justice and improving the state, and that is why she feels so strongly about the ballot proposal even as it has met resistance from Equality Michigan and the ACLU.

"When you see injustice, it is a good idea to stand up and be the one to say this is wrong and should not be tolerated any longer," she said. "I feel very strongly about pursuing it because I feel so strongly it's the right thing."

Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse said they support Ms. Nessel, but have no plans to get involved in the campaign.

"We stand behind Dana and what Dana's doing, but again, this one isn't our fight," Ms. DeBoer said. "We have a couple of years to make up to our children. We're just returning to be parents now. When the time is right, and if they need us to step up, we'll definitely step up to the best of our ability. But our fight took a lot out of us and a lot out of our children."

LIFE TODAY: Ms. Nessel is back to her regular caseload at her law practice.

After the Supreme Court ruling, she married her now wife, who was a volunteer on the case and eventually rose to project manager

"Not only are my clients married and their children have two parents, but I'm married and my children have two parents, too," she said. "It's been wonderful. The journey has been difficult but rewarding in so many different ways for me."

Ms. DeBoer and Ms. Rowse officially married in August.

Ms. Rowse said the marriage did not "really change their relationship at all." They had, years earlier, had a commitment ceremony

"We had always felt in our hearts that we were married," she said. "Getting the official piece of paper was the next step in this whole process, but getting the final adoption decrees was the ultimate goal and what we finally achieved in November."

Another change has been getting recognized in public. Most people are friendly, Ms. DeBoer said. Those who disagree seem to leave them alone. Ms. DeBoer said there have been two small incidents, one involving a person who objected to the race of their children, the other objecting to their marrying, the latter foe refusing to leave her alone at a grocery to the point where police were called, she said.

"It's been actually really, really positive," she said. "We've had so many people congratulate us or tell us to keep fighting."

Ms. Rowse said for a while, the public attention came in waves. There were many interview requests, but now life has slowed down.

"Overall, it's really mellowed out, and we're back to PTA and taking the kids to school and things like that and just being an everyday, ordinary family," she said.

Creagh To Be Interim Head At DEQ

Effective Monday, Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh will have led all three of the state's resource-based departments as he takes over as interim director of the Department of Environmental Quality.

Governor Rick Snyder announced Mr. Creagh's appointment, and named DNR Deputy Director Bill Moritz as interim director in that department, on Wednesday as the administration works to fill the gap left by the resignation Tuesday of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant.

Snyder spokesperson Dave Murray said it was not yet clear what efforts would be undertaken to name a permanent director for the DEQ.

"This has all happened very quickly," Mr. Murray said, adding of Mr. Creagh's appointment, "That allows time for those decisions to be made."

Mr. Snyder praised Mr. Creagh for his work to date.

"Keith has an unparalleled passion for Michigan's environment, working closely with the DEQ during his years with both the DNR and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development," he said in a statement. "I am confident his knowledge and experience will help ensure a seamless transition while we work to identify a long-term director for the DEQ."

Mr. Creagh was one of Mr. Snyder's first appointees when he took over the then-Department of Agriculture in January 2011. The governor pulled Mr. Creagh out of a brief retirement, during which he was director of industry affairs for Lansing-based Neogen Corporation, back to the department where he had been a long-time deputy.

He took the reins of the DNR in July 2012 after then-Director Rodney Stokes was pulled into the Executive Office as an advisor.

Mr. Moritz was named natural resources deputy in the DNR after serving as chief of the Wildlife Division. In addition to his work for the DNR, he has served as executive director for Safari Club international and the Safari Club International Foundation. He holds a doctorate in zoology from Southern Illinois University, a master's degree in fish and wildlife management from Montana State University and a bachelor's degree in fisheries and wildlife biology from Iowa State University.

Arwood: TED Cohesiveness Aiding In Economic Growth

The creation of the Department of Talent and Economic Development in 2015 has proven successful both in communities and for businesses looking to expand or locate in the state, Michigan Economic Development Corporation CEO Steve Arwood said in a recent interview, and he expects an expansion of those already successful initiatives in 2016.

TED, as it has affectionately been called, is a combination of efforts by the MEDC, the newly created Talent Investment Agency and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

"We're now kind of on the same harness. So three critical parts of economic development that are needed, no matter how you go about this business, are now sister-brother agencies under one rubric," Mr. Arwood said in an interview with Gongwer News Service. "It really gives us an opportunity to leverage our expertise, leverage our resources."

Among the already successful initiatives is the Rising Tide program, Mr. Arwood said, the fruition of a goal Governor Rick Snyder noted in his last State of the State address. The program was officially named in late September and began with 10 pilot communities.

"Rising Tide is where we ... go in some of these communities that are looking for sustainable economic development plans where they might not have the capacity to really pull that together themselves (and) convene that discussion," Mr. Arwood said. "Not come in and say, 'Hey, we're from the state, here's what you need to do,' but come in and say, 'Hey, we're a collection of folks with some expertise in this area, and how can we help you through that?'"

Mr. Arwood said the program has become "quite popular" and that it will likely expand in 2016.

"There's other communities that have expressed interest to become part of that program, and I think continuing to get us out there in a helping way is really important," he said.

And the program is just one example of what TED has been able to accomplish where the separate entities might be more burdensome previously.

"Part of the importance of TED is now you get TED - it's not three different phone calls or trying to chase down the area," Mr. Arwood said. "If you come in through the economic development portal, the MSHDA portal or the TIA portal, you're coming in to a bigger unit that has more assets to respond with."

Another example of efficiency for both the state and businesses is in the Skilled Trades Training Fund, TIA Director Stephanie Comai said in the same interview.

"Those applications that come to employers that come to the state, they've been vetted both by the MEDC staff as well as the local talent staff at Michigan Works!" she said. "So we're making sure that those businesses have developed a business case for why they need training dollars."

There were about 8,700 residents who received training in fiscal year 2015 through the Skilled Trades Training Fund, Ms. Comai said, and TIA is on track to train about 14,000 people with the appropriated funds for 2016.

"That's a really important tool for employers who are growing their businesses who have a talent gap," she said. "We also really want to make sure people understand what opportunities are available to them in the workforce, and that skilled trades is a great choice for people looking for a career. Selling that story and making sure we get the word out is something we're going to be really pursuing in '16."

The third piece of the TED puzzle, MSHDA, has seen positive progress in 2015 and expects similar results in 2016, Executive Director Kevin Elsenheimer said in the interview.

MSHDA has re-focused its efforts towards things the Legislature has asked it to focus on, Mr. Elsenheimer said, including low-income housing and providing "decent, affordable housing for people in Michigan."

"We're focused on making sure we have great home ownership products available for new home buyers and making sure we've got excellent quality multi-family products available for people all around the state, particularly in places where people actually have jobs," he said. "We have found there's growing demand for low-income properties in some of our larger cities which have seen job growth, and we want to make sure we not only provide some development there but also provide development in some of our rural parts of the state."

He said MSHDA saw a roughly 30 percent increase in the number of mortgages for first-time home buyers in 2015, "and we think we're going to see similar numbers next year, maybe in the 25 percent region is what we're shooting for."

MSHDA is especially pleased with the interest in multi-family developments throughout the state, Mr. Elsenheimer said.

"Those are all homes that in many cases are being constructed, which provides additional job growth all throughout the state and obviously provides a decent home for a family that's going to be in Michigan for a long period of time," he said. "We have a lot of developers interested in playing in our markets, so we expect we're going to see large increases in the amount of development that we actually see around the state next year as well."

WORKING WITH THE LEGISLATURE: One area where Mr. Arwood hopes to continue building relationships is not just with businesses, but the Legislature. In the wake of revelations that the state's financial commitments on the now-defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority credits could be as much as $9.38 billion, the Legislature came down hard on the MEDC.

Mr. Arwood and his staff have been able to negotiate some certainty into three of those commitments with the Ford Motor Company, General Motors and Fiat Chrysler, but said the rest will be reevaluated in the New Year.

"It's hard to say," he said of renegotiating more credits in 2016. "We'll be looking at that over the course of the next couple weeks into January. We want to have some conversations with the Treasury about that, make sure before we get full into the budget discussion that we know where we're at."

The MEDC also had to make some mid-year cuts to staff after the Legislature completed work on the current fiscal year budget, forcing the MEDC to do more with less.

"The one thing that is unfinished business with me is continuing to translate the importance of a consistent and thoughtful economic development program, including the budgetary support for that. Last year (2015) was an interesting year," Mr. Arwood said.

"I think we made some major strides though in continuing to translate the work we do. I think we had gotten a little aloof on that for a while, but that's something that's top-line for me is to make sure we're able to compete with other states and parts of the globe, and not to get complacent," he said.

Still, Mr. Arwood is optimistic about the future of TED and what it can do for the state.

"I think it's going to really work well on into the future," he said. "We've got it all in place, everything is set to go, and we're looking for a great 2016. I think that's a very significant accomplishment that we've pulled this together; it's not easy creating a new department."

Trails, Invasives See Ongoing Focus For DNR

Expanding and connecting trails has been a hallmark of the natural resources policy under Governor Rick Snyder, but that emphasis is likely to continue under future administrations, Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh said in a recent interview.

Developing and expanding trails is a way to bring natural resources into communities, and vice versa, Mr. Creagh said.

And his assertion that Asian carp making their way into the Great Lakes would come "not on my watch" may come to pass as he transitions, at least temporarily, to head the Department of Environmental Quality (see related story).

Mr. Creagh said the department will continue putting a substantial part of its resources into trail system development.

"We'll continue to pay attention on that through our various funding models and prioritize that, not to the exclusion of other great projects," he said.

And he expected future leaders would continue the effort.

"Whether it's the governor or a local mayor, everyone's talking about trails and connectivity of communities and quality of life," he said. "I think future governors and legislators will support trail systems because it something the citizens of this state will expect."

In addition to expanding the actual trails, particularly to complete development of the Iron Belle Trail that runs across the state, Mr. Creagh said the department is also working to expand the amenities tied to the trails.

A pilot in Marquette is working on the features of "digital trails."

"The next generation wants to be connected," he said.

The project provides, through a mobile site, details about the trail including its route, the difficulty of the path, and features to be found along it.

While the department is working to develop paths for people, it is trying to block paths for invasive species.

The biggest potential invasive continues to be Asian carp, and Mr. Creagh said the giant fish are costing the state even before they potentially arrive on its shores. In addition to collecting and testing environmental DNA samples to determine where the fish might have spread, the DNR has also participated in various exercises to practice findings of a live fish in the lakes or their tributaries.

The focus of the effort has been on the waterways around Chicago that now connect Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, but he said there are also concerns of grass carp moving into Lake Erie from other nearby basins.

On the Chicago risk, where the connection is man-made, he praised the efforts to speed up federal studies of alternatives for preventing the fish from entering the Great Lakes, but said some interim steps are needed until that study is completed.

The goal overall, though, is to block any invasives.

"What we're attempting to do is not chase the invasive species of the day necessarily, but make sure we have the rigor to look at the pathways and look at the risk analysis along those pathways," he said.

He said Michigan's diverse climate would continue to make it a target for invasive species.

"That whole diversity of agriculture and all the things we get to grow, we get to do that because of microclimates," he said. "Those same things are very welcoming to invasive species."

One new invader that will be around for some time to come is chronic wasting disease.

Mr. Creagh said it would be at least three years before officials knew if the steps the department had taken controlled the neurological disease that affects deer, elk and other cervids.

"It's going to take a few years of this to figure out the data," he said. "And it will take years of reducing deer numbers so we don't transport that disease out of that area."

Mr. Creagh praised both community leaders in Meridian Township and Ingham County as well as hunters in the region for helping with the disease control efforts.

"The hunters actually helped ... by hunting in the area as opposed to avoiding the area, having their deer tested, making sure we have good data," he said. "There's a number of examples across the country where you didn't have that collaboration between the locals, the state and the hunting community."

But keeping hunter numbers up will be a continuing struggle for the department, and the nation, Mr. Creagh said.

Nationally, hunter numbers are dropping about 1 percent annually, which he said is leading some to worry about a substantial loss over time.

But he attributed at least some of Michigan's hunter loss during that time to loss of population overall.

To reverse the loss, the department has been working more in urban areas to expose residents, particularly youth, to outdoors activities.

"We're looking at hunter recruitment and retention and reactivation," he said. "That all has to do with mentoring, getting kids out."

Mr. Creagh said the state has the elements needed to bring hunter numbers back up.

"I will maintain that if we have public access, which we have, and if we have a high quality deer herd, which we have, and if we have the right mentoring and access programs in place, we'll be just fine," he said.

He noted Michigan is third nationally in numbers of hunters.

The recent focus on gun rights and gun control has, to an extent, helped the department, he said. Firearms and ammunition carry a tax that provides Pittman Robertson Act federal grants for wildlife work, and he said those grants have been increasing.

The focus for the department, though, is firearm safety, he said.

"Whether you're for or against, what you should know is gun safety, because there is an opportunity for most individuals in the state to run across a gun at some time in their lives," he said, relaying a message used by a firearm safety instructor. "It's as much about gun safety as ownership."

Assuming Mr. Creagh does not return to his post at the DNR, one thing he will leave for his successor is final approval of a land strategy.

The plan was required in legislation that capped the department's land holdings. While the department completed the plan, the Legislature has yet to approve it, which the law requires for the cap to be removed.

The Legislature has, though, agreed to bring up conservation officer numbers for the state.

Shortly after Mr. Creagh spoke to Gongwer News Service, the department announced another CO training course to begin Sunday.

With the second class graduated earlier in the year, the department has added 60 officers and now has at least one posted in every county.

"Now, with full coverage around the state, we actually have succession planning in place," he said.

Appeals Court Affirms Sexual Abuse Conviction, Remands For Sentencing Changes

The Court of Appeals on Wednesday affirmed multiple convictions involving a father sexually abusing his young daughter but remanded the sentencing back to the circuit court.

In *People v. Sardy* (COA Docket No. 319227), Judge William Murphy, Judge Michael Gadola and Judge Cynthia Stephens affirmed the defendant's convictions of child sexually abusive activity, using a computer to commit a crime and two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct, but remanded the sentencing back to the lower court.

The panel, in one opinion written by Mr. Murphy and in a concurring opinion from Ms. Stephens, ruled against the defendant's arguments that the trial court violated his constitutional right to confront the witnesses against him when it permitted the victim's preliminary examination testimony to be admitted as substantive evidence at trial and that the offense of CSAA is unconstitutionally vague, among other arguments.

However, it did rule the case to be remanded back to the Oakland Circuit Court for sentencing. The panel said the trial court added 20 points to the defendant's offense variable score without proper reasoning.

The victim, Mr. Sardy's daughter, made claims to her mother, who lives in a separate home and was not married to the defendant, about inappropriate sexual behavior. The mother called the police and they searched Mr. Sardy's home where they found videos taken on his iPhone of his daughter "grinding" the couch. They also found nude photographs of the daughter in the bathtub.

At the trial, the girl claimed she did not remember anything when testifying and the court used her preliminary interview as evidence. The court ruled the girl was "unavailable." Mr. Sardy challenged this decision, saying the preliminary interview was unsworn and that the defendant's counsel was unable to cross-examine the witness.

The Court of Appeals ruled the defendant did cross examine the girl thoroughly during the preliminary interview and that the girl was indeed unavailable as she had "a lack of memory of the subject matter of the declarant's statement."

The court ruled that, although the defendant objected at the trial to the victim not being under oath during the preliminary interview, the defendant did not do so during the actual interview.

"Only an objection at the preliminary examination would have been meaningful," Mr. Murphy wrote.

Ms. Stephens said it was forfeiture, but both agreed even if a structural error were found, "a new trial is only warranted if the plain error resulted in the conviction of an actually innocent defendant or seriously affected the fairness, integrity, or public reputation of the proceedings."

The court ruled, given other evidence, the error did not result in an actually innocent person being convicted.

Mr. Sardy also argued the videos of the girl on the couch lacked consistent evidence that she was masturbating. The court denied the argument.

"We conclude that a rational juror could find that the prosecution proved beyond a reasonable doubt that defendant knowingly videotaped the child while she was engaged in a 'listed sexual act,'" the panel said, referring to masturbation.

SUPREME COURT: The Supreme Court on Wednesday denied to hear *People of the State of Michigan v. Robertson* (SC Docket No. 150132), saying the court is not persuaded the question presented should be reviewed. The court heard oral arguments on whether to hear the full case December 9.

Appeals Court Upholds Denial Of Attorneys' Fees In FOIA Case

Because an attorney filing a Freedom of Information Act request for a client did not list the client's name in the request, he will not be issued attorneys' fees after winning a case against Lake Templene Improvement Board for failing to respond to a FOIA request in a timely manner, the Court of Appeals affirmed this week.

In the unpublished case, *Rolfe, PLLC and Miller v. Lake Templene Improvement Board* (COA Docket No. 327513), Judge Donald Owens, Judge William Murphy and Judge Joel Hoekstra affirmed the St. Joseph Circuit Court's decision that attorneys' fees not be granted to the plaintiffs after winning their suit against the board.

Glenn Miller retained Craig Rolfe sometime in 2014 to investigate misappropriations by the Improvement Board. Mr. Rolfe sent out various FOIA requests without including Mr. Miller's name.

Eventually, during a pretrial hearing, Mr. Rolfe moved to add Mr. Miller's name to the FOIA requests. The court later found the Improvement Court violated FOIA but found Mr. Rolfe was the prevailing party, not Mr. Miller, and denied granting attorneys' fees.

The court ruled against attorneys' fees because Rolfe was an attorney acting on his own behalf.

Mr. Miller insists he is the prevailing party and Mr. Rolfe was acting on his behalf.

The Court of Appeals panel agreed with the lower court and said Mr. Miller did not make any of the FOIA requests.

"Because Miller failed to assert his right to public information by submitting a FOIA request, he could not file a civil action and he could not have prevailed," the court wrote.

Campaign Notes

JOHNSON ENDORSEMENT: U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Township) is backing former Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson in his run for the party's nomination in the 1st U.S. House District.

Mr. Peters sent a fundraising message on Mr. Johnson's behalf this week.

Mr. Johnson is facing former Kalkaska County Sheriff Jerry Cannon for the nomination. The Republican Party field is still in flux in the district.

Capital Notebook

FIREWORKS APPLICATIONS: The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and the Bureau of Fire Services has opened the 2016 consumer fireworks application period and low impact registration process, it announced Wednesday.

All consumer fireworks applications and required plans must be submitted by midnight, April 1, 2016. Low impact registrations can be submitted at any time but must be completed at least 10 days prior to sales, it said.

Applicants will continue to have the ability to report monthly sales and submit their safety fees online, but applications will be denied for any applicants who have unpaid safety fees or are missing reports (all zero sales must be reported for the 2015 certificate fireworks season).

When submitting documents for 2016 applications, applicants must submit all of the required documents at the time of application or it will be denied, and each document must include the 2016 Certificate number issued during the application process.

LOTTERY PRIZES: The Michigan Lottery issued a record $1.7 billion prizes in 2015, the bureau announced Wednesday.

Among the prizes, 34 were for more than $1 million, the Lottery said. The largest prize, $310.5 million, was for a Powerball drawing and went to Julie Leech of Three Rivers in September.

Appointments By The Governor

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION: Lisa Gray of Northville succeeds Mamatha Chamarthi, Kaushik Nag of Grand Rapids succeeds Hannah Feikema and Jamie Hsu of Troy and Toshiki Masaki of Canton are reappointed.

The appointments are for terms expiring November 30, 2019, and are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL: Kelsey Kleimola of Ypsilanti fills a vacancy to represent organizations that provide services for individuals with disabilities and James Whalen of Port Huron fills a vacancy to represent directors of centers for independent

living for terms expiring December 31, 2018. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION: Tom McMillin of Rochester Hills succeeds Cletus Smith, who resigned, to represent the speaker of the House for a term expiring April 1, 2016. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN STATE POLICE RETIREMENT BOARD: Bernard Kent of Franklin and Mitchell Stevens of Gaylord have been reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2018. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: Whitney Terry of Lansing succeeds Mark Epolito to represent the general public and Brian Gilbert of Grand Rapids and Ajay Middha of Midland are reappointed. All are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC: Robert Huta of Gaylord, Donald Reno of Shelby Township and Ronald Wilcox of Wyoming have been reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY: Sally Pittsenbarger of Ferndale succeeds Helena DeYoung to represent represents cosmetologists and Kathleen Skipper-Stong of Ida has been reappointed. Both are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and the appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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Click the ▣after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 8:26 PM
To: Anderson, Timothy (CEPI)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, January 4, 2016
Attachments: Jan4.htm; Jan4Rules.htm; 160104dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, January 4, 2016

Talberg Named To Lead PSC

Flint, Genesee County Formally Request Emergency Assistance On Water

Julie Calley Moves Toward House Run

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Muchmore To Head Up Government Affairs At Honigman Firm

Supreme Court: Injured Police Officers Cannot Sue For Damages

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Volume #55, Report #1 -- Monday, January 4, 2016

Talberg Named To Lead PSC

Governor Rick Snyder on Monday appointed Sally Talberg to chair the Public Service Commission as current chair John Quackenbush prepares to head back to the private sector.

Mr. Quackenbush will continue in a commissioner position until March 31, 2016, to help facilitate a smooth transition.

"Sally's experience as an energy consultant will be invaluable as she takes on this new role," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "John has been an exceptional chair and regulator for the state. We are fortunate to have the notice period he has provided to effect a quality transition. I wish him the best of luck with his future plans."

Prior to joining the PSC in 2013, Ms. Talberg, of Williamston, was a senior consultant at Public Sector Consultants in Lansing, serving as the firm's energy and regulatory expert. While there, she helped establish Michigan Saves, an energy waste reduction financing program.

She was also recently appointed president of the organization of MISO States, a multi-state organization working on electric transmission issues, and a key position as Michigan's Legislature works to develop new energy policy standards and regulations in 2016.

The Federal Communications Commission has also appointed Ms. Talberg to several federal-state boards, a statement from the governor's office indicated.

Mr. Quackenbush worked in management at UBS Global Asset Management and Sprint Corp. prior to being appointed by Mr. Snyder to chair the PSC in September 2011, though it was not immediately clear if he intended to return to either of those companies upon his departure from the PSC.

Ms. Talberg initially replaced Orjiakor Isiogu, who retired after serving as the chair of the commission since September 2007. When she first accepted the position, she told Gongwer News Service her focus would be striking a balance between affordable service and environmental protection (See Gongwer Michigan Report, July 5, 2013).

Norm Saari, former chief of staff to House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), is the newest member to the three-person commission, having been appointed to the commission in July 2015 to replace Greg White, who retired.

Flint, Genesee County Formally Request Emergency Assistance On Water

Declaring that the water crisis goes beyond the ability of local resources to resolve, the Genesee County Board of Commissioners agreed Monday with the Flint mayor's call to declare a state of emergency in the city.

The Flint Journal reported the request will seek more than $50 million to replace lead service lines and other yet to be determined needs.

Several residences and other facilities in Flint use water service lines made of lead. When the source of the city's water was switched from the Detroit system to the Flint River without corrosion control treatment, lead-based service lines began leaching lead into the water, resulting in lead levels beyond those when the federal government requires remediation. Blood samples showed elevated lead levels in many children.

The request will go through the Department of State Police's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, which will meet with the Genesee County emergency management coordinator.

Snyder press secretary Dave Murray said the governor will seriously consider a state declaration of emergency or disaster, but given the time involved following the procedures to make that decision, the state is treating the situation as an emergency.

"Prior to a formal declaration, we are recognizing this as an emergency and are working with city and county leaders to coordinate efforts, streamline communication and tap all available resources at the state's control," he said. "A formal declaration could take a fair amount of time as people assess their needs and the damages."

Mr. Murray said the State Police have been closely engaged since the beginning of the crisis.

"Due to the uniqueness of this situation, we have to look at all possible options to help Flint residents," Mr. Murray said.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) called for Mr. Snyder to act quickly on the request.

"This is an important step in the process and the governor should make a swift decision," he said in a statement. "I'll continue pushing hard to make sure we receive additional resources that address immediate and long-term needs, and that they are used efficiently and effectively."

Julie Calley Moves Toward House Run

Republican Julie Calley has created a campaign committee to run in the 87th House District after rumors had been swirling around for months that she might seek the seat.

Ms. Calley, chair of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and wife of Lt. Governor Brian Calley, did not return a request for comment Monday, or multiple requests previously, but

several sources have said she will run to replace Rep. Mike Callton (R-Nashville), who is term limited and cannot seek re-election in 2016.

Ms. Calley has not formally filed to run, but setting up her campaign committee will allow her to start raising and spending money.

House Spent $77K On Outside Firm During Courser, Gamrat Scandal

The House Business Office paid $77,192 to the Dickinson Wright law firm during the investigation and expulsion proceedings of former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser, Progress Michigan said Monday after requesting the information.

The group criticized House Republican leadership for spending more than a representative's annual salary on outside counsel rather than using the Department of Attorney General or House counsel.

The current figure disclosed by Progress Michigan does not include any billings for the lawsuit former aides for Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat have brought against the House.

"It is troubling and incredibly ironic that two lawmakers were expelled from the House for wasting taxpayer resources, and yet, Speaker Cotter has already spent more than a lawmaker's salary on an outside firm as a result of his bungled investigation," Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, said in a statement. "Speaker Cotter seems to be using taxpayer dollars to cover up his own political missteps. Cotter should use his taxpayer-funded attorney to defend the House and pay for any outside counsel himself."

However, Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), said the House also hired Dickinson Wright for a lawsuit against Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit) and paid more than $85,000 when a former employee of Mr. Banks' sued the House.

And Mr. D'Assandro said attorneys at the Department of Attorney General and the House counsel are not "pro-bono" lawyers waiting to be brought in. He said either option would have likely led to higher costs for the department or in hiring additional House counsel.

He said when talking about taxpayers' potential liability, it is better to spend more on the front end to ensure everything is done correctly.

"You want to spend more to make sure you're doing it right on the front-end," Mr. D'Assandro said.

Muchmore To Head Up Government Affairs At Honigman Firm

Dennis Muchmore, Governor Rick Snyder's outgoing chief of staff, will head up the government relations and regulatory practice at the Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn law firm starting in February.

Mr. Muchmore had said last year he planned to depart the administration in 2016, and months ago Mr. Snyder named Jarrod Agen to become his new chief of staff upon Mr. Muchmore's departure.

"It's been an honor to serve with Governor Snyder as we've worked to make Michigan the Comeback State," Mr. Muchmore said in a statement circulated by the Honigman firm. "I'm just as excited to enter this next phase with Honigman. Just as there were people who guided me along the way in my career, I see this as an opportunity to give back and help others prepare to do great things."

The firm also announced it is creating a faculty of current and previous Honigman attorneys to provide specialized training opportunities for firm attorneys and clients, legislators, legislative staff and leading state department and agency employees.

For Mr. Muchmore, the move will mark a return to the government relations and lobbying world. He helped found what is now the Muchmore, Harrington, Smalley and Associates lobbying firm.

"Dennis has tremendous respect from people on both sides of the aisle. He is known across the state for his superb integrity and for his long, distinguished and successful career," said David Foltyn, Honigman's chair and CEO. "With his guidance, we expect to continue to be an active voice for our clients in the legislative and regulatory process for decades to come."

Supreme Court: Injured Police Officers Cannot Sue For Damages

The prohibition on police officers and fire fighters from suing for damages from injuries sustained on the job is absolute, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled Monday.

In a per curiam decision, the court in *Lego v. Liss* (SC Docket Nos. 149246 and 149247) held that Michael Lego, a police officer, had no right to sue Jake Liss, a fellow officer who inadvertently shot him as they attempted to arrest a suspected armed robber, for gross negligence.

The decision overturned the Wayne Circuit Court and the Court of Appeals.

The Wayne Circuit Court had refused Mr. Liss' motion to dismiss the case, and the Court of Appeals agreed.

The Court of Appeals had ruled it could not decide as a matter of law the applicability of the statute stating that governments are "immune from tort liability for an injury to a firefighter or police officer that arises from the normal, inherent, and foreseeable risks of the firefighter's or police officer's profession."

But the Supreme Court ruled that, in fact, the issue can be decided as a matter of law.

"The undisputed facts here are that Michael Lego was shot by the defendant as both were attempting to apprehend an armed robbery suspect," the Supreme Court said in its ruling. "As the

Court of Appeals partial dissent correctly concluded, 'being shot by a fellow police officer while engaging an active shooter is one of 'the normal, inherent, and foreseeable risks of . . . [a] police

officer's profession' within the meaning of MCL 600.2966.'

"This is true irrespective of whether the defendant was acting consistently with his training and departmental safety procedures or whether the defendant was grossly negligent while attempting to apprehend the suspect in this case. Thus, no question of material fact remains unresolved. Accordingly, the defendant is entitled to immunity as a matter of law," the court said.

The case was returned to the Wayne Circuit Court to enter an order granting summary disposition to the defendant.

Indigent Defense Council Submits Standards To Court

The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission has submitted its initial set of standards to the state Supreme Court, it announced Monday, addressing four elements: training and education of counsel, initial client interview, use of investigation and experts and counsel at first appearance.

The standards were originally released in June 2015 and were subject to a public hearing in mid-August. At the December 15, 2015 meeting, the commission voted to submit the final version to the Supreme Court for adoption.

The court now has 180 days to approve the standards, the MIDC said in statement.

"Today marks an important achievement for the MIDC," Executive Director Jonathan Sacks said. "In less than one year since establishing a formal office, the MIDC has developed this set of standards, met with stakeholders, received public comment and held a public hearing. I look forward to the Court's approval of this first set of standards."

Four points are raised on the issue of education and training of defense counsel, the first of which requires counsel to know "substantive Michigan and federal law, constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure, rules of evidence, ethical rules and local practices," the draft notes. Counsel is also to know the forensic and scientific issues that can arise in a criminal case and the legal issues concerning defenses to a crime, and be able to effectively litigate those.

Also on education, the commission outlines that counsel shall "annually complete continuing legal education courses relevant to the representation of the criminally accused," the standards indicate. Lawyers can discharge this obligation for annual continuing legal education by attending local trainings or statewide conferences, though. And attorneys with less than two years of experience practicing criminal defense are to participate in one basic skills acquisition class.

All attorneys are to annually complete at least 12 hours of continuing legal education in some form.

The second standard on initial interview outlines regulations on the timing and setting of the interview, as well as the necessary preparation and evaluation of client status (such as whether the client is competent to participate in his or her representation, understands, the charges, and has some basic comprehension of criminal procedure).

Where counsel is unable to communicate with a client because of language or communication differences, it is to take "whatever steps necessary to fully explain the proceedings in a language or form of communication the client can understand."

The MIDC also proposed a minimum standard for investigation and the use of experts in its third proposed standard. An independent investigation of the charges and offense in as prompt time as practical is required, and the "reasonable" request of funds to retain investigators to assist with a client's defense is appropriate in some situations, the MIDC said.

Finally, the commission proposed a minimum standard on counsel at first appearance and other critical stages of the procedure.

Counsel is to be assigned as soon as the defendant is determined to be eligible for indigent criminal defense services, and the indigency determination and appointment of counsel is to be made "as soon as the defendant's liberty is subject to restriction by a magistrate or judge," the draft standards suggest.

"All persons determined to be eligible for indigent criminal defense services shall also have appointed counsel at pre-trial proceedings, during plea negotiations and at other critical stages, whether in court or out of court," the final standard outlines.

The MIDC will also develop standards in the future addressing issues, it said, including the following: delivery of indigent defense independent of the judiciary, caseload levels, the assignment of counsel, qualifications and review of counsel, economic incentives and disincentives for the practice of indigent defense, and representation of clients by the same attorney at every court appearance.

Phelps Bill Would Make Manipulating Data A Felony

State employees who are caught manipulating data could be convicted of a felony under legislation Rep. Phil Phelps plans to introduce, he announced Monday.

Mr. Phelps (D-Flushing) said in a statement the legislation prevents government corruption by making it a felony for any state employee to knowingly manipulate data that would change the outcome of an official report. The felony would be punishable by up to five years in prison.

"As we began to comb through all of the facts surrounding Flint's water crisis it was frightening to learn that there were very few laws on our books that protect the public from potential government abuse such as data manipulation," Mr. Phelps said. "I am not sure if anyone involved in the Flint water crisis deliberately changed or removed critical data in state reports, but I am absolutely certain that it should be a crime if it did happen."

Mr. Phelps said he plans on introducing the legislation when the House resumes session next week.

"Protecting Michigan residents should be our highest priority, yet the Auditor General recently noted that potential bad actors in our government merely stand to lose their jobs, even if they put innocent lives in jeopardy," he said. "As elected leaders we must send out a signal to everyone letting them know that we will not tolerate this form of injustice."

Campaign Notes: Mitchell Slams Fellow Republicans For Road Resolution

Business executive Paul Mitchell, one of several Republicans vying to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, called out sponsors of a Senate measure that would again increase the sales tax to pay for roads.

The plan, SJR M, would impose a 7 percent sales tax, with the new penny divided between the state and local road agencies. The constitutional amendment would also declare void the fuel tax and registration fee increases recently enacted.

"I simply can't understand what these members of the state Senate are thinking in proposing even higher taxes," Mr. Mitchell said in a statement. "When the Legislature failed to produce a viable solution to fix our roads and punted their responsibility to the voters by proposing the largest tax increase in Michigan in the last 50 years it was rejected by the largest margin in modern Michigan election history. Career politicians, like those backing Senate Joint Resolution M, who continue to propose one bad tax idea after another clearly aren't getting the message that government needs to live within its means."

Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), currently one of Mr. Mitchell's key opponents for the seat, supported the package that created Proposal 2015-1, but is not listed as a sponsor of the new measure, which was introduced December 15. Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) is the primary sponsor on the resolution.

Mr. Mitchell, who headed Say No to Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals, one of the efforts against Proposal 2015-1 to increase the sales tax as part of a plan to increase road funding, said the failure of that proposal showed voters want roads fixed without a tax increase.

"We elected a Republican supermajority to the Legislature based upon the promise that they would enact conservative solutions to our state's challenges, but what we get is more taxes and more spending. The citizens are demanding and deserve better," he said.

LEGAL MARIJUANA: MILegalize, one of two groups trying to get initiated legislation to legalize marijuana possession (a third is seeking a constitutional amendment), urged supporters in a release Monday to continue submitting signatures, and money.

The committee is expecting to pass 180 days collecting signatures, meaning some of its petitions will become stale, but is also hoping for a rule change from the Board of State Canvassers that would keep more of those signatures alive.

The group announced it was planning fundraisers, and an update on signature collections, later in the month.

LOWER ANNOUNCES IN 70TH HOUSE WITH OUTMAN ENDORSEMENT: Edmore Village Manager Jim Lower, a Republican, announced Monday he is running in the 70th House District seat with the endorsement of Rep. Rick Outman (R-Six Lakes), the current representative who cannot seek re-election due to term limits in 2016.

"I am Pro-Life, Pro-Jobs, Pro-2nd Amendment, Pro-Family Values and I believe that 'We the People' must be in charge of our own government, Mr. Lower said in a statement. "We need a strong conservative voice in the State House of Representatives with the experience to get things done, I will be that voice. My experience, strong work ethic, and relationships with the people of this district will enable me to be effective on day one."

Mr. Lower has also served as a county commissioner, an aide in the Michigan House, and as an aide to Sen. Judy Emmons (R-Sheridan).

Capital Notebook

SENATE SCHEDULE: The Senate session calendar has been updated for January-June. The chamber is slated to return on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, at noon and will go back to its normal 10 a.m. time after. Its spring break is scheduled to take place April 1-9, 2016. It has also scheduled tentative session days for June 2 and June 14-16.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, January 11

Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program Advisory Council, Shady Lodge Farm, 6255 Clark Road, Lansing, 1 p.m. (Agenda)

Tuesday, January 12

Gaming Control Board, Detroit Office Hearing Room, Gaming Control Board, Cadillac Place, 3062 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)

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From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:49 PM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI)
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Attachments: List of All Flint Schools 9_30_15.xlsx; ATT00001.htm; EEMDownloadResults_Flint.xml

Importance: High

Trina, I am in meetings most of the afternoon. This has to be ready today. The sooner the better. I suspect since I broadcast to many, no one will pick it up. Can you bird dog this one, please?

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Rod <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**

Scott-
Here is what I received through MDE last week.

Thanks,
Maggie

From: Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request

According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Caroline Liethen
> Legislative Analyst
> Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
> Michigan Department of Education
> Office: (517) 373-1948
>
> *Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** CEPI
> **Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
> **To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> Hi Caroline,
>
> Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:
>
> 1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
> 2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"

3. Click "Detailed"
4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	EntityTypeName	EntityId	EntityOfficialName	OriginalEntityCode	EntityAddressId	EntityId2	AddressTypeId
2	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74425	10600	1
3	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74426	10600	2
4	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51234	1616	1
5	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51235	1616	2
6	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51651	1704	1
7	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51652	1704	2
8	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51359	1674	1
9	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51360	1674	2
10	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74427	10601	1
11	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74428	10601	2
12	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75766	11194	1
13	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75765	11194	2
14	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51373	1688	1
15	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51374	1688	2
16	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51303	1684	1
17	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51304	1684	2
18	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51616	1743	1
19	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51617	1743	2
20	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51246	1630	1
21	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51247	1630	2
22	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51267	1651	1
23	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51268	1651	2
24	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51369	1682	1
25	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51370	1682	2
26	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51264	1648	1
27	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51265	1648	2
28	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51197	1646	1
29	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51198	1646	2
30	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74278	10531	1
31	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74279	10531	2
32	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65104	7913	1
33	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65061	7913	2
34	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51469	1742	1
35	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51470	1742	2
36	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51467	1741	1
37	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51468	1741	2
38	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74430	10602	1
39	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74429	10602	2
40	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51387	1698	1
41	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51388	1698	2
42	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51645	1701	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	AddressTypeCode	Street	AddressLine2	City	State	Zip4	EffDate	MapURL
2	Mailing	3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
3	Physical	3400 N Jennings Rd		Flint	MI	485041757	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
4	Mailing	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		FLINT	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
5	Physical	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
6	Mailing	G-6161 HOPKINS RD		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
7	Physical	6161 HOPKINS RD # G		FLINT	MI	485061657	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM	No Map Found
8	Mailing	G-3493 BEVERIDGE RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
9	Physical	3493 Beveridge Rd # G		Flint	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
10	Mailing	6302 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
11	Physical	6302 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
12	Mailing	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
13	Physical	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
14	Mailing	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322366	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
15	Physical	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322341	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
16	Mailing	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075699	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
17	Physical	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM	No Map Found
18	Mailing	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
19	Physical	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM	No Map Found
20	Mailing	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
21	Physical	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM	No Map Found
22	Mailing	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
23	Physical	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
24	Mailing	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323562	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
25	Physical	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323533	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM	No Map Found
26	Mailing	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
27	Physical	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
28	Mailing	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
29	Physical	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM	No Map Found
30	Mailing	923 E KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031974	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
31	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
32	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
33	Physical	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	48507	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
34	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
35	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM	No Map Found
36	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
37	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM	No Map Found
38	Mailing	6602 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
39	Physical	6602 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
40	Mailing	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
41	Physical	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	485062246	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
42	Mailing	G-4302 UNDERHILL DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
1	AddressTypeName	XLocation	YLocation	Latitude	Longitude	USCongressionalDistrict	MISenateDistrict	MIHouseDistrict	CGIStatusDate
2	Mailing								
3	Physical	682847.8683	280645.7794	43.05429601	-83.75283278	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
4	Mailing								
5	Physical	685485.0809	283059.2749	43.07537287	-83.71964447	5	27	34	2/16/2015 12:42:41 PM
6	Mailing								
7	Physical	695951.4996	283828.1288	43.07963205	-83.59087384	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM
8	Mailing								
9	Physical	683206.8885	274037.4649	42.99472586	-83.75062424	5	27	49	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
10	Mailing								
11	Physical	684757.797	282346.7266	43.06913831	-83.72881883	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
12	Mailing								
13	Physical	687355.7367	272274.3877	42.97783367	-83.70034397	5	27	49	6/25/2015 2:08:53 PM
14	Mailing								
15	Physical	681274.409	277335.634	43.02464487	-83.7730952	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
16	Mailing								
17	Physical	686841.6851	269757.4285	42.95530569	-83.70750238	5	14	50	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM
18	Mailing								
19	Physical	682839	281045.1	43.05516364	-83.75284113	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM
20	Mailing								
21	Physical	687789.9	277474.6	43.02552676	-83.6933395	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM
22	Mailing								
23	Physical	686397.4514	276338.7424	43.014655	-83.71072298	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
24	Mailing								
25	Physical	682529.0348	276096.7463	43.01342699	-83.75825441	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM
26	Mailing								
27	Physical	686559.0213	275144.9047	43.00386911	-83.70914516	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
28	Mailing								
29	Physical	690548.8	273387.2	42.98741964	-83.66088539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM
30	Mailing								
31	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.018348	-83.670809	5	27	49	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
32	Mailing								
33	Physical	685162.28	270103.8	42.958839	-83.727966	5	14	50	6/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
34	Mailing								
35	Physical	683677.2	282991.7	43.07525532	-83.74195061	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM
36	Mailing								
37	Physical	683657.025	282723.5105	43.07280012	-83.74220722	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM
38	Mailing								
39	Physical	684753.6416	282513.0083	43.07063603	-83.72881398	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
40	Mailing								
41	Physical	695085.4057	281263.6304	43.05677608	-83.602417	5	27	48	7/26/2011 10:33:59 AM
42	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
1	CGIStatusId	CGIStatus	BlockGroup	CivilDivision	FIPSCounty	County	DistCode	CGIData	EEMEndTime
2									8:59:42 AM
3	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
4									8:59:42 AM
5	2	Validated by CGI	0001003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
6									8:59:42 AM
7	2	Validated by CGI	0120091	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
8									8:59:42 AM
9	2	Validated by CGI	0109101	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
10									8:59:42 AM
11	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
12									8:59:42 AM
13	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
14									8:59:42 AM
15	2	Validated by CGI	0108112	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
16									8:59:42 AM
17	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
18									8:59:42 AM
19	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
20									8:59:42 AM
21	2	Validated by CGI	0136001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
22									8:59:42 AM
23	2	Validated by CGI	0015003		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
24									8:59:42 AM
25	2	Validated by CGI	0109102	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
26									8:59:42 AM
27	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
28									8:59:42 AM
29	2	Validated by CGI	0035003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
30									8:59:42 AM
31	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
32									8:59:42 AM
33	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
34									8:59:42 AM
35	2	Validated by CGI	0105012	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
36									8:59:42 AM
37	2	Validated by CGI	0105012	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
38									8:59:42 AM
39	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
40									8:59:42 AM
41	2	Validated by CGI	0120082	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
42									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
43	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51646	1701	2
44	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51389	1699	1
45	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51390	1699	2
46	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75700	11161	1
47	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75699	11161	2
48	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51155	1611	1
49	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51156	1611	2
50	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51250	1632	1
51	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51251	1632	2
52	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51173	1628	1
53	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51174	1628	2
54	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51175	1629	1
55	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51176	1629	2
56	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51248	1631	1
57	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51249	1631	2
58	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51307	1686	1
59	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51308	1686	2
60	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51242	1624	1
61	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51243	1624	2
62	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74218	10501	1
63	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74219	10501	2
64	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72194	9639	1
65	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72195	9639	2
66	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	66053	8175	1
67	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	69911	8175	2
68	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71682	9420	1
69	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71616	9420	2
70	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	66111	8233	1
71	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	69964	8233	2
72	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71808	9469	1
73	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71809	9469	2
74	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70790	9083	1
75	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70791	9083	2
76	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75056	10861	1
77	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75057	10861	2
78	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	66888	9010	1
79	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	70692	9010	2
80	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73852	10356	1
81	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73853	10356	2
82	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71893	9511	1
83	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71894	9511	2
84	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	66235	8357	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
43	Physical	4302 UNDERHILL DR # G		FLINT	MI	485061534	5/19/2011 11:51:35 AM	No Map Found
44	Mailing	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
45	Physical	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	485061714	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
46	Mailing	1020 W COLDWATER RD		FLINT	MI	485054831	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
47	Physical	G5159 Summit Street		Flint	MI	485051429	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
48	Mailing	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
49	Physical	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	5/19/2011 11:54:31 AM	No Map Found
50	Mailing	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
51	Physical	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
52	Mailing	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
53	Physical	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
54	Mailing	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
55	Physical	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	5/19/2011 11:54:28 AM	No Map Found
56	Mailing	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
57	Physical	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	5/19/2011 11:54:05 AM	No Map Found
58	Mailing	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
59	Physical	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	5/19/2011 11:53:44 AM	No Map Found
60	Mailing	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
61	Physical	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
62	Mailing	310 E 3RD ST		FLINT	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
63	Physical	310 E 3rd St		Flint	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
64	Mailing	2400 N SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485054442	9/21/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
65	Physical	2400 N. Saginaw St.		Flint	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:22:08 AM	No Map Found
66	Mailing	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
67	Physical	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:20:32 AM	No Map Found
68	Mailing	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485032076	5/27/2009 8:25:38 AM	No Map Found
69	Physical	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST	SUITE 3C	FLINT	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 10:26:05 AM	No Map Found
70	Mailing	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
71	Physical	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	5/19/2011 10:20:24 AM	No Map Found
72	Mailing	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	6/1/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
73	Physical	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	5/19/2011 10:24:29 AM	No Map Found
74	Mailing	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/4/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
75	Physical	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/19/2011 10:28:10 AM	No Map Found
76	Mailing	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
77	Physical	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
78	Mailing	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
79	Physical	6103 Eagle Ridge Ln		Flint	MI	485056740	6/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
80	Mailing	1185 E FOSS AVE		FLINT	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
81	Physical	1185 E Foss Ave		Flint	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
82	Mailing	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
83	Physical	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	5/19/2011 10:23:33 AM	No Map Found
84	Mailing	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
43	Physical	694434.2697	282794.6681	43.07072504	-83.60986815	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:51:35 AM
44	Mailing								
45	Physical	696471.2827	282691.0537	43.06926211	-83.58489777	5	27	48	7/26/2011 10:35:53 AM
46	Mailing								
47	Physical	687140.024	283641.0423	43.08019817	-83.69912691	5	27	49	5/28/2015 11:48:54 AM
48	Mailing								
49	Physical	689490.4744	277010.6758	43.01992912	-83.67255326	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:54:31 AM
50	Mailing								
51	Physical	687060.552	273155.262	42.98235234	-83.70771607	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
52	Mailing								
53	Physical	685592.729	283061.47	43.07524397	-83.72973579	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
54	Mailing								
55	Physical	690402.6894	276614.9196	43.01613634	-83.66149993	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:28 AM
56	Mailing								
57	Physical	691687.2203	279250.26	43.03952969	-83.64482724	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:05 AM
58	Mailing								
59	Physical	679573.7	274200.8	42.99703451	-83.79488844	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:44 AM
60	Mailing								
61	Physical	687519.771	274505.155	42.99665372	-83.69971783	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
62	Mailing								
63	Physical	688389.0765	276453.4879	43.015191	-83.686255	5	27	49	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
64	Mailing								
65	Physical	687718.9	279023.5	43.0380872	-83.6936355	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:22:08 AM
66	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
67	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.9819543	-83.6628483	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:20:32 AM
68	Mailing								
69	Physical	688709.8	277146.1	43.02100791	-83.6826803	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:26:05 AM
70	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
71	Physical	683045.9	280981.8	43.05727	-83.75028	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:20:24 AM
72	Mailing								
73	Physical	684105.6	276145.8	43.01338639	-83.73902163	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:24:29 AM
74	Mailing								
75	Physical	690918.9	274058.5	42.99302258	-83.6569739	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:28:10 AM
76	Mailing								
77	Physical	684714.2577	281267.5119	43.05943503	-83.72971581	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
78	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
79	Physical	688306.6	282323.3	43.0678255	-83.6854165	5	27	34	6/14/2010 7:57:25 AM
80	Mailing								
81	Physical	688626.2342	282762.6813	43.0719195	-83.68118426	5	27	34	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
82	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
83	Physical	689032.4	277364.2	43.02208689	-83.68036121	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:23:33 AM
84	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
43	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
44									8:59:42 AM
45	2	Validated by CGI	0120091	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
46									8:59:42 AM
47	2	Validated by CGI	0103044	55980	049	Genesee	04500		8:59:42 AM
48									8:59:42 AM
49	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
50									8:59:42 AM
51	2	Validated by CGI	0135005		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
52									8:59:42 AM
53	2	Validated by CGI	0103043		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
54									8:59:42 AM
55	2	Validated by CGI	0030003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
56									8:59:42 AM
57	2	Validated by CGI	0027002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
58									8:59:42 AM
59	2	Validated by CGI	0108134	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
60									8:59:42 AM
61	2	Validated by CGI	0135002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
62									8:59:42 AM
63	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
64									8:59:42 AM
65	2	Validated by CGI	0136001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
66	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
67	2	Validated by CGI	0035002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
68									8:59:42 AM
69	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
70	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
71	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
72									8:59:42 AM
73	2	Validated by CGI	0109112	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
74									8:59:42 AM
75	2	Validated by CGI	0033002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
76									8:59:42 AM
77	2	Validated by CGI	0005001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
78	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
79	2	Validated by CGI	0017002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
80									8:59:42 AM
81	2	Validated by CGI	0017002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
82	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
83	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
84	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
85	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	70086	8357	2
86	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75169	10918	1
87	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75170	10918	2
88	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	66296	8418	1
89	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	70146	8418	2
90	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	66481	8603	1
91	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	70326	8603	2
92	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75627	11125	1
93	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75628	11125	2
94	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70972	9120	1
95	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70898	9120	2
96	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	66264	8386	1
97	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	70114	8386	2
98	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	66195	8317	1
99	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	70046	8317	2
100	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Begnnings	990001001	72846	9903	1
101	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Begnnings	990001001	72847	9903	2
102	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72484	9750	1
103	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72485	9750	2
104	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70997	9190	1
105	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70998	9190	2
106	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	66340	8462	1
107	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	70190	8462	2
108	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75431	11039	1
109	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75432	11039	2
110	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	66381	8503	1
111	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	70229	8503	2
112	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74337	10559	1
113	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74338	10559	2
114	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72458	9739	1
115	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72459	9739	2
116	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	66420	8542	1
117	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	70267	8542	2
118	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75677	11150	1
119	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75678	11150	2
120	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	71960	9547	1
121	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	75347	9547	2
122	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	66474	8596	1
123	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	70319	8596	2
124	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	66440	8562	1
125	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	70286	8562	2
126	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72754	9857	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
85	Physical	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM	No Map Found
86	Mailing	519 S SAGINAW ST STE 200	Ste 200	FLINT	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
87	Physical	519 S Saginaw St		Flint	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
88	Mailing	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
89	Physical	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM	No Map Found
90	Mailing	719 Harrison Street		Flint	MI	485021613	9/26/2008 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
91	Physical	719 HARRISON ST		FLINT	MI	485021613	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM	No Map Found
92	Mailing	5075 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
93	Physical	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
94	Mailing	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/13/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
95	Physical	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM	No Map Found
96	Mailing	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
97	Physical	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM	No Map Found
98	Mailing	1776 WEST WARREN AVE		DETROIT	MI	482082215	5/13/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
99	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	485072404	4/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
100	Mailing	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	48504	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
101	Physical	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	485041894	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
102	Mailing	642 E PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053395	5/7/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
103	Physical	642 E Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	51900	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM	No Map Found
104	Mailing	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/16/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
105	Physical	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM	No Map Found
106	Mailing	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
107	Physical	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM	No Map Found
108	Mailing	915 S DORT HWY STE H		FLINT	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
109	Physical	915 S Dort Hwy		Flint	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
110	Mailing	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
111	Physical	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM	No Map Found
112	Mailing	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	48507	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
113	Physical	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	485072211	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
114	Mailing	2001 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	48505	4/30/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
115	Physical	2001 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	50479	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM	No Map Found
116	Mailing	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
117	Physical	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM	No Map Found
118	Mailing	507 West Atherton Road		Flint	MI	48507-2404	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
119	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	48507	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
120	Mailing	PO Box 25023		Lansing	MI	489095023	7/10/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
121	Physical	2015 Gold Ave		Flint	MI	485032133	8/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
122	Mailing	1235 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
123	Physical	1235 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
124	Mailing	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
125	Physical	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM	No Map Found
126	Mailing	817 E KEARSLEY ST	Suite #B	FLINT	MI	485032076	9/11/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
85	Physical	690348.5	275849	43.00923933	-83.66508447	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM
86	Mailing								
87	Physical	688057.0838	276508.8792	43.01577271	-83.69030789	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
88	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
89	Physical	680063.7	275936.1	43.01258	-83.78854	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM
90	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
91	Physical	688297.4	276383.4	43.01454305	-83.68743705	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM
92	Mailing								
93	Physical	685653.0333	269833.2597	42.95628262	-83.72204312	5	14	50	3/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
94	Mailing								
95	Physical	682279.2	279691.2	43.04588466	-83.76010635	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM
96	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
97	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	43.0036284	-83.6521503	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM
98	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
99	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
100	Mailing								
101	Physical	684503.4622	279790.4107	43.046191	-83.732799	5	27	34	9/1/2010 12:00:00 AM
102	Mailing								
103	Physical	687572.5	281497.6	43.06084342	-83.69563539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM
104	Mailing								
105	Physical	689138.6	276568.4	43.01599595	-83.67705509	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM
106	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
107	Physical	694320	284318.2	43.08434795	-83.61669073	5	27	48	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM
108	Mailing								
109	Physical	690973.0485	276838.8328	43.01800697	-83.65442631	5	27	34	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
110	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
111	Physical	688020.9	280466.8	43.05146936	-83.68843922	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM
112	Mailing								
113	Physical	686849.1431	272837.0035	42.98302345	-83.70636886	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
114	Mailing								
115	Physical	684775.2	282991.3	43.07497851	-83.72841952	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM
116	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
117	Physical	687671.2	282234.9	43.06741	-83.69308	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM
118	Mailing								
119	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
120	Mailing								
121	Physical	690182.6395	277503.0049	43.02418556	-83.66389268	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
122	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
123	Physical	687300.4209	275504.2638	43.00691923	-83.69993064	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
124	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
125	Physical	684513.1	279487.4	43.04469901	-83.73275911	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM
126	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
85	2	Validated by CGI	0032002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
86									8:59:42 AM
87	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
88	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
89	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
90	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
91	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
92									8:59:42 AM
93	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
94									8:59:42 AM
95	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	GENESEE	14550		8:59:42 AM
96	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
97	2	Validated by CGI	0034001		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
98	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
99	2	Validated by CGI	0035001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
100									8:59:42 AM
101	2	Validated by CGI	0009001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
102									8:59:42 AM
103	2	Validated by CGI	0006004	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
104									8:59:42 AM
105	2	Validated by CGI	0029002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
106	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
107	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
108									8:59:42 AM
109	2	Validated by CGI	0031002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
110	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
111	2	Validated by CGI	0020002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
112									8:59:42 AM
113	2	Validated by CGI	0135005	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
114									8:59:42 AM
115	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
116	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
117	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
118									8:59:42 AM
119	2	Validated by CGI	0035001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
120									8:59:42 AM
121	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
122	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
123	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
124	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
125	2	Validated by CGI	0009001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
126									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
127	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72755	9857	2
128	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73041	9986	1
129	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73042	9986	2
130	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72937	9936	1
131	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72938	9936	2
132	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	66672	8794	1
133	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	70495	8794	2
134	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	66681	8803	1
135	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	70503	8803	2
136	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71943	9538	1
137	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71944	9538	2
138	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	66723	8845	1
139	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	70543	8845	2
140	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73024	9978	1
141	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73025	9978	2
142	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	66760	8882	1
143	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	70580	8882	2
144	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75564	11104	1
145	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75565	11104	2
146	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73411	10151	1
147	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73412	10151	2
148	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73844	10352	1
149	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73845	10352	2
150	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	66786	8908	1
151	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	70606	8908	2
152	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70962	9176	1
153	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70887	9176	2
154	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58755	5061	1
155	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58756	5061	2
156	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58753	5060	1
157	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58754	5060	2
158	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58721	5029	1
159	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58722	5029	2
160	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65426	8008	1
161	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65427	8008	2
162	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65424	8007	1
163	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65425	8007	2
164	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65436	8017	1
165	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65437	8017	2
166	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58629	4952	1
167	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58630	4952	2
168	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58600	4976	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
127	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM	No Map Found
128	Mailing	1401 E COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485032089	5/11/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
129	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	7/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
130	Mailing	3500 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042353	2/15/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
131	Physical	3500 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042353	5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM	No Map Found
132	Mailing	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	48503	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
133	Physical	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	485033620	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
134	Mailing	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
135	Physical	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	485070008	5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM	No Map Found
136	Mailing	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	7/6/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
137	Physical	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM	No Map Found
138	Mailing	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
139	Physical	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM	No Map Found
140	Mailing	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	48504	4/29/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
141	Physical	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	485045002	7/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
142	Mailing	303 EAST KEARSLEY 1313 WSW		FLINT	MI	485020000	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
143	Physical	509 Harrison St		Flint	MI	485021715	5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM	No Map Found
144	Mailing	2040 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
145	Physical	2040 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
146	Mailing	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
147	Physical	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
148	Mailing	6436 BRAY RD		FLINT	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
149	Physical	6436 Bray Rd		Flint	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
150	Mailing	4406 LENNON RD		FLINT	MI	48507	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
151	Physical	4406 Lennon Rd		Flint	MI	485071029	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
152	Mailing	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/13/2009 9:11:38 AM	No Map Found
153	Physical	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM	No Map Found
154	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
155	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
156	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
157	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
158	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
159	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM	No Map Found
160	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
161	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM	No Map Found
162	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
163	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM	No Map Found
164	Mailing	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
165	Physical	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM	No Map Found
166	Mailing	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
167	Physical	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM	No Map Found
168	Mailing	1700 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046214	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
127	Physical	688709.8	277146.1	43.021008	-83.68268	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM
128	Mailing								
129	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.01834848	-83.6708089	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
130	Mailing								
131	Physical	683591.4	279781.1	43.04628852	-83.74400614	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM
132	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
133	Physical	687438.9474	275569.8441	43.00747544	-83.69820423	5	27	49	9/4/2014 2:34:33 PM
134	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
135	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.96466	-83.71872	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM
136	Mailing								
137	Physical	684574.5	277603.4	43.02623129	-83.73295366	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM
138	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
139	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.98875	-83.680646	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM
140	Mailing								
141	Physical	685166.4677	281884.5932	43.06487788	-83.72395718	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
142	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
143	Physical	688153.5	276594.5	43.01647344	-83.68912579	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM
144	Mailing								
145	Physical	684740.3528	283025.1642	43.07524921	-83.72880504	5	27	49	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
146	Mailing								
147	Physical	681937.7488	277941.1174	43.03017212	-83.76489796	5	27	49	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
148	Mailing								
149	Physical	690539.7186	286074.0701	43.10124061	-83.65654448	5	27	48	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
150	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
151	Physical	681822.0186	273192.514	42.987457	-83.767885	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
152	Mailing								
153	Physical	686838.1	277483.8	43.02444284	-83.70452604	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM
154	Mailing								
155	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
156	Mailing								
157	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
158	Mailing								
159	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM
160	Mailing								
161	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM
162	Mailing								
163	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM
164	Mailing								
165	Physical	682167.1	272284.2	42.97915519	-83.76393644	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM
166	Mailing								
167	Physical	682839.1	281040.2	43.05520496	-83.75284154	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM
168	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
127	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
128									8:59:42 AM
129	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
130									8:59:42 AM
131	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
132	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
133	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
134	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
135	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
136									8:59:42 AM
137	2	Validated by CGI	0013001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
138	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
139	2	Validated by CGI	0035001		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
140									8:59:42 AM
141	2	Validated by CGI	0003001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
142	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
143	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
144									8:59:42 AM
145	2	Validated by CGI	0103043	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
146									8:59:42 AM
147	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
148									8:59:42 AM
149	2	Validated by CGI	0121001	31800	049	Genesee	20070		8:59:42 AM
150	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
151	2	Validated by CGI	0109101	29020	049	Genesee	33420		8:59:42 AM
152									8:59:42 AM
153	2	Validated by CGI	0015002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
154									8:59:42 AM
155	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
156									8:59:42 AM
157	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
158									8:59:42 AM
159	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
160									8:59:42 AM
161	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
162									8:59:42 AM
163	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
164									8:59:42 AM
165	2	Validated by CGI	0109121	29020	049	GENESEE	33420		8:59:42 AM
166									8:59:42 AM
167	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
168									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
169	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58601	4976	2
170	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58578	4959	1
171	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58579	4959	2
172	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58838	5023	1
173	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58839	5023	2
174	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75702	11162	1
175	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75701	11162	2
176	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75405	11028	1
177	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75406	11028	2
178	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75408	11029	1
179	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75407	11029	2
180	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63960	7449	1
181	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63961	7449	2
182	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51379	1690	1
183	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51380	1690	2
184	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51371	1683	1
185	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51372	1683	2
186	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62414	6561	1
187	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62415	6561	2
188	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75226	10944	1
189	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75225	10944	2
190	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74635	10699	1
191	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74634	10699	2
192	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74368	10573	1
193	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74367	10573	2
194	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53646	268	1
195	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53647	268	2
196	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53682	271	1
197	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53683	271	2
198	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64244	7561	1
199	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64245	7561	2
200	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53510	267	1
201	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53511	267	2
202	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64076	7403	1
203	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64077	7403	2
204	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72056	9580	1
205	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72057	9580	2
206	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73879	10369	1
207	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73878	10369	2
208	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74478	10626	1
209	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74477	10626	2
210	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74312	10548	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
169	Physical	1700 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046214	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM	No Map Found
170	Mailing	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
171	Physical	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	5/19/2011 11:09:13 AM	No Map Found
172	Mailing	303 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485021950	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
173	Physical	303 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485021907	5/19/2011 11:07:19 AM	No Map Found
174	Mailing	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485058505	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
175	Physical	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485054831	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
176	Mailing	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
177	Physical	1002 S. Saginaw		Flint	MI	485021499	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
178	Mailing	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
179	Physical	4287 W. Pasadena Ave.		Flint	MI	485042342	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
180	Mailing	G3284 MACKIN RD		FLINT	MI	485043285	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
181	Physical	G2138 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
182	Mailing	3329 Burnell Ave		Flint	MI	485044303	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
183	Physical	3329 BURNELL AVE		FLINT	MI	485044303	5/19/2011 11:53:15 AM	No Map Found
184	Mailing	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
185	Physical	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615	5/19/2011 11:53:17 AM	No Map Found
186	Mailing	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
187	Physical	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
188	Mailing	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084	6/23/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
189	Physical	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084	6/23/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
190	Mailing	310 W OAKLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485033915	7/11/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
191	Physical	310 W Oakley St		Flint	MI	485033915	7/11/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
192	Mailing	3196 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042330	4/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
193	Physical	3196 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042330	4/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
194	Mailing	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
195	Physical	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708	5/19/2011 11:39:06 AM	No Map Found
196	Mailing	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
197	Physical	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753	5/19/2011 11:38:52 AM	No Map Found
198	Mailing	6170 TORREY RD		FLINT	MI	485075954	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
199	Physical	6170 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075954	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
200	Mailing	530 W PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053114	8/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
201	Physical	530 W Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	485053114	8/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
202	Mailing	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
203	Physical	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642	5/19/2011 10:49:14 AM	No Map Found
204	Mailing	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740	10/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
205	Physical	4358 Richfield Rd		Flint	MI	485062016	7/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
206	Mailing	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
207	Physical	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
208	Mailing	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	48503	9/11/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
209	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	10/8/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
210	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
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174	Mailing								
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178	Mailing								
179	Physical	681992.7163	279696.2722	43.04595776	-83.76363806	5	27	49	9/11/2014 12:10:19 PM
180	Mailing								
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182	Mailing								
183	Physical	683713.4	277467.4	43.02549671	-83.74318147	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:15 AM
184	Mailing								
185	Physical	687568.8	271428.8	42.97021233	-83.69798023	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:17 AM
186	Mailing								
187	Physical	693813.6	282661.2	43.06968	-83.61753	5	27	48	7/20/2011 3:17:04 PM
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191	Physical	688891.5758	274464.0866	42.99715832	-83.6807723	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
192	Mailing								
193	Physical	683893.084	279786.4296	43.04630546	-83.74029085	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
194	Mailing								
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196	Mailing								
197	Physical	681228.4	280877.2	43.04976933	-83.77253416	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:38:52 AM
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201	Physical	686273.1374	281493.6301	43.061085	-83.710504	5	27	34	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
202	Mailing								
203	Physical	692381.9	280269.8	43.04989069	-83.63593213	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:49:14 AM
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206	Mailing								
207	Physical	685949.737	283092.1695	43.07555389	-83.71392822	5	27	48	8/22/2012 9:56:02 AM
208	Mailing								
209	Physical	688662.2166	277107.3733	43.021008	-83.68268	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
210	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
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171	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
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173	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
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179	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	Genesee	14550		8:59:42 AM
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183	2	Validated by CGI	0108123	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
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185	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
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187	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
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190									8:59:42 AM
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194									8:59:42 AM
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198									8:59:42 AM
199	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	33420		8:59:42 AM
200									8:59:42 AM
201	2	Validated by CGI	0004001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
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208									8:59:42 AM
209	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
210									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
211	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74311	10548	2
212	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74314	10549	1
213	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74313	10549	2
214	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74785	10770	1
215	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74784	10770	2
216	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65094	7904	1
217	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65095	7904	2
218	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72318	9582	1
219	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72060	9582	2
220	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51218	1605	1
221	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51219	1605	2
222	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51222	1607	1
223	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51223	1607	2
224	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64849	7865	1
225	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64850	7865	2
226	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59672	5309	1
227	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59673	5309	2
228	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59399	5289	1
229	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59400	5289	2
230	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59389	5280	1
231	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59390	5280	2
232	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59405	5296	1
233	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59406	5296	2
234	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59129	5283	1
235	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59130	5283	2
236	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59385	5278	1
237	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59386	5278	2
238	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59139	5291	1
239	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59140	5291	2
240	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61517	6333	1
241	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61518	6333	2
242	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75796	11209	1
243	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75795	11209	2

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
211	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
212	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
213	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
214	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073493	7/2/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
215	Physical	5081 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075999	9/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
216	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
217	Physical	3136 SOUTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485073004	6/7/2010 1:49:01 PM	No Map Found
218	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
219	Physical	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
220	Mailing	5089 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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223	Physical	1493 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613	5/19/2011 11:54:13 AM	No Map Found
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225	Physical	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	485073429	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
226	Mailing	G-1379 WEST LOUIS AVE		FLINT	MI	48505	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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230	Mailing	1505 W COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035002	9/26/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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238	Mailing	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
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229	2	Validated by CGI	0016004		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
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From: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB)
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI);Howell, Thomas (CEPI);Jameson, Robbie (DTMB)
Subject: Schools - Water issue - CEPI data helping to make a difference

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/flint-water/73623958/

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 2:33 PM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI)
Subject: MIRS Monday Podcast, January 4, 2016

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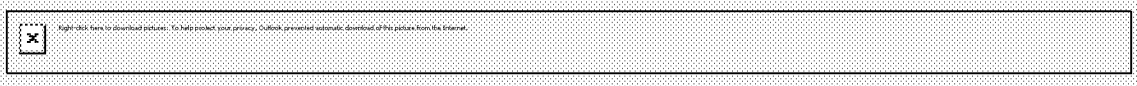
This week on MIRS Monday

The recent legislative recall movement isn't stopping with Sen. Wayne Schmidt and Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, says Kevin Heine, a board member for iCaucus, a conservative organization that is supporting the removal of legislators who voted for the gas tax and driver registration fee increases late last year. How many Senators are being discussed? How many state House members are looking at competitive primaries this fall?

MIRS handicaps its opinion on what Gov. Rick Snyder will do with SB 571, the bill that would restrict schools and local governments from sharing information with voters on millages, bonding proposals and other new money asks. Also, why the departure of former Department of Environment Quality Director Dan Wyant isn't the end of the Flint water story.

Click Here To Listen



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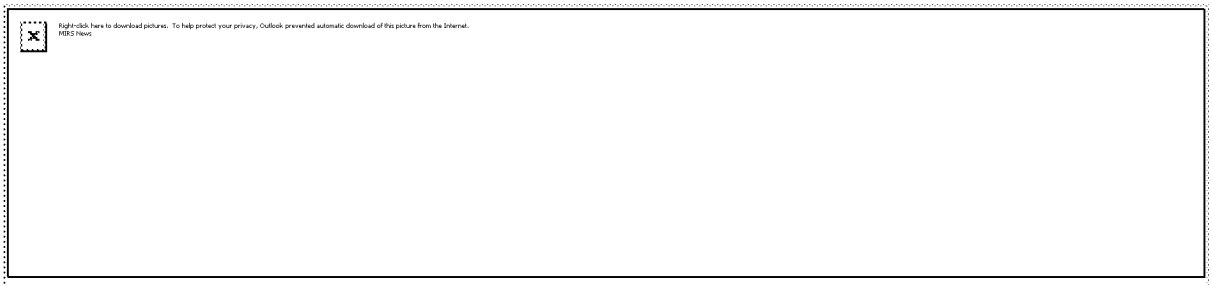
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 7:31 PM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, January 4, 2016



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, January 4, 2016

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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Task Force Will Look Into EM's Role In Flint Water Crisis

Having flagged the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for mishandling the Flint water contamination problem, the Governor's special task force charged with studying the issue will next move onto other issues, including a review of the emergency manager's (EM) role, MIRS has learned.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4742#45385

Quackenbush To Leave MPSC, Talberg Takes Over As Chair

The head of the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) is leaving for the private sector, which means a new chair and a new vacancy on the panel charged with regulating the state's utilities.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4742#45385

Snyder Gathering Info On Declaring Emergency In Flint

Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration is gathering the “information about the resources needed” to declare a state of emergency in Flint from the lead-in-the-water crisis.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45391

Zimmer: Decision Excluding Autism As Condition `Straightforward,' `Difficult'

The move not to add autism as a condition treated with medical marijuana was straightforward, but still difficult, the state official in charge of such decisions said.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45389

iCaucus Board Member: Look For More Recalls

Recall language against five more state senators is coming if the Board of State Canvassers approves Jan. 14 the wording of those seeking to remove Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) and Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive), said an official with grassroots organizational group iCaucus.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45384

House Legal Tab Now Up To $80K On Courser/Gamrat Affair

The House of Representative has spent around $80,000 in outside legal bills in the run-up and aftermath of former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT being chased out of the legislature.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45386

Julie Calley, Wife Of Lt. Gov., To Run For State House

Julie CALLEY, the wife of Lt. Gov. Brian CALLEY and the chair of the Ionia County Commission, has decided to run for the State House this year.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45382

Hank's Pot Drive `Looking Good,' No Update From Marsden

Jeffrey HANK's petition drive to legalize marijuana is "looking good for the 2016 portion of the campaign," according to an end-of-the-year update the group sent via email recently.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45387

Bolger: Trump Another Obama; Patterson: Trump's Appeal Growing

Two voices in Michigan's Republican Party -- a former House speaker and a long-time county executive -- have quite different takes on the Donald TRUMP phenomena.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45388

MSC Upholds Governmental Immunity In Officer-On-Officer Shooting

The Michigan Supreme Court today remanded a case back to circuit court on grounds that the immunity provision for firefighters and police officers wasn't properly adhered to.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45392

Snyder PAC Makes 11th Hour RPA Pitch

Gov. Rick SNYDER's political action committee (PAC) was among the flood of fundraising emails sent out before midnight New Year's Eve in the mad dash to pad numbers for the fundraising period.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45393

Bits And Tidbits

Muchmore To Join Honigman

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45394

On This Day In Michigan History

On Jan. 4, 1843, Stevens T. MASON, who was known as "Michigan's boy governor," died of pneumonia at the age of 31. Mason was named secretary of the territory at the age of 19. Then, he became acting territorial governor at the age of 22, and at the age of 24, he was officially elected governor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#45383

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4742#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016
9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell**
Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

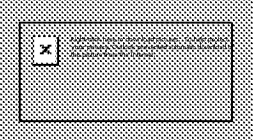
Capitol Calendar Events

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016
6:00 PM
Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours
Location: Town Hall Room A
Contact: Penny Crider 517-373-5713

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016
11:00 AM
Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours
Location: Livonia Civic Park Senior Center
Contact: Penny Crider 517-373-5713

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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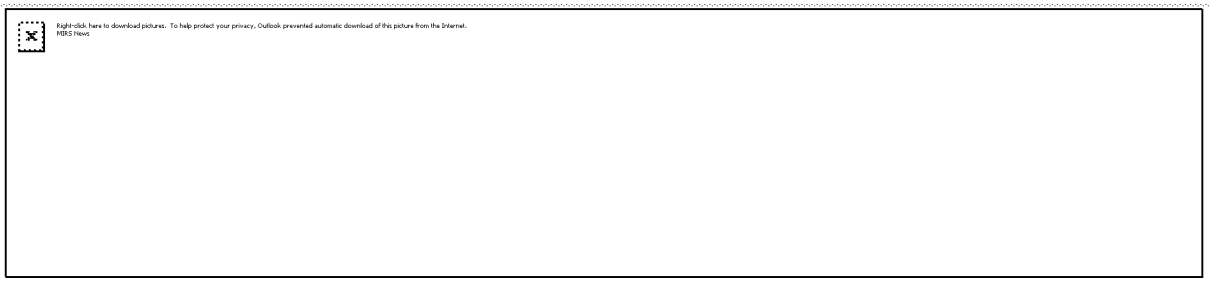
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 7:31 AM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Obama plan for gun control shows limits of acting alone

"Washington — President Barack Obama's do-it-himself plan for keeping guns away from those who shouldn't have them falls far short of what he'd hoped to accomplish through legislation after a massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School shook the country to attention in 2012."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2016/01/05/obama-guns/78294250/*

Snyder weighs declaring water emergency in Flint

"Gov. Rick Snyder is considering whether to declare an emergency for Flint's contaminated water a week after apologizing to residents for the state's handling of Flint's water crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2016/01/04/snyder-flint-emergency-lead-water/78274734/*

Revolving door? Top Snyder aide to register as lobbyist

"LANSING -- Gov. Rick Snyder's departing Chief of Staff Dennis Muchmore said Monday he will register as a lobbyist in his new job as chairman of the government relations and regulatory practice group for the Detroit-based Honigman law firm, but he downplayed concerns about potential conflicts of interest or a "revolving door" between state government and the lobbying corps."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/04/revolving-door-top-snyder-aide-register-lobbyist/78258388/

Approval for new bridge span could come in March

"WASHINGTON — The Coast Guard said Monday it could, by early March, finally award Manuel (Matty) Moroun and the owners of the Ambassador Bridge a permit to build a twin to the Detroit River span, though that project's future is in doubt with the Canadian government moving ahead with a rival bridge."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/04/approval-new-bridge-span-could-come-march/78276380/

Former staffer of Rep. Brian Banks settles lawsuit

"LANSING – A settlement in the sexual harassment lawsuit filed against state Rep. Brian Banks, D-Harper Woods, has been reached."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/04/former-staffer-rep-brian-banks-settles-lawsuit/78276918/

Obama gun actions will focus on unlicensed dealers at gun shows, online

"WASHINGTON — President Obama will announce a series of executive actions to curb gun violence Tuesday, focusing on businesses that buy and sell guns at gun shows, flea markets and online without a license — thus allowing buyers to evade the criminal background check required at brick-and-mortar gun stores."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/04/obama-executive-actions-on-guns/78269442/

Burns, Oregon residents' message to militia: 'Go away'

"BURNS, Ore. — Monday evening at the empty Elkhorn Cafe, owner Terry Williams was washing dishes silently. He paused to brew a cup of coffee and talk about a group of armed men occupying federal buildings at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/2016/01/04/burns-oregon-militia-locals/78289510/

GOP lawmakers call for firing of Mizzou professor who called for 'muscle'

"More than 100 Missouri Republican lawmakers are calling for the firing of a University of Missouri assistant professor and a staff member who received nationwide attention after a video captured the two women attempting to intimidate student journalists at the site of a campus protest in November."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2016/01/04/gop-lawmakers-call-firing-mizzou-professor-who-called-muscle/78290176/*

DDOT drivers want city to reject expanded SMART service

"The union representing bus drivers in Detroit wants to stop a plan that would open key routes in the city for expanded service by the region's suburban bus system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2016/01/04/ddot-drivers-want-city-reject-expanded-smart-service/78276040/*

Fata whistle-blower settles suit: new allegations arise

"The whistle-blower who helped crack the criminal case against Farid Fata has settled his lawsuit against the former oncologist for about $1.7 million, but the case is far from over, with new allegations surfacing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/04/fata-whistle-blower-settles-suit-new-allegations-arise/78262556/*

Marathon refinery seeks OK to hike air pollutants

"State environmental regulators are poised to allow the Marathon Detroit Refinery to increase emissions of at least eight air pollutants at its southwest side facility, further angering nearby residents who say they're already suffering by having to deal with the smell of sulfur that hangs in the air, while white and gray billows of smoke from the refinery's stacks provide a dreary visual backdrop for their forgotten neighborhoods."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/04/marathon-refinery-seeks-ok-hike-air-pollutants/78262910/*

GM CEO Mary Barra named board chairman

"DETROIT, MI - General Motors CEO Mary Barra has been unanimously voted Chairman of the Detroit automaker's board of directors, effectively immediately."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2016/01/gm_ceo_mary_barra_named_board.html#incart_river_home*

Gov. Snyder must decide whether to declare disaster in Flint water crisis

"FLINT, MI – Last week, Gov. Rick Snyder said he was sorry for Flint's lead in water crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2016/01/governor_must_decide_if_flint.html#incart_river_home*

Bill inspired by Flint water crisis would make data manipulation by Michigan officials a felony

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Rep. Phil Phelps doesn't know whether officials at state agencies manipulated data to mask lead levels in Flint water, but he does know that there's no law stopping somebody from doing so."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill_inspired_by_flint_water_c.html#incart_river_home*

With just 17 miles to go, KWA pipeline work might not stop for mild winter

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – Five contractors and about 1,200 workers are taking advantage of a mild winter as they push to build the last 17 miles of theKaregnondi Water Authority pipeline to Lake Huron. It's possible they won't be stopped by the weather until the job is complete."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2016/01/mild_weather_helping_speed_kwa.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Michigan taxpayers have spent more than $77,000 on the Courser-Gamrat scandal so far

"LANSING, MI -- The Michigan House of Representatives spent $77,000 on legal services in the course of ousting former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, according to data obtained by liberal advocacy group Progress Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/michigan_taxpayers_have_spent.html#incart_most_shared-lansing*

Dave Agema calls for impeachment of President Obama

"KENT COUNTY, MI – A presidential impeachment process could damage Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign

and satisfy the "grassroots" of the Republican Party, Dave Agema said."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2016/01/dave_agema_calls_for_impeachme.html#incart_most_shared-lansing*

Advocacy/Opinion

Counterpoint: Most Americans at odds with Trump's bile

"From the minute Donald Trump announced his candidacy by declaring that Mexicans are criminals and rapists, many political pundits and progressive advocates have been waiting for his demise. But six months later, his inflammatory and often insulting rhetoric — which would have once been considered unimaginable in mainstream presidential politics — has become routine. We're still waiting for the other shoe to drop."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2016/01/04/trump-american-majority-immigration-racism-sexism/78288724/*

Profits drive employment, not the other way around

"The most recent U.S. employment report shows that 211,000 jobs were created in November, extending the current streak of job creation to its 69th month. Among politicians — both those in office and those who wish to be — the number of jobs created has become the most important statistic of the current economic recovery."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2016/01/04/profits-employment-jobs/78288778/*

Will: Politics in longer perspective

"Soon, voters will have the opportunity to insert themselves into the 2016 presidential conversation that thus far has been the preoccupation of journalists and other abnormal people. The voting will begin in Iowa, thanks to Marie Jahn."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/george-will/2016/01/04/will-politics-longer-perspective/78288786/*

Editor's Note: Daisy Elliott's legacy will endure

"Daisy Elliott, 98, died late last month, but her legacy lives on in the form of Michigan's civil rights law, which bears her name."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/01/04/daisy-elliott-legacy-opinion/78288600/*

Officials: Refuge takeover requires delicate response

"Burns, Ore. — The armed activists who flocked to a remote wildlife refuge to take a stand against the federal government also looked prepared for a nippy day of hunting or fishing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2016/01/05/ranching-standoff/78293946/*

Tompor: China, Mideast worries fuel sell-off in stocks

"The first trading day of 2016 rang in with a 470-point thud hitting Wall Street."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2016/01/04/stocks-new-year-dow-jones-nasdaq/78253988/*

State apology, resignation over Flint water first step

"In the quiet week between Christmas and New Year's Day, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality chief Dan Wyant resigned, followed quickly by department spokesman Brad Wurfel."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2016/01/05/snyder-flint-water/78068536/*

Susan J. Demas: Oregon militiamen just want free stuff from the government

"America, meet your new social justice warriors."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/01/oregon_bundy_militia_wildlife.html#incart_river_home*

Political Reasons, Not Economic Ones, Keep Corporate Welfare Agency Alive

"Here's a question: Why should lawmakers bother trying to inject transparency into the operations of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation? Wouldn't it make more sense to apply their efforts to just dump the MEDC altogether? Given the obstacles, the answer may be "probably not.""

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22048*

Press Releases

Michigan Lottery Bringing the Heat to Players this Winter with New Family of "Hot" Instant Games

*"**LANSING, Mich., Jan. 4, 2016** – Michigan Lottery players will be feeling the heat this winter thanks to a new "Hot" family of instant games. The "Hot" instant games range in price from $1 to $10 and offer players the chance to win plenty of cold hard cash."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451945976_lottery.pdf

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Bringing Black History to Life Means Character Development

"A North Carolina theater company is continuing it's acclaimed tradition of taking Black history on the road in February to celebrate Black History Month, bringing dozens of vibrant characters along with them."

Source: *PR Media Release* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451939662_pr.pdf

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Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Genesee County Board of Commissioner's State of

"LANSING — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement after the Genesee County Board of Commissioners del acrd a state of emergency in Flint due to the city's ongoing lead-in-water crisis: "

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451941730_ananich.pdf

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Colbeck to hold January office hours in Canton, Livonia

"State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and District Manager Penny Crider will hold monthly office hours for January in Canton and Livonia. The office hours are at the Canton Township Administration Building as well as the Livonia Senior Center, and will be open to the public."

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451938172_colbeck.pdf

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MSC Opinion: Lego v Liss

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an opinion in Nos. 149246-7, Michael Lego v Jake Liss, which was argued on October 14, 2015.

For more information about the case and related briefs, click here."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451937373_msc.pdf

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House Leadership Spends over $77,000 on Courser/Gamrat Scandal

"LANSING — To investigate the Courser/Gamrat scandal, the Michigan House leadership decided to pay an outside law firm over $77,000, in lieu of utilizing the Attorney General's office or House Majority Counsel."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451934672_mich.pdf

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Early Registration Deadline Approaching for 2016 Great Lakes Crop Summit

"MOUNT PLEASANT – Participants that want to take advantage of the early bird discount for the 2016 Great Lakes Crop Summit (GLCS) have to act fast! The discount ends January 8. This year's event takes place January 27-28 at Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mt. Pleasant."

Source: *Michigan Corn Growers Association* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451934591_corn.pdf

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ICYMI: Rand Stands with Us

*"**DES MOINES, Iowa**- In case you missed it, earlier today, young supporters for Rand Paul for President released a video encouraging fellow students to caucus for the only true liberty candidate, Dr. Paul. "*

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451932402_paul.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Sally Talberg to lead Michigan Public Service Commission

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today appointed Sally Talberg, of Williamston, as chair of the three-member Michigan Public Service Commission. Talberg replaces John Quackenbush, of New Buffalo, who intends to return to the private sector."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451931071_gov.pdf

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Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Submits First Set of Standards to the Michigan Supreme Court

"LANSING, MI -- The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC) announced that it has submitted its initial set of standards to the Michigan Supreme Court (the Court)."

Source: *Michigan Indigent Defense Commission* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451928932_midc.pdf

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Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016

"Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016"

Source: *Michigan Association of State Universities* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451928824_masu.pdf

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Michigan Department of Education Press Release

"LANSING – From the iconic Detroit industry murals of Diego Rivera and courtside views of a former Fab Fiver to a rock retrospective by Patti Smith and a Lebanese-American family's savory home-cooking, the 20 titles on the Library of Michigan's (LM) 2016 Notable Book list are an eclectic mix."

Source: *Department of Education* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451926561_dese.pdf

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Mitchell Blasts Proposed Prop 1 Re-do

"Proposed Sales Tax Increase Continues One Bad Option After Another"

Source: *Paul Mitchell for Congress* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451924955_mitchell.pdf

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Sen. Jack Brandenburg Receives MLA Legislator of the Year Recognition

"LANSING – Michigan Library Association (MLA) has recognized Senator Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township) as the 2015 MLA Legislator of the Year for his leadership in promoting libraries and supporting legislation and initiatives advancing the library community's goals."

Source: *Michigan Library Association* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451924719_mla.pdf

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John Kepros, M.D., appointed Chief of Sparrow's Medical Staff

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow is pleased to welcome John Kepros, M.D., as its new Chief of Medical Staff for a two-year term. His appointment began Jan. 1, 2016."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451919650_sparrow.pdf

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Thinking spring? Apply for spring turkey hunting now

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the spring turkey hunting application period is now open."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916793_dnr.pdf

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Consumers Energy News Release

"JACKSON, Mich., Jan. 4, 2016 – A relatively mild winter and the lowest natural gas price in nearly 15 years are working together to reduce this winter's heating bills for homes and businesses that Consumers Energy serves. The energy provider announced today that the average household could pay $200 less for natural gas this winter compared to a year ago."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916463_energy.pdf

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Rep. Phelps to Introduce Legislation to Protect Public From State Abuse

*"LANSING – State Representative **Phil Phelps** (D-Flushing) announced that he has drafted legislation that could prevent government corruption in the future by making it a felony for any state employee to knowingly manipulate data that would change the outcome of an official report. "As we began to comb through all of the facts surrounding Flint's water crisis it was frightening to learn that there were very few laws on our books that protect the public from potential government abuse such as data manipulation" said Phelps. "I am not sure if anyone involved in the Flint water crisis deliberately changed or removed critical data in state reports, but I am absolutely certain that it should be a crime if it did happen""*

Source: *Rep. Phil Phelps* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916404_phelps.pdf

Blight Elimination, Incentives and more

*"**ASTI FIGHTS BLIGHT** http://www.asti-env.com/news/2015/12/18/asti-fights-blight-in-muskegon-heights **INCENTIVES UPDATE** http://www.asti-env.com/news/2015/12/23/redevelopment-incentives-alert **HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL FEATURES RENTSCHLER** http://www.asti-env.com/news/2015/12/11/rentschler-featured-in-huron-river-watershed-council-report"*

Source: *ASTI Environmental* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916349_asti.pdf

Liberty Group Supports Ministers Pursuit of Marriage Freedom

"

Detroit, MI – The Michigan Chapter of Our Initiative has come out in support of Pastor Neil Patrick Carrick's efforts in defense of private marital choice. The Detroit Minister recently brought a lawsuit against the state of Michigan with the hope of striking down laws that punish clergy for performing marriage ceremonies that don't involve licenses, or don't conform to state definitions of marriage. Currently, the law appears to call for fines or jail sentences against members of the clergy who don't comply.

"

Source: *Michigan for Our America Initiative* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916299_our.pdf

Gladstone South Hill Road traffic signal inoperative after crash

*"**January 3, 2016 –** The traffic signal at the intersection of US-2/US-41/M-35 and South Hill Road in Gladstone is out of operation after being damaged in a traffic crash today."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *01-05-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451916209_mdot.pdf

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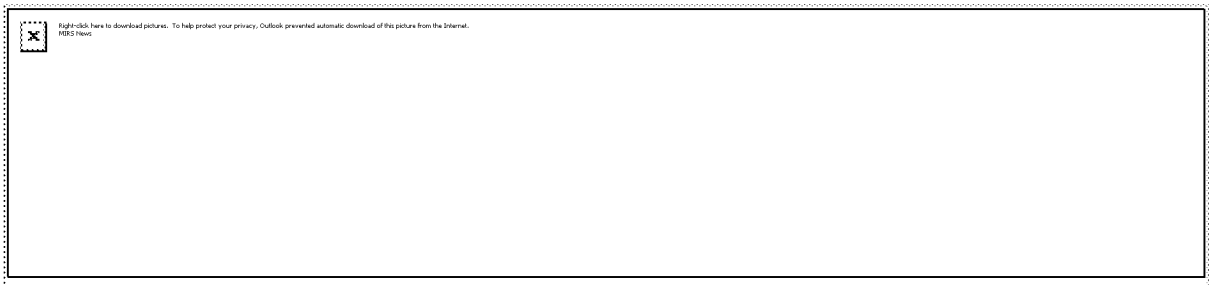
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 8:28 PM
To: Anderson, Trina (CEPI)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, January 5, 2016



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, January 5, 2016

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PDA Friendly Web Version:

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PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Straight Ticket Elimination Bill Signed Into Law

Michigan voters will no longer be able to vote for an entire slate of Republicans, Democrats or third party candidates on General Election ballots by darkening a single oval, under a new measure signed by Gov. Rick SNYDER today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45396

Snyder Declares Emergency In Genesee County Over Flint Water

Gov. Rick SNYDER today declared a state of emergency for Genesee County due to the "ongoing health and safety issues caused by lead in the city of Flint's drinking water," his office announced today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45402

Elections Chair Willing To Work On Clarifier For Campaign Finance Bill

The House Elections Committee chair is among a growing number of lawmakers willing to push legislation clarifying what local government officials can say about local ballot proposals if Gov. Rick SNYDER signs a multi-section election bill that may bar them saying anything about new-money asks 60 days before an election.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45398

State Quietly Settles Now-Dismissed Banks Civil Suit

The state paid former legislative staffer Tramaine COTTON $11,950 last October to rid itself of the sexual harassment suit he filed against Rep. Brian BANKS (D-Harper Woods) in May 2013.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45405

Meet The Fourth Dem Presidential Candidate: Rocky De La Fuente

Michigan Democrats might not know his name, but come March, they'll see it on the presidential primary ballot.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45404

U.S. Attorney Also Reviewing Flint's Water Contamination

A state U.S. Attorney is the latest entity known to be investigating the Flint water crisis, a spokesperson confirmed today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45401

'Pocket Veto' Possible For SB 571

It hasn't been done from an odd year to even year since at least 1997, but Gov. Rick SNYDER has the opportunity to utilize his rarely used "pocket veto" power on SB 0571, which has local governments and school districts enflamed (see related stories).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45397

'Off The Record' Future In Question As MSU Explores WKAR Change

The future of the Michigan state government and politics television program "Off the Record," hosted by Tim SKUBICK, is in question as Michigan State University (MSU) President Lou Ann K. SIMON explores the option of selling the public bandwidth used by its public TV station, WKAR.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45409

Auto Dealers Director Sees A 'Very Good Year'

Low gas prices, good credit rates and "terrific products" have combined to produce what the Michigan Auto Dealers Association (MADA) executive director called a "very good year."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4743#45399

Snyder Names New Judges In Detroit, Ann Arbor, U.P.

Gov. Rick SNYDER today announced judicial appointments to courts in Detroit, Ann Arbor and the Upper Peninsula.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45403

Locals Continue To Push For Veto Of SB 0571

Local government officials continued their intense criticisms of SB 0571 today, urging a veto from Gov. Rick SNYDER on a bill they claim would tie their hands and prevent them from spreading crucial information on ballot proposals prior to elections.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45404

MIRS 2016 Election and Ballot Measure Preview

MIRS Editor Kyle MELINN, House reporter Craig MAUGER and Administration reporter Jacob KANCLERZ will give a free 2016 election preview on potential ballot proposals, competitive state House races and Congressional races to watch next week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45405

Bits And Tidbits

Stupak Endorses Johnson For 1st Congressional District

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45406

On This Day In Michigan History

On Jan. 5, 1914, at a time when the average American worker's pay was only a few pennies an hour and 10- to 12-hour workdays were common, Henry FORD startled the nation by announcing he would pay his auto workers $5 for an eight-hour day. Ford said he decided to do so because it seemed unfair that the only people in America who could not afford to buy a car were the men who made them.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#45407

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4743#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016
9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell**
Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016
5:00 PM

Michigan Soft Drink Association Annual Legislative Reception(Sponsored by Michigan Soft Drink Association)
Location: 9th Floor, Capitol View Building
Contact: Derek Bajema 517-371-4499
bajema@misoftdrink.net

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2016
8:00 AM
Tentative Session - House and Senate
Location:

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 - 16, 2016
8:00 AM
Tentative Session - House and Senate
Location:

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016
6:00 PM
Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours
Location: Town Hall Room A
Contact: Penny Crider 517-373-5713

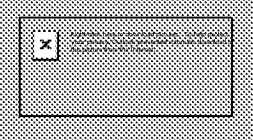
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016
11:00 AM
Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours
Location: Livonia Civic Park Senior Center
Contact: Penny Crider 517-373-5713

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016
7:30 AM
Breakfast Reception for Rep. Mike Callton
Location: MI Beer & Wine Wholesalers
Contact: James Klein 313-399-1342
jameskiein44@gmail.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2016
7:30 AM
\"Paczkis with Pscholka\"(Sponsored by MI Restaurant Association)
Location: MI Restaurant Association, 225 W. Washtenaw, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Heather Lombardini 517-927-3706
hlombardini@sterlingcorporation.com

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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Volume #54, Report #75 -- Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Auto Insurance Changes Head For Senate Floor

After a whirlwind of activity over a span of roughly four hours on Wednesday, the Senate Insurance Committee quickly moved major changes to Michigan's auto insurance system to the full Senate by a vote of 5-3.

Generally speaking, SB 248 seeks four key reforms: establishment of a new association to handle claims for catastrophic injuries, attendant care pay limits, the creation of an auto insurance fraud authority and reimbursing health care providers under the same payment schedule as the workers' compensation system. Insurers appear to have conceded their long-sought cap on medical benefits, an item that has blocked the other reforms they have wanted because of major opposition.

Rumors began late Wednesday morning that the committee planned to report SB 248, a bill that began as a reintroduction of legislation from last term aimed at making the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association a public body overseen by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and a board of directors (See Gongwer Michigan Report, March 27, 2015).

The Senate panel had not yet met for this new term, much less had a hearing on the bill. Still, some of the legislators on the committee - who took major heat from opponents over the unlikelihood that any had actually read through all the changes being proposed in the 62-page bill - asserted this issue had been around long enough that they were well-prepared to vote on such a major overhaul.

Josh Hovey, spokesperson for the Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault, called that argument "disingenuous."

"In order to comment effectively and give meaningful feedback on legislation, you need to give people time to read the language because a few words can change many things," he said. "We're deeply disappointed at the speed of which this bill was gone through and the last-minute notice everyone was given."

Sen. Joe Hune (R-Whitmore Lake), chair of the committee, was among legislators countering arguments his committee was not taking enough time on such a major issue. He said now-Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) had introduced the bills last year (though they never received a hearing as they were introduced too late) and that he himself has introduced multiple forms of auto insurance reform in the past.

"I'm not sure you call it a rush," Mr. Hune said after the meeting. "We had two-and-a-half hours of testimony. I don't really call it a rush. We had the votes, let's get this done."

Indeed, Mr. Hune said at the outset of the meeting that he would hear testimony from those who had submitted cards on the matter and wished to speak. However, he said it was his intention to report the bills, SB 248 and SB 249.

An email received by Gongwer News Service shows the Legislative Service Bureau had provided around 11:15 a.m. to the Senate Majority Policy Office the S-1 substitute of SB 248 that was eventually voted on in committee. It appeared to have been forwarded to the Senate Insurance Committee clerk within 20 minutes of that, or roughly an hour before the start of the committee.

At the committee itself, it seemed as though few people, if any, had a copy of the S-1 in question. An official with the Senate Majority Policy Office was the first to give a presentation to committee members on what the substitute and the bill would do, and Mr. Hune took a vote on the substitute right after. Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) was the sole vote in opposition to adopting the sub, though ultimately he would be joined by Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) and Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City) in opposing reporting the bill, which also included an amendment from Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit). Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) abstained from voting on reporting the bill. Mr. Schmidt did not return a request for comment. Mr. Horn said he generally supports changes to the system of insuring those catastrophically injured in traffic crashes, but the action on the bill happened so fast that he did not feel confident casting a vote either way. He said he did not think the bill was handled well.

"I promised my constituents that I would read every bill that I voted on. I got the analysis for the substitute a half-hour into the meeting," he said. "I think we should have taken testimony today, and then taken time to review."

Mr. Horn said unlike returning members of the committee, he is new to insurance issues as a first-term senator. And he was uncomfortable at seeing those following the issue reluctant to testify because they had not seen the substitute. He also had interest in writing an amendment related to attendant care, but there was no time during the committee.

"To them, it seems normal," he said of the senators who have studied the issue for years. "To me, it seems rushed."

Mr. Horn said he has been told the full Senate will vote Thursday, and he will be prepared to vote on the bill when that happens.

The committee also reported SB 249, a bill amending the Support and Parenting Time Enforcement Act to reflect the changes in the other bill. It was reported without any changes along the same 5-3 margin with Mr. Bieda, Mr. Young and Mr. Schmidt in opposition, and Mr. Horn abstaining.

"It is absurd that Senate Republicans are planning to overhaul our state's entire auto insurance system while giving legislators zero notice to review the bills and weigh in," Mr. Bieda said in a statement following committee. "On its face, this legislation is likely to benefit insurance

companies without any guarantee that Michigan consumers will see any savings. We should be given the proper chance to consider all of the repercussions before voting on it."

Mr. Young said the committee's actions appalled him.

"Michigan consumers already pay the highest rates in the nation, and now we're giving insurance companies a license to pass more costs on to them," he said in a statement. "These companies are already swimming in profits. Now we're giving them an extra pool? When Michigan families are already hurting, nickel and diming them to pad insurance companies' bottom lines is disgusting. We need to be making people the priority, not profits."

THE DETAILS: When the bills were first introduced, they mimicked, nearly word-for-word, legislation Mr. Meekhof introduced late last term. But the substitute version of the bill was representative of interests for not only the sponsor of the legislation, Mr. Hune, but also concepts Mr. Smith had previously pitched (See Gongwer Michigan Report, February 23, 2015).

Under the bill, the MCCA would be dissolved, though the association would continue to exist until all liabilities are paid. A new association would be created in its place, supervised by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services with the help of a seven-member board of directors that would set the assessment for catastrophic claims. Unlike the MCCA, the board would have to meet in public and the association would be subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

The S-1 substitute of the bill requires insurers to cover claims up to $545,000, subject to inflationary changes, with the association covering all benefits above that level. There is no cap on an injured person's benefits.

Relatives or those living with the injured person providing attendant care would be limited to $15 per hour in pay with a cumulative cap of 24 hours per day in care, the latter being regardless of the person providing the care (family, household or for-hire). Insurers can contract with family or household attendant care providers for higher rates and/or care in excess of 24 hours a day.

Also contained within the bill is that injured persons receiving attendant care from non-relatives and those not living with them would have to pay a 20 percent co-pay after the first 30 days up to $200 per month.

Mr. Hune defended this provision, saying the way the system is currently, multiple family members can take care of an individual and then bill for 50, 60 or 70 hours a day.

"Attendant care is the largest portion of (personal injury protection) costs and it's the largest increase in costs, and it's the most rapidly growing costs of PIP," Mr. Hune said. "So I added additional language in there to say if you're taking care of your patient at home and you're a family member, you can still get 24-hour care, but it's $15 an hour and then increases beyond that according to the CPI."

And auto insurers would reimburse medical providers in accordance with the Michigan workers compensation fee schedule under the substitute. That change will draw a furious response from the state's hospitals and physicians. Auto insurers have long accused providers of charging them more for the same procedures than they do of health insurance companies, the workers' compensation system, Medicare and Medicaid.

Mr. Smith's amendment that also won adoption in committee defines an excessive, inadequate, or discriminatory rate, all of which mirror definitions in Florida statute, he said.

Specifically, a rate for auto insurance is considered excessive if it is likely to produce a profit that is "unreasonably high" in relation to the risk involved or if the cost of the insurance is unreasonably high in relation to services rendered.

An inadequate rate is such if it is either "clearly insufficient" or the premium charged to a risk, discounts or credits exceed "reasonable reflection of expense savings and reasonably expected loss experience from the risk," the language states.

And a rate is unfairly discriminatory if the application of premium discounts, credits or surcharges to the risk does not bear a reasonable relationship to the expected loss and expense experience.

THE REACTION: Though some groups representing insurance agents or insurance companies were supportive of the bill, as were DIFS, the administration and the Secretary of State, the majority of testimony was in opposition to SB 248.

"Obviously they don't know the history of workers compensation, that it's been failing recently," John Cornack, president of the Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault, said in a phone interview of using the workers' compensation payment schedule. "So they want to put a fee schedule that's been failing miserably on one of the most important health care decisions in the state of Michigan's history?"

Mr. Cornack also called the actions taken by senators on Wednesday "disturbing" and blasted the rate of pay for attendant care.

"It's disturbing they could possibly impact tens of thousands of catastrophically injured individuals without some real forethought. Before they say that was not the intent, they need to understand what the issue is so they don't do something that causes collateral damage at a higher level," he said. "You can't find a nurse for $15 an hour. That will make this impossible for care to be delivered in the home. People have been dislodged from their home if this bill goes through as written."

Dave Finkbeiner, senior vice president of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, spoke to the committee in opposition to the bill based on the lack of specifics regarding the newly created entity as proposed.

"The industry gold standard is that products are safe, reliable and entitled to the public trust. We're uncertain if the MCC as proposed does that. Is it an insurance product regulated by DIFS or not? Would it have capital and surplus requirements? Will it be protected by the state?" he said. "If the liability is removed from the auto insurers, where does the liability land? Ultimately, who is responsible? We don't understand that, maybe DIFS does, and we would like to know. If the liability is going to fall on patients ... so be it, but let's be up front. We're not antagonistic to the MCC concept but we don't understand it."

Michael Dabbs with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan (as well as secretary for CPAN) also took issue with the attendant care changes.

"Unlike any other injury, a person with a serious brain injury is unable to direct their care. The significance of this point is that the survivor may not respond or respond appropriately to family care," he said. "The proposed changes to attendant care will increase the cost of insurance and increase the premiums we pay."

But Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township) took issue with the current fee schedule, questioning how the same activity, such as therapeutic exercise for strength, could have three different reimbursement rates depending on whether they came from workers' compensation or were in Detroit instead of Grand Rapids, for instance.

To that end, the Michigan Insurance Coalition, which was supportive of the bill, said the only response it has been able to get is that certain circumstances force the differences.

But Mr. Brandenburg was not swayed, saying the numbers he had seen, especially with regard to the fee schedule, were "totally unacceptable."

"It should not be that way. Something is wrong with the system we have now. I know this has become an emotional, visceral issue, but ... something has to be done," he said.

Also supportive of the bill was Scott Hummel with the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents, Heather Drake with AAA, and Tom Shields with the Michigan Insurance Coalition. And the talk among those following the issue is that it was the decision of the Michigan Insurance Coalition to concede its long-sought cap on medical benefits to accomplish other reforms that enabled Wednesday's action.

"We see this as a fair compromise," Mr. Shields said. "SB 248 will protect the most generous auto insurance benefits and coverage in the country while providing some common sense cost controls that should make no-fault insurance more affordable for every driver."

ON THE SENATE FLOOR: A Senate source close the situation said the expectation is the bills will be voted on by the full Senate Thursday, though Mr. Hune did not confirm that with reporters after the meeting.

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Mr. Meekhof, said she expects the bills will see a vote "very soon," but also acknowledged that more caucus discussion may be needed. She challenged the

apparent speed of the bills Wednesday, also maintaining the issue had been out there for a long time.

"A lot of work has been done on this issue, and the topics addressed today have been discussed in previous hearings (in other terms)," she said, adding that it's unlikely this will be the last time the Senate has the issue before it. "This legislation has to get through the House. I would hazard to guess it will likely return to the Senate. I don't think this will be the last we're able to hear from those for or against this issue."

The bill is not on the Senate agenda for Thursday sent out Wednesday evening, but that does not mean it can't be taken up. And the talk among those following the issue is the only reason to so suddenly take up the issue would be if supporters have lined up the necessary 20 votes for passage Thursday. Mr. Horn said he has been told a vote will take place Thursday.

Revenues Fall $85M Short In March As MBT Credits Surge Again

Another run on Michigan Business Tax credits in March, coupled with other factors, caused state revenues to fall $84.8 million below levels forecast just two months earlier, according to the Senate Fiscal Agency.

However, in a sign of just how volatile revenues to the state are right now from month to month, the state is still running about $99 million ahead of the January forecast of where revenues for the 2014-15 fiscal year would stand at this point. February had seen an unexpected significant uptick in revenues.

The big culprit in March was, again, the old Michigan Business Tax as companies continue to file for credits owed. MBT refunds were $127.3 million higher than expected.

As a result, even though the Corporate Income Tax, which launched in 2012, collected $106.5 million for the month, above expectations, overall business tax revenues were a negative $51.7 million - $72 million below expectations - because MBT net revenue was -$160.1 million.

Even with the red ink from the business tax, revenues to the General Fund overall were just $29.9 million below the forecast, due in part to a quirk in when withholding payments were posted.

Another potential headache continues to develop in the sales tax, where collections were $63.7 million below the forecasted level even though revenues from sales tax on vehicle sales were up 8.6 percent from March 2014. Sales tax collections on other goods were down 8.2 percent.

As a result, revenues to the School Aid Fund, which heavily relies on the sales tax, were $48.4 million below expectations and are $52.3 million below forecasted levels for the year overall.

When it comes to roads, for conservatives calling for passing the House-approved plan from 2014 that would have effectively funded roads through forecasted growth in sales tax revenues,

continued sagging in sales tax revenues will complicate such a plan. Critics of this alternative have noted it would pull revenue away from schools and local governments.

Tax Incentives Invoke Spirited Debate In House Committee

Whether Michigan would be left defenseless against other states that offer tax credits generated some fury at the House Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday.

Defenders of the Michigan Economic Growth Authority worried two bills that would bar any new MEGA agreements means Michigan would lose large investments snapped up by states with incentives, but the committee chair said the bills would not end incentives offered by the state.

In fact, committee chair Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica) snapped during the meeting that the suggestion that HB 4333 and HB 4334 would end incentives was "BS."

At several points during the meeting, Mr. Farrington said the only incentives that would be ended would be those issued by MEGA. The state could still issue incentives to companies looking to expand jobs in Michigan, he said.

Even that raised concerns by some members who argued that a state with a good overall tax policy geared towards business should be enough to spur growth.

A good tax policy is critical, Mike Johnston of the Michigan Manufacturers Association said, but it is not enough. Michigan does not have enough to attract large capital investments, and that is where incentives come into play, he said, opposing the two bills.

If Michigan does not have an incentives program, he said, "Guess what? (Companies) will go somewhere else. Watch and see."

The committee did not take action on the bills, and will not for several weeks as Mr. Farrington said they will need some work.

Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering), sponsor of HB 4333, said the bills would not discontinue the incentives already in place. The legislation was an attempt to "be proactive" and not "burden taxpayers in the future."

The legislation would prohibit any new incentives coming from the MEGA program. Part of what has added to the more than $9 billion in outstanding MEGA credits is the Michigan Economic Development Corporation agreeing to amend agreements made before the state ceased awarding new MEGA credits after 2011. The MEDC, at Governor Rick Snyder's urging, has now said it will no longer amend old MEGA agreements.

Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), sponsor of HB 4334, said the bills "in no way show disrespect for the major employers in the state for their efforts to retain jobs and create jobs."

The goal, the two men said, is to prevent another situation such as the state now faces with an estimated $9 billion in tax losses over the next 16 years that will affect overall state revenues.

Jack McHugh of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy said the "ultimate cost of MEGA credits remains unknown" as the overall effect of the credits tends to be less than the cost of the actual incentive.

But Mr. Johnston said the state's restored economic fortunes are due to major corporate projects that came in large measure to MEGA credits. From 2010 to 2014, corporations just in the automotive sector have invested $16.3 billion in Michigan, and added more than 37,000 jobs during that time, he said.

Other states hate the MEGA incentives, Mr. Johnston said, because Michigan used them and won.

If the state gives up incentives, the other 49 states will be able to entice companies out of Michigan, he said.

Some committee members were willing to accede to the concept of incentives to create new jobs. But they questioned using incentives to retain jobs.

Mr. Johnston said retaining jobs is critical, especially given the time frame when the program was allowed to grant incentives for retaining jobs - during the economic lows of the last decade - because that helped keep jobs in the state when they very likely would have left.

"The goal is jobs," he said. "We need to do everything going forward to retain jobs. Retention matters."

House Panel Reports School Early Warning Bills

The House Financial Liability Reform Committee reported a package of bills Wednesday designed to create an early warning system for schools on the verge of financial emergency amid Democratic opposition to the plan.

All of the bills (HB 4325, HB 4326, HB 4327, HB 4328, HB 4329 and HB 4330) moved on party-line votes after Republicans rejected Democratic amendments to several of the bills.

The bills would require some additional reporting from school districts, intermediate school districts and public school academies, showing the entity could be struggling financially even though it had not yet fallen into deficit.

Among the events districts would have to report are enrollment declines of more than 5 percent annually or of 4 percent more than the district had budgeted, missed obligation payments, or per-pupil expenditure increases of more than 5 percent.

While the bills would allow the state to take note of the districts earlier, an amendment by Rep. Earl Poleski (R-Jackson) to HB 4325 provided the Department of Treasury would not be allowed to take action until a district is actually in financial distress.

Mr. Poleski also succeeded with an amendment to HB 4327 that would require any district not able to erase its deficit within five years be moved to an enhanced deficit elimination plan, which would allow Treasury to require a financial recovery agreement outlining additional steps to reduce the deficit.

The bills also would allow Treasury, in addition to the Department of Education, to withhold state aid payments from a district that adopts a deficit budget.

Among the changes Democrats had unsuccessfully offered were requiring Treasury to pay for the additional reporting; expanding allowed uses for sinking funds; requiring that charters, not their authorizers, submit the required reports; allowing charters to be subject to an emergency manager; and requiring that all new school board members be trained (the bills would require members of boards adopting deficit budgets be trained).

The committee also rejected a proposal from Rep. Pam Faris (D-Flint) that would have moved much of the oversight of deficit districts to ISDs.

Driskell Closes On Walberg In Quarterly Fundraising

U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg once again faces an opponent who, in the short term, can out-raise him.

Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline), so far the only Democrat to announce a challenge to Mr. Walberg (R-Tipton), raised $ 171,232 for the first quarter of 2015, her campaign finance report filed Wednesday showed. But she had to refund $6,640 of that, giving her a net income of $164,591.

Mr. Walberg, in contrast, had net receipts of $165,929 for the quarter, his reports showed (he did not have to issue any refunds).

But as the incumbent, Mr. Walberg had a leg up in overall funds, with $417,669 cash on hand. Ms. Driskell had $149,860 in the bank. The reporting period ran from January 1 through March 31.

"The numbers we reported in just seven weeks are indicative of our strong start. They show that the people of the 7th District are ready for change, and they're ready for a voice that truly represents them," Ms. Driskell said in a statement. "I will work every day to give my neighbors the representation they deserve. It is an honor to have earned support from so many grassroots contributors. Knowing that so many hard-working parents, students, and seniors are supporting our campaign makes me want to work even harder."

A substantial portion of Ms. Driskell's fundraising, $87,204, came through the aggregator ActBlue, her report showed.

The other incumbent Democrats are mobilizing to challenge aggressively, U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls), posted a relatively unimposing fundraising report, raising $114,105 and posting $90,497 on hand.

SOCC Planning Final Decision In May

The State Officers Compensation Commission is planning to make its recommendations on pay after only two meetings, but renewed its request Wednesday for the officials for whom it recommends pay to make suggestions.

The commission heard essentially the same presentation at its opening meeting made to the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference in January: both the state and national economies are improving, but the state budget is taking a hit from tax credits issued in the depths of the Great Recession that are now being redeemed.

Noting the lack of comment and the expectation that SOCC will meet only once more to set salaries for the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, legislators and justices, commission member Mick Middaugh of Paw Paw requested the Civil Service Commission, which provides staff support, again contact those entities offering them the opportunity for input in the process.

Judicial salaries once again appeared to be the focus of the commission, with Hassan Jaber of Dearborn asking for data on the pay for lower court judges as well as the justices' pay already provided.

But commission staff also noted SB 56, referred to the House Appropriations Committee in late March, would sever the tie between the justices' salary and that for the lower courts, instead tying them to pay increases for non-union state workers.

As it develops its recommendation, it will be considering data that shows Michigan's governor and legislators are among the highest paid in the nation while the justices are below the average of the indexed states (though still in the top half nationally).

The agency compares the officials' salaries to both national statistics and, in more detail, to the other Great Lakes states and the largest states.

Governor Rick Snyder's current salary ranks 10th nationally and Lt. Governor Brian Calley's is 14th. But while Mr. Snyder is 1.6 percent higher than the surveyed states, Mr. Calley is 0.1 percent lower.

The justices' pay ranks 19th nationally but is 10 percent below the average of the surveyed states.

Michigan legislators continue to be among the top paid, ranking fourth nationally, though still 2.2 percent below the average of the seven full-time legislatures among the surveyed states.

Attorney General Bill Schuette, 33rd nationally, is paid 15.1 percent less than the average of his counterparts in the surveyed states, while Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, 17th nationally, is paid 0.5 percent more than the average for her surveyed counterparts.

Members might also consider that the commission's last two recommendations, for 3 percent pay increases for the justices and by extension for the rest of the state's judges, saw no action from the Legislature to enact them.

The commission will meet again at 9 a.m. May 13 when members expect to complete a pay recommendation.

House Votes To End Venture Capital Program

Venture capital funds would not be using any additional state dollars under legislation approved Wednesday by the House.

The bills (HB 4195, HB 4196 and HB 4365) would move the last $150 million available to the Michigan Early Stage Venture Investment Corporation to the General Fund.

While the corporation would continue and would be allowed to amend existing contracts, it would dissolve 24 years earlier: January 1, 2030 instead of 2054.

"By nature, venture capital is risky and the state should not be risky with taxpayer dollars," Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), primary sponsor of the package, said.

There is also no real measure of the success of the program, Mr. Pscholka said. "We don't know how many jobs were created," he said.

If the package is approved, the corporation would still have $450 million invested in its current list of venture capital funds, but would not be able to move the money to new funds or increase that investment.

Mr. Pscholka said he was concerned over legislation in the Senate that would create a new venture capital program.

New Yes Ad For Proposal 1 Lays Out Lengthy Case

Acknowledging that voters' first reaction to Proposal 15-1 is negative, supporters of the measure to raise the sales tax as part of a plan to generate $1.2 billion in additional revenue for roads unveiled a new television advertisement Wednesday that goes into detail about what the proposal does.

The 60-second ad also highlights the bipartisan support for the proposal, featuring images of Republican Governor Rick Snyder and Democratic former U.S. Sen. Carl Levin as well as the names of business groups and unions backing the proposal.

Roger Martin, spokesperson for Safe Roads Yes, said in a statement that campaign representatives have spoken to audiences at more than 150 events across the state.

"At these presentations we are often greeted with reluctance and skepticism - sometimes even anger," he said. "But as voters learn what Proposal 1 really does, even many skeptical and reluctant voters move to support. ... When voters take the time to learn what Proposal 1 really does, support increases. It's a conversation that takes time, so we have moved to a longer message."

Meanwhile, one of the No groups, the Coalition Against Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals, held an event on the Capitol lawn on Wednesday, urging opposition to the proposal.

House Committee Eyeing Changes To Pawnbroker Registry Bills

Bills that would set up a state electronic database of items pawned or sold to a pawnbroker as well as those purchased by precious metal and gem dealers met a skeptical reaction Wednesday from the House Financial Services Committee.

Members did not object to the general idea and purpose - to have the information available electronically on all such purchases in the state instead of leaving it to local governments on how to store the data - but questioned having the Department of State Police run a single database and establishing a fee to pay for it.

Rep. Anthony Forlini (R-Harrison Township), the committee chair, said he would prefer to resolve the issue of having all purchases stored electronically by requiring all purchases be put into one of the existing electronic databases that local governments use. There are at least three firms that provide the service and charge either the local government or the pawnbroker.

Several committee members said they would prefer to see the databases remain at the local level instead of a state database.

But Mark Aubrey of the Michigan Pawnbrokers Association said the advantage of a state-run database is it would avoid concerns about whether the different firms would cooperate. It also would correct what he called the excessive costs in the current system where some municipalities charge as much as $2 per transaction to pay for their database costs.

"It's created a burden on many businesses," he said.

And having multiple databases that cannot share data has established a patchwork system, Mr. Aubrey said. The $250 fee, paid for by pawn shops, takes the cost completely away from local governments and will establish a reliable cost structure, he said.

Mr. Forlini said he has a problem with the state picking one firm to establish a database.

"What we're doing is picking winners and losers. I don't want to do that," he said.

Mr. Forlini said he would prefer that the database firms each share their databases with all policing agencies.

Mr. Aubrey cast doubt on whether those firms would work together to develop a unified system. "I don't see how that's possible," he said.

"It's possible," Mr. Forlini retorted.

After the hearing, Mr. Forlini said he hoped to move on the bills (HB 4266, HB 4267 and HB 4268) before the end of June.

State Unemployment Rate Drops In March

The March seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Michigan was just 0.1 percentage point higher than the national unemployment rate, officials said Wednesday, as the rate fell to 5.6 percent from February's 5.9 percent.

The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5 percent, unchanged from February, and Michigan's jobless rate nearly matched that level.

In fact, officials with the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, said the state's unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2015 stood at 5.9 percent - matching February's jobless rate. For the last quarter of 2014, the jobless rate averaged 6.5 percent.

In March 2014, the jobless rate in Michigan stood at 7.6 percent.

But much of the impetus for the state's lowered jobless rate comes from a smaller overall labor force. Fewer people sought jobs during the month, department officials said.

Total employment was up, but by just 2,000 jobs. Still, that meant in one year, the state saw more than 90,000 new jobs created.

The total labor force in the state stood at 4.746 million, down 12,000 people from February.

The total number employed stood at 4.479 million. The number of unemployed was 267,000 marking the third consecutive month the state saw fewer than 300,000 people unemployed. That marked the first three-month stretch of unemployed under 300,000 since 2001.

The professional and business services sector saw a big drop in jobs - 7,000 - during the month and transportation equipment manufacturing lost 4,000 jobs. But those were offset by gains in education, government, leisure and hospitality services, information services, construction and other sectors.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia market, the state's largest, the jobless rate fell to 6.4 percent in March, down from 6.8 percent in February. In March 2014, the market's jobless rate was 9.1 percent.

Governor Rick Snyder said the figures show that Michigan has momentum in reducing the state's unemployment, but that the state is still not where it needs to be. Michigan does not want to match the national unemployment rate, but to be a national leader in developing talent, he said.

More Fee Sunset Bills Move To House Floor

Another six bills extending the sunset on a long series of state fees to 2019 or changing where funds are directed were approved by the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.

The bills - HB 4439, HB 4441, HB 4443, HB 4445, HB 4446 and HB 4440 - were reported mostly unanimously by the committee. HB 4440 was the only bill to get one no vote as it was sent to the full House.

By extending the sunsets, the state would maintain some $175 million in revenues through the fees.

Affected by the bills were the state's tire disposal surcharge, water pollution, recycling and solid waste fees, and commercial look-up fees.

In HB 4440, the state would move $12 million from the Transportation Economic Development Fund to the State Trunkline Fund to match federal highway funds.

Senate Appropriations OKs 7 Budget With No Major Changes

Minor amendments won approval from the Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday to some of the seven budget bills the committee reported to the full Senate, but otherwise little new happened as the budget process churned forward.

Winning approval were budgets for the departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (SB 115), Corrections (SB 119), Environmental Quality (SB 121), Military and Veterans Affairs (SB 128), Natural Resources (SB 129) and State Police (SB 131) as well as the judiciary (SB 126).

The committee approved an amendment to the Corrections budget that would require training for staff on how to handle prisoners with mental illness. It also approved an amendment to the Agriculture budget restoring boilerplate requiring the Grape and Wine Council to issue an annual report on its activities.

In the DEQ budget, Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) won approval of an amendment for a $100 placeholder to help Flint with an emergency water fund. Flint's decision to unhook from the Detroit water system in favor of drawing from the Flint River while awaiting completion of a pipe drawing from Lake Huron has been a disaster with residents complaining of filthy, dangerous water.

The Agriculture budget won approval 13-4. Mr. Hopgood, Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield), Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) and Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) voted no.

Corrections and the DNR won approval unanimously. The Military and Veterans Affairs budget was reported 15-1 with Mr. Young voting no and Mr. Gregory abstaining.

The DEQ budget was the closest vote, reported on a 9-6 vote, the minimum number of supporting votes. Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Evart), Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph), Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), Mr. Gregory and Mr. Hopgood voted no.

The Judiciary budget cleared the committee 16-0 with Mr. Booher abstaining. And the State Police budget was reported 13-0 with three abstentions.

Court Holds Audit Did Not Violate School's Due Process Rights

A school district's due process rights were not violated by a state audit reviewing its actual attendance and showing it had deliberately overstated its enrollment numbers, the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday.

Judge Henry Saad, Judge Donald Owens and Judge Kirsten Frank Kelly ruled that a decision by Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan against the Galien Township Schools was to be reinstated after it was found the district had had claimed a larger enrollment than it actually had.

The case, *Galien Township Schools v. State Superintendent* (COA docket No. 317739), came back to the Court of Appeals on remand from the Supreme Court, which had directed the court to determine if the district's due process rights had been violated in the investigation.

The district charged that it faced a hostile situation with an auditor who stood as factfinder, judge and jury against it.

But the court said the claim was misplaced, as the auditor did not make the decision against the school district, Mr. Flanagan did. Nor did the auditor actually conduct the audit, which was conducted by other staff.

If the school had been able to show actual bias in the officials, it might have had a case that its due process rights were harmed, the court said, but there was no evidence that occurred in this situation.

Bill Would Eliminate Time Table For Bridge Inspections

The Department of Transportation would schedule bridge inspections based on the risk of failure of the bridge, rather than a strict biennial schedule, under legislation introduced Wednesday.

The legislation (HB 4455) is designed to implement recommendations from a recent audit, Rep. Ben Glardon (R-Owosso), sponsor of the bill, said.

"A recent report by the Michigan Auditor General suggests MDOT could focus on keeping bridges safe for families by identifying those that pose a risk to be inspected instead of following an inspection protocol that doesn't target the most damaged bridges," Mr. Glardon said. "MDOT's resources are stretched thin as it is, with our roads and bridges needing major attention. This bill lets MDOT make the best use of its resources to keep our roads safe."

Federal regulations require the inspections every two years, but Mr. Glardon said those regulations also allow the inspection interval to be stretched as long as six years if the state can show the bridge is not a hazard.

Capital Notebook

DEMOCRATS SLAM GOP ON TAX DAY: On tax day, legislative Democrats criticized Republicans for what they charged were tax shifts - enacted as part of the 2011 business tax changes - that have hurt middle class families in the state. At a press conference, House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) said Democrats are pushing legislation that will restore a number of credits - including expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, restoring the property tax credit to its pre-2011 levels, and adding a tax credit for child care costs - that will help middle-income families.

Much of the package was introduced in the House on Wednesday.

PUBLIC SECTOR CONSULTANTS ANNOUNCES NEW HIRES: Public Sector Consultants said Wednesday that it has hired Laura Palombi as senior consultant specializing in renewable energy generation and efficiency, Alysa Arwood as project assistant and Lindsay Patton-Carson as creative content consultant. Ms. Palombi had been head zookeeper and associate curator of invertebrates for the Detroit Zoological Society and director of business development for the Clean Energy Coalition. Ms. Arwood had worked for the Truscott Rossman firm, and Ms. Patton-Carson was managing editor for Revue, a West Michigan entertainment guide, and the nonprofit reporter for its sister publication, MiBiz.

AQUATIC HABITAT: The Department of Natural Resources has announced another $1.25 million in grants through the Aquatic Habitat Grant Program.

Of the seven projects, the largest grant was $365,000 to the Friends of the Shiawassee River for Shiatown Stream restoration. The Ionia Conservation District received $300,000, the second most, to restore the Grand River at Lyons.

"This year's grants will enhance a broad range of aquatic habitat that is the foundation for Michigan's world-class fishing opportunities," Chris Freiburger, coordinator of the program, said in a statement. "We're excited for these projects to get under way and to really make a difference."

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, April 16

Historical Commission, Commission Room, Fifth Floor, Michigan Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 22

Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board, Board Room, Fourth Floor, 735 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. (Agenda)

Friday, May 8

Canceled: ~~Board of Health and Safety Compliance and Appeals, Conference Room B, First Floor, General Office Building, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, 9:30 a.m.~~

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, April 16

House Appropriations (Committee Record), **(Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9:30 a.m.**

HB 4442 **PART-TIME STUDENT GRANTS** (Muxlow) Modifies certain eligibility criteria for independent part-time student grants.

HB 4444 **MENTAL HEALTH CODE FEES** (Afendoulis) Modifies certain fees under the Mental Health Code and provides other general amendments.

HB 4447 **PUBLIC HEALTH CODE FEES** (Pscholka) Modifies certain fees under the Public Health Code and provides other general amendments.

HB 4448 **INLAND LAKES/STREAMS** (Victory) Eliminates sunset on certain fees.

HB 4449 **AIR EMISSIONS** (Victory) Revises air emissions fees.

House Military and Veterans Affairs (Committee Record), **(Chr. Barrett, 373-2002), Room 308, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

SB 52 **VETERANS WELCOME HOME ACT** (Stamas) Replaces reference to "department of labor and economic growth" with "Michigan veterans affairs agency."

HR 29 **NATIONAL GUARD** (Lucido) A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to require the U.S. Department of Defense to ensure that replacement aircraft are assigned to Selfridge Air National Guard Base to compensate for the proposed elimination of the A-10 fleet.

HCR 3 **FORT CUSTER** (Maturen) urges U.S. Department of Defense Missile Defense Agency to select Fort Custer Training Center for new ground based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission.

Wednesday, April 22

House Appropriations (Education Subcommittee) (Committee Record), **(Chr. Potvin, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 10:30 a.m.**

- **Presentation from the Department of Education on student assessments**

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, April 16

Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault roundtable on SB 248 and SB 249, Truscott Rossman, Suite 800, Boji Tower, 124 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 9 a.m.

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Tuesday Michigan Report should have identified State Board of Education member Richard Zeile as the abstainer from a resolution on the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren.

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, April 29, 2015

House Panel OKs Ban On MEGA Credit Extensions

House Passes K-12, Colleges, Higher Ed Budgets With Dem Opposition

Efficiency Companies Oppose, Utilities Support Energy Optimization Changes

Democrats Renew Calls For Elliott-Larsen Expansion

Senate Passes Pneumatic Gun Legislation

Administration Calls Franz Lottery Bill A Step Backwards In Transparency

Sustainability A Concern, Film Office Head Tells Panel

House Passes Fee Bills

Flint Financial Emergency Ends

Paul To Visit GR On Same Day As Walker Speech, Carson Announcement

Snyder Subtle On Presidential Speculation

Planned Parenthood Blasts House Budget Language

House Panel Allows Agriculture Marketing Millage To Continue

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Volume #54, Report #85 -- Wednesday, April 29, 2015

House Panel OKs Ban On MEGA Credit Extensions

Legislation prohibiting any amendments of tax credits originating under the now-defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority cleared the House Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday.

HB 4333 and HB 4334 were reported from the committee 12-0 with Rep. Paul Clemente (D-Lincoln Park) abstaining.

The bills would prohibit any new incentives coming from the MEGA program. Part of what has added to the more than $9 billion in outstanding MEGA credits is the Michigan Economic Development Corporation agreeing to amend agreements made before the state ceased awarding new MEGA credits after 2011. The MEDC, at Governor Rick Snyder's urging, has now said it will no longer amend old MEGA agreements.

One approved amendment proposed by Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), chair of the committee, would end the Michigan Business Tax on December 31, 2031.

"We want to make sure there is an end date so some companies don't have a different tax than the rest ... in Michigan," Mr. Farrington said.

The MEDC has projected the state's last payments on its current $9 billion liability will happen in 2031.

Rep. Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak), minority vice chair of the committee, offered two amendments on Wednesday to HB 4333. One technical amendment was approved. The amendment stipulates the bill would take effect on date of enactment, which is the same language in HB 4334, he said.

However, Mr. Townsend offered a second amendment that was not adopted. Mr. Townsend said the amendment was designed in spirit of furthering the purpose of the bills.

"This amendment is designed to not only further the objective of the bill, which is of course to not expose the state to any additional financial liability as a result of an amendment to a MEGA credit contract," he said. "This amendment I am offering would say that companies would not be able to amend these contracts in such a way as to lower the standard they have to meet in order to qualify for a credit."

He said a company not making its numbers should not be able to amend its contract with the MEDC to decrease the amount of jobs it was required to create or other similar changes.

Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe) offered the same amendment on HB 4334. Both amendments failed. Mr. Farrington said there was concern surrounding the additional language, and the committee was happy with the language already in the bill.

Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), sponsor of the second bill and a member of the Tax Policy committee, praised the bills in a statement.

"The MEGA credits and program expansion did what was intended at a time when Michigan was struggling through the recession by retaining the key industries and jobs that are now helping our state lead the nation's economic rebound," he said. "While those past financial commitments can be honored with gratitude, we must now look to ensure a fiscally responsible and realistic future that is stable and sustainable for Michigan taxpayers."

House Passes K-12, Colleges, Higher Ed Budgets With Dem Opposition

The House passed its budget funding the state's universities, community colleges and K-12 schools on Wednesday, with all 47 Democrats voting in opposition with concerns surrounding at-risk funding and cyber charter schools.

HB 4115 passed the House 60-50 with three Republicans - Rep. Todd Courser of Silverwood, Rep. Cindy Gamrat of Plainwell and Rep. Tom Barrett of Potterville - joining all Democrats in opposition.

The bill contains $15.8 billion with $13.9 billion going to K-12 schools, $392.6 million going to community colleges and $1.5 billion going to universities.

Chairs of both the House Appropriations Committee and the School Aid Subcommittee praised the budget. Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) said it was the largest school aid budget in the state's history.

Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township), the chair of the School Aid Subcommittee, said the bill would allow school districts in the state to do their work by wrapping categoricals into the foundation allowance.

The House budget also adds $100 million to the foundation allowance rather than adding the funds to at-risk funding as Governor Rick Snyder proposed. The House budget also does not include the $25 million Mr. Snyder proposed for third grade reading programs.

Mr. Barrett said he voted no because he does not support using the School Aid Fund for higher education purposes.

Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit) said one-third of the state's children are in poverty and the House budget "retreats" from helping those children.

"If we are really serious about bringing Michigan children to the pathway of getting to higher education, we have to make those investments early," she said. "I think the governor made the right decision with that allocation request; I think my colleagues from the other side missed it."

Ms. Gay-Dagnogo also said comments on Tuesday made about Detroit receiving more than its share of revenue sharing combined with the at-risk funding increase not being realized in the House budget show a misunderstanding of the city.

"We don't need to divide, and having those kinds of comments, which are divisive, doesn't do any good," she said. "While we may have our respective parties that we belong to and our respective communities that we come here to represent, at some point we have to put the politics aside and put the people first."

Mr. Kelly said the at-risk funding may return to the budget after conference committees with the Senate. He said he is not opposed to the at-risk funding or the reading initiatives. But, he said with the money rolled into the foundation allowance, every school can use the funds.

"I have heard nothing but really good feedback from school districts from across the state saying thanks, we haven't seen increases like this in a long time," he said. "I think it is a tremendous increase for schools. And I think they appreciate the flexibility this provides. They're training professionals and they are ready to pick up the challenge of providing unrestricted funds."

Amendments adopted to the budget would allow for more flexibility for schools to use at-risk funding and allowing for different schools to use at-risk funding once all districts have been held harmless.

Democrats also opposed cyber charter schools and charter schools getting standard foundation grants, particularly cyber schools, which Democrats said do not spend as much money to educate students.

The House budget increases the foundation allowance using the 2x formula with increases ranging from $137 to $274 per pupil plus an equity payment of $25 for districts at the minimum allowance, according to the House Fiscal Agency.

Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), said other states, including states like Kansas and Wisconsin, fund cyber charter schools based on a percentage of traditional school funding. He said Michigan needs to have that conversation.

"That is the problem with the Republican plan that is before us. They have not had the conversation on what is the appropriate level," he said. "Other states, even more conservative than the state of Michigan, have already realized that cyber schools don't have the same responsibilities as brick and mortars."

But Mr. Kelly said those schools have been funded at the bottom level for decades.

"We weren't funding them like everybody else. These were the step children for the last 20 years," he said. "If you follow the concept of the money follows the kid, it doesn't matter if it's a charter or a public school. ... I want to fund children not buildings and I think this budget gets us closer to that by shrinking the gap."

Mr. Singh also criticized the university budget, which he said does not make the appropriate investment and puts more strain on families.

"As we talk to the business community they have been very clear that we should be $100 million more every year to catch up to other states, to catch up to all the cuts made over the last decade," he said.

The House budget is less than what Mr. Snyder proposed for universities, with a 1 percent increase in operations funding (Mr. Snyder recommended a 2 percent increase).

Efficiency Companies Oppose, Utilities Support Energy Optimization Changes

Organizations that offer or oversee energy efficiency services insisted those programs would at least be severely curtailed if there was not legislation requiring utilities to offer them, while small utilities said not only would the programs continue, but the current law inhibits what they can do as the House Energy Policy Committee wrapped up its discussions Wednesday on that portion of proposed changes to the state's energy laws.

The testimony appeared to leave at least a few questions unanswered, as Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), chair of the committee, was still supporting his plan to incorporate energy efficiency into an overall energy plan for each utility rather than continuing the current requirement that each meet targets for efficiency.

Kate White, executive director of Michigan Community Action, which administers the energy optimization program for the smaller utilities that chose not to operate their own, said the program has exceeded its goals but is still only reaching a small percentage of the households available.

"There's plenty of work to be done," she said. "We have many homes that would participate if there were resources to do that."

There are commercial customers yet to reach as well, she said.

Ms. White agreed with Mr. Nesbitt that energy customers should find it in their own self-interest to make changes that will reduce their use.

"That natural incentive is not readily apparent," she said. Both residential and commercial customers, she said, often do not see the value of the investment unless the payoff is relatively short.

"Utilities will not go after robust energy efficiency measures on their own," Ms. White said.

Brindley Byrd, executive director of American Energy Efficiency Contractors, said eliminating the current requirement for energy efficiency programs would mean loss of at least 10 percent of the workforce in the industry.

"That just essentially runs the energy efficiency industry into a brick wall without any alternatives," he said of the proposed legislation.

James Alt with the Michigan Electric and Gas Association, which represents the state's 10 smaller investor-owned utilities, said eight of his members are using the program run by Michigan Community Action, and he expected that partnership or some similar program would continue.

"We do support cost effective energy optimization as well," he said. "Energy optimization-type programs are going to continue even absent the mandate."

But he said the bill as structured does not provide the flexibility that would allow more to operate their own programs.

"We want to see the ability of a gas company to file at the (Public Service Commission) with a program tailored to their own need," he said.

The current caps on spending for the programs limit the smaller utilities, he said, noting that a couple of his members have about 10,000 customers. "You can't do a whole lot with the revenue you're going to get from that," he said.

"On a go forward basis, the state mandated goals and spending limits make little sense," Art Thayer, director of energy efficiency programs for the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, said.

If given the opportunity, he said he expected some of his members would expand their programs while others could cut them back without much effect on energy efficiency efforts within their territories.

Mr. Thayer said the state law also could end up in conflict with requirements or reporting for coming U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules on greenhouse gas emissions, which allow energy efficiency programs as one of the ways to meet emissions reductions.

Mr. Nesbitt said one of his concerns is all customers are paying the surcharge for energy efficiency programs but only a few participants are seeing the benefits.

"Not every household has to participate to benefit," Martin Kushler, senior fellow at the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, said. The load reductions from the programs mean the utilities do not have to build new plants or replace some of the older plants, which will keep costs down for all customers.

Mr. Kushler and others also argued against proposals that would allow utilities to capture certain of their fixed costs through a standard charge on each bill, with only the actual power generation changing each month. They said that would further make energy optimization less attractive by cutting into the savings customers would see each month.

He also pushed for the state to expand programs that allow customers to finance upgrades through the savings on their utility bills as a way to encourage the improvements.

Democrats Renew Calls For Elliott-Larsen Expansion

Democrats in both the House and Senate Wednesday renewed their calls for an expansion of the state's anti-discrimination law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, to include protections for individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

"This is common-sense legislation that is long overdue," Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) said.

The legislators were joined by three individuals who have been affected by or are concerned about the potential impact for discrimination against the state's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals if ELCRA is not amended.

Bre Campbell, a transgender woman, did not receive housing she applied for because her "name didn't match my gender," she said. She was also threatened with losing her job if she was caught in the female bathroom.

"I want people to understand that these laws being proposed really harm people like me, especially people who are just trying to do the right thing and live," Ms. Campbell said.

Two parents of transgender children also spoke about the need to expand Elliott-Larsen because of their concerns for their safety and well-being.

"My U.S. citizen son is taught that all men are created equal. When (Thomas Jefferson) said that, he didn't have any caveats. Discrimination of any kind is wrong. It's hurtful and harmful and does nothing for our society," Lisa Goyette, one of the parents, said. "No one person is more or less deserving of this treatment (of equality). If this bill does not get amended, I want somebody to tell me why my son or others like my son are not protected."

There is also a significant business case to be made for expanding the protections, Andy LaBarre, executive vice president and director of governmental relations for the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber, said. He said updating Elliott-Larsen is the right thing to do from a civil perspective but also can be a tool to access the talent that Governor Rick Snyder and others have been searching for to fill open jobs in the state.

"It's an issue about giving businesses the tools they need to succeed," Mr. LaBarre said. "If you look at our chamber's membership, they get it, but as long as they are located in the state of Michigan and state law doesn't recognize that, we're at a competitive disadvantage."

And Nathan Triplett, mayor of East Lansing and vice president of the Michigan Municipal League, agreed.

"We are in a pitched battle for talent, attraction and retention. We've been doing everything in our power to make Michigan a place that people want to live, work and raise families. Ensuring we adopt these (inclusive) ordinances has been critical to that," Mr. Triplett said.

In fact, the issue is so important, he said, that the MML has identified it as one of its legislative priorities.

"It's time for us to lead," Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) said in noting that 18 other states and the District of Columbia have already passed such protections into law.

Both House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West-Olive) have said that expanding ELCRA is not on their agenda for this term, but Ms. Warren said she is "enthusiastic" about the potential to have a hearing on the bill and even vote.

"We have more support than we've ever had," Ms. Warren said.

Indeed, Governor Rick Snyder has said he would not sign a Religious Freedom Restoration Act (SB 4), which just had a hearing but not a vote on Tuesday, without that bill also being accompanied by changes to Elliott-Larsen. Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), sponsor of Michigan's potential RFRA, has maintained that the two subjects are not connected.

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Mr. Meekhof, said ELCRA changes have not been part of any discussions in caucus.

Mr. Hoadley said one need only look to Indiana when it comes to having a RFRA without an expansion of civil rights protections for LGBT individuals (though Mr. Shirkey has also said Indiana is not an example of what his bill seeks to accomplish).

"We're here today because we think (RFRA) is probably the wrong conversation to be having," Mr. Hoadley said. "As Indiana shows if you move ahead w/o thinking about protection for everyone ... that's dangerous."

There has been talk about ballot proposal to expand the civil rights law to sexual orientation and gender identity, but no steps have been taken to launch such an effort so far.

Senate Passes Pneumatic Gun Legislation

The Senate on Wednesday gave the green light to legislation removing pellet and BB guns from the definition of firearms in state law.

The primary piece of legislation that saw a somewhat partisan divide was HB 4151, which cleared the Senate on a 30-7 vote and is considered the meat of the legislative package that also includes HB 4152, HB 4153, HB 4154, HB 4155 and HB 4156.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) tried to include an amendment to HB 4151 that would prohibit a person under the age of 18 from using or possessing pneumatic guns, but it failed. He said that such guns are indistinguishable from real guns, and that can be problematic.

"As I was looking at this legislation and some of the news nationally ... it appeared to me that this could be a recipe for disaster," Mr. Bieda said on the Senate floor. "I think the safety of children is paramount."

Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights), Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) joined majority Republicans in support of HB 4151, and Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) was absent from session.

An S-1 substitute previously adopted by the Senate on HB 4154 amends various other portions of state law to revise the definition of firearm but also delete a prohibition against discharging a firearm within 150 feet of certain structures. And an S-2 substitute previously adopted by the chamber to HB 5155 amends the Penal Code to revise the definition of firearm; include the possession, use or transport of a pneumatic gun in various weapons-related criminal violations; and add a definition of brandishing.

Aside from HB 4155, the rest of the legislative package saw unanimous approval on final passage.

BRANDISHING A FIREARM: The Senate also gave unanimous approval to HB 4160, a bill that would define brandishing a gun in statute.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) proposed the inclusion of an amendment to tie-bar the bill to HB 4261 to ban carrying guns in schools, but it was defeated along party lines.

"I believe this is the wrong place for this amendment," Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said in urging defeat of Mr. Bieda's amendment. "We have a bill in the House. When it gets to Senate Judiciary, I'll be happy to give it debate."

The Senate also passed the companion bill, HB 4161.

SNYDER ON OPEN CARRY: With gun rights activists rallying at the Capitol, many openly carrying, Governor Rick Snyder was asked again at a separate event about where discussions stand on closing the loophole that enables gun owners to openly carry a firearm into schools. Mr. Snyder said there is no deal on the issue at this point.

Asked if a deal was close, he said, "I would imagine that will probably be (an) ongoing discussion because, again, open carry in Michigan schools is not a good thing. And most states don't allow it."

Mr. Snyder was not keen to end open carry in schools in exchange for allowing concealed pistol license-holders to carry in schools.

"In terms of just trading the two things, I don't think that's a good answer either without other conditions," he said.

Administration Calls Franz Lottery Bill A Step Backwards In Transparency

House Regulatory Reform Committee Chair Rep. Ray Franz presented a bill on Wednesday that would allow those playing the lottery to opt-out of being named if they win a multi-state game, such as the Mega Millions, but the Snyder administration opposes the bill, saying it creates less government transparency.

Mr. Franz (R-Onekama) said the bill was inspired after he heard a story from a person who won the lottery and was then hit with constant requests for donations and help with money from those with "sob stories," some true, some not true, Mr. Franz said.

HB 4433 would allow individuals playing the lottery to opt-out of public notification.

James McBride, with the administration, said it is daunting to oppose a bill being put forth by the chair of the committee, but, he said the administration does oppose the legislation.

"We take our whole approach to the responsibility to serve the public with openness and transparency very seriously," he said. "The administration opposes because we think it is a step backwards on the question of transparency."

Mr. McBride also noted a "conspiracy theory" of sorts among the general public wondering if a person did in fact with the lottery money. Mr. McBride said announcing who won shows a person did in fact win the money.

He said if the lottery got its way, it would release every person's name. However, he said there is a compromise in place with state games there is an opt-out provision for those winning more than $10,000.

The committee did not act on the bill.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS: The committee also took up HB 4263, which would reduce the annual license fee for athletic trainers from $200 to $100 and reduce the number of education hours required each three-year licensing cycle to 75 hours.

"We have discovered the licensing fee generated revenue in excess of the expenditures," said Rep. Andrea LaFontaine (R-Columbus), sponsor of the bill.

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs supported the bill.

Rep. Marilyn Lane (D-Fraser) expressed concerns about decreasing the licensing fee now, and the state later having trouble getting the Legislature to increase the fee if more funds are needed to increase technology or other things.

LIQUOR FOR PRIVATE EVENTS: The committee did report HB 4432, allowing open bars at private functions such as weddings, business receptions, and other similar events, though the same regulations still apply to overselling and license limitations.

Sustainability A Concern, Film Office Head Tells Panel

Speaking to the House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee one day after the full House voted not to fund the state's $50 million film incentive program, the head of Michigan Film Office said that showing sustainability is important to the Film Office and industry in Michigan.

Jenelle Leonard would not discuss the specifics of the House proposal, or what might happen to it as the budget process moves forward, but told committee members she remains committed to the original proposal made by Governor Rick Snyder in February. That called for the state to still issue $50 million in incentives to attract motion picture and entertainment productions in Michigan.

The program has been controversial since it was launched in its original incarnation as tax credits late in the administration of Governor Jennifer Granholm. Mr. Snyder altered the program when he took office. In the omnibus budget the House passed on Tuesday, it ended funding for the program. Earlier this year, the House passed legislation ending the incentives program altogether.

Out of the incentive package, 4 percent goes towards the administrative budget of the Film Office, Ms. Leonard said, so losing the incentives program would affect office operations. Expenditures out of that funding include promotional efforts for film festivals in the state.

Ms. Leonard - after outlining a program in which the Film Office is working to enhance tourism in the state by attracting visitors to areas where films were made or where stars were born - said the film industry has professionals located all across the state and with the incentives program now is competitive with other states in terms of locating productions.

The productions have long lead times, she said, especially to book the time of performers. Typically, they have to plan two and three years out, she said.

"They are looking for sustainability," she said, to provide a sense of what producers can expect when they plan.

And getting big productions, Ms. Leonard likened it to watching presidential campaigns come in: big productions, like big campaigns, draw more people interested in the industry and interested in locating here.

House Passes Fee Bills

The House on Wednesday passed a variety of bills extending fee sunset dates.

The bills approved were: HB 4439, HB 4441, HB 4443, HB 4445, HB 4446, HB 4448, HB 4381, HB 4384, HB 4397, HB 4398 and HB 4440.

By extending the sunsets, the state would maintain millions in revenues through the fees.

Affected by the bills were the state's tire disposal surcharge, water pollution, recycling and solid waste fees, and commercial look-up fees, and other things.

In HB 4440, the state would move $12 million from the Transportation Economic Development Fund to the State Trunkline Fund to match federal highway funds.

Also passed were HB 4363, HB 4364, HB 4382 and HB 4383 would maintain the fees included for the licensure of various construction industry jobs at the 2014-15 fiscal year level. The sunset is set for September 30, 2015 and will be extended four more years under the bills.

The House also passed SB 85, which would prohibit local units of government from taxing or regulating the ownership, registration, purchase, sale, transfer, transportation or possession of pneumatic guns (also known as air guns that shoot BBs with the force of pressurized air).

Finally, HB 4404 was also passed. Under the bill, the penalty and interest payments for the unemployment insurance fund's contingent fund would be available to the newly-created Talent Investment Agency in the new Department of Talent and Economic Development. Previously, the funds were just for the administration of the unemployment insurance agency, but under the bill the funds could go as well for the administration of the TIA and for workforce training programs. -

Flint Financial Emergency Ends

Flint's financial emergency has been resolved, and city officials said the move to self-governance marks a new moment for the city that has faced ongoing struggles for decades.

In a statement on Twitter, Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the city's emergency manager status is "finished, (a) new chapter has opened for Flint.

"I thank everyone who has stood by us, stayed with us," Mr. Walling said. "Now we will fulfill our potential."

And Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said while the announcement is a positive step forward, "there is still much work to do. I will continue to work every day to make sure the residents of Flint have the resources they need, and the city can continue its recovery."

Governor Rick Snyder made official that the city was out of its financial emergency - the second it had to struggle through in the last decade - when he accepted the recommendations of Emergency Manager Jerry Ambrose that the emergency had been addressed.

A receivership transition advisory board has been named to assist the city to continue its transition to full local control.

Earlier Wednesday, the state's Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board met and approved a $7 million loan to the city to help it pay off its remaining debts.

Flint had been under an emergency manager since December 2011, when Mr. Snyder determined the city's finances were uncontrolled. At that time, Michael Brown was named the emergency manager. With Mr. Ambrose, the city has had four emergency managers.

In announcing he had approved taking Flint out of financial emergency, Mr. Snyder said, "this is a new day for Flint and the city is ready to move toward a brighter future."

Mr. Ambrose reported that in addition to eliminating $7 million in general fund and water fund debts through the emergency loan, the city had reduced long-term liability costs from $840 million to $240 million, enacted new ordinances to deal with long-term stability - which included creating a biennial budget, five-year projections and a fund-balance reserve - as well restricted overall administration with the hiring of a city administrator.

Also, last November, city voters approved creation of a charter commission to look at other possible changes in city government. That could include establishing a city manager's position.

The proposed budget for the city's fiscal year, slated to start July 1, with a general fund of $51 million will mark the first time in 10 years the city will not project a deficit. Mr. Walling proposed that budget on Monday to the city council.

At a press conference in Flint, Mr. Walling said a "heavy burden" had been lifted from the city, MLive reported.

"Flint is ready for this change," Mr. Walling said. "Today we take responsibility for moving Flint forward."

Paul To Visit GR On Same Day As Walker Speech, Carson Announcement

Michigan will briefly become a focus of the Republican presidential race Monday with three candidates or potential candidates all holding major events in the state.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker already was slated to speak to the Oakland County Republican Party in the evening at its Lincoln Day Dinner, and physician Ben Carson, a Detroit native, is expected to announce his candidacy in Detroit that day.

Wednesday, the campaign of U.S. Sen. Rand Paul said it would hold an event in Grand Rapids with his top Michigan supporter, U.S. Rep. Justin Amash (R-Grand Rapids).

Snyder Subtle On Presidential Speculation

Governor Rick Snyder, back in Michigan Wednesday after a swing through three national events where he stoked speculation about his interest in running for president, was mostly as inscrutable as ever on the topic.

However, one thing Mr. Snyder did say reaffirmed one of the central reasons why most believe he will not run and is not seriously contemplating running. In December, first lady Sue Snyder said on Michigan Public Television that she would prefer he did not run, and it is clear Mr. Snyder would not run without her blessing.

Asked Wednesday if Ms. Snyder is encouraging him to run, Mr. Snyder said, "I wouldn't describe her as encouraging me. She's always been pretty clear that, again, she's really enjoying the things she's doing in Michigan in terms of the causes she's supporting," he said, noting her charitable work with group's like Ele's Place.

Otherwise, Mr. Snyder sidestepped questions from reporters on whether he expected people to believe he would trudge through the snows of Iowa to campaign in that state's January presidential caucus or on how his comments about the presidential race have changed in recent months.

"I think they're good, factual statements. And shouldn't people have an opportunity to hear what people's opinions are on a particular issue like this? It's important who's leading our country," he said of his stepped up commentary about the presidential field. "I'm more active making comments, but that also aligns well with telling the Michigan story."

Planned Parenthood Blasts House Budget Language

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan expressed opposition on Wednesday to the House omnibus budget bill that included language designed to block any state funds from going to the organization.

HB 4102 passed the House on Tuesday and was amended to include a prohibition on the Department of Health and Human Services from contracting with an organization providing elective abortions, abortion counseling or abortion referrals (See Gongwer Michigan Report, April 28, 2015).

"This is not an attack on just Planned Parenthood, it is an attack on the over 70,000 patients we see annually in our health centers, a vast majority of whom come to us for birth control, testing and treatment of STDs and life-saving cancer screenings," Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, said in a statement. "Limiting future opportunities for family planning dollars to go to organizations like Planned Parenthood only serves to limit access to critical services for women and families across the state."

The statement also said as the budget process continues, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan will encourage legislators to make decisions on what is best for the state.

"Every public dollar spent on preventative care services, such as those that Planned Parenthood provides, saves the state over seven dollars in spending down the road. Investing in Michigan's families is always the right choice," the statement said.

House Panel Allows Agriculture Marketing Millage To Continue

Counties would still be able to levy a millage to promote the agricultural or industrial advantages of their region, but they would have to get regular voter approval under legislation reported Wednesday from the House Local Government Committee.

The bill (HB 4166) would originally have eliminated the program that allows counties to collect up to 0.5 mill for the marketing program, but Rep. Rick Outman (R-Six Lakes), sponsor of the bill, said he ran into opposition to that plan from Washtenaw County, which is using the program.

A change to exempt Washtenaw County was met with opposition from the Michigan Farm Bureau because it opposed carve-outs, he said.

Under the bill as reported, any county not already using the program would have to receive voter approval to implement it and would have to go back to voters every five years to continue the program.

The current requirement that the county board approve the program annually would remain.

Mr. Outman said he raised the issue because of problems the program had generated in Gratiot County, but Rep. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield) was concerned the measure would essentially eliminate the ability for counties to use the program.

ROAD COMMISSIONS: The committee began discussions Wednesday on legislation (HB 4212 and HB 4215) that would eliminate the sunset on provisions allowing a county commission to dissolve its road commission. That option, enacted in 2012, expired at the beginning of the year.

Rep. Roger Victory (R-Georgetown Township), sponsor of the legislation, acknowledged that only three counties had used the measure, but he said others were looking at it and should be given the opportunity.

"If a county can absorb their road commission and carry out the duties for less cost to the taxpayers, they should be allowed to do it," Mr. Victory said.

He and other supporters argued road commissions hold substantial power, but commission members, even when appointed by the county commission, are difficult to remove.

But Ed Noyola with the County Road Association of Michigan questioned the need to continue the program given the use it had.

"I do continue to struggle with what's broke that we're trying to fix," he said. "I'm not sure that any of the counties that took over their road commission (have) shown any cost savings."

Rep. David Rutledge (D-Ypsilanti) argued smart county commissioners would leave the road commission in place to field the complaints about road conditions. "If I'm a county commissioner and knowing what county road commissions have to go through ... I would want a layer between me and that other body," he said.

Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering), the committee chair, indicated support for the plan, but adjourned the committee without indicating when it might come up again.

Capital Notebook

BUSINESS EXPANSIONS: The Michigan Strategic Fund has approved two business expansions and one community revitalization project that expect to generate nearly $39 million in new investment and 151 new jobs.

Atomic Object LLC will receive a $250,000 grant as part of plans to renovate a functionally obsolete building in Grand Rapids to serve as its new headquarters while also doubling its Ann Arbor location and leasing additional space in Detroit, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation said in a statement.

Emhart Technologies LLC will receive a $350,000 grant as part of plans to construct a 30,000-square-foot expansion of its manufacturing operations in Chesterfield Township, converting the existing office space into manufacturing space. It will also lease additional space in Troy to expand its office operations, the MEDC said.

Finally, Paradise Valley Real Estate Holdings, LLC and Real Times, Incorporated of Illinois plan to renovate a three-story historic building on Randolph Street in Detroit to include the new headquarters of Real Times, along with a restaurant and office space. The project will receive a $413,000 Community Revitalization Program grant.

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, April 30

Citizens for Prison Reform Legislative Education Day, Capitol lawn, Lansing, 10 a.m., (Speaker's Library if raining. Legislative/Constituent Luncheon in Speaker's Library from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

News conference supporting auto insurance reform, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.

Governor Rick Snyder **unveils plan for public education in Detroit, Cadillac Place, 3044 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, 11:45 a.m.**

Monday, May 4

Republican presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Rand Paul event, Kent County Republican Party Headquarters, 725 Lake Michigan Drive, NW, Grand Rapids, 10:30 a.m.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker speaks to Oakland County Republican Party Lincoln Day Dinner, Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 7

News conference on legislation to compensate the wrongly convicted, Rooms 402/403, Capitol, Lansing, 3:30 p.m.

Subscribers Please Note

A story in Tuesday's report should have said revenue sharing for Detroit in the House's proposed 2015-16 fiscal year budget is a cut from the current year level, but more than what the city received in the 2013-14 fiscal year.

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Click the ▫ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan News & Opinion For April 30, 2015

News

Flint's financial emergency over, Snyder declares (Associated Press, 4/29/2015)

State House approves $15.8B spending plan for schools (Associated Press, 4/29/2015)

State House approves $15.8B spending plan for schools (Associated Press, 4/30/2015)

Feds: Maybe next year for Blue Water Bridge project (Detroit Free Press, 4/30/2015)

Medical marijuana bills get fresh look in Lansing (Detroit Free Press, 4/30/2015)

State Dems renew their efforts for LGBT (Detroit Free Press, 4/29/2015)

What's with all the Snyder White House talk? (Detroit Free Press, 4/30/2015)

As gun advocates rally outside Michigan Capitol, lawmakers debate guns inside schools (MLive, 4/29/2015)

Inside Michigan roads Proposal 1 and the 10 laws it would trigger (MLive, 4/30/2015)

Michigan Democrats seek 'citizen co-sponsors' on new LGBT non-discrimination bill (MLive, 4/30/2015)

Michigan House passes 'record' schools budget, but Dems bemoan hikes for charter and cyber schools (MLive, 4/30/2015)

Duggan touts medical cap key to cut car insurance rates (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

Feds may fund Blue Water Bridge customs plaza (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

GOP presidential wannabes descend on Michigan again (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

Proposal 1's complexity generates controversy (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

Editorials

Why our legislators can't fix the roads (Detroit Free Press, 4/30/2015)

Our View: Caucus ruckus raises red flags (Holland Sentinel, 4/26/2015)

Drone policy must be scrutinized (Lansing State Journal, 4/30/2015)

Susan J. Demas: It's 'pathetic' that 76% of Michigan lawmakers won't say how they're voting on Proposal 1 (MLive, 4/29/2015)

Finley: Can Snyder squeeze onto GOP track? (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

Rubin: Changing no-fault with no guts (The Detroit News, 4/30/2015)

Editorial: Weaver remembered for her convictions (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 4/28/2015)

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Budget Targets Leave More Than Usual To Conference

Bill Barring Local Wage, Leave Ordinances Narrowly Passes House

Educator Evaluation Bill Heads For House

Senate Passes E-Cigarette, Powdered Alcohol Restrictions

House Panel Discusses Bill Exploring Energy Transmission Connecting Peninsulas

State Jobless Rate Matches U.S. Rate In April

House Panel Holds Back On Flint Fix, Wants Accountability

Community College Bachelor's Degrees Again Up For Debate

Budget Includes Cutting Social Security Advocacy Positions

Unions Protest Job Description Changes For Transportation Technicians

Former Prison Food Services Worker Faces Assault Conspiracy Charges

House Committee Approves ABLE Bills

O'Brien, AARP Advocate for Caregiver Legislation

Film Office Releases Strategic Plan, Looks Beyond Typical Projects

Court: Drunken Scooter Driving Also Illegal

Democrats Introduce Bills Inspired By Capitol View Deal

Lund Named Director of Michigan AFP

Snyder Signs Expansion Of Holmes Youthful Trainee Act

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Michigan Report for Friday, June 12, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Fitton Reminds Policymakers 'Health Care Is Different'

Smith Preliminary Hearing Postponed For Medical Evaluation

Appeals Court Outlines Limits On Emergency Managers In Flint Water Case

Whiston: Focus Has To Be On Classroom

Report: Most Counties Short On Physicians

Courser Gets Some Push Back On Vaccine Post

Former Rep. Roy Schmidt Released On Bond, Faces Pot Charges

Budget Bills Presented

State Reports First West Nile Activity Of 2015

Snyder Announces Restructuring Of Great Lakes Governors

Snyder Appoints Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission

Calley's Brother Charged In Hit And Run

Reports Of Auditor General Doug Ringler

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #54, Report #116 -- Friday, June 12, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Fitton Reminds Policymakers 'Health Care Is Different'

As he prepares to retire after spending his entire professional life working on the Medicaid system in Michigan, Stephen Fitton said in an interview: "Health care is different," it does not work like classic economic markets, and the country is still struggling to find the model that will work to provide the best mix of overall coverage while promoting personal responsibility and cost effectiveness.

Lawmakers and other policymakers should watch how the various experiments work and "try to be objective about what works and what doesn't, because you end up with ideology, and I'm not trying to point in either direction really, sort of driving how people interpret, you know, everything through this lens of ideology," Mr. Fitton, now head of the Medical Services Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services, said.

Officially leaving state service on June 30, Mr. Fitton was hired by the state in February 1973. His retirement at this time matches the 50th anniversary of the creation of Medicaid by Congress and then President Lyndon Johnson, and in an interview he noted how his career has largely spanned the history of that law.

He called the work, "incredibly important, and I think it's incredibly gratifying to be in a profession that does have the potential to contribute in a positive way to a lot of peoples' lives."

Medicaid has helped individuals get medical care. That means more than helping people when they are sick, though that alone is important, he said. It means helping people be able to return to the labor market, helping them find jobs and live a more full life.

Which helped bring meaning to his life as well, Mr. Fitton said. "I'm a Christian," he said, "And when I look at the Bible, it really is about being helpful to those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged and poor."

"Ultimately, if you aren't about helping your fellow man, you're missing out," he added.

Interviewed in his office, where his desk, worktable and credenza are stacked with papers and reports ("It's always kind of been about the work") and a model of Spartan Stadium, Mr. Fitton joked about how recently he has stopped getting the important emails. Those now go elsewhere.

He has also had visitors. Signing in with the security guard at his office's building, the guard asked the reporter, "Going to say goodbye, huh?" Shortly before sitting down for the interview, Mr. Fitton was visited by former Community Health Director Jim Haveman to commiserate, and grab a picture of the two together.

He says he stumbled into working with Medicaid. His original plan, when he was hired, was to go to graduate school and look at being a counselor. He realized quickly he was not cut out to be a counselor.

But, he also said it would have been "kind of absurd" to tell him then that he would end up overseeing Medicaid in the state.

"I didn't even aspire to it because it took a long time to kind of progress," he said.

And while he has spent his career working in various aspects of Medicaid in the state and in the different departments that oversaw it, Mr. Fitton said the biggest success he was part of came only recently.

The Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion has been the "crowning achievement," Mr. Fitton said. The expansion allowed the state to expand services to a "new, big population" of individuals whose incomes are up to 137 percent of the federal poverty level.

The program was adopted by the Legislature following a difficult and lengthy debate in 2013. It officially began accepting individuals in April 2014, and at the time state officials expected that by the end of 2015, 470,000 people would sign up for the program.

In fact, the state was far short on its estimate. As of this past Monday, more than 585,400 people had signed up for coverage under the program.

"It was landmark legislation," Mr. Fitton said. He gave most credit for the success in winning the program to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and to Mr. Haveman. A proposal that massive and significant "needs champions," Mr. Fitton said, and that Mr. Snyder was "all in was huge."

Mr. Fitton said his biggest part in the effort was to show legislators that Michigan had an effectively run Medicaid system, to combat the attitude some lawmakers had that, "Why would we put people in a broken system?"

By showing lawmakers the state had good outcomes with its Medicaid plan, "that changed the tone in that part of the debate."

One of the few frustrations Mr. Fitton expressed in the interview was that at his position he is removed from the ability to work with and see first-hand how the program can and has helped individuals. Some of that is evident from assessments filled out by participants, but it does not put him in contact with persons who have enrolled in the program and been helped.

In terms of advice he would provide state policymakers, Mr. Fitton said: "You have to start with one fundamental truth: everyone needs access to health care."

The debate on health insurance and access to insurance has often faced arguments from typically younger, healthier people that they take care of themselves and don't need insurance. But "nobody knows when they will get sick," and access to health care has to be there, he said.

The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act - which made the Healthy Michigan program even possible - "is certainly imperfect," Mr. Fitton said, and "we spend too much on healthcare" in the United States. He said changes have to be found to help control the overall costs.

He acknowledged that Americans do need to take better care of themselves by not smoking, by eating a healthier diet and by exercising. The Healthy Michigan plan, in fact, requires individuals to take steps to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

But still, "it has to be recognized that everyone needs access when they need it," Mr. Fitton said.

He also said officials need to be wary of arguments that government should get out of health care altogether and let it operate as a free market enterprise.

Health care does not fall into classic market scenarios, it cannot be traded as a commodity, he said. It is not cost sensitive as are other products and services. The consumers tend not to be price sensitive, Mr. Fitton said. When most people are faced with having to have a service that could save their lives, they tend not to care about the cost, he said. And prices and costs can be negotiated down dramatically by large insurance carriers but not by individuals.

Health care can "incent demand," in a way few other industries can do, Mr. Fitton said. For example, he said commercials encouraging the elderly to get mobility scooters because Medicare will help pay for the scooter has led to a sharp rise in the use of scooters.

All that means the U.S. will continue to experiment to find the most effective way to provide health care, and lawmakers should watch how those systems work before jumping to conclusions based on individual ideologies, he said.

While retiring from the state, Mr. Fitton said he plans to continue working in the field by consulting.

"I hope I have the same satisfaction, translating that into helping people have better lives," he said.

Smith Preliminary Hearing Postponed For Medical Evaluation

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" }'s preliminary hearing for allegedly shooting up his ex-wife's vehicle has been postponed to June 25 so he can undergo a medical evaluation, as his lawyer requested on Friday.

Mr. Smith's (D-Detroit) attorney Godfrey Dillard did not return requests for comment on what kind of medical evaluation Mr. Smith needs and why he requested one.

36th District Judge Michael Wagner adjourned the preliminary hearing and set the new date for June 25.

Mr. Smith is facing charges of felonious assault, domestic violence, malicious destruction of personal property $20,000 or more and possessing a firearm during the commission of a felony after an incident with his ex-wife last month.

Though the two have different versions of the story, Mr. Smith did tell police - according to a police report obtained by The Detroit News - that he did the "most stupid thing in his life" when he shot at his wife's vehicle.

Since the incident, Mr. Smith has returned to the Senate, though he has been stripped of committee assignments and other responsibilities.

Also according to { HYPERLINK "http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/06/12/virgil-smith/71114472/" \t "blank" }, Mr. Smith's ex-wife held a brief press conference following Friday's hearing where she said she is a survivor of domestic violence.

Anistia Thomas was married to Mr. Smith for six months in 2009. She said although some have tried to discredit her, she will continue to tell her story that she was attacked by Mr. Smith last month.

She also said she now has a personal protection order against Mr. Smith and the violence committed against her is more important that Mr. Smith's Senate seat.

Appeals Court Outlines Limits On Emergency Managers In Flint Water Case

Flint's former emergency manager did not have the authority to raise and ratify water and sewer rates in violation of the city's ordinances, a unanimous Court of Appeals panel ruled on Friday.

The decision, in *Kincaid v. Flint* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150611_C318906_42_318906.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }) also marks one of the first major decisions outlining limitations an emergency manager appointed under the authority of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" } (which was quickly enacted after the voters rejected { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401" } in the 2012 election).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245601&locid=1" } wrote the decision, which { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109301&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108701&locid=1" } joined.

The case stems from a complaint filed by William Kincaid and three other Flint residents against former Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown, who, in September 2011, increased city water fees by 12.5 percent and sewage fees by 45 percent. The city had already instituted smaller water and sewer increases earlier that year, before the start of the 2011-12 fiscal year. After that increase was enacted, the city was put under emergency management and Mr. Brown named the emergency manager.

Mr. Brown found that city's water department was in financial turmoil and would likely not meet required payments, so he enacted the increases.

The plaintiffs argued that the rate increases violated the city ordinances requiring notice of increases and that they be enacted before the start of the fiscal year. The trial court granted summary disposition for the city.

But Ms. Stephens said Mr. Brown overstepped his authority by essentially ratifying the rate increases. PA 436 does not give an emergency manager the authority to ratify his or her actions, the court said.

An emergency manager and the manager's powers are creation of the Legislature, the court said, and as such the legislation creating the position does not convey to the emergency manager the power to ratify the actions the manager takes. That ruling could take away much of the force of a manager's authority.

The city had urged the appeals panel to view the decisions of the emergency manager as actions by the governor. But the court said the acts clearly state the emergency manager has the authority of many officials but those are all local officials, not state officers.

An emergency manager has the authority to initiate some actions to deal with a financial emergency, the court said, but not the authority to ratify some actions.

The court also said the actions of the emergency manager increasing the water and sewer rates violated the ordinances dictating when those rates could be increased.

Whiston: Focus Has To Be On Classroom

In whatever education policy making happens over the next few years, leaders have to be focused on the function of the classroom, incoming Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston said Friday on Public Television's Off the Record.

He said parents and students need to have choice, but he said there has been too much focus on who runs the schools, particularly in Detroit.

"If we don't focus on what's happening in the classroom ... five, 10 years from now we're still going to be talking about what we need to do in Detroit," he said.

While he said he would like to see the state's largest district returned to the control of the elected board and the superintendent it appoints, he said he was open to other structures if they can be shown better for the students.

"I can't imagine how that would be best, but I will be focused on what's best for kids as superintendent," he said of proposals to dissolve Detroit Public Schools.

He did commit to helping { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } sell additional funds to repay DPS' back debt, but acknowledged some form of state oversight might be needed to get public and legislative support.

Mr. Whiston praised the governor for including extra funds for the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System.

"Helping us with the retirement costs is the only thing helping 50, 60 districts, maybe more," he said.

Recent changes to the system will allow it to remain solvent, he said, but it will take as much as 20 years to get to that point as teachers under the current system are replaced with new teachers.

But he said districts will need to be able to pay teachers more in the long run to continue recruiting them. He said graduates from teacher education programs are falling because pay is relatively low and there has been so much controversy about the field.

"If education is our highest priority, why aren't we paying our teachers as a highest priority?" he said.

On the theme of concentrating on what happens in the classroom, he said the state needs to find ways to reduce the amount of testing it does, particularly when combined with the testing local districts do for their own purposes. He urged finding a test that would serve both state accountability and local curriculum needs.

Mr. Whiston said he would also work with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } on returning the Office of School Reform/Reinvention.

"I hope that he sees I'm for holding schools accountable and that, in the natural course of business and working together, he's going to want to return it to the Department of Education," he said.

Report: Most Counties Short On Physicians

The state has enough primary care physicians, but they are not all where they are needed, the Citizens Research Council said in a report issued this week.

The { HYPERLINK "http://crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2010s/2015/primary_care_physician_shortage-2015.pdf" \t "blank" }, which examined various studies of primary care physician availability as well as some general statistics, found that only 12 percent of those physicians in the state were not accepting new patients, yet about 75 percent of the counties do not have enough physicians to cover all the residents.

"The shortages were not geographically isolated to certain parts of the state, but the northern half of the Lower Peninsula had a greater frequency of shortages," the report said. "For example, statewide, Michigan has roughly the same share of internists as the national average, but within Michigan, these shortages are heavily concentrated in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula. Similarly, counties where the ratios of pediatricians and general surgeons to the population are below suggested targets are almost exclusively in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and across the Upper Peninsula. In contrast, Oakland and Washtenaw counties have at least ten times the ideal physician-to-population ratio for pediatricians."

Among the report's recommendations is increasing funding for graduate medical education, a point of budget contention in recent years.

Working with medical schools to admit more students who might become primary care physicians and providing loan forgiveness to those working in underserved areas could also help to alleviate the shortages, the report said.

It also recommended policy changes to encourage use of medical homes, where physicians coordinate services and so can potentially serve more patients, and expanding the scope of practice for some non-physicians to allow them, within their training, to fill some of the need.

"Primary care is an integral part of an affordable and effective health care system. Policymakers, in collaboration with health care providers, universities, and other stakeholders can play an important role in coordinating a well-researched and integrated plan to help alleviate the state's primary care physician shortages," the report said. "The future of our public's health relies on primary care services, provided from a variety of provider types, and needs the support of policymakers and citizens alike to reinstate a sense of value in primary care."

Courser Gets Some Push Back On Vaccine Post

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217101&locid=1" } posted earlier this week on his Facebook page that parents should have the right to choose to not vaccinate their children, and posted Friday he's gotten an "enormous" amount of email feedback.

"Both sides of the debate have been nearly equal in their passion regarding vaccines. I do not mind healthy debate at all, but I am not writing about what the studies say about autism or a connection to vaccines," Mr. Courser wrote. "I am writing to say it is not the place of the

government to do forced injections or forced medical care into people's children any more than it is the proper role of government to force immunizations or medical care into adults."

Mr. Courser (R-Silverwood) said he is questioning if government should be able to force vaccinations on anyone - child or adult - including children with parents who believe strongly that the vaccines cause autism.

The "theory" that vaccinations cause autism has been discredited by numerous scientific studies.

"I am not a doctor or a researcher and I do not know the validity of studies for or against immunizing, but it is not for me with all the data in the world, supporting or opposing immunizing, to tell a family their children belong to the government and the government has decided for them that immunizing is their required obligation," Mr. Courser continued. "The government is not the parent; the parents must decide what type of medical care to give their children and we all lose when we lower the threshold of decision making on parenting to the bowels of the government."

A national furor has erupted against the anti-vaccination movement this year, including when more than 100 people, including one Michigan resident, contracted measles at the Disneyland amusement park in California.

The state allows parents to refuse to vaccinate their children for religious and philosophical reasons.

ENERGY CHOICE: Mr. Courser also said in a separate email to supporters that he has introduced a bill that would "change our approach to energy policy in the state."

Currently, the Legislature is debating whether to continue with the 10 percent choice cap in the energy market, expand it, or get rid of choice altogether.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), chair of the House Energy Policy Committee, supports ending choice. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } wants to see the choice piece continue, but with certain changes to the requirements of those participating.

"Unbelievably, the Republican leadership in the Legislature has been moving a package of bills that will eliminate what little competition we have in our state's energy market and will raise energy prices again on our citizens," Mr. Courser wrote, although no bills have been reported. "We have two companies (DTE and Consumers) who have a 90 plus percent control of the energy market. To achieve the best prices and options for consumers, the marketplace should not be distorted by government interference, which protects certain preferred sellers and guarantees them profits while taxpayers and citizens subsidize any risks they may take."

Mr. Courser said the state has some of the highest energy prices in the country and to bring those prices down, it must allow the free market to work, not end choice in the energy market.

Mr. Courser said many of his conservative colleagues will still say they stand against government overreach, and some might vote the "correct" way if "they are released to do so by leadership."

"But what so few will do is offer other bill options to showcase what a free market bill looks like or simply advocate against the powerful interests that run Lansing," he said. "They don't because if they do then they are cut off from funding for their next election. It is unfortunate but much is done and not done with the sole eye on how that will cause certain groups to line up in support or opposition in the next election."

Former Rep. Roy Schmidt Released On Bond, Faces Pot Charges

Former Rep. Roy Schmidt was released on personal recognizance bond Friday after being arrested Thursday following an ongoing narcotics investigation by the Kent Area Narcotics Enforcement Team.

The team, within the Kent County Sheriff's Department, searched two homes in Grand Rapids associated with Mr. Schmidt on Wednesday, a statement said. On Thursday, charges were authorized against Mr. Schmidt.

Mr. Schmidt was released on a $5,000 personal recognizance bond and is charged with manufacturing/delivery of marijuana, a four-year felony.

His arraignment took place Friday at the 61st District Court.

Mr. Schmidt served in the 76th House District, where { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids) now serves. He lost to Ms. Brinks in 2012 after he switched parties from Democratic to Republican and then got involved in an election scandal, that also caught up former House Speaker Jase Bolger, over making it tougher for Democrats to put up a candidate in the race.

Mr. Bolger and Mr. Schmidt, leading up to the May 15, 2012, deadline to file for that year's elections, worked out a strategy where Mr. Schmidt, at that time a lifelong Democrat, would join the Republicans at the last moment on the filing day to maximize his chance of winning election as a new member of the GOP.

The two men agreed that Mr. Schmidt should find a straw Democratic candidate - someone with no legitimate interest in running - to file for the 76th House District to make it much more difficult for Democrats to nominate via write-in a real member of their party to run against Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Schmidt recruited a friend of his son's and nephew's - Matt Mojzak, a bodybuilder with no evidence of any serious interest in politics - to run in part with a promise of $450. Mr. Bolger's deputy chief of staff, Phil Browne, filed both Mr. Schmidt's and Mr. Mojzak's paperwork minutes before the deadline.

Details of the plan quickly became public as a firestorm engulfed the young Mr. Mojzak, especially after it emerged that he signed, under oath, statements on his campaign affidavit of

identity that he lived in the district and had lived in Kent County for 22 years. Neither of those statements was true. Mr. Mojzak eventually withdrew from the race.

A grand jury investigation soon followed, but after several months it filed no charges against Mr. Bolger or Mr. Schmidt.

Budget Bills Presented

The 2015-16 fiscal year budget was officially placed on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s desk on Friday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB13301" }, which funds the state's departments and agencies, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" } , funding the state's community colleges, universities and K-12 schools, were both presented Friday by their respective chambers.

Also presented to Mr. Snyder by the House on Friday:

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" }

FOSTER CARE RATES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401&locid=1" }) Eliminates sunset on certain administrative rate changes to foster care services and makes subject to appropriations.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1" }

SUNSET EXTENSION ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1" }) Extends sunset on water pollution, sewerage, solid waste and recycling fees.

x.cfm?li nk=legis lation_b illdetail. cfm&bil lid=2015 HB4441 01" }
{ HYPERLI NK "http://ww w.gongwer. com/index. cfm?link=l egislation_ billdetail.cf m&billid=2 015HB4451 01" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" }) COMMERCIAL FEED ({ Makes certain amendments to feed law.

State Reports First West Nile Activity Of 2015

Crows in Ingham County have been found infected with West Nile Virus, marking the first presence of the disease in the state in 2015, officials with the departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture and Rural Development and Natural Resources said Friday.

With the discovery, officials also urged individuals to show caution against the mosquito-borne disease by limiting exposure when mosquitoes are active, using insect repellant and making sure pools of standing water are emptied to prevent breeding areas.

West Nile Virus was first reported in the state in 2001. In 2014, the state reported 34 serious illnesses among humans with two deaths. Over the last 14 years, the number of cases and fatalities have widely varied. In 2002, there were 51 deaths from West Nile Virus.

No human infections have been reported yet, but the discovery in the three dead crows does mean the virus is active in the state. Typically, the chance for infection grows later in the year as the specific species of mosquito that carries the disease is most active then.

The virus can cause serious neurological diseases including meningitis and encephalitis.

The mosquito that carries the virus often breeds near homes in drains or anything that can hold standing water, so officials called for residents to clear standing water away. Also, officials urged individuals to report findings of any dead birds or birds that appear to be acting oddly, especially crows, blackbirds, owls and hawks.

Snyder Announces Restructuring Of Great Lakes Governors

A restructured Council of Great Lakes Governors, now called the Conference of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers, was announced at the annual summit, held this year in Quebec City.

As part of the announcement, the group also said it would take steps to control algae blooms in Lake Erie that last summer forced the shutdown of water to residents in Toledo and parts of southeastern Michigan, as well endeavor to double shipping traffic on the lakes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } is chair of the group this year.

Under the restructured arrangement, the governors of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as the premiers of Ontario and Quebec (Canada's two largest provinces) will all have equal voices in adopting policies to both protect the Great Lakes and boost the region's economy.

The group released a series of policy objectives to double the region's maritime trade, while reducing the effect of increased traffic (particularly in protecting against the presence of invasive species).

In terms of invasive species, Michigan, Ohio and Ontario will begin a test project to harmonize their invasive species regulations.

The group also called for developing economic cluster areas as well as protecting the area's industrial base.

Snyder Appoints Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } appointed the first members Friday to the new Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission some two years after his first attempt at a body to represent those of Arab and Chaldean descent in the state.

"The Middle Eastern American community plays an integral role in our state, and this commission will help ensure Michiganders from diverse backgrounds have the best opportunities to actively work together," Mr. Snyder said on naming the first 15 members.

The new commission was created in February ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO_2015-6_481726_7.pdf" \t "blank" }) to replace the Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs, which he had created in June 2013 but then never filled.

On the new commission, Dave Abdallah of Dearborn Heights, Susan Dabaja of Dearborn, Helen Habib of Farmington Hills, Sharif Hussein of Grand Ledge and Paul Sophiea of Dearborn will serve terms expiring April 19, 2017. Wendy Acho of West Bloomfield, Mariam Bazzi of

Dearborn, Michael Romaya of West Bloomfield, Manal Saab of Fenton and Suzanne Sukkar of Ypsilanti will serve terms expiring April 19, 2018. Bishr Al-Ujayli of Rochester Hills, Fey Beydoun of Dearborn, Haifa Fakhouri of Troy, Lina Harajli of Dearborn and Abe Munfakh of Plymouth will serve terms expiring April 19, 2019.

The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent and regular commission terms will be four years.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION: Valerie Bass of Ypsilanti and Deborah Monroe of Madison Heights were appointed, both representing survivors for terms expiring March 1, 2017. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

BEEF INDUSTRY COMMISSION: Leonard Brown of Sandusky succeeds Daniel Javor representing dairy farmers, Jon Haindl of Cooks succeeds Timothy Andrews representing cattle growers and Dale Oeschger of Bay Port is reappointed, all for terms expiring May 31, 2018. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

CERTIFICATE OF NEED COMMISSION: Tom Mittelbrun of Lake Orion succeeds Charles Gayney representing organized labor and Democrats for a term expiring January 1, 2018. The appointment is subject to Senate advise and consent.

MANUFACTURED HOUSING COMMISSION: Bryan Davis of Redford succeeds Thomas Lutz representing organized labor for a term expiring May 9, 2018. The appointment is subject to Senate advice and consent.

UNARMED COMBAT COMMISSION: Josh Bocks of New Hudson succeeds James Weber, who resigned, to represent individuals with experience, knowledge, or background in mixed martial arts for a term expiring June 5, 2016, and Bruce Hundley of Howell succeeds Michael Martin representing the general public for a term expiring June 5, 2019. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

Calley's Brother Charged In Hit And Run

John Calley, younger brother to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" }, was charged Friday in a hit and run incident the occurred in January.

The younger Mr. Calley is charged with three misdemeanors - reckless driving, failure to stop at the scene of an accident and failure to report an accident - for an incident involving a woman would was apparently a passenger in his vehicle.

The woman had reportedly gotten out of the vehicle at a gas station and tried to get back in while Mr. Calley was pulling away, being dragged for some distance.

Neither the victim's name nor her relationship to Mr. Calley have been released.

Reports Of Auditor General Doug Ringler

Auditor General Doug Ringler released a survey summary of the ProjectWise system at the Department of Transportation.

The notice with the summary reports the performance audit was being terminated because no concerns were raised that would warrant continuing the audit.

ProjectWise is a system that allows MDOT employees across the state electronic, and others, access to files on transportation projects, including project schedules and contracts. The summary said there are slightly more than 2,700 users of the program, 1,700 of which are MDOT employees and 1,000 who are outside users.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, June 15

Governor's Talent Investment Board, Michigan Manufacturing Association, 620 South Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/wda/GTIB_June_15_Meeting_Board_Book-Public_491623_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/orders/agendas/2015/150615.pdf" \t "blank" })

Tuesday, June 16

Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/sab_agenda_226061_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Certificate of Need Commission MRI Services Workgroup, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/DRAFT_Agenda_6-16-15_MRI_Workgroup_491409_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Wednesday, June 17

Natural Resources Trust Fund, Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary, 500 West Fletcher, Alpena, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Agenda_-_June_17_2015_491412_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Manufactured Housing Commission, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara_bcc_mhc_packet_061715_491605_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Appellate Defender Commission, Suite 3300, 645 Griswold, Detroit, 12 p.m.

Thursday, June 18

Veterans' Facilities Board of Managers, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Avenue Northeast, Grand Rapids, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/Board_of_Managers_Agenda_462027_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Board of Psychology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara_psyc_061815agd_491186_7.pdf" \t "blank" }; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara_psyc_061815dagd_491188_7.pdf" \t "blank" }))

Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Committee, Conference Room, Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft District Health Department, 14150 Hamilton Lake Road, Newberry, 6:30 p.m. (Agenda)

Friday, June 19

Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, Michigan State University Detroit Center, 3408 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, 9 a.m.

Commission on Services to the Aging, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/June_2015_CSA_Agenda.doc" \t "_blank" })

Board of Counseling, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Disciplinary Subcommittee)

Thursday, June 25

Unarmed Combat Commission, Conference Room 1, Second Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCC_Agenda_6-25-2015.doc" \t "_blank" })

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, June 16

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88701&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/finance.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB417301" } **TRANSFER TAX** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies refunds and exemptions of real estate transfer tax.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455301" } **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies filing deadlines, exemptions and requirements in the general property tax act.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455301" } **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies certain definitions, dates and filing deadlines; and provides for other general amendments to state essential services assessment.

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HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" **})** Modifies
LINK certain exemptions in the plant rehabilitation act.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455701"
}
{ USE TAX ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" **}**) Modifies the state share tax and provides for other general amendments to the local community stabilization share tax increase.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455801"
}
{ DELINQUENT TAXES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" **}**) Revises delinquent taxes notice provision.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB34901" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92501&locid=1" }

(**{ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=327" \t "blank" }**), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" }, 373-5795), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413701" } **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Modifies fixing period and conditions of probation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" } **PAROLE** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Modifies criteria for placement on parole.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm& **INDECENT LANGUAGE** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355701" }) Repeals provisions regarding playing of National Anthem, use of indecent language in front of women and children and improper disposal of refrigerators.

billid=
2015H
B4248
01" }
{ **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359101" }) Repeals certain penalties for trespassing.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB424901" }
{ **ENDURANCE CONTESTS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284401" }) Repeals prohibitions against certain endurance contests.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB425001" }
{ **FIREARM CRIMES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Eliminates two-year mandatory sentencing requirement for felony firearm conviction.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB441901" }
{ **FIREARM CRIMES** ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=189001" **}**) Provides for
LINK sentencing guidelines for rime of felony firearm.
"http://w
ww.gong
wer.com/
index.cf
m?link=l
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ail.cfm&
billid=20
15HB442
001" }
{ CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" **}**) Revises
LINK sentencing guidelines to reflect certain repealed crimes.
"http://
www.go
ngwer.co
m/index.
cfm?link
=legislati
on_billd
etail.cfm
&billid=
2015HB
450101"
}
{ WRONGFUL IMPRISONMENT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358301" **}**) Provides
LINK compensation for wrongful imprisonment for crime. (Testimony only)
"http://
www.go
ngwer.c
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x.cfm?li
nk=legi
slation_
billdetai
l.cfm&
billid=2
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53601"
}
{ HUMAN MONSTROSITY ({ HYPERLINK
HYPERL "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401" **}**) Eliminates

INK references to "human monstrosity."
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB470901" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB471001" }

CAMPING ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" }) Modifies penalty for violators related to camping on state-owned lands.

COMBINED PENALTIES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359101" }) Modifies provision related to alternative or combined penalties and repeals certain other provisions.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93301&locid=1" }

(\{ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=335" \t "blank" \}), (Chr. \{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" \}, 373-2115), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

\{ HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (\{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" \}) Allows employment of or contracting with health professional to provide medical treatment to nursing home patients regardless of business entity status of nursing home.

\{ LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (\{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" \}) Clarifies application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.

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}
{ BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" **}**) Clarifies
ERL application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.
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"http
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01" }

{ EPI-PENS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201" **}**) Allows
RLIN prescribers to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense epinephrine to authorized entities
K under certain circumstances and limits liability.
"http:/
/www.
gongw
er.com
/index.
cfm?li
nk=leg

islation
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tail.cf
m&bill
id=201
5HB44
3801"
}

{ HYPERLINK "http:/ /www.g ongwer .com/in dex.cf m?link =legisl ation_ billdet ail.cfm &billid =2015 HB471 201" }

CHIROPRACTORS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353001" }) Gives chiropractors the authority to prescribe treatment by a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96701&locid=1" } ({ **HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=325" \t "blank" }**), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305301&locid=1" }, 373-7156), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401" }) Establishes regulations for transportation network companies.

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l.cfm&
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}
{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Exempts
RLINKtransportation network companies from limousine transportation act.
"http://
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ongwer
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tion_bil
ldetail.
cfm&bi
llid=20
15HB4
63801"
}
{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355201" }) Allow insurers
RLIN to exclude transportation network company vehicles from automobile coverage,
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islation
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5HB46
3901"
}
{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201" }) Adds
RLIN passengers riding in a transportation network company vehicle as priority for personal
K protection insurance coverage for passengers in certain vehicles.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4641001"
}
{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901" }) Exempt transportation network company drivers from obtaining a chauffeur's license and provide minimum levels of insurance coverage for vehicles used by transportation network company drivers.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4641001"
}

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93601&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=328" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" }) Revises performance evaluation requirements for teachers and school administrators.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92901&locid=1" } ({ **HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=339" \t "blank" }**), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1" }, 373-5176), Room 521, House Office Building, 12 p.m.**

{ WEAPONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353301" }) Exempts law enforcement officers from purchase permit process.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453501" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89201&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/judiciary.html" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3:30 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=201&locid=1" }

WEAPON-FREE ZONES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry weapons in weapon free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=205HB415901" }

PURCHASE OF GUNS OR AMMUNITION ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" }) Prohibits gun sellers and federally licensed firearms dealers from creating a visual representation of an individual who purchases a firearm or ammunition or linking such a visual representation to an individual under certain circumstances and eliminates pistol database entry.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdet

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" }
{ HYPERL INK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" } **FIREARMS SENTENCING** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" **}**) Updates sentencing guidelines.
"http://w
ww.gong
wer.com/i
ndex.cfm
?link=legi
slation_bi
lldetail.cf
m&billid
=2015SB2
2601" }
{ HYPER LINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601" } **TOBACCO SALES** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601" **}**) Increases penalties for selling tobacco products to minors.
"http://
www.go
ngwer.c
om/inde
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nk=legis
lation_b
illdetail.
cfm&bil
lid=201
5SB340
01" }
{ HYP ERL INK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" } **DHHS INSPECTOR GENERAL POLICE POWERS** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" **}**) Allows the inspector general within the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint agents with limited arrest powers and the powers conferred on peace officers.
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lid=2
015S
B384
01" }

{ DHHS INSPECTOR GENERAL WEAPONS ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" **}**) Exempts from
ERL certain weapons provisions certain agents of the Department of Health and Human
INK Services Office of Inspector General.
"http
://ww
w.go
ngwe
r.co
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dex.c
fm?li
nk=le
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illid=
2015
SB38
501"
}
{ COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS ({ HYPERLINK
HY "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" **}**) Reinstates the
PERprohibition on courts taking under advisement certain offenses committed by a person while
LIN operating a commercial motor vehicle or a person licensed to operate a commercial motor
K vehicle while operating a noncommercial motor vehicle.
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Wednesday, June 17

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93501&locid=1" } (**{ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=306" \t "blank" }**), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.**

- **Legislative transfer 2015-4**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4098 **SUPPLEMENTAL** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" **}**) Provides for supplemental appropriations in for fiscal year 2014-15.

501" }
{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK **HYPER"**http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=100001" **}**) Allows **LINK** refunding bonds for bonded indebtedness of original school district involved in **"http://** consolidation.
www.go
ngwer.c
om/inde
x.cfm?li
nk=legi
slation_
billdeta
il.cfm&
billid=2
015HB4
51701"
}
{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK **HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401" **}**) Provides for **RLINK**use of proceeds of dissolved school district buildings and restrictions on demolition of **"http://** school buildings.
www.g
ongwer
.com/in
dex.cfm
?link=l
egislati
on_bill
detail.c
fm&bil
lid=201
5HB46
4401" }

~~**Canceled: {** HYPERLINK~~
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94201&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK **"http://www.council.legislature.mi.gov/CouncilAdministrator/jcar" \t "blank" }**~~**), (Chr. {** HYPERLINK~~

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269801&locid=1" }~~, 373-5773), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.~~

- **JCAR 15-17 Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Director's Office, Construction Code-Part 5. Residential Code (2013-022 LR)**

- **JCAR 15-18 Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Director's Office, Construction Code-Part 10. Michigan Energy Code (2013-095 LR)**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92801&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=305" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=324201&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

{ FOOD INSPECTION EXEMPTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Provides for exemption from inspection and managerial certification requirements if serving low-risk foods.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB14401" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93801&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=333" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1" }, 373-5176), Room 326, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ({ HYPERLINK **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203301" }) Requires posting of fees and rates for money orders and other money transmission services. **"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB424201" }**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94601&locid=1" } ({ **HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=347" \t "blank" }**), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" }, 373-2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

{ PRIVATE PRISONS ({ HYPERLINK **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301" }) Allows certain privately owned prisons to house adult inmates. **"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4467 01" }**

{ REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITIES ({ HYPERLINK **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284401" }) Allows for creation of regional airport authorities. **"http://**

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lation_bi
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d=2015
HB4468
01" }
{ PROPERTY TAX ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" **})** Allows
LINK splitting of qualified agricultural property to allow a portion to be taxed differently.
"http://
www.go
ngwer.c
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nk=legis
lation_b
illdetail.
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lid=201
5HB467
701" }

{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=341" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1" }, 373-
1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

{ RECORDING REQUIREMENTS ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301" **})** Modifies
ERLI recording requirements to include electronic signatures.
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201"
}
{ ANNEXATION ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" **})** Requires
LINK township board to approve placing annexation question on ballot.
"http://w
ww.gong
wer.com/
index.cf
m?link=l
egislatio
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ail.cfm&
billid=20
15HB400
401" }
{ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359301" **})** Authorizes
LINK contracting for services to assist victims of domestic violence.
"http://
www.go
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om/inde
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nk=legis
lation_b
illdetail.
cfm&bil
lid=2015
HB4563
01" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92401&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=346" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" }, 373-2115), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- **Testimony only:**

{ POWDERED ALCOHOL ({ HYPERLINK **HYPER**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Prohibits sale, **LINK** use, or possession of powdered alcohol.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB2401" }
{ POWDERED ALCOHOL ({ HYPERLINK **HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292701" }) Prohibits **LINK** sale, use or possession of powdered alcohol.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB441601" }
{ MIDWIVES ({ HYPERLINK **HYPERLI** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides **NK** licensing and regulations for midwives.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB459801" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96801&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-8080), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 1 p.m.

- **Quarterly report presented by Mary Ann Cleary, Director of the House Fiscal Agency.**

Thursday, June 18

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89801&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/transportation.html" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" }, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.**

- **Presentation by International PROOF Systems**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4311901" } RAILROAD CROSSINGS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Amends criteria for vehicles to proceed without stopping at inactive railroad track grade crossings.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_ **SCHOOL VEHICLES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Revises requirement for driver of school bus to stop at certain railroad track grade crossings.

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ERLI raising registration plate for Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.
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Michigan Report for Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Medical Marijuana Bills Make Their Way To House Floor

Sharp Disagreement As Committee Discusses Bill To Criminalize Abortion Coercion

Courser, Gamrat, Dillon Replaced On House Committees

Judiciary Clears Way For Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation

Jones Takes Another Shot At Regulating Nudity At Bars

House Panel Considers Updates To 'Kevin's Law'

Hunter Response Could Determine CWD Control

Tours Of Capitol Dome Interior Banned For Safety Reasons

Committee Ups Penalties For Failing To Yield

Group: Lobbyists Spent $21M To Lobby State In First Half Of Year

MSF Approves $3M For Monroe Port

Carhartt Expands, Valiant International Locates In Auburn Hills

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Volume #54, Report #188 -- Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Medical Marijuana Bills Make Their Way To House Floor

After months of negotiations, the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a package of bills creating a regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers and permitting the use of non-smokeable forms of the drug.

HB 4209 and HB 4210 were introduced in February, and similar bills were overwhelmingly approved by the House last term, though they died in the Senate during lame-duck.

During the first nine months of this term, stakeholders attempted to hash out their differences in a way they didn't last year. Rep. Mike Callton (R-Nashville), sponsor of HB 4209, said this time around he wanted to be sure to include law enforcement.

"This is something I've been working on longer than my bachelor's degree," he told the committee. "It's been essentially over four years, and it's been an education. Now it's better than it's ever been."

HB 4209 creates the regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers. The bill allows for local governments to decide if they are appropriate for their community. The bill includes an 8 percent excise tax and the 6 percent sales tax to be charged on marijuana.

The bill also requires the use of a secure transport service to transport the marijuana.

It cleared the committee 8-2 with Rep. Rose Mary Robinson (D-Detroit) and Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) voting no.

Mr. Irwin expressed concerns about the taxes charged on the drug. He said there is a philosophical difference on whether a person believes higher taxes and more regulations will lead to more or less black market activity.

"When we add all these layers of regulations, we are increasing the cost in the legal market, thereby giving a huge advantage to the illegal market," he said. "If we grab too tightly, this may squeeze through our fingers, and we end up with less control rather than more control."

The bill also creates five license types: growers, processors, testing labs, secure transporters and dispensaries. A five-member board is also created under the bill to handle the licensing.

The revenue collected through the taxes would be split up, with 27.5 percent going to local governments with provisioning centers; 27.5 percent to counties with provisioning centers; 5 percent to sheriffs in the counties with provisioning centers; and 40 percent to the state.

The legislation would also use a seed-to-sale tracking system to help ensure medical marijuana does not make its way to the black market. HB 4827, which also cleared the committee, creates the program.

HB 4210 allows the use of topical and edible forms of the drug. The bill cleared committee 10-1 with Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) voting no.

Patient advocates were not pleased with the proposal taxing the drug.

"No medicine should be taxed," said Matthew Abel with Cannabis Counsel.

He also said the bill creates a new bureaucracy, as more state workers will need to be hired: 113 licensing enforcement personnel; 34 state police personnel and four lawyers at the Department of the Attorney General.

"The latest versions of HB 4209 and HB 4827 have not been well thought-out," Mr. Abel said. "They clearly will cause numerous unintended consequences, while failing at their intended purpose, to move toward a regulated system and away from the illegal market."

Sharp Disagreement As Committee Discusses Bill To Criminalize Abortion Coercion

Coercing a woman into having an abortion would become a crime under legislation discussed Tuesday in the House Criminal Justice Committee.

The bills (HB 4787 and HB 4830) generated several strong disagreements between those who oppose abortion and those who support the legal right to an abortion. No vote was taken, and Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth), the committee chair, said the committee would return to the legislation at an upcoming meeting.

The committee's three Democrats - Rep. Vanessa Guerra of Bridgeport, Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright of Muskegon and Rep. Stephanie Chang of Detroit - each took turns peppering the bill sponsors and activists supporting the bills about why the legislation is necessary.

Supporters of the bills said they had considerable anecdotal reports of women coerced into an abortion - by their parents, husband or boyfriend, and others - and the state should make such actions illegal.

"It is an all-too-common experience," said Genevieve Marnon of Right to Life of Michigan.

But the Democratic lawmakers questioned why the bills do not criminalize the coercing of a woman into keeping her baby.

"The real problem is what those of us here are questioning which is people being coerced into carrying a pregnancy," Ms. Hovey-Wright said.

Ms. Marnon said any form of coercion is wrong, but the issue raised by Ms. Hovey-Wright belongs in a different statute and thus not in the bills before the committee. Rep. Martin Howrylak (R-Troy) mocked the Democratic criticism, asking sarcastically whether he should oppose the bill because it fails to criminalize every illegal act.

But Democrats and an official with the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan questioned why the bill was even necessary, saying that the state's informed consent law already requires a woman's consent to an abortion without coercion and that other statutes would make coercion into having an abortion illegal.

"These kinds of laws are part of a political campaign that women who seek abortions do so because they are confused and coerced," said Shelli Weisberg of the ACLU of Michigan.

But Ms. Marnon said a specific statute will help prevent the coercing of women into an abortion.

"Women will know it's a crime and can tell whoever is coercing her to stop because it's illegal," she said.

Courser, Gamrat, Dillon Replaced On House Committees

House Speaker Kevin Cotter announced new committee assignments to replace the recently departed former representatives Cindy Gamrat, who was expelled, and Todd Courser and Brandon Dillon, who both resigned.

Mr. Courser (R-Silverwood) resigned before he could be expelled like Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell). Mr. Dillon (D-Grand Rapids) resigned to take the post as chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

With Mr. Dillon's departure, Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) returned to the House Appropriations Committee. The term started with drama surrounding Ms. Faris' appointment as minority vice chair, and she was later removed from the committee.

Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland) will take Ms. Gamrat's former spot on Appropriations.

"Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat have done enough damage to the House and to the legislative process," Mr. Cotter said in a statement. "We cannot allow their absence to get in the way of the important work these committees are doing to reform state government and improve the lives of Michigan's residents. Each of these representatives has agreed to take on the extra work necessary to make sure we can all move forward and continue Michigan's comeback."

Ms. Faris will also join the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee and the Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. Cotter also created a new House Appropriations Subcommittee to reflect the merged community health and human services departments as the Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

The 15-member committee is essentially a merger of the two separate subcommittees. Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit) was named as minority vice chair instead of Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), who served as the MVC of the separate Human Service Subcommittee.

Mr. Dillon was minority vice chair of the Community Health Subcommittee.

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills), said it was disappointing Mr. Cotter did not consult with Mr. Greimel before choosing the minority vice chair of the new committee.

However, she said, they are pleased with the other Democratic appointments.

The chair of the new committee is Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker) and Rep. Earl Poleski (R-Jackson) is vice chair.

The other members are: Rep. Chris Afendoulis (R-Grand Rapids Township); Rep. Joe Bizon (R-Battle Creek); Rep. Jon Bumstead (R-Newaygo); Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing); Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia); Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg); Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township); Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills); Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio); Rep. Kristy Pagan (D-Canton); and Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights).

On Mr. Courser's former committees, Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto) will return to the Education Committee as his replacement. Ms. Lyons chaired the committee during the last two terms.

Rep. Holly Hughes (R-Montague) will sit on the Agriculture Committee; Mr. Afendoulis on the Criminal Justice Committee; Rep. Ben Glardon (R-Owosso) on the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee; and Rep. Jim Tedder (R-Clarkston) on the Regulatory Reform Committee.

Rep. Wendell Byrd (D-Detroit) will replace Ms. Faris on the Financial Liability Reform Committee and Rep. Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) will replace her on Military and Veterans Affairs.

On Appropriations subcommittees, Rep. Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis) will now sit on Education; Mr. Poleski will take over as chair of Judiciary (replacing Mr. VerHeulen); Ms. Cox will sit on Licensing and Regulatory Reform; Mr. Canfield on the Military and Veterans Affairs subcommittee; and Mr. Poleski on Natural Resources.

Judiciary Clears Way For Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation

The state would compensate those who had been wrongfully imprisoned for a crime they did not commit under legislation reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) first raised the idea of SB 291, with support from committee chair Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), back in May. Michigan is one of a minority of states that does not compensate nor offer exit services for persons who have been wrongfully imprisoned.

"Exonerees face tremendous difficulties re-integrating into society," Mr. Bieda said, noting that 30 other states and the federal government offer compensation for those who can prove they were wrongfully imprisoned. "It is our intent to help these individuals re-establish their lives."

The bills would be limited in scope to a person who could prove he or she was convicted and served time in a Michigan prison, and that all the convictions resulting in imprisonment were overturned because of new evidence of actual innocence.

After the convictions are overturned, the charges were dismissed, or an individual is acquitted at retrial and the individual proves in the Court of Claims complete innocence of all of the offenses that landed them in prison, they too could be eligible for compensation.

And a court that determined a plaintiff had been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned must expunge those records from a person's criminal history.

Compensation would be $60,000 per year for the period of incarceration; economic damages, including lost wages and other expenses; reasonable attorney fees; and reimbursement of any amount collected from the plaintiff by the state under the State Correctional Facility Reimbursement Act. If a person chooses to collect this money, it would bar them from any further action against the state based on the same matter. Such settlements would be paid from the General Fund.

The Senate Fiscal Agency estimated the cost to the state to be significant but indeterminate. The National Registry of Exonerations maintained by the University of Michigan Law School indicates that 60 exonerations have occurred in Michigan to date. At a minimum, assuming all 60 individuals met the eligibility criteria and receive only the yearly compensation amount, the first year of payments would total $3.6 million. The average number of years of wrongful imprisonment per exoneration is 8.05, the analysis said.

If all payment were made under the conditions in the NRE's database, the total minimum costs would be about $29 million General Fund, the SFA determined, based on fixed amounts taken from the bill. But there are other variables that could increase the figure on a per-case basis.

"Although I'm not in jail anymore, the effects of my wrongful conviction continue to ruin my life," said Julie Baumer, who was wrongfully convicted a decade ago of Shaken Baby Syndrome. She spent four-and-a-half years in jail.

A similar bill, HB 4536, was reported from the House Criminal Justice Committee in mid-June but has not seen action on the floor yet. Rep. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), sponsor of that bill, spoke in support of Mr. Bieda's bill at the committee.

"There are significant costs that come with adjusting back into society. Exonerees are given no services to help with this," she said. "I believe when an individual is proven innocent ... the least they should expect is a state that wants to help make it right."

The bill was reported with unanimous approval.

UPDATING OLD STATUTES: The committee also reported a slew of House bills updating outdated language in statute despite some concern by Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) about what repealing at least some of those statutes said about our citizens morally.

Among them was HB 4248, which repeals provisions of law related to playing of the National Anthem, use of indecent language in front of women and children, and improper disposal of refrigerators. It was reported unanimously.

Also reported unanimously was HB 4250, which repeals prohibitions against certain endurance contests, as well as HB 4501, which revises sentencing guidelines to reflect certain repealed crimes.

The committee also voted to eliminate references to "human monstrosity" in law via HB 4709, as well as HB 4710 and HB 4711 related to modifying the penalty for violators related to camping on state-owned lands. Currently, it is a misdemeanor to do so, but the bills would change it to a civil infraction. HB 4711 also repeals laws dealing with sentencing a person to solitary confinement and/or hard labor; assembling or rebuilding a battery from used battery parts, for sale, without labeling it as rebuilt; and keeping a person sentenced to hard labor constantly employed.

All were reported with unanimous approval and no changes.

Jones Takes Another Shot At Regulating Nudity At Bars

A bill prohibiting nudity at bars saw more testimony in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday as it was reported from the committee for a second time since May.

"This will keep status quo in Michigan," said Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of SB 302, in defending his bill for a second time in his committee.

Mr. Jones' bill was introduced in late April, saw a committee hearing and S-1 substitute adopted about two weeks later when the bill was reported from his own committee, making this the second time the bill has come up for a hearing in Judiciary.

The last time the bill was up in committee, Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) raised a concern about a potential loophole that would seem to allow nudity in certain establishments if it was considered a form of art, and Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) was concerned about an amendment that seemed to put the bill above potential court challenges.

And Mr. Bieda's concern was precisely the reason for a second hearing. Officials with Attorney General Bill Schuette's office gave a presentation about why that section was necessary and appropriate.

"One of the things we were concerned with (in dealing with a case on nudity in a bar) ... was that the Sixth Circuit found we didn't have any rationale or reasons to back up rules that prohibit full nudity," said Don McGehee, division chief of the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement division.

He said the court insisted, in Hamilton's Bogarts v. State of Michigan, that the state must have evidence of secondary effects such as crime, plight, drug trafficking, and so forth, and that full nudity and sex acts are "expressive conduct" protected by the First Amendment.

But there are many cases that have found that negative secondary effects exist in or near adult-oriented entertainment venues.

"This bill does not try to ban all nudity," Mr. McGehee said, noting that certain venues can have topless entertainers if they have a special permit. "This bill would be to ban, by state law, full nudity in any entertainment establishment or any (liquor) licensed premises on the premises."

He provided to the committee studies and cases that prove negative secondary effects and thus legitimize the section Mr. Bieda had previously raised concerns about.

But Mr. Bieda's concerns were not entirely alleviated. He noted how the language included a "broad range of things that could be a secondary problem with a regular bar or night club, and I just wonder if this couldn't be cut down a little bit," he said.

One example Mr. Bieda pointed to was that litter was considered to be a negative secondary effect, and while Mr. McGehee agreed that he probably wouldn't consider such a thing a "material" negative secondary effect, some believe it ought to be, Mr. McGehee said. But Mr. Bieda expressed concerns that such language could have an effect on something as innocent as a restaurant.

"I think that language could be a lot tighter," Mr. Bieda said.

Nonetheless, the committee gave unanimous support to send SB 302 back to the full Senate, but Mr. Bieda hoped to continue work with Mr. Jones on that language.

House Panel Considers Updates To 'Kevin's Law'

Lt. Governor Brian Calley and Rep. Tom Leonard III want to update "Kevin's Law," passed in 2004 to reduce the incarceration rates of those with mental illnesses, as it has been found to be ineffective.

Mr. Calley spoke to the House Health Policy Committee on Tuesday and said under current law, a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen. He said communities around the state were confused by the complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been utilized much.

The law outlines the assisted outpatient treatment program in the state.

Under HB 4674, sponsored by Mr. Leonard (R-DeWitt Township), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"When something bad happens, either to a person with a mental health issue or when something happens tragically perpetrated by a person with a mental health issue, usually there is a long trail of evidence that preceded that action, warning signs that could have been picked up on," Mr. Calley said.

He said those warning signs often are noticed, but without the ability to intervene sooner, there aren't a lot of options.

By contrast, Mr. Calley said HB 4674 would allow earlier intervention and help create a more successful release from hospitalization. He also noted due process rights are not affected by the bill.

And Mr. Leonard said the things that were supposed to happen under "Kevin's Law" simply have not happened.

"We are trying to revamp 'Kevin's Law,' we are trying to fill those gaps that are in the law and get people the treatment they need before they hurt themselves or hurt somebody else," Mr. Leonard said.

He also said the bill will provide long-term savings within the Department of Corrections.

Former Judge Milton Mack, who is now serving as the state court administrator, told the committee families have been seeking help for their loved ones with mental health issues for a long time but are not always able to get it.

"This bill will finally unlock the promise of 'Kevin's Law' and make timely assisted outpatient treatment readily available to many," he said. "Our mental health system fails many in a crucial point of time in their lives where timely intervention can mean the difference between recovery and maintaining self-determination or spinning downward into the cycle of poverty, homelessness and incarceration."

Mark Reinstein with the Mental Health Association of Michigan also said the current law is utilized little in the state.

He said the five most significant changes under the proposed bill are

- Setting a timeframe for when hearings must be held;
- Setting a clear two-exam requirement, with at least one from a psychiatrist;
- Removing that a person must be non-compliant with recommended mental health treatment from the list of eligibility criteria;
- Inserting the same prosecutorial responsibility for assisted outpatient treatment as other court-ordered mental health treatments (currently the local prosecutor does not need to be involved); and

- Simplifying the process of petitioning and certifying that someone may require court-ordered care.

The committee did not act on the bill.

Hunter Response Could Determine CWD Control

States' abilities to control chronic wasting disease have depended largely on aggressive efforts to reduce deer populations in affected areas, and it was unclear yet how open hunters will be able to aid in those efforts, Department of Natural Resources wildlife veterinary specialist Dan O'Brien told the House Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday.

"I've been amazed at the cooperation we've gotten over the summer," Mr. O'Brien said of land owners in the current affected area. "People have concerns, but by and large they were very supportive."

He said U.S. Department of Agriculture sharpshooters have taken some deer from local public lands, and a number of private land owners in the area have allowed USDA on their lands or have taken out disease control permits to take deer themselves.

"Now we're transitioning into hunting season and we'll have to see how the hunters accept things," he said.

The fear, particularly in the long term, is that hunters will stay home, Mr. O'Brien said.

The prion-based disease destroys brain tissue in deer, elk and moose, over time slowing their behavior and eventually killing them.

In as little as 20 years, the disease can spread through the deer herd.

"When that happens, hunters are going to stop hunting because they don't want to harvest sick deer," he said. "The entire economy and tradition of hunting is also lost."

The DNR would also lose one of its key methods for controlling the deer population, he said.

Mr. O'Brien said New York had been able to eradicate the disease by aggressively removing deer from areas where the infection was found. Wyoming, in contrast, had little resources for the control effort and so has seen its deer populations plummet.

Wyoming is also, though, seeing a shift to deer that can withstand the disease longer and so are able to reproduce before succumbing.

Mr. O'Brien said there is no evidence so far that the disease can be spread to non-cervids. Officials in Colorado and Wyoming, where the disease first appeared, tested spread from deer to cattle with captive infected herds and found no transmission.

Scientists have been testing for the past 10 years and have also found no evidence that the disease can be transmitted to humans, he said.

As part of the effort to track the disease, the DNR is requiring hunters in the area surrounding the three positive deer finds in Meridian Township (Ingham County) to bring their deer to DNR check stations where, in most cases, officials will take the head for testing. Mr. O'Brien said hunters would know within three days if their deer is negative for the disease and within a week if an initial positive test is confirmed.

The key struggle the department faces is the incubation time for the disease: between one year and five years before deer show symptoms.

"That means you have infected animals on the landscape that are infecting others but aren't showing symptoms, so we don't know how many there are or where they are," Mr. O'Brien said.

There are not confirmed tests for CWD, but he said scabies, a related disease in sheep, has been proven to remain viable in soil for more than 16 years.

The first positive deer, found in May, had likely been infected in 2013, he said. The other two deer had not yet been showing symptoms, so it was unclear when they were infected, he said. He said it was likely that a person brought the disease into the area but there was likely no way to confirm who or when.

The state has only found the three deer from the 677 deer tested so far, but Mr. O'Brien said the state would have to test thousands of deer before it will know the extent of the infection.

A key source of test animals has been road kill, and he said the DNR has extra staff dedicated to collecting the carcasses for testing.

While new tests are being developed, Mr. O'Brien said there are currently no approved tests for identifying the disease from tissue of living animals, though he said tests for tonsil and rectal biopsies are close. He said the tests are not currently sensitive enough to find the prions in bodily fluids.

In answer to questions from committee members, he said, for instance, it was possible that the doe urine used as an attractant for bucks could potentially be infected. But he also said the facilities that raise the deer to collect that product are well regulated by the USDA to ensure the deer there are not infected.

Mr. O'Brien said the department so far has been funding the testing and response with existing funds moved from other programs, but DNR legislative Liaison Trevor VanDyke said officials were currently considering whether to ask for additional funds in the 2016-17 budget.

"We're in the process of developing next fiscal year's budget and this is one of the things that will be considered," he said. "We'll look within first before we ask for any kind of General Fund or supplemental."

POACHING PENALTIES: The committee also reported a package of bills (SB 244, SB 245 and SB 246) that create substantial increases in penalties for illegal taking or possession of elk, moose, bear, eagles and waterfowl. Using artificial light in taking that game would mean an extended period of license loss.

As reported, the bills would also create a misdemeanor penalty for using an illegal snare or cable restraint for trapping game.

Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) abstained on reporting SB 244, which creates the new penalties, and voted against the other two bills over objections to both about the amount of the penalties and including an illegal equipment provision in what is otherwise a poaching bill.

"I think that the fines are excessive and punitive and out of line," he said.

He said he would not object to the bills if the committee adopted his amendment that would make the illegal snares a crime only if they caught or killed a dog, which he said was the impetus behind the language.

The committee rejected his amendment.

Tours Of Capitol Dome Interior Banned For Safety Reasons

As exterior renovation of the Capitol nears completion, including a stunning restoration of the dome's exterior, the state's Capitol Commission on Tuesday adopted a policy that bans tours of the dome's interior.

The commission policy does allow for exceptions but acted on the advice of architects and out of fear that with the exterior restoration complete, requests for tours inside the narrow chambers between the skin of the dome and the rotunda would increase. The area is so narrow and packed with lighting and other fixtures that the Lansing Fire Department has actually developed a technical rescue protocol should anyone become ill or injured in the dome compartment.

The policy was one of many decisions the commission made, which included a new procedures manual for using public spaces and which calls for groups using the interior to, in some cases, pay a damage deposit or provide an insurance rider.

Commission chair and House Clerk Gary Randall said he was concerned that requests for tours of the interior of the dome would become more numerous.

But the interior is extremely narrow, and to go up through the interior requires going through a sliding door known as the guillotine and up a small ship's ladder. If someone were to have a heart-attack or get injured, it would be extremely difficult to get them out, he said.

But the commission did not approve, on a 4-1 vote, a total ban of access to the dome interior. Under the proposal passed, workers conducting maintenance would be allowed in the area and

the commission could make exceptions for some situations to allow others into the dome's interior.

Senate Secretary Jeff Cobb, who said some legislators had expressed an interest in going into the dome's interior with visitors, voted against the proposal.

The commission also decided that Capitol employees who work on weekends will be paid time and one-half instead of accumulating compensatory time.

With the exterior renovations nearing completion, the continuing work on the Capitol will switch to the interior with a series of projects. The first will be completion of a project the state had to rush into action when it discovered during the summer the ceiling on the first floor corridor of the Senate's section was sagging and in danger of collapse.

Following that work, the state will focus on repairing and renovating the ceiling on the ground floor.

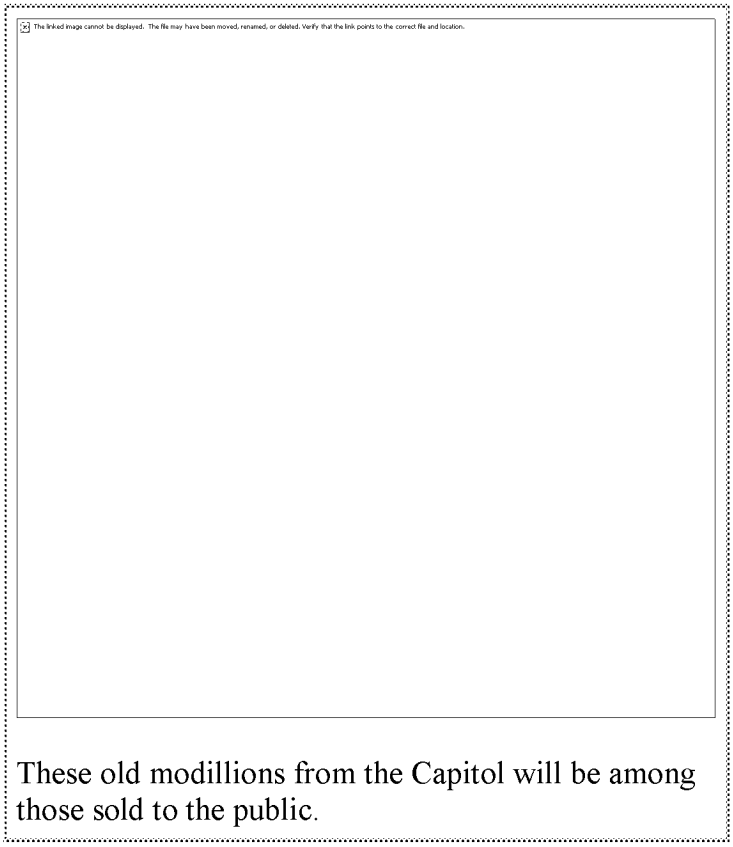
The state has some $500,000 worth of decorative painting to complete, but it is also having difficulty finding a decorative painter to hire. The craft is so specialized it is hard to lure experienced painters away from the companies they now work for, the commission said.

Commission members were also excited that next year, replicas of two large gas lamps that greeted the public from 1879 until the late 19th century will be returned to their place at the entrance of the walkway to the Capitol at the intersection of Michigan and Capitol Avenues.

In June 2016, the commission is planning to hold an event, open to the public, honoring the workers who handled the renovation, and showing off the lamps and redone garden beds.

MODILLIONS FOR SALE: As part of the exterior renovation more than 200 sandstone modillions from under the cornice surrounding the roofline of the Capitol were removed and replaced with new, hand-cut sandstone modillions, each weighing 47 pounds.

And as a result, the Capitol Commission decided to offer at least 100 of the old modillions, which were in place since the Capitol was completed in 1879, to the public. The rest were considered too badly deteriorated for public sale.



These old modillions from the Capitol will be among those sold to the public.

Modillions are decorative brackets used under a cornice, especially in buildings with Corinthian or Iconic architectural features. Modillions are seen in castles, cathedrals and other larger public buildings.

Commission member and former Capitol Facilities Director Kerry Chartkoff said it may be surprising how popular the modillions could be. When the initial renovation of the Capitol was completed in 1992, there were some original materials to the Capitol that couldn't be reused. Instead of just sending the goods to a landfill, the state decided to re-enact an auction of the materials that was held in 1879 - when materials not used were sold to the public.

Ms. Chartkoff said she was surprised at the interest and excitement the public had at that auction.

At a little more than 40 pounds, each modillion will probably have a specific decorative purpose for the people buying them.

The commission set a price of $100 minimum on the pieces. The first 50 will be sold for $100 each, with the buyers selected through a lottery. Persons interested in the modillions will be able to send a postcard to the Capitol facilities office to participate.

The remaining 50 will be sold through a mail auction, with bidders assigning a price in their letter to the state.

The commission will announce details of the lottery and auction at a later time.

And anyone not lucky enough to buy one of the modillions will get another chance: in 100 years when the new set of modillions will likely be replaced.

Committee Ups Penalties For Failing To Yield

Failing to yield to an approaching emergency vehicle, currently a civil infraction, would be increased to a misdemeanor, or a felony in the event that failing to yield caused injury or death to emergency personnel, under legislation reported from the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

The bills, SB 421 and SB 422, come in the wake of the death of a Lansing-area firefighter who prosecutors allege was deliberately run down while trying to collect money for charityt, as well as another incident in June in Holland in which four people - a patient, paramedic, and two firefighters - were hospitalized after an ambulance was involved in a crash with a pickup truck that failed to yield to the ambulance.

"When there is an emergency, every second counts," said Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing), sponsor of SB 421, as he rattled off various statistics exemplifying just that.

Mr. Hertel said the bill would bring penalties in line with those associated with violating the state's move-over law. A person who failed to yield to an emergency vehicle and caused injury to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel in the immediate area of the approaching emergency vehicle would be guilty of a felony punishable by a maximum fine of $1,000 and/or up to two years' imprisonment.

If an individual failed to yield and caused death to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel, an individual would be charged with a felony punishable by a maximum fine of $7,500 and/or up to 15 years' imprisonment.

"We must ensure the punishment fits the crime," Mr. Hertel said.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) raised an issue with the increased sentences.

"For somebody who was distracted, was thinking about the hectic schedule ahead, and in one case they have an injury and in another somebody dies on it, it's tough for me to put somebody away for that long of time considering the disruption to family (due to imprisonment)," Mr. Colbeck said.

But Mr. Hertel was unimpressed.

"I'm happy to continue conversations, but I think it's no less egregious not to move over than it is to not allow somebody with flashing lights to pass," he said.

And Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of SB 422, told Mr. Colbeck those are maximum penalties. Rarely, except in the most egregious of cases, does a court incur those penalties upon a violator of the law, he said.

The two bills, reported unanimously, are tie-barred and would take effect 90 days after their enactment.

GOOD SAMARITAN LAW: On a related note, the committee also reported SB 427, which would include licensed emergency medical service providers in the Good Samaritan law. The law provides immunity from liability for certain health care professionals who provide care at the scene of an emergency, provide emergency care to someone who requires it as a result of a sports-related injury, or who responds to a life-threatening emergency in a hospital or other medical care facility when the person's actual hospital duty doesn't require a response.

Group: Lobbyists Spent $21M To Lobby State In First Half Of Year

In the first seven months of the year, lobbying firms spent $21 million on efforts to lobby legislators, the Michigan Campaign Finance Network said Tuesday.

That figure is up 1.4 percent from the same period in 2014, according to the MCFN.

Leading the way on spending was Governmental Consultant Services, Incorporated, at $947,832, followed by Karoub Associates, Kelley Cawthorne, RWC Advocacy, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Public Affairs Associates, Midwest Strategy Group, Muchmore Harrington Smalley Associates, Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore and the Michigan Credit Union League, the MCFN said.

MSF Approves $3M For Monroe Port

The Michigan Strategic Fund on Tuesday approved up to $3 million in repayable funds from its Investment Fund for the city of Monroe to make improvements to the Port of Monroe.

"These improvements will transform the Port of Monroe into a center of economic activity and a premier general cargo handling facility on the Great Lakes," MEDC CEO Steve Arwood said in a statement. "The project will promote further growth and investment in the Port and the region, and will lead to new jobs for Michigan residents."

The project expands trade routes and cargo opportunities, calls for dredging the River Raisin and a range of other improvements to increase accessibility to the port, the MEDC said. The impact is expected to cause fewer cargo delays and accommodate larger vessels with increased shipping capacity. The dramatic improvements in shipping efficiency are expected to generate a major economic impact to the Monroe region, it said.

"This is outstanding news for Monroe and the entire region," Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Ida) said of the approval, in a statement. "The port is the industrial, commercial and recreational gateway to Monroe and is Michigan's only port on Lake Erie, yet its aging infrastructure has limited its accessibility.

The MSF also approved a Brownfield Work Plan worth about $3.6 million, the tax revenue generated as a result of the work plan to be used to repay the Investment Fund.

"As we consider policies to help promote job creation and economic development, it is important to remember the key role that our infrastructure plays in our economy," Mr. Zorn said. "These improvements will increase the accessibility and efficiency of the Port of Monroe - leading to fewer cargo delays, reduced wear and tear on regional roadways, and a substantial increase in the opportunity for new trade."

Located on the western edge of Lake Erie, the port provides direct access to all five of the Great Lakes and serves 17 states. The improvements will not only promote new cargo opportunities but will ship and receive materials for the port's existing tenants, including DTE Energy, Michigan

Paving & Materials, Gerdau MACSTEEL, Ford Motor Company and Ventower, the MEDC noted.

Carhartt Expands, Valiant International Locates In Auburn Hills

Garment manufacturer Carhartt, founded in Detroit in 1889, will expand its headquarters in Dearborn to create 215 jobs, and auto systems maker Valiant International will expand its North American presence with the purchase of a facility in Auburn Hills after both received grants from the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Carhartt, best known for work clothes such as jackets, coats, overalls, coveralls, and more, will invest nearly $18.6 million and create 215 jobs, resulting in a $1.35 million Business Development Program performance-based grant from the MSF, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced Tuesday.

Michigan was chosen over competing sites on the East and West coasts where "top-tier talent related to the garment industry is more readily available," the MEDC noted in a statement.

The Strategic Fund also approved a $2.3 million grant for the purchase of an 187,000-square foot facility in Auburn Hills for Valiant International Inc. The project is expected to generate a private capital investment of $32.7 million and create 223 jobs over the next three years, the MEDC said.

"We proudly welcome Valiant to the global automotive capital," said MEDC CEO Steve Arwood, in a statement. "We appreciate their commitment to the Michigan economy, and know they'll find Michigan is the preeminent business environment to grow their endeavors in the automotive, aerospace, defense, and construction industries."

The company is based in Windsor, Ontario.

As part of the move to Auburn Hills, the company will consolidate its Troy-based sales operation and establish a skilled-trade training site for apprentices to learn machine operating, welding, robot programming and other metal-working skills, the MEDC said. It also plans to partner with local government, community stakeholders, colleges, trade schools and private businesses to attract high-wage workers. In fact, the skilled trades positions at the company are expected to pay on average $47 per hour, the MEDC noted.

NEAPCO DRIVELINES, LLC: The auto manufacturer plans to expand its driveline operations in van Buren Township and expand its headquarters in the metro Detroit area, investing $57.7 million and creating 167 jobs, the MEDC said. As a result, it was awarded a $1.5 million grant. Michigan was chosen over a competing site in Mexico.

REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS: HM Ventures Group 6, LLC, plans to renovate the historic Wurlitzer Building located on Broadway in the heart of downtown Detroit into a mixed-use boutique hotel to include 106 hotel rooms, a street level caf鼾 restaurant, retail and meeting space, and a rooftop bar. It will generate a total capital investment of nearly $22.3 million and

create 48 permanent, full-time jobs, the MEDC said, resulting in a $3.5 million Community Revitalization Program loan. The MSF also approved $1.76 million in local and school tax capture to the Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to prepare the site for redevelopment.

In Grand Rapids, OHM, LLC plans to renovate the vacant, historic Rowe Building into a mixed-use building to include retail and residential space with sublevel parking. The projected is expected to serve as a catalyst in the revitalization of the north side of downtown, the MEDC said, investing nearly $26.9 million and creating 15 full-time jobs. It earned a $5.4 million revitalization loan. MSF also approved $2.58 million in local and school tax capture to the Grand Rapids Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for brownfield alleviation, site preparation and infrastructure improvements for the project.

MSF also approved the following:

- $2.5 million in funding to continue the Michigan Pre-Seed Fund 2.0 which provides loans or equity to early stage companies;

- Private activity bond authorizing resolution for Lutheran Homes of Michigan, Inc. to acquire and improve a 72-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility known as Lutheran Woods located in Livonia;

- An extension of a business and tourism marketing and advertising services contract with McCann Erickson USA, Inc.; and

- An extension of a business and travel public relations services contract with Weber Shandwick.

Kildee Calls For Independent Test Of Flint Water

After meeting with state and federal environmental officials Monday, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee said he is not confident that enough is being done to ensure Flint's water supply is safe and called for independent testing.

The city has been hit by a number of complaints in recent months, including tests showing unsafe levels of some chemicals as well as discoloration.

Mr. Kildee (D-Flint) said officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Environmental Quality and the city told him the water is being tested, but he said in a statement he was not convinced the testing was correct or sufficient.

"So far, I have been given no reason to have confidence in the current testing results," he said. "For example, it is unclear if homes sampled also took part in previous tests, which could have shown trends in water quality."

Mr. Kildee called for independent testing of the city's water that would include more homes.

"Flint residents deserve absolute transparency when it comes to the quality of their water," he said. "Additionally the city, DEQ and EPA must work together to ensure the immediate safety of Flint's drinking water, including any temporary relief until a long-term solution can be completed."

The Coalition for Clean Water echoed Mr. Kildee's call for additional testing and for providing residents with other sources of water until the system can be tested and repaired.

The group said its own testing showed corrosion problems in the city's water system.

"The Coalition demands the water source be switched back to Detroit water immediately as it is many times less corrosive than Flint River Water," the group said in a statement. "Even with the belated addition of corrosion control, extensive damage has been done to the pipeline infrastructure, and switching to Detroit water would be the best preparation for the eventual transition to KWA pipeline water while providing the best prospects of controlling lead and iron corrosion."

RIVER RAISIN: The DEQ announced Tuesday that the EPA had removed beneficial use impairment designations related to fish and wildlife populations and habitat from the River Raisin.

"Restoration of these beneficial uses means the fish and wildlife habitat in the River Raisin has vastly improved and can support healthy populations," DEQ officials said in a statement.

Longtime Prison Warden Barred From MDOC Property

The longtime warden of two Muskegon-area prisons has been stop-ordered and barred from entering Department of Corrections property, pending an investigation.

Mary Berghuis, the warden of the Earnest C. Brooks and West Shoreline Correctional facilities, was stop-ordered pending further investigation, said Corrections spokesperson Holly Kramer.

Ms. Kramer said she could not release any details about why the department stop-ordered Ms. Berghuis, the warden of the Brooks facility for 15 years and a longtime department employee before becoming warden, because the situation remains the subject of an internal investigation.

Shane Jackson, the deputy warden at the Muskegon Correctional Facility, was named acting warden for the two prisons Ms. Berghuis oversees.

Capital Notebook

DIFS CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS: The Department of Insurance and Financial Services has issued four new cease and desist orders for four different individuals, whose case can be found by clicking on their name: Nichole Aloisio, Cynthia Montalvo, Vanesa Munoz, and Edy Garcia Barba.

A list of all the Director's Orders can be found on the DIFS website.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, September 23

Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Special Election: Gamrat Claims Win, Lyons Readies Bill To Prevent Similar Situations

Carson Cites Education, God For Nation's Strength

Peters, Stabenow Call For More Protections Against Great Lakes Oil Spills

Report Offers Options For Regulating Fracking

Regional Approach To Economic Development Yielding Dividends, Officials Say

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Appeals Court: Restitution In Sex Cases Must Be Based On Facts

Insurance Agents Warned Against 'Sliding'

Handy Middle School Principal To Run In 96th House

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Special Election: Gamrat Claims Win, Lyons Readies Bill To Prevent Similar Situations

Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat announced her victory in an Allegan County Tea Party straw poll with just 30 voters, and the chair of the House Elections Committee is getting legislation ready that would block expelled lawmakers in the future from being able to run to fill their vacancy.

Ms. Gamrat trumpeted her victory, though not all the candidates challenging her appeared at the tea party event on Wednesday. She called the meeting a great chance for voters to meet and question candidates. She is running to succeed herself in the 80th District.

Meanwhile, Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), chair of the House Elections Committee, said she is drafting legislation that would ensure candidates who resign or are removed from office would not be able to run in the special election filling the vacancy.

If the legislation were already in place it would affect both Ms. Gamrat and former Rep. Todd Courser in the 82nd District. Mr. Courser resigned in the early hours of September 11, and Ms. Gamrat was expelled about an hour later. Both are running to win election back in those seats.

There appears to be nothing in statute now that would block the two from running in the special elections to fill their seats. However, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) has expressed openness to not seating her if she were to win in the 80th House District, from which she was recently expelled (See Gongwer Michigan Report, September 19, 2015).

Ms. Lyons said she hopes to introduce the legislation in the near future. The bill could not affect the elections now scheduled. The special primary election in each district will be on November 3, and the special general election will be on March 8.

Ms. Gamrat said the forum she attended gave her a chance to show she is fighting to give Allegan County voters a voice and will attend additional candidate forums in the next few weeks.

"Lansing's voice is not Allegan's voice, the Lansing political class has been pushing for more spending and higher taxes, which is out of step with most of the people in Allegan County," Ms. Gamrat said in a statement. "The decision of representation should be made by the voters, not Lansing's political establishment, and last night was a great opportunity for the voters to engage in the process, hear from the candidates, and ask questions."

Republican candidates Mary Whiteford of Allegan and Jim Siver of Fennville did not attend.

Ms. Whiteford said the Allegan County Tea Party is closely aligned with Ms. Gamrat. She said she has been and will continue to attend multiple events throughout the community.

Mr. Siver, an attorney, said the group invited him Monday for a Tuesday evening event and he couldn't make it.

He and Ms. Whiteford said they are attending forums with the League of Women Voters and the Allegan County Republican Party in the coming weeks.

Shannon Szukala of Martin, a veteran who did attend the event, said many who showed up were there to support Ms. Gamrat. He said he is unsure at this point if they reflect the majority of voters in Allegan County.

Mr. Szukala also said he holds similar values as Ms. Gamrat and would not have filed to run in the seat if he had known she was running. He said he did not withdraw before the deadline because he thought he should follow through with his candidacy.

Allegan County Commissioner Jim Storey of Holland said he has yet to hear from a single voter who says they are going to vote for Ms. Gamrat.

Ms. Gamrat was expelled from office earlier this month after a scandal was revealed that she was having an affair with former Rep. Todd Courser of Silverwood. Mr. Courser resigned before being expelled and is also running for his old seat in the 82nd House District.

A House Business Office investigation said the two former lawmakers misused their offices and taxpayer resources for attempted political and personal gains. Their exit from office came after a 16 hour session where Republican leadership attempted to get enough votes for their expulsion.

Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser have both questioned the circumstances surrounding their exits. Ms. Gamrat has also said repeatedly her voters should decide if she is qualified to serve in the House.

To regain her seat, Ms. Gamrat must make it through an eight-person Republican primary and then be seated by the House. Mr. Cotter has expressed openness in refusing to seat her and Mr. Courser.

The Allegan County Tea Party said in a Facebook post three of the candidates, other than Ms. Gamrat, possess the same or close to the same values as the group: Bill Sage of Allegan, Kevin Travis of Hopkins and Mr. Szukala.

The group said Mr. Storey and Eric DeWitt of Holland "would be considered conservative by most Republicans, but not necessarily constitutional."

Of Ms. Whiteford, who did not attend the event, the group said: "(She) is a Democrat running as a Republican."

Carson Cites Education, God For Nation's Strength

SPRING ARBOR - America owes its strength to the founders' focus on education and the influence of God, Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson told a rally of supporters at Spring Arbor University on Wednesday, but the nation needs to get its budget under control to remain great.

Mr. Carson drew his strongest applause from about 2,500 people gathered in the Christian university's fieldhouse for his assertions that he is not politically correct.

Mr. Carson spent much of his half hour address talking about his upbringing in a poor household. He praised his mother both for thrift and for her push that her sons to be educated.

He said she had only a third grade education but made Mr. Carson and his brother read books from the Detroit Library and provide her written book reports "even though she couldn't read them."

Mr. Carson said she only bought new cars to avoid adopting someone else's problems, but only paid cash.

"If my mother were the secretary of treasury, it would not be in deficit," he said.

He said it was that same attention to education that grew the United States into a world power in its relatively brief life.

"When you think about the brain, the incredible human brain, why do we ever talk about what we can't do?" he said. "Early on, we paid a lot of attention to that brain. ... That's the reason that our people were so successful. ... This is the most exceptional nation the world has ever known."

But he said God also drove the development of the nation. He related a story of an opposing commander telling George Washington that he would have to have been under God's protection to have survived the commander's sharpshooters.

"There are many other stories that are well documented that it was more than just us that was involved in the foundation of this nation," he said.

"As a physician and a neurosurgeon, I learned lots of things," he said. "The greatest lesson I learned it is God who does these things."

While he did not directly address his recent comments that a Muslim could not be president under the Constitution, he said there were certain values that do not fit with the American identity.

"I have no intention of being like everybody else and giving away all of our values and principles for political correctness," he said. "Anybody is welcome to come to America, but they don't get to change who we are."

And he said he opposed the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that allowed same-sex marriage.

"I personally believe the Supreme Court made a mistake when they voted to change the definition of marriage from what it has been for thousands of years," he said. "If you change the definition of marriage for one group, what right do you have to not change it for the next group and the next group?"

He took a dig at President Barack Obama on the issue. "Even though our president says we're not a Judeo-Christion nation, he doesn't get to decide who we are," he said.

Mr. Carson blamed much of the nation's current economic condition on the national debt. He argued the Federal Reserve Board cannot sufficiently increase interest rates because that would mean increasing costs for the federal government.

"They have to keep the interest rates depressed, which is the only way average people can make money," he said. "Only the rich people with the risk tolerance that can invest in the stock market."

He said government regulations also drive up costs, increasing the income spread between the rich and poor.

Democrats attacked Mr. Carson for his opposition to increasing the minimum wage and to the Patient Protection

and Affordable Care Act.

"Ben Carson's policies would do a lot to hurt Michigan families," Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon said in a statement. "Unfortunately, the rest of the Republicans running for president are no different."

Meanwhile, the 2016 Committee, a super PAC supporting Mr. Carson, praised him for recent comments on the possibility of electing a Muslim as president.

"Ben Carson is right. A practicing Muslim who observes Sharia Law cannot serve as president," John Philip Sousa IV, chair of the committee, said in a letter. "It is a fact that Sharia law is totally inconsistent with the United States Constitution."

Peters, Stabenow Call For More Protections Against Great Lakes Oil Spills

Ensuring that no crude oil is shipped on the Great Lakes and requiring the federal government assess risks to pipelines were two parts of a bill U.S. Sen. Gary Peters and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow said Wednesday they are introducing to provide greater protection for the lakes from the possibility of oil spills.

The two Michigan senators' action comes after the state unveiled its task force report on a pipeline, and in talking with reporters the two said they hoped they could attach their bill to legislation Congress will consider that reauthorizes the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

The two did not call for the closure of the controversial Pipeline 5 that runs under the Mackinac Straits and carries both light crude and liquefied natural gas products.

The state task force report said it anticipated the 60-year old pipeline would have to be closed down someday, and that the state and Enbridge Energy, which owns and operates the pipeline, should plan for that.

But the volume of the materials carried through the pipeline makes it problematic as what would be an acceptable alternative. The task force report looked at the possibility of shipping those products via tankers.

The state already said it has an agreement with Enbridge to not ship heavy crude oil through the pipeline, which the company currently does not anyway.

Ms. Stabenow (D-Lansing) said that agreement "doesn't move the ball down the road."

Hers and Mr. Peters' (D-Bloomfield Township) proposal would bar any tanker or barge from carrying any crude oil on the Great Lakes. Currently, no crude oil is carried on the Great Lakes, and Mr. Peters said the bill would ensure that condition is permanent.

The bill would also cover all pipelines in the region, current and future, and Mr. Peters said he would hope federal reviews of the pipelines would be completed within a year.

The bill also would call for improving response plans in the event of pipeline leaks, and improve public knowledge and transparency of risks.

Report Offers Options For Regulating Fracking

The state has a number of options for reducing risks from high volume hydraulic fracturing operations, a final

report released Wednesday by the University of Michigan's Graham Sustainability Institute said.

The report did not make specific recommendations for the state to adopt but provided a variety of options that could improve the state's oversight of fracked oil and gas wells.

"The purpose of this (integrated assessment) is to present information that expands and clarifies the scope of policy options in a way that allows a wide range of decision makers to make choices based on their preferences and values," the report said.

Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant thanked the group for including his agency in its discussion groups and accepting some of its suggestions.

"The state of Michigan appreciates the Graham Sustainability Institute's work to produce a comprehensive, thoughtful look at issues around oil and gas production in Michigan," Mr. Wyant said in a statement. "This report offers some useful information and options for state regulators to consider in the months and years ahead."

Among the recommendations was to provide additional points for public input.

In developing regulations, the report said the state could run facilitated listening sessions as well as increase membership on the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee or appoint a special committee to address fracking.

When issuing permits, the report said the state could improve notice of the pending permits and require public comment periods. It recommended similar changes when leasing state mineral rights.

"To date, Michigan has largely treated HVHF as an extension of other types of oil and gas activities," the report said. "As a result, the public has had few opportunities to weigh in on whether and where HVHF occurs."

On water withdrawals, the report praised the state's Water Withdrawal Assessment Program, but said it could require metering of withdrawals for fracking and include those uses in its permitting program. The state could also require a site-specific review for any fracking withdrawals.

And the state could prevent contamination from the fracking operations by prohibiting use of any chemicals that have not been proven to be minimally toxic, the report said.

"Michigan's existing information policies primarily adopt a remedial approach to uncertainty, the most common approach of the other states surveyed," the report said.

The state could be more remedial by at least requiring more information in advance, but the report also noted that there is limited information available about many of the chemicals used.

Michigan could also require emergency response plans for wells in sensitive areas and could require that bonds be relative to the potential cost of cleanup, rather than a blanket amount, the report said.

Regional Approach To Economic Development Yielding Dividends, Officials Say

When Governor Rick Snyder first announced his regional prosperity initiative in 2013, there was some hesitation and fear from locals that their individual voices may no longer be heard in economic development conversations, an official for Michigan Works! said in an interview Wednesday, but now the system is well on its way toward

those 10 regions with few problems to report.

The Michigan Works! system has been in existence since the early 1970s under a different name and has had as many as 25 different agencies, all with the same purpose of connecting employers and talent, at one time. Though it is set up through federal legislation, the agencies work in a public-private partnership of sorts, and are always locally-driven, said Elaine Wood, CEO of Networks Northwest, the agency serving employers and employees in the Northwest region of the state. Her agency has actually been one that others are looking to as they seek to consolidate their services, because hers has worked in that manner for 30 years, she said.

"Talent is really the highest form of capital for any form of business now. This is the 21st century reality," Ms. Wood said. "I think our level of participation has become much broader than it used to be on a local level, and because Michigan Works is very much a demand-driven system - the employer is our primary customer - all we're doing is responding to the needs of our local companies."

Since the governor's announcement in 2013, Michigan Works! agencies have decreased from 25 different offices to about 16 agencies, Ms. Wood said, so they are "almost there as a system" in terms of their end-goal of 10 agencies. And while there have been some concerns from the county commissioners who have to make the decision to reorganize their respective agencies, most have grown to see the benefit of consolidation, Ms. Wood and other officials said.

One example of that can be seen at the Michigan Works! Southwest agency, Ben Damerow, the director of that agency, said. Data collected through a consulting agency around the time the governor announced the Regional Prosperity Initiative concluded that "employers do not care where they get their talent from," Mr. Damerow said.

In Kent County, for example, 75 percent of its workforce lives and works in Kent County. Neighboring Allegan County - known as a "bedroom community," Mr. Damerow said - determined that about 27 percent of those living there lived and worked in Allegan, but in some circumstances that number can shoot up to 68 percent working in the region together.

"Twenty-seven plus the additional percent working the regions shows, hey, it makes sense for Allegan County, as it relates to their labor force, to be in our region," he said of the makeup of Michigan Works! Southwest.

And then there were those who lived in cities that crossed boundaries. Holland, for example, is responsible for 16 or 17 percent of Allegan County's tax revenue, though a portion of Holland is also in Ottawa County.

"The south side of Holland is a precious resource for Allegan County and it made it very difficult for those customers who had to commute from the south side of Holland into the Allegan service center, which is about 20 miles away, when they could have easily commuted two miles north to the service center in Holland," Mr. Damerow explained. "It's those undue hardships we were putting on the customers because of the way the funding had been split up between the two counties."

And the more things are split up in that matter, the less meaningful and successful services are to the public, Ms. Wood said.

"On the other hand, if you go to the opposite extreme and deliver a sort of one-size-fits-all at a state level, let's say, then you're not paying enough attention to the special characteristics of certain communities. So the regional approach is really, in my experience, the best middle ground for that," she said.

Though Ms. Wood said it was too early in the process to determine whether the regional model had done anything to attract or retain businesses in communities, it certainly seems like from general conversations that it will, she said.

"What we hear from our (Michigan Economic Development Corporation) colleagues is when a company is thinking about locating to another state, they want consistency in services from the different players in a particular community," Ms. Wood said. "They want to know that the talent development people and the economic development people and the education people are all in it together to put together the kind of attractive features they want in order to bring their company there. The regional prosperity initiative is really, really helpful in that regard."

And speaking from her own community's experience, Ms. Wood said the regional approach has raised conversations that perhaps were not being had, or being as closely paid attention to, previously.

"Now having shared governance between the public and private sector, the level of conversation our region is having now about attraction, retention, commercial corridor development, about housing problems, costs of living, you name it, that cuts across all these different things that tend to be legislative and funded very siloed, it's our job locally to take all those silos and turn them over and make something ... where all the pieces fit together," she said. "It's just easier to do that when you have common geographic boundaries and you have more integration of all those topics within a community."

DEQ: Flint Lead Problem From Home Connections

Officials have found lead in Flint's water system, but it is coming from final service connections, Department of Environmental Quality officials said in response to a push from U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee for additional water testing in the city.

Mr. Kildee (D-Flint) called Tuesday for the DEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to have independent testing conducted on the city's water system after the lead findings and complaints of murky water in the system (See Gongwer Michigan Report, September 22, 2015).

Brad Wurfel, spokesperson for the DEQ, said there is a federal rule calling for converting lead pipes to copper, but that the rule is designed to reduce the problem, not eliminate it.

"We felt we were clear that the lead detected in Flint's water is strictly the product of lead in home plumbing," Mr. Wurfel said of the meeting with Mr. Kildee and staff from other elected leaders. "It doesn't come from the river, or the plant, or the cast iron pipes employed for most of the delivery system. It comes from water passing through lead service connections - more than 15,000 of them in Flint, and it comes from home plumbing in older homes."

But he noted that Mr. Kildee is in the best place to push for change because much of what he would like to see happen would require federal funds.

Appeals Court: Restitution In Sex Cases Must Be Based On Facts

Restitution orders in criminal sexual conduct cases must be based on a factual basis of costs a victim may face and not on projections, the Court of Appeals ruled on Wednesday.

The court also said restitution could not be granted to an alleged victim if there is no criminal case dealing with the alleged crime.

Judge Elizabeth Gleicher, joined by Judge Kirsten Frank Kelly and Judge Deborah Servitto, overturned a decision by the Leelanau Circuit Court in *People v. Corbin* (COA docket No. 319122).

In the case, Jeffrey Corbin was accused of repeatedly sexually assaulting two boys, Shane and Austin (who are both now adults) over a 10-year period. The two brothers revealed the abuse some six years after it ended, and Mr. Corbin admitted to the abuse. He was initially charged with assaulting both brothers, but the charge for assaulting Austin was dropped because the statute of limitations had run out.

After being sentenced to prison, Mr. Corbin was then ordered to pay restitution of $276,800 to Austin and $276,805 to Shane. The restitution was to help both undergo psychological therapy needed to deal with the abuse.

But Ms. Gleicher said restitution could not be paid to Austin because there was no conviction of a crime against him.

In terms of the restitution ordered for Shane, the amount was based on estimates of how much it might cost to undergo the therapy and recoup some lost expenses before the crimes were discovered.

But the Appeals Court said the restitution provision had to be based, according to state law, on a reasonable fact-based system. Shane's restitution was not so based, so the case was sent back to the trial court to reconsider the case on the basis of what the facts would show a proper restitution would be.

Insurance Agents Warned Against 'Sliding'

Insurance and Financial Services Director Patrick McPharlin issued orders on Wednesday banning "insurance sliding," which keeps an insurance customer for getting full details of insurance policies.

In Bulletin 2015-21-INS, Mr. McPharlin said insurance agents who engage in the practice could be put on probation, suspended, have their license revoked or be fined.

In the bulletin, Mr. McPharlin said it had come to his "attention that some insurance producers are engaging in the practice known as insurance 'sliding.'" He did not identify any agents who may have engaged in the practice.

In cases where "sliding" has occurred, charges for additional coverage the customer is unaware of are hidden in a total premium and the premium is higher than what the customer initially agreed to.

Mr. McPharlin said examples of "sliding" include telling customers that roadside assistance is part of a policy when it is not, or saying that a customer must purchase roadside assistance in their policy, enticing customers to buy auto club memberships, or enticing a customer to buy coverages without explaining all the coverages and their cost.

If an agent is accused of sliding, then the department will commence administrative hearings against that agent.

Handy Middle School Principal To Run In 96th House

Democrat Brian DuFresne, principal of Handy Middle School in Bay City, announced on Wednesday he will run in the 96th House District, where Rep. Charles Brunner cannot seek re-election due to term limits.

"We need someone who will continue to work to preserve Bay County as both a community and an economy," Mr. DuFresne said in a statement. "I've lived my whole life in Bay County, and I'm fortunate now to be raising my family here as well, but I remember what this community was and can be again. We need a leader to fight to bring back one of the strongest middle-class economies in our state, a leader who will tell Lansing to stop putting our economic troubles on the backs of our kids and the working class."

Mr. DuFresne said he is entering the race to offer "honest hometown leadership." He attended St. Joseph's Parochial Grade School and graduated in 1986 from Bay City Central High School. He earned an Associate's at Delta Community College, a Bachelor's at Central Michigan University and his Master's in Education Leadership from Saginaw Valley State University.

Mr. DuFresne is a member of both the Michigan Democratic Party and the National Rifle Association.

An announcement rally will take placed on September 26 at noon at the Local 362 UAW Hall in Bay City.

PSC Directs Clear Rate Communications To Provide Proof Of Services

The Public Service Commission has directed Clear Rate Communications, Inc., to provide proof it is complying with state law and PSC regulations requiring telecommunications companies to provide telephone service to deaf and hard-of-hearing residents.

After AT&T Michigan on May 28, 2014 sent letters to basic local exchange carriers in Michigan informing them of its intent to discontinue the telecommunications relay service (TRS) it provided to Michigan carriers, the PSC issued an order that, among other things, required local exchange providers to file customer outreach plans no less than 30 days prior to the transition of its relay customers and to notify the PSC within 10 days of making a change to a new relay service provider by filing a letter in that docket.

The PSC staff questions (case U-17951) whether Clear Rate customer have had access to TRS since February 7, 2015, and the Commission has not been able to determine if the company is providing TRS to its customers on its own, jointly with other basic local exchange providers, or by contract with other telecommunications providers, the PSC said in a statement about the case.

As such, Clear Rate is to file a response by 5 p.m. on October 8 to each of the PSC staff's allegations. That response is to explain whether it has entered into a TRS agreement, and shall be accompanied by pre-filed direct testimony, exhibits, work papers and affidavits supporting the veracity of its response, PSC said.

The company has also been directed to appear at a pre-hearing conference before an administrative law judge at 9 a.m. on October 29 at the PSC offices in Lansing.

MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION: The Public Service Commission on Wednesday also approved a settlement authorizing Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation to implement its energy optimization plan for 2016 and 2017, resulting in a decrease of 4 cents per month on the bills of residential customers using 100 ccf of natural gas per month. The decrease is effective January 1, 2016 (case U-17789).

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Tuesday Report on HB 4248 to repeal certain outdated provisions of law has been updated to reflect changes made in the House prior to the bill coming before a Senate committee.

Supplemental Event Planner

Friday, September 25

U. S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D) Fundraiser, The Durant Hotel, 607 East 2nd Avenue, Flint, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13

Rep. Jon Bumstead **(R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.**

Rep. Frank Liberati **(D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.**

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Thursday, September 24, 2015

Less Controversial Third Grade Reading Bill Hits House Floor

State Financial Leaders Present For Quadrant Roads Meeting

Nofs Continues Discussion On Electric Choice

Broken Tuition Caps Could Mean Changes For 2016 Budget

Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

Michigan Joins With Other States in Volkswagen Investigation

House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

Court Of Claims Rules For E.M. On Modifying Retiree Health Care

Ananich Urges Action On Flint Water Situation

Corrections Updates Purchasing Policy In Light Of Complaint

Senate Panel Reports Venture Investment Bills

Poll Finds Dead Split On Marijuana Legalization

House Panel Approves Presidential Primary As Regular Election Date

Unemployment Down Across State

Pscholka 'Good Samaritan' Prescription Drug Bill To Get Hearing

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Volume #54, Report #190 -- Thursday, September 24, 2015

Less Controversial Third Grade Reading Bill Hits House Floor

Legislation sent to the full House Thursday and designed to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students is less controversial than version lawmakers considered in 2014, but there's still a lot of work to be done before the chamber will vote on the bill, House Education Committee Chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" } , which aims to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students before they make it to the fourth grade, was reported 13-3, with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), Rep. Tom Hooker (R-Byron Center) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266701&locid=1" } (R-New Boston) voting no. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=365701&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) abstained.

Mr. McBroom said he voted no because the bill is attempting a one size fits all solution for every student in every school with reading problems.

"I just think that that is ridiculous. It doesn't' work. And it has never worked well," he said. "We ought to come up with a plan that empowers local school districts and the Department of Education to customize their approach to individual students' needs, use the professionals in the classroom, in the administration, in the department, to help every student that needs help, and not pretend that somehow we can create a bill that is going to fix everything for every student."

But Ms. Price said the bill would not apply across the board to all school districts.

"It's a policy that we hope outlines a plan that gets kids to proficiency across the state," she said. "Some of the schools in my district are very high in proficiency levels. So they are doing a lot of good things. But in some areas of the state we are not there."

But Mr. McBroom disagreed: "Certainly there are elements of you could implement this provision this way in this school, and this way in that school. But it's still the same very specific ... way of doing things," he said.

Changes in the H-4 substitute version include more closely tying the policy bill to the appropriations piece in the budget; encouraging schools to offer summer reading camps for struggling readers before they reach the third grade; expanding distribution of read at home

information to others who spend time with the child; and clarifying children need to be more than a grade level behind in reading for the smart promotion to apply.

The bill discussed last term originally included a provision requiring the retention of every third grader who could not read at grade level. Although that was later changed, the controversy regarding the automatic retention was never overcome and the House was not able to take up the bill.

"There's been so much stakeholder input, so much work with the governor's work group," Ms. Price said. "(This is) much less controversial. There's still a lot of resonance about making those kids stay back. But I always want to point out the emphasis has to be on interventions on K, 1, 2 and 3 and not about retention."

Under the current version, there are a variety of alternatives to retention. First, the bill attempts to provide intervention before the child gets to the third grade. Second, the bill provides a smart promotion where a student can be promoted to the fourth grade if they are proficient in other subjects and only receive reading instruction at the third grade level.

There is also a good cause exemption to retention outlined in the bill. The smart promotion piece of the legislation would not go into effect until the 2017-18 school year. However, some, including { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids), would like to see the implementation delayed until the 2018-19 school year.

But Ms. Price said the longer the implementation is put back, more students will be left behind.

"The results I see on reading, we can't afford any more time pushing it back," she said. "We did push it back one year. I just keep thinking in my mind what kids are we going to lose if we push it back even further."

The reported version of the bill also addresses literacy instruction needs for English language learners; clarifies the type of personnel who may be asked to work with students who are retained; and makes changes to language regarding the good cause exemption for students with disabilities.

There were multiple testifiers last week concerned about the bill as it relates to students with dyslexia.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said discussions are ongoing to address the issue more formally outside the third grade reading bill.

"I know we are having discussions with the other side of the aisle too, and potentially the lieutenant governor, to potentially do some more formal work on this process with regards to students with disabilities. We think it is larger than just things that impact literacy," Mr. Zemke said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1" } (D-Lansing) also expressed ongoing concerns about portions of the bill relating to students with individual education plans and special education students. He said he understands it's early in the process and more changes will be made, though.

"I expect a lot more work to be done," Ms. Price said, "because this is not an easy issue for a lot of folks. But at least on the Republican side, this is a caucus priority so I hope that conversations are very fruitful."

State Financial Leaders Present For Quadrant Roads Meeting

Although the legislative quadrant still did not have an agreement as of Thursday evening on a plan to fund roads, the presence of some of the state's top financial officials seemed to indicate that { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and legislative leaders may be getting closer.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358101&locid=1" } and Transportation { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=304101&locid=1" } were seen leaving the meeting together on Thursday.

"They're an important resource and we had good discussions on a number of topics," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } told media after the quadrant meeting, which lasted slightly more than an hour. "You can go through the list of things that people are concerned about roads, and it's good to have experts."

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) indicated the conversations are becoming more detail-specific, even if those details have yet to be made public.

"I think we're having real conversations about actual real components of the plan and what it may look like," Mr. Ananich said after the meeting. "We haven't settled on anything yet but we're actually talking about things, so that's better than talking esoterically."

Joining the legislative leaders and Mr. Snyder were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358101&locid=1" } and Transportation { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=304101&locid=1" }. Those leaders had not been seen at other quadrant meetings.

Mr. Ananich said the leaders were talking about aspects, looking at other states and best practices, and getting numbers on all ideas.

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant) characterized the meeting as "more progress" and said he felt the leaders were "getting closer all the time."

He said: "On a scale of productivity, it was up there. I think today was at least an eight (out of 10)."

Mr. Cotter said road funding discussions won't hold up other serious matters before the Legislature such as energy reform or repealing the prevailing wage, either. So far, nothing is contingent on roads.

Mr. Snyder seemed to have the same positive attitude, saying he was not ready to "talk about negative actions" such as vetoing bills that come to his desk before an agreement is reached.

"This meeting was constructive today," he said. "We've continued to have constructive meetings. More positive progress is going on, so I want to stay positive about this."

Nofs Continues Discussion On Electric Choice

The Senate Energy and Technology Committee adopted an S-1 substitute to a bill on electric choice that the committee chair said Thursday makes only technical changes and he assured observers the measure will not be the final version of the bill eventually reported to the full Senate.

"I'm a firm believer in the process, and I expect there will be a lot of changes before we arrive at an S-2 substitute," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek), the committee chair, told another packed room of attendees to the meeting.

Perhaps the most substantial of language changes in the new substitute is the addition that, "A customer who fails to provide written notice as required under this subsection shall no longer be eligible to receive service from an alternative electric supplier and shall return to standard tariff service with the electric utility upon expiration of the customer's current electricity supply contract with an alternative electric supplier."

The substitute was adopted with unanimous approval. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) was absent from committee.

Thursday's committee saw a handful of alternative electric suppliers testify in opposition to the bill at hand, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701" }.

Many felt the provisions would essentially end electric choice and brought undue burdens on the customers.

Craig Borr, president of the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, had several concerns about the new Integrated Resource Planning practices for utilities, for example.

"We understand the necessity ... we certainly are not opposed to that process for (utilities) due to the fact they have a profit quota," Mr. Borr said. "However, we do not believe that a new, central generalization planning process is necessary or needed."

His group took issue with the changes to electric choice. Pointing to Wolverine Power Cooperative - one of its members - as an example, Mr. Borr said the company has successfully been working in the choice market and saved about $100 million since choice started.

"MECA supports several of the changes to electric choice being proposed in SB 437 but also believes there are provisions in the legislation that need to be modified or they will slowly choke competitive retail choice markets in Michigan," Mr. Borr said.

By contrast, Steve Kurmas, president and COO of DTE Energy, said it supported SB 437 and that the IRP process would ensure "a timely review by all stakeholders of new technologies as they evolve. Second, it will ensure a diversified energy portfolio is maintained. Third, it will allow Michigan to adapt to changing federal regulations."

"Finally, it will ensure fair prices for Michigan's families and businesses," Mr. Kurmas said.

On electric choice, Mr. Kurmas urged requiring capacity to be located in the same zone as the load served to ensure reliability.

"Michigan's utilities are responsible to ensure that reliable supply is always there for their customers. Alternative energy suppliers should be held responsible as well," he said. "They have options - build their own generation, enter into bi-lateral agreements with existing generators, or execute an auction for multi-year generation capacity."

Hillsdale College economics professor Gary Wolfram recommended legislative action to incent the state's utilities to do better at controlling costs, improving reliability, reducing pollution and creating better ratepayer outcomes. Mr. Wolfram recently completed a study for the Michigan Conservative Energy Forum, which supports an increase of the 10 percent electric choice cap.

"Michigan has the highest electricity costs in the region and it's the role of the Legislature to pass regulation to protect consumers and improve efficiencies," Mr. Wolfram said in a statement. "On their own, Michigan's monopoly utilities are not incentivized to make choices that are efficient. Through regulation and policy, the Michigan Legislature can make the market more efficient, reduce cost and increase economic activity."

Mr. Wolfram's testimony was criticized by Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, which supports full regulation and largely represents incumbent utilities.

"Wolfram fails to mention that, on average, deregulated states pay 27 percent higher rates than regulated states," Kelly Rossman-McKinney, the group's spokesperson, said in a statement. "And he disregards the large subsidy that regulated customers in Michigan are forced to pay to cover open-access customers."

She continued: "While deregulation advocates continue to make dubious claims based on free market principles, the truth is they're pushing for what amounts to a backdoor tax increase that falls hardest on low-income residents. Deregulation also makes electric rate more volatile, hurts reliability and gives alternative energy suppliers ample opportunity to cheat the system of massive profits."

It remains unclear how soon the committee may report the bill to the full Senate for consideration.

Broken Tuition Caps Could Mean Changes For 2016 Budget

There appeared general agreement among members of the House and Senate Appropriations Higher Education subcommittees that change was needed to the tuition cap for universities, but not necessarily agreement on how to go about that.

The two subcommittees heard Thursday from the presidents of Eastern Michigan and Oakland universities, the two that increased tuition more than the cap, on their reasons for those increases.

There was some concern raised about OU's increase given the institution had not first spent into its reserves. But the greater concern was that universities could ignore the current cap at will with apparently little negative effect.

"Tuition restraint as a measurement does not seem to be effective since universities can choose when to conform and then fall back inline," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1" } (R-Rockford) said.

Mr. MacGregor said he was inclined to find ways to make the universities stay within the caps.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1" } (R-Bloomfield Hills), chair of the House subcommittee, questioned how the Legislature could better work with the institutions to gauge their needs.

"Most of the testimony I heard was a 4 percent increase was what the universities were looking for in that cap," he said. "How can we as a state work closer to understand these challenges?"

EMU Interim President Kim Schatzel said she did not oppose the tuition cap, but that legislators had to recognize it was a ceiling for periods where the university might, for other reasons, keep tuition and below the cap, but then need to rebuild revenue later.

She said EMU had increased its tuition to rebuild its cash reserves, which had fallen to about a tenth of what some similar institutions had.

And OU President George Hynd said universities are not ignoring the cap.

"We are all very cognizant and cautious of exceeding that tuition cap," he said. "There may be ways of thinking about a tuition cap that may be less punitive and more helpful to the institutions."

He said the current cap penalizes institutions like his that are growing. "We would favor a funding formula that includes a floor and leaves tuition to the institution," he said.

Oakland increased its tuition because needs were simply outpacing revenues, he said. But he said he would prefer to keep adding to cash reserves rather than spending into them given the recent trend of declining high school graduates.

Mr. McCready said the two subcommittees would likely be meeting in the future to discuss the implications of the high school graduation trends.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) said the university's actions were expected. "I've been saying the last three years in this committee that we need to find a new source of revenue for higher ed," he said. "I'm surprised it took this long for you to go over the caps we gave you."

But Mr. Singh and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), chair of the Senate subcommittee, differed on whether the universities had been restored to pre-2011-12 levels when all took a 15 percent hit to balance the budget. Mr. Singh said none had, while Ms. Schuitmaker said the current budget restored 11 of the 15.

Mr. Hynd said his university had not been restored.

Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee on Thursday discussed three different approaches to delegating the state's Electoral College votes instead of the current winner take all system in a presidential election, but took no action as the committee chair said there is no real consensus from his caucus on change.

No change to the system Michigan has used since the 1800s is also likely for the 2016 election, said chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) presented his proposal in { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB48901" } first, which would require one presidential elector be chosen from each congressional district and two be chosen at large based on which political party received the most votes for president. Two other states, Maine and Nebraska, have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed.

"Something like this will encourage (candidates) to campaign in a state where there's an option of splitting the delegates," Mr. Green told the committee. "Some believe the winner-take-all system makes our state attractive, but I believe it's more important we allow all areas of our state to have a voice."

That argument was harshly criticized by Patrick Rose, an election lawyer with the Michigan Election Coalition. He said adopting a methodology other than one that would enter Michigan into a compact supporting national popular voting would take Michigan, and eventually the rest of the nation, back in time to a point where individual states each had different rules.

"It was chaos," Mr. Rose explained, saying that system was also determined by leaders at the time (the 1800s) to be corrupt.

As to the two other states that have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed, Mr. Rose said that has so far only changed the outcome of one single electoral vote and that Nebraska, specifically, has been trying to reverse its system virtually since it switched to such a method.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell) presented his proposal next, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB19701" }, which would allow presidential electors be allocated to a political party based on the percentage of popular votes. If the number of presidential electors for the leading party was not a whole number, then a fractional number of 0.5 or greater would be rounded up the nearest whole number, and a number less than that rounded down.

"I believe the fairest of all is when every vote is counted equally," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

His bill is tie-barred to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB8801" }, a bill by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) that would enact the Interstate Compact to Elect the President by National Popular Vote and enter Michigan into the compact. The logic there, Mr. Hildenbrand said, is that his proposal would be used while other states join the compact with hopefully enough joining to make the compact binding.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) expressed reluctance to move into a system as described by Mr. Hildenbrand and later Ms. Warren because, Mr. Colbeck said, it values uniformity more than diversity.

"For me, this gets into this fundamental discussion of the concept of a pure democracy and just our 'add them up and the ones that get the top votes win' versus a constitutional republic," he said.

But proponents of the bipartisan plan say without it, four out of five votes cast in a presidential election are already being ignored. And while the argument of value in diversity seems valid, "When we take the Pledge of Allegiance, it's not one congressional district under God, it's one nation under God," argued Patrick Rosenstiel of the group National Popular Vote.

The committee did not vote on the bills, and, Mr. Robertson said he has no plan to do so in the immediate future.

"We're not going to make any changes for the 2016 election. But ... some of the perception has been, 'Clearly there must be a desire on the part of Republicans to make a change away from winner-take-all,' and others say, 'No, no, that shouldn't,'" Mr. Robertson said. "I can assure you there's no uniformity of opinion on the Republican side."

OPEN MEETINGS: The committee did, however, report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB418201" } , which amends the Open Meetings Act to require the physical presence of each member of an elected public body who was voting on an issue. The committee adopted an S-1 substitute that made exceptions for those who are in the deployed in the military or for certain, specific emergencies.

House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

Two bills requiring prison kitchens receive third-party inspections now that the Department of Corrections is receiving food services from a private provider heard testimony in a House committee Thursday, but some members of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee don't appear convinced that's necessary.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), chair of the committee, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=328701&locid=1" } (D-Marquette), are the sponsors of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB474901" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB474801" } , respectively. Mr. McBroom said in the 1970s, the state exempted its prison kitchens from the inspection requirement because the state was running the kitchens and already doing those inspections.

Now, the Department of Corrections still oversees inspections of the kitchens, but inspections are also done by the private company contracted with the state to provide the service.

Mr. McBroom said it makes sense to have a third-party, independent inspection done in prison kitchens just like restaurants and other facilities.

"Since the state is no longer providing those food services but is contracting that out, it makes sense that those inspections be brought back," he said. "This is not different than inspections at any other public institution."

Mr. Kivela said there are three prisons in his district, and he said he has been outspoken that he wasn't supportive of privatizing the kitchen services in prisons.

"I want to work toward making them work," he said. "When we look at how can we as a Legislature help improve the situation ... I think at the end of the day what would really assist the department ... is having an independent third party do the inspections like they do for any other food service entity."

Mr. Kivela said the contractor would pick up the fee to pay the local health department. However, Kyle Kaminski, legislative liaison for the Department of Corrections, said the state would likely pick up the costs, at least until the contract is renewed.

Mr. Kaminski also said the department is neutral on the bill.

But Nick Derusha, director of the Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft District Health Department, said they are more than capable of taking on the additional inspections. He said the twice-a-year inspections run anywhere from $200 to $600.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305301&locid=1" } (R-Linden) said he has heard from inmates and others in prisons that the food is good. He also was skeptical of the accuracy and need of these inspections.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353301&locid=1" } (R-Brighton) said she was concerned about making this change in the middle of the contract.

Mr. Kivela said the two inspections a year are scheduled in advance and won't take too much additional time from their process.

"I think the idea of having increased safety and transparency is well worth that small amount," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=310601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said she was excited about the bills.

"It shows we have empathy," she said.

The committee did not discuss in-depth the issues of food service in the prisons during the last two years or the scandals related to those services. The department has recently switched from

Aramark to Trinity for its food service after nearly 20 months with Aramark plagued with troubles, lowlighted by repeated concerns about maggots in the food.

Mr. Kaminski said eight contract monitors work for the department and are former food service inspectors. He said they visit facilities two-to-three times a month and conduct monthly inspections.

He said annually, a sanitarian conducts an unannounced inspection of the kitchens as well.

Still, Mr. McBroom said there "is a little bit of concern about what has been going on in midst of safeguards you said are in place."

"Representative Kivela and I have worked hard to make this about going forward and not looking back," he said. "But I don't think that it is entirely fair, then, to not follow some of your statements you just made by just expressing some of the troubling aspects that have recently happened, despite the safeguards you mentioned are in place. ... This is not about drudging that up."

Mr. Kaminski said the department has no position on the bill, and added it is up to the Legislature to decide if the current approach is sufficient.

Ms. Theis also said some of the problems in the kitchens would not have come up without the current inspection process, but Mr. McBroom retorted: "I would contend that it wasn't always the inspection process that brought the issues," to which Ms. Theis agreed.

The committee did not act on the bills. Mr. McBroom said he would like some clarity on who would pick up the costs for the inspections before bringing the bills up for a vote.

Michigan Joins With Other States in Volkswagen Investigation

The scandal that has engulfed the world's largest automaker has led Michigan and 27 other states attorneys general to launch an investigation into Volkswagen.

Last week, the federal government ordered Volkswagen to recall diesel vehicles sold in the U.S. with doctored pollution controls that would show the vehicles meeting emission standards when they were tested but running at higher emission levels when they were not being tested.

The German-based company announced as many as 11 million vehicles sold all around the world were affected by the same computer-generated device. Already the company's chief executive officer has resigned, and on Thursday, credit rating agencies said Volkswagen had been put on credit watch.

A spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said the states will subpoena Volkswagen executives.

The states could choose to pursue the investigation through either their consumer protection or environmental protection laws, or both. Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely did not say how Michigan would pursue the matter.

Along with Michigan, the attorneys general that have so far announced they would participate in the investigation are from Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

The House on Thursday passed an inspection exemption for low-risk foods served at temporary food establishments.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB14401" } passed the House 89-16. The House made no changes to the bill, which now heads to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Under the bill, a local health department, based on a public risk assessment, could simply conduct an in-office consultation with the establishment instead of an on-site inspection.

The bill defines "low-risk foods" as:

- Raw or prepackaged food that is not potentially hazardous food;
- Potentially hazardous food that is prepared in a licensed facility and is not prepared on-site; and
- Commercially processed potentially hazardous food that is fully cooked and heated only for hot holding.

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS: The House also sent a bill that makes some changes to a law passed last year regarding the licensure of pharmacy technicians to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB46801" }, which cleared the House 104-1, certain applicants would be excused from the requirement to have graduated from high school or passed the GED test when applying for pharmacy technician licensure.

The bill also would increase the duration of a temporary license from 210 days to one year, and allow a person employed as a pharmacy technician for an employer with multiple locations to work as a limited license pharmacy technician at any of those locations.

Court Of Claims Rules For E.M. On Modifying Retiree Health Care

The former Allen Park emergency manager's decision to modify retiree health care for former city workers was lawful, the Court of Claims has ruled.

In an opinion issued this week, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305801&locid=1" } granted the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit brought by retirees of the city government, who challenged changes made to their health care in late 2012 and early 2013.

The challenge was two-pronged. It contested the ability of the emergency manager to modify retiree health care under PA 72 of 1990, the old local financial emergency law, because it contained no provision for what were known as emergency financial managers to modify contracts.

Joyce Parker was still operating under PA 72 of 1990 when she first began moving toward changes in retiree health care, putting retirees under a plan that for the first time would include deductibles and co-pays. By the time the change actually took effect, Ms. Parker was operating under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" }, which enhanced the powers of local emergency managers.

Mr. Boonstra, in his ruling, said the plaintiffs had no evidence that Ms. Parker actually implemented the new insurance under PA 72 of 1990 and so dismissed that portion of the case.

The plaintiffs also mounted a more wide-ranging attack against { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" }, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, claiming it is unconstitutionally vague.

To support their claim, the plaintiffs assert the act vests the entire "sovereign power" of the state in two executive branch employees, the treasurer and the emergency manager; declares city retirees "interested parties," but excludes them from the rest of the act; and gives the treasurer and emergency manager limitless power.

However, Mr. Boonstra said the claim meets none of the tests necessary to support a charge of unconstitutional vagueness and contains little support for the allegations.

Ananich Urges Action On Flint Water Situation

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } said Thursday he will continue working on raising funds to provide his hometown with clean drinking water after medical data was released showing increased lead levels in children through the city of Flint.

Medical officials at the Hurley Medical Center used data from all blood lead levels at their facility to analyze differences between those collected between January 1, 2013 and September 15, 2013, prior to the city switching the resource for its water, and for the post-switch period of January 1, 2015 through September 15, 2015.

The results for children five years old and younger found that pre-switch, about 2.1 percent of children were found to have noticeable levels of lead in their blood (that is consistent with Department of Health and Human Services data at 2.2 percent, the officials noted). Post-switch, 4 percent of children tested were found to have lead in their blood.

As a point of comparison, the officials also analyzed the same periods for Genesee County children living outside of city of Flint zip codes. Pre-switch, 0.6 percent of children 5 and under were flagged as having lead in their system. That increased to 1 percent during the post-switch timeframe.

"The findings released today are alarming. Our top priority has to be doing everything we can and finding every available resource to ensure access to safe water for Flint residents," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement. "I will be leading an effort to raise state, private and philanthropic resources to deliver filters and clean water into the community as quickly as possible."

Children with high blood lead levels are at an increased likelihood of attention deficit disorders, having delinquent behaviors and arrests, or having hematologic, cardiovascular, immunologic, or endocrine issues, the officials noted in their presentation.

Mr. Ananich said anyone with concerns about their water should visit { HYPERLINK "http://www.flintwaterinfo.com/" \t "blank" } and contact their physician or the Genesee County Health Department immediately.

Corrections Updates Purchasing Policy In Light Of Complaint

Prison stores will have fewer free samples and Department of Corrections policies make it clear store employees are not entitled to personal use of those, a report received Thursday by the Board of Ethics said.

The report is largely attachments detailing the current contract with Keefe, the vendor for the store goods, and the new employee policies.

The report resulted from a complaint filed against Jim Kolb, a store supervisor the Michigan State Employees Association said was abusing his position in the use and distribution of free samples (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541100105" }).

The department said in the report that it had complied with the board's recommendation, also formally adopted Thursday, that it take no disciplinary action against Mr. Kolb, given the board's

finding that there had been a history of such abuses in the stores that Mr. Kolb was merely continuing.

The department, in the report, revised its policies to make it clear the samples were not for the personal use of the store employees and said it would be contacting all employees annually to reinforce that policy.

The new policy takes effect Saturday under a shortened review process.

It also said it had since changed the contract with Keefe to limit the amount of free samples allowed. Under the new contract, only three samples per store item are allowed, and they are to be delivered only to the Prison Store Contract Committee, which decides what items will be offered in the stores.

FORESTERS: The board also formally adopted its June decision that two Department of Natural Resources foresters had not violated State Ethics Act because the department had the authority to allow them to take on supplemental employment and because they never actually took any outside work.

The Michigan Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters had argued that allowing Kevin LaBumbard, Ben Travis and Theresa Sol to take on outside work would be a conflict because they would be in a position to recommend themselves should land owners call the department for assistance.

Senate Panel Reports Venture Investment Bills

Legislation to ensure the state makes no more tax voucher grants to companies through the Early Stage Venture Investment Corporation were sent to the full Senate Thursday.

The three bills - { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419501" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB436501" } - were reported unanimously by the members of the Economic Development and International Investment Committee.

The committee also reported a bill changing how often the state has to certify what the taxable minimum wage will be under the employment security act. Democrats on the panel voted against that bill because it did not include a tie-bar to legislation to restore some unemployment benefits.

The early stage venture bills were made necessary when it was discovered the grants made after the corporation was set up in 2003 had failed to produce the economic development results hoped for, putting the state in a position of losing some $600 million. The discovery of that situation created a budgeting worry for the state which the bills are expected to help ease.

Under the legislation, the state could no longer issue any tax vouchers under the program and the total number of certificates available would be reduced to the $450 million already issued.

The bills also change the expiration date of the fund and the vouchers from 2054 to 2030.

The panel adopted an amendment stipulating that up to $154 million of any revenue the state recoups go to the General Fund, and that any monies after that go to the 21st Century Jobs Fund. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said the fund has helped finance companies that have grown and added more than 1,000 jobs to the state.

And Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB50001" }, the state would no longer determine quarterly if the base taxable wage under which unemployment protection tax is paid is $9,500 or has to be reduced to $9,000 based on the financial condition of the state's unemployment compensation fund.

The bill would have the state make the declaration once a year, on June 30, if the wage remains at $9,500 or is reduced to $9,000.

Ms. Warren proposed tie-barring the bill to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB465501" } , which would restore six weeks of unemployment benefits cut by the state in 2011. Jobless workers have not seen an increase in their benefits in nearly 40 years, and the bill would help provide benefits for those still unable to find work. The amendment failed along party lines.

Poll Finds Dead Split On Marijuana Legalization

With a good chance Michigan voters will act on at least one marijuana legalization proposal on the 2016 ballot, a poll shows voters are split dead even on the issue.

The poll conducted of Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group found 46 percent said they would support legalization for persons 21 years old and older, while 46 percent were opposed.

But of those most likely to vote, the scale definitely does not favor legal weed: 52 percent said they would oppose legalization to 42 percent backing it.

Groups are out now collecting signatures on proposed bills to legalize recreational use of marijuana for adults. Its medicinal use is already approved for those with certain medical conditions.

Opposition is led by self-identified Republicans, those 65 or older, and so-called "super voters" who vote in every election.

The poll was conducted earlier in September of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll also showed Democrats backing the idea with 60 percent support. Independents gave it 50 percent support, while just 29 percent of Republicans supported it.

Younger people also supported the proposal, with 66 percent of those between ages 18 and 29 backing it, while just 33 percent of those aged 65 and older backed it.

Geographically, support was highest in Detroit, where 75 percent backed the proposal, and it had stronger support overall in the Detroit-metro area (though it was too close to call how voting would go). In outstate and rural areas, support fell sharply. In West Michigan, it was opposed by 56 percent of those polled.

House Panel Approves Presidential Primary As Regular Election Date

Every four years, the state's primary elections and any local elections held in conjunction would move up to the date set for the presidential primary under legislation approved Thursday by the House Elections Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490401" }), which was reported without objection from committee and has support of the various local government groups, would allow other items than the presidential primary on that ballot and would provide filing deadlines to accommodate that shift.

The bill specifies it is intended to correct a Court of Appeals ruling that the presidential primary was not one of the state's regular election dates and so was not available for other issues.

The committee did strip off an enacting provision that delay it for 90 days out of concern the delay would have it enacted too late to affect the upcoming elections.

Unemployment Down Across State

All 17 of the state's labor markets saw unemployment fall in August, a report Thursday from the Department of Technology, Management and Budget said.

The report said employment was up across the state, but the decline was in part due to people dropping out of the workforce across the state.

"Jobless rates around the state typically fall in August, and this year was no exception," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Employment increased in August in a number of Michigan regions, however, (and) workforce levels fell in all areas from the June and July summer peak."

Employment increased in 12 markets from July and in all 17 from August 2014, but the total workforce fell in all 17 markets from July and in 10 regions from the year prior.

The lowest unemployment was 3.4 percent in Grand Rapids-Wyoming, down from 4.2 percent from July and 4.9 percent from August 2014, also the lowest rates for their respective periods.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn retained its position as the highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent, down from 7 percent from July and 8.9 percent from last August, both marking the highest employment for the state.

Among the counties, Mackinac had the lowest unemployment at 2.8 percent, while Schoolcraft had the highest at 9.6 percent.

Wayne County was third highest at 7.5 percent, Oakland County was 39th at 5 percent (tied with Van Buren and Saginaw), Macomb was 62nd at 6 percent (tied with Kalkaska), and Kent was third at 3.4 percent.

Pscholka 'Good Samaritan' Prescription Drug Bill To Get Hearing

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } said Thursday his bill precluding individuals younger than 21 years old from facing prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency will get a committee hearing.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB484301" } , Mr. Pscholka (R-Stevensville) said, is similar to a recent public act providing immunity for those minors who report an alcohol-related medical emergency.

"We're talking about situations where people sit by and do nothing while lives are on the line," he said in a statement. "Well, guess what? That's the position we're in, too. We can sit by and do nothing, or we can pass this legislation before we lose another young person with a bright future."

The bill will see a hearing in the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday, September 29, at 9 a.m.

Campaign Notes

MOOLENAAR BACKS RUBIO: Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio, a U.S. senator from Florida, secured his highest-profile Michigan backing yet with an endorsement Thursday from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=71001&locid=1" } (R-Midland).

"Marco Rubio is a generational leader who has a bold vision for creating jobs in the 21st Century, and I am proud to endorse him for president," Mr. Moolenaar said in a statement. "Marco's plan for a New American Economy is exactly what Michigan and our country needs and I will do everything I can to help elect him."

MITCHELL ENDORSES FIORINA: Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina secured a notable Michigan endorsement Thursday when conservative business executive Paul Mitchell, a candidate in the 10th U.S. House District, said he is supporting her for president.

"Our next president must possess the experience to effectively lead our country - experience making tough real world decisions, and understand how the world works beyond the fishbowl of politics," Mr. Mitchell said in a statement. "Our next president must be able to communicate clear conservative solutions to the American people and possess the leadership skills needed to enact them into policy. I believe we have just such a leader seeking our nomination, from outside of government, with real world experience that is needed to move America in the right direction. I believe Carly Fiorina is that leader and I am proud to support her candidacy to be the next president of the United States."

AGEMA, TED NUGENT ENDORSING BILL SAGE IN 80TH: Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema and musician Ted Nugent are endorsing Bill Sage of Allegan in the 80th House District, Mr. Agema said Thursday on his Facebook.

Mr. Sage is one of the eight Republicans running in the 80th House District to fill the vacancy created by the expulsion of former Rep. Cindy Gamrat of Plainwell. Ms. Gamrat is also running.

Mr. Sage has said he is a constitutional conservative and wrote the "Constituting Michigan" resolution that was later passed at RNC. Mr. Agema noted that he helped get it passed at the RNC. The resolution requires K-12 education include certain documents, including the Bill of Rights.

Capital Notebook

MAC BOARD: Jerry Doucette of Alger County is the new president of the Michigan Association of Counties. Shelley Goodman Taub of Oakland County is now first vice president and Matthew Bierlein of Tuscola County is the new second vice president.

LOAN SETTLEMENT: Michigan residents saw $15.7 million in forgiven loans and $6.85 million in reduced or modified loans in the final accounting of a settlement with South Dakota-based Western Sky Financial, LLC and California-based CashCall, Incorporated, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } and Insurance and Financial Services { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393501&locid=1" } announced Thursday.

The settlement for issuing loans without a license and for charging excessive interest rates still includes $2.2 million in refunds to customers who filed legitimate claims. The officials said the settlement administrator is resolving now how to divide those funds.

CHARITY GAMING: Ledge Meadows Poker Room in Grand Ledge will close as a charity gaming location on September 29 and 1 Eyed Jack Gaming Supplies will forfeit its license as a

supplier after the Gaming Control Board found the supplier had made supplemental payments to the venue.

Statute requires charities to pay separately for the venue and the equipment and other services. Officials said Ledge Meadows was reportedly donating space for the games.

"Ledge Meadows acted like a casino by accepting gambling profits from the supplier," MGCB Executive Director Richard Kalm said in a statement. "The supplier and location made an illegal deal, allowing the location to skirt state law."

Officials noted 1 Eyed Jack was placed on probation for much of 2014 for paying fees to Ledge Meadows. It was also cited for allowing a dealer with a felony record.

Subscribers Please Note

A story on Michigan Works! successes incorrectly identified Ben Damerow in the story where Jacob Maas, CEO of West Michigan Works! should have been cited. The story has been updated online.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, September 30

Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board, Board Room, Fourth Floor, 735 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/MSHDA_9-30-15_Board_Meeting_Agenda.docx" \t "_blank" })

Thursday, October 8

Natural Resources Commission, Clark Township Hall, 207 North Blind Line Road, Cedarville, 2:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-65134_65145_65545---,00.html" \t "blank" })

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Click the ✉ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan News & Opinion For September 28, 2015

News

Fiorina, Miller highlight GOP Mackinac Island conference (Detroit Free Press, 9/27/2015)

Michigan friends, foes of John Boehner praise service (Detroit Free Press, 9/25/2015)

New bills include increased transparency for DIA (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Should guns be allowed in school? (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Snyder fund still collects cash from undisclosed donors (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Top of Michigan's '18 ticket could be historic first: All female (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Michigan debates energy deregulation (Lansing State Journal, 9/27/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Cindy Gamrat, Todd Courser inspire re-election prevention bill (MLive, 9/26/2015)

First on the scene (Port Huron Times Herald, 9/26/2015)

Bill Clinton to headline Mich. fundraiser for Hillary (The Detroit News, 9/26/2015)

Detroit city clerk to challenge Conyers for House seat (The Detroit News, 9/25/2015)

Michigan facing $13B tab to maintain water systems (The Detroit News, 9/27/2015)

Here's what your foreign cars have done to Michigan (Washington Post, 9/28/2015)

Editorials

Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

State data confirms higher blood-lead levels in Flint kids (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Clemons: Rape culture change needs legislation (Lansing State Journal, 9/27/2015)

Snyder to address Middle Eastern commission (Lansing State Journal, 9/26/2015)

Clean Water Rule needs protection for Michigan rivers' sake (MLive, 9/27/2015)

Snyder taking right tack in wooing China trade (MLive, 9/25/2015)

Crops rot for want of immigration reform (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

Keep prevailing wage (Toledo Blade, 9/27/2015)

George Weeks: Continuing presidential campaign focus on Michigan (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 9/27/2015)

Blogs

Huizenga Scoops Everyone On Boehner Departure (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/25/2015)

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Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, September 28, 2015
Attachments: Sep28.htm; Sep28Rules.htm; 150928dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, September 28, 2015

U-M Professor Seen As Pick For Supreme Court

Dems Want $1B For Middle Class Families

Contractors: Ending Prevailing Wage Will Not Save Money

Nurse Anesthetist Bill Sees More Controversy

Ananich Looking To Snyder, State For Action In Flint

Former Rep. Sheen Endorses Storey In 80th House

University Presidents Warn Against Using More General Fund For Roads

Pelosi Backs Johnson In 1st Congressional

Energy Agency Sees Efficiency Improvements

Snyder Debuts 'Rising Tide' Program

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Activity Reports

Administrative Rules

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #54, Report #192 -- Monday, September 28, 2015

U-M Professor Seen As Pick For Supreme Court

In something of a surprise, University of Michigan legal professor Joan Larsen appears likely to be Governor Rick Snyder's choice to succeed outgoing Justice Mary Beth Kelly, sources said.

Before Ms. Larsen's name came out, most observers expected that either Appeals Judge Kirsten Frank Kelly or Oakland Circuit Judge Colleen O'Brien would be named to the bench. Ms. O'Brien had run for the court as a Republican nominee in 2014, but fell short of election.

If named, Ms. Larsen will share with Justice Bridget McCormack the career aspects of being a professor at the University of Michigan and not having any judicial experience. She would be the third justice on the bench with no previous judicial experience. Justice Richard Bernstein was elected to court after being primarily in private practice during his career.

But Ms. Larsen will also likely come to the bench with a more conservative bent than Ms. McCormack. Two sources speaking on condition of anonymity said she was proposed by Chief Justice Robert Young Jr.

Ms. Larsen and Mr. Young have appeared on programs held by the conservative legal group The Federalist Society.

A phone call left at Ms. Larsen's office in Ann Arbor was not returned.

Ms. Kelly is leaving the court to return to private practice and to spend more time promoting juvenile justice issues. Nominated by the Republicans, she was elected in 2012, and while she had generally sided with the GOP majority on the court, she has proven a more independent vote. She opposed the majority in 2014 that held that juveniles already imprisoned for life without parole (before the U.S. Supreme Court held that was unconstitutional) were not eligible to have parole hearings. And this past summer Ms. Kelly wrote the dissent in the opinion that held right-to-work applied to state civil service workers.

Ms. Larsen is now special counsel to the U-M law school dean. She earned her law degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. After graduation, she clerked for both U.S. Appeals Judge David Sentelle and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

She worked with the firm of Sidley and Austin in Washington, D.C. She also served as deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in 2002 and 2003 in the office of legal counsel. She began with the U-M law school in 1998.

On a website where students rank U-M law faculty, Ms. Larsen got mixed reviews. Some students considered her hilarious and energetic, while others berated her for being critical of

students, for rambling and for "clearly into being that funny cool professor, but at the expense of really engaging in interesting issues."

In a 2012 YouTube video, created by the U-M law school, Ms. Larsen discussed her background and interests.

Dems Want $1B For Middle Class Families

Legislative Democrats on Monday called for $1 billion more in tax credits and deductions for middle class families, which would be paid for by re-negotiating business tax credits or a "modest" bump in the Corporate Income Tax rate.

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) said the "blueprint for Michigan's families" would help reverse the tax shift passed under Governor Rick Snyder, which Democrats say put an undue burden on families to benefit businesses in the state.

"Our plan takes aim at what is called the 'middle class squeeze' that so many Michigan families have been facing for many years now," Mr. Greimel said Monday at a Lansing news conference. "But that has become increasingly acute in just the past several years. They face rising costs on the one hand, and stagnant incomes and increased taxes on the other."

Mr. Greimel said taxes on the middle class, working families and seniors have increased by $1.6 billion under Mr. Snyder, and corporations pay $2 billion less in taxes.

The plan includes:

- A new $400 per-child tax credit for each child age 13 and under in a households with income less than $100,000;
- A new dependent care tax credit to help families with working parent(s) offset the cost of child care or caring for an elderly parent;
- An expansion of the Homestead Property Tax Credit to families making up to $100,000, up from the current limit of $50,000;
- A senior deduction that exempts the first $2,300 in income from taxation for residents age 65 and older; and
- A College Affordability Tax Credit of up to 50 percent of the amount paid on state and federal higher education loans for any employed Michigan resident.

Democrats said plan savings would vary, but a family with two children that owns its own home and has an income less than $100,000 could save as much as $1,500 per year or more.

House Republicans immediately labeled the plan a "dog and pony show" and distributed to reporters a similar outline criticizing the proposal as it did when the House Democrats announced their plan to increase the Corporate Income Tax rate to raise funds for transportation.

"This is the same caucus - well, half of it, since they weren't united - that refused to do their jobs and vote on Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat for political reasons," said Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant). "This isn't about the middle class; this is about putting on a dog and pony show to get themselves elected, and they're not even any good at that."

Mr. Greimel said Republicans have refused to re-negotiate the Michigan Economic Growth Authority tax credits, although Ford Motor Company did re-negotiate some of its credits. And Michigan Economic Development Corporation CEO Steve Arwood has indicated there are ongoing discussions with others receiving the credits that have hit the state's General Fund budget hard as of late.

Mr. Greimel said re-negotiating those credits - which are projected to cost the state about $600 to $800 million per year until 2029 - would be where the Democrats would look first to pay for its plan.

After that, he said other "corporate welfare" could be targeted or a "modest" bump in the Corporate Income Tax rate.

Mr. Greimel did not say the House Democrats were giving up on their roads plan, which would increase the CIT and use the funds to pay for roads despite Republicans ruled out that plan.

"We would love for Republicans to embrace our plan to fix the roads, and if they did that we might have to scale some of this back," he said.

Mr. Greimel also said a number of elements of the plan have been brought up during road funding conversations with Republican leadership during the last several years.

"I think there are a number of parts of this plan that would fit well to help offset any tax increases imposed on middle class families," he said.

On road funding, Mr. Greimel said Democrats are dedicated to finding a solution in a bipartisan way.

"Certainly we are hopeful and cautiously optimistic to find a path to get this done," he said. "This is long past due and should have been done years ago. And it is disappointing after four and a half years of Republican control of state government, of literally every branch of state government, they have failed to accomplish what everybody in this state knows needs to be done, which is fixing the state roads."

Contractors: Ending Prevailing Wage Will Not Save Money

If the state ends its prevailing wage statute, it will not save money as supporters argue, a group of construction and union executives said on Monday.

In fact, repealing prevailing wage would make it more difficult to hire skilled trades workers, and eventually any savings would be negated because costs will go up, they said.

Already the state is down thousands of skilled workers over the past 15 years and companies are having difficulty now hiring individuals for skilled trades jobs, the executives said.

Michigan faces a "significant challenge" to keep construction trades shortage from getting worse, Vince DeLeonardis, president of Pontiac-based George W. Auch Company, said, and ending prevailing wage will add to the problem because it will make it more difficult for companies and workers to continue funding apprenticeship programs.

And Mike Stobak, a vice-president with Detroit-based Barton Malow, said that when prevailing wage was suspended from 1994 to 1997, any savings local governments saw quickly vanished as construction prices went back up to the levels they were under prevailing wage.

The press conference with the construction executives, all members of the group Michigan Prevails, was held as state election officials are expected to soon release a sample of petition signatures to be checked to see if an initiative to repeal the state's prevailing wage law has sufficient signatures to go to the Legislature for enactment, or to the public for approval in the 2016 election if the Legislature does not act.

Chris Fisher with the Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan (one of the primary sponsors of the effort to end prevailing wage) said his organization was absolutely certain there would be enough votes in the Legislature to pass the proposal and bypass the need for an election.

But Herb Spence, of Spence Brothers in Saginaw, said lawmakers should let the public decide the issue. Most polls have shown the public opposed to ending the state's prevailing wage law, Mr. Spence said.

Mr. Fisher argued that when prevailing wage was previously suspended in Michigan, there were 11,000 construction jobs created in the state. He also disputed charges that costs were effectively no cheaper when prevailing wage was ended than when it was in practice.

Mr. Fisher said plenty of studies have shown that government agencies see actual savings when prevailing wage is eliminated.

He also said it was no surprise that the contractors who held the press conference would support prevailing wage since their firms hire union workers. "They make a killing off the taxpayers," he said.

Mr. Spence said any contractor, union or non-union, can bid on a project that involves prevailing wage. He said that is a system that ensures that companies get jobs on the basis of productivity and not for paying people less.

Nurse Anesthetist Bill Sees More Controversy

The Senate Health Policy Committee may take up a bill on Tuesday to expand the scope of practice for nurse anesthetists, but the committee chair said a final decision on whether to proceed with the bill will come just prior to the meeting.

The committee has noticed to meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, but SB 320 was not specifically listed on the agenda. However, that agenda is subject to change and a committee is able to take up whatever legislation is "properly before the committee."

The bill was last discussed in mid-May. At the time, proponents of the bill said it would allow facilities, especially rural ones, flexibility in developing a plan of action in terms of anesthetic care for their patients, especially since some rural hospitals cannot afford to hire or maintain a full-time anesthesiologist.

But some senators said they were concerned about the lack of physician sign-off on the bill and questioned why anyone would want to become an anesthesiologist if he or she could go through less training to do effectively the same job.

The debate at hand is that nurse anesthetists are not currently permitted by Board of Medicine rules to prescribe any controlled substances, even under physician supervision. SB 320 changes that entirely, giving nurse anesthetists full prescribing authority.

Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) said Monday he is unsure whether the bill will come up on the agenda.

"I have an interest in taking it up, but a couple people have changed their leanings," he said of other committee members. "The lobbying efforts and nurses need to do a little more work if they want to get this on the Senate floor. I'm hoping that happens, whether that's tomorrow or next month."

Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) is the primary sponsor of the bill, but he did not return a call seeking comment on some of the debate that began Monday over the potential of the bill being taken up.

Ananich Looking To Snyder, State For Action In Flint

As the city of Flint continues to see problems with the safety of its water, and specifically with increased levels of lead in children, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich is calling on Governor Rick Snyder and the state to assist.

"My constituents and I believe the state must act urgently to provide concrete solutions to the public health crisis in the city of Flint. In speaking with Governor Snyder and his key aides today, I stressed the need to work together on a number of initiatives that will ensure safe water for Flint residents," he said in a statement.

Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) continued, "My formal request included immediate and long-term solutions, including strong consideration for switching back to the Detroit water source until the Karegnondi Pipeline Authority project is complete. Anything less than an aggressive, comprehensive approach is simply unacceptable."

Mr. Ananich sounded the alarm last week when health professionals from area medical centers gave a presentation suggested that the water is having a direct impact on Flint's residents (See Gongwer Michigan Report, September 24, 2015). Flint began drawing water out of the Flint River as a cost-saving measure while under a state-appointed emergency manager. The city had previously drawn water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

The Karegnondi pipeline will eventually draw water from Lake Huron.

Mr. Ananich has set up a website where residents can go to get more information if they are concerned that they or their children have been exposed to lead from the water.

Snyder deputy press secretary Dave Murray said the governor has been and will continue to work with Mr. Ananich on the situation. He said the two spoke this morning about how the state can continue working with Flint city leaders, but the governor is still reviewing Mr. Ananich's suggestions.

"We deeply share the senator's commitment to making sure all state residents have access to clean and safe water. The governor and state agencies have been closely working with Flint leaders on their infrastructure challenges for months, including about providing $4.2 million in grants and restructured loan financing to provide resources needed to locate and fix infrastructure problems and add the carbon filtration system," Mr. Murray said.

"It's important that people have accurate information about their health and water. The Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health and Human Services are testing water and working with Flint residents on issues related to what they can do if they have concerns about the pipes in their homes," he said.

Former Rep. Sheen Endorses Storey In 80th House

Former Rep. Fulton Sheen has endorsed Republican Allegan County Commissioner Jim Storey for the 80th House District seat where he once served.

The seat is open because former Rep. Cindy Gamrat (R-Plainwell) was expelled earlier this month after an extramarital affair with former Rep. Todd Courser - who resigned - and an internal investigation found both lawmakers misused state resources. Ms. Gamrat is also running for the seat in the special election primary taking place on November 3.

Mr. Sheen, also from the Plainwell area, has said Ms. Gamrat was foolish to attempt to gain re-election to her old seat (See Gongwer Michigan Report, September 17, 2015).

"Fulton Sheen's endorsement is welcomed because of his record of fiscal conservatism and unquestioned ethical stands," Mr. Storey said in a statement. "Rep. Sheen was a stanch advocate for the fair tax before it became popular on the national stage. I will lean on his taxation expertise in representing Allegan County in the Michigan House."

Mr. Storey also said he has been endorsed by former Rep. Bob Genetski, who served in the 80th District immediately before Ms. Gamrat.

Mr. Sheen said his endorsement of Mr. Storey comes because he has experience working both in the district and in Lansing.

"He has 35 years of proven conservative experience and qualifications, and proven experience and qualifications are very important, because as we learned in the last election, being a mom, a nurse or simply politically active is not enough," Mr. Sheen said in a statement, taking a shot at Ms. Gamrat. "Allegan County needs a mature, experienced, confident person who has already been tested by time and has proven himself to be a man of character to represent us in Lansing."

University Presidents Warn Against Using More General Fund For Roads

A decision to increase the amount of money the state dedicates to road maintenance and construction from the General Fund would have a ripple effect that would likely lead to bigger tuition increases, the presidents of Michigan's 15 public universities said Monday.

In a letter to Governor Rick Snyder, the presidents said the moves in recent years to increase state aid to universities - which comes entirely from the General Fund - has mitigated tuition increases.

"However, we write with great urgency to express our deepest concerns about severe GF revenue implications and its impact on higher education funding if hundreds of millions of dollars in newly allocated road funding is paid for with existing state dollars," the presidents said in their letter.

Noting the significant reduction in aid to universities - $1 billion when adjusted for inflation since 2002, they said - the presidents warned that any further cuts in state aid resulting from diverting General Fund revenues to pay for roads "will only serve to further exacerbate the state-to-student cost shift in paying for a college education that has already occurred in Michigan."

The presidents said well-documented budget pressures are looming for the General Fund.

Among the pending issues is the sunset of the Health Insurance Claims Tax, which supports the Medicaid program; the phase out of the industrial portion of the personal property tax; the claiming of long-ago awarded business tax credits; and the state's share of Medicaid expansion.

"We ask that you avoid crafting a transportation funding plan that will impinge the state's ability to sustain its reinvestment in higher education," the presidents wrote. "Our students, their families, and our state's economy are depending on it."

Pelosi Backs Johnson In 1st Congressional

U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi added her heft behind Lon Johnson's fundraising efforts Monday in his run for the 1st U.S. House District.

Ms. Pelosi's nod is further indication that establishment Democrats have forsaken former Kalkaska County Sheriff Jerry Cannon in favor of their former state party chair.

The fundraising note makes no mention of Mr. Cannon.

"Since Lon entered the race, we - and national Republicans - knew this was going to be a tough race. Now that Republican Rep. Dan Benishek has retired, it's one of the closest in the entire country," Ms. Pelosi said in the email distributed by Mr. Johnson's campaign. "We have incredible momentum, but we know for a fact that extreme Republicans will come after Lon with all they have to keep this district in the Republican category."

While the email could give Mr. Johnson a boost in state and national fundraising from the party's base, it is also likely to give fodder to Republicans in the district that Mr. Johnson is tied to the more liberal factions of the party, though that clearly was already part of the GOP gameplan.

While pundits have moved the race to a toss-up since U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls) announced he would not seek re-election, the district has leaned conservative (former U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak was one of the few anti-abortion Democrats in the U.S. House).

Energy Agency Sees Efficiency Improvements

The Michigan Agency for Energy is putting money toward energy efficiency improvements including solar panels at its Lansing offices, the agency said in a statement Monday.

In doing so, the agency will become the first energy agency in the nation to make improvements using Property Assessed Clean Energy financing. Using the financing method overcomes the problem of a "split incentive," the agency said in a statement, where a property owner with an inefficient building has little incentive to improve it because the tenant pays the utility bills. Under PACE, energy efficiency projects are financed through property tax payments rather than regular bank loan payments.

"Michigan's government is leading by example by actively seeking cost-effective ways to cut energy waste," Executive Director Valerie Brader said. "It is only fitting that the state's energy experts demonstrate the effective use of multiple innovative tools to reduce our energy waste. The improvements made are expected to yield $800,000 in savings to the state."

The improvements cost about $437,000 to install and include LED lights inside the office building and in the parking lot, occupancy light sensors, additional roof insulation, a 20-kilowatt solar array, electric vehicle charging stations and variable speed motors for heating and cooling.

The solar panels were made in Michigan at the Suniva facility in Saginaw, and Ameresco - a national energy service contractor with Michigan offices - oversaw the engineering, procurement, design and installation, using Michigan contractors. It is also providing an energy savings guarantee for its work.

Snyder Debuts 'Rising Tide' Program

Ten communities across Michigan will participate in a pilot program to work with local leaders as they develop new strategies for economic prosperity and to create more and better jobs, Governor Rick Snyder said Monday in debuting his latest program, Rising Tide.

The effort is sponsored by the Department of Talent and Economic Development. It will provide communities with the tools they need to design and build a solid planning, zoning and economic development foundation to attract new businesses and help existing employers, a statement from the governor's office said.

"We can collaborate with communities to help develop the tools to advance a strong economic vision and create new career opportunities for residents," Mr. Snyder said. "This program will help economically challenged communities be better positioned for redevelopment opportunities."

The pilot programs will include Newberry as Region 1, Central Lake as Region 2, Grayling as Region 3, Evart as Region 4, Harrison as Region 5, Sandusky as Region 6, Charlotte as Region 7, Paw Paw as Region 8, Hillsdale as Region 9, and River Rouge as Region 10.

Communities were chosen based on a series of economic factors including unemployment rates, poverty levels and labor participation rates. One community in each of the state's 10 prosperity regions was selected for the program.

For implementation, teams of TED staff from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Talent Investment Agency and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority will collaborate with each community to help shape its future and maximize economic potential, Mr. Snyder said in the release.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, October 6

Rep. Derek Miller **(D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, September 29

House Criminal Justice (Committee Record), **(Chr. Heise, 373-5795), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**

SB 336 **MICHIGAN BLUE ALERT** (Schuitmaker) Creates Michigan blue alert plan to broadcast information regarding attacks on peace officers.
HB 4787 **ABORTION** (Price) Prohibits coercing a female to have an abortion against her will and provides penalties.
HB 4830 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURES** (Jenkins) Enacts sentencing guidelines for crime of coercing a female to have an abortion against her will.
HB 4843 **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS** (Pscholka) Exempts minors from certain possession penalties for seeking medical treatment for drug-use related illness or injury.

House Judiciary (Committee Record), **(Chr. Kesto, 373-5176), Room 521, House Office Building, 12 p.m.**

- **Testimony only:**

HB 4742 **FAMILY LAW** (Kosowski) Repeals uniform interstate family support act and recreates.
HB 4743 **FAMILY LAW** (Kosowski) Updates reference to the uniform interstate family support act.
HB 4744 **FAMILY LAW** (Kesto) Updates referenced o the uniform interstate family support act.
HB 4745 **FAMILY LAW** (Heise) Updates reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

Senate Health Policy (Committee Record), **(Chr. Shirkey, 373-1721), Senate Hearing Room, Boji Tower, 12:30 p.m.**

SB 352 **CAREGIVER ACT** (O'Brien) Creates designated caregiver act.
SB 374 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Hertel) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 375 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (MacGregor) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 376 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Knezek) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 377 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Schmidt) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 378 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (O'Brien) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 379 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Warren) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.
SB 380 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Marleau) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.

SB 381 **VENEREAL DISEASES** (Young) Revises references to venereal disease to sexually transmitted infection.

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record), **(Chr. Jones, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.**

HB 4159 **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Johnson, J.) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry weapons in weapon free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.
SB 226 **FIREARMS SENTENCING** (Shirkey) Updates sentencing guidelines.
SB 409 **METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCTION** (O'Brien) Provides penalties for solicitation to purchase certain ingredients of methamphetamine.
SB 410 **METHAMPHETAMINE MANUFACTURE** (Casperson) Sets sentencing guidelines for solicitation to purchase certain ingredients of methamphetamine.
SB 424 **METHAMPHETAMINE MANUFACTURERS** (Casperson) Increases penalties for manufacture of methamphetamine near a school or library.
SB 445 **SANCTUARY POLICY PROHIBITION ACT** (Kowall, M.) Creates sanctuary policy prohibition act.
SB 516 **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Jones) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry weapon in weapon-free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.

Wednesday, September 30

~~**Canceled:** Senate Commerce (Committee Record), **(Chr. Schmidt, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.**~~

SB 492 **EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES** (Brandenburg) Allocates employer responsibilities for employees between franchisor and franchisee.
SB 493 **EMPLOYER CONDITIONS** (Proos) Establishes conditions that determine when a franchisor is an employer of an employee of a franchisee.

House Appropriations (Committee Record), **(Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.**

SB 22 **POLICE RETIREMENT** (Casperson) Provide one-time increase in monthly retirement allowance for certain retirants to provide cost-of-living adjustment. (Testimony only)
HCR 14 **SECONDARY ROAD PATROLS** (McCready) Declares that counties, cities, and villages have met the necessary terms of their agreements for road patrol services and secondary road patrol funding as they relate to maintenance of effort.

House Local Government (Committee Record), **(Chr. Chatfield, 373-1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.**

- **Presentations on tax incrememnt financing from the Deparment of Treasury, Department of Talent and Economic Development,Michigan Association of Counties and the Michigan Municipal League.**

SB 309 **CONDO SUBDIVISION PLANS** (Stamas) Modifies survey condominium subdivision plan signature and cover sheet content requirements.
HB 4727 **AERONAUTICS** (Cole) Revises regulations for tall structures for meteorological towers. (Testimony only)
HB 4758 **DRAINS** (Pscholka) Provides for \term bonds with mandatory redemption.

Senate Regulatory Reform (Committee Record), **(Chr. Rocca, 373-5323), Senate Hearing Room, Boji Tower, 1 p.m.**

HB 4263 **ATHLETIC TRAINERS** (LaFontaine) Revises license fee and continuing education requirements for athletic trainers.
SB 303 **FUNERALS** (Knollenberg) Expands authority of investment of money in a perpetual care and maintenance fund.
SB 357 **ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK MECHANICS** (Schuitmaker) Includes breath alcohol ignition interlock mechanics and servicers in motor vehicle service and repair act.
SB 372 **FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION** (Zorn) Provides for firefighter certification reciprocity.

Senate Appropriations (Committee Record), **(Chr. Hildenbrand, 373-5307), Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol, 2 p.m.**

HB 4102 **OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS** (Pscholka) Provides for omnibus appropriations.

Thursday, October 1

House Insurance (Committee Record), **(Chr. Leonard, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**

HB 4836 **LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE** (Lyons) Provides for establishing partnership programs under federal law.

House Workforce and Talent Development (Committee Record), **(Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

- **Presentation from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.**

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Michigan News & Opinion For September 29, 2015

News

Blind activist arrested at Capitol disability event (Detroit Free Press, 9/28/2015)

Violent crime drops in Detroit, Flint in 2014 (Detroit Free Press, 9/28/2015)

State confiscates gas pump card skimmers (Lansing State Journal, 9/29/2015)

House Speaker front-runner Kevin McCarthy recently spoke in Kalamazoo (MLive, 9/28/2015)

Michigan Dems propose $1 billion in tax credits aimed at alleviating 'middle class squeeze' (MLive, 9/28/2015)

The debate over Michigan's electricity deregulation (Petoskey News-Review, 9/28/2015)

Bill to cut repair costs for federal vehicles passes (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

Snyder urged to help Flint reconnect to Detroit water (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz plans Oct. 5 rally in Kalamazoo (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

Editorials

Correcting corrections would save money, but carry risks (Bridge Magazine, 9/29/2015)

Dark money: The hot stove politicians can't stop touching (Detroit Free Press, 9/28/2015)

Editorial: Regulations exist for a reason (Lansing State Journal, 9/27/2015)

Michigan Republicans get choosy in GOP presidential primary (Michigan Radio, 9/28/2015)

Letter: Next step for Cindy Gamrat should be reimbursement (MLive, 9/29/2015)

Governor Snyder's plan for clean power makes good business sense (Oakland Press, 9/28/2015)

Right to work for autoworkers (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

Blogs

Hold Onto Your Glasses (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/28/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For September 30, 2015

News

Bill would make coercing a woman into abortion a crime (Detroit Free Press, 9/29/2015)

Bill would punish so called 'sanctuary cities' (Detroit Free Press, 9/29/2015)

Bishop bill extends federal student loan program (Detroit Free Press, 9/29/2015)

Gov. Snyder says action coming on Flint's water woes (Detroit Free Press, 9/29/2015)

U-M attorney headed to Michigan Supreme Court? (Detroit Free Press, 9/30/2015)

Three picked for Civil Rights top job (Lansing State Journal, 9/29/2015)

Are state lawmakers running on your dime? Courser, Gamrat staffs weren't the only ones blurring that line (MLive, 9/29/2015)

Group launches ballot initiative to mandate paid sick leave in Michigan (MLive, 9/29/2015)

Ken Braun: New poll reveals union workers are unhappy workers (MLive, 9/30/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette backs civil asset forfeiture reform package (MLive, 9/29/2015)

Teen prescription drug overdose inspires push for 'Good Samaritan' exemption in Michigan law (MLive, 9/29/2015)

Feds give state police $1.5M for heroin crackdown (The Detroit News, 9/29/2015)

Gov's office helps get water filters to Flint families (The Detroit News, 9/29/2015)

Snyder in talks on resettling Syrian refugees in Mich. (The Detroit News, 9/29/2015)

Snyder picks O'Brien for state Court of Appeals (The Detroit News, 9/29/2015)

Editorials

Hastening our race to the bottom (Battle Creek Enquirer, 9/29/2015)

Don't practice for leak, shut down pipeline (Detroit Free Press, 9/30/2015)

More Freedom of Information needed in Michigan (Holland Sentinel, 9/29/2015)

Our view: Laws taking effect a step toward fairness (Midland Daily News, 9/30/2015)

More jobs, fewer workers, less unemployment (Port Huron Times Herald, 9/29/2015)

Editorial: UAW members must face contract reality (The Detroit News, 9/30/2015)

Glenn: Keep energy choice alive (The Detroit News, 9/30/2015)

Robinson: Demystify the minimum wage (The Detroit News, 9/30/2015)

Blogs

Greimel, Trump May Kinda, Sorta Agree On Something (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/29/2015)

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 30, 2015

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Volume #54, Report #194 -- Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Cotter Said Now To Back $800M New Revenue For Roads

One of the key pieces for legislative leaders to resolve as they negotiate a road funding package appears to have cleared a key marker with several sources telling Gongwer News Service that House Speaker Kevin Cotter supports raising $800 million in new revenue.

There is no agreement, no deal, not even a framework, not yet, for the long-sought roads package.

But six weeks ago, when the House attempted to pass a plan relying on $600 million in new revenue and $600 million shifted from the General Fund to roads, it was plainly clear - from both House Republican sources and sources among others close to the negotiations - that $800 million in new revenue was not under consideration at that point in the House.

In fact, one source close to the negotiations said at the time that Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) and the Democratic legislative leadership were willing to work toward a framework of $800 million in new revenue and $300 million shifted from the General Fund, but that Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was not part of the talks leading to that conclusion.

Now, however, sources, who spoke on condition they not be named given the sensitivity of the negotiations, say Mr. Cotter is there on $800 million in new revenue. Exactly how much would come from the General Fund is less clear, but sources said the $400 million figure seems likely because it would mean not putting any additional pressure on the General Fund than it will devote to roads in the 2015-16 fiscal year that starts Thursday and it would meet the $1.2 billion figure long cited as the target for new road funding. The 2015-16 fiscal year budget contains $400 million from the General Fund for roads.

Mr. Cotter, asked Wednesday whether he has embraced an 800/400 dynamic, did not directly answer.

"There are a lot of variables, so we haven't settled on a framework just yet, but are working through all of the individual pieces of it," Mr. Cotter said in an interview. "We had a very good meeting today, and I think we are getting very close. Each meeting has been productive, but I think now we are down to a period of maybe a couple of weeks and we could have something."

The frequency of the meetings has picked up. Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant met twice Tuesday and again Wednesday.

If the leadership and Mr. Snyder can in fact check off the box on how much new revenue to raise, it leaves two major unfinished components.

One: what other bills and issues would be part of an overall deal? Two: once the complementary pieces come together, can Mr. Cotter and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) persuade enough members of their caucuses to vote yes to reach the 54 votes needed for passage?

Those following the issue say Mr. Cotter will likely want something in the vicinity of half his caucus, which has 61 members, before proceeding. And that would mean needing about half the Democratic caucus to get to 54.

Tinsley-Talabi Implicated In Bribe While On Detroit Pension Board

Questions about whether Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi could face legal scrutiny in the wide-ranging federal criminal investigation of corruption in the Detroit pension system came roaring back to life Wednesday.

Roy Dixon, an investor who brought several investment proposals before the city's two pension boards, was sentenced to more than three years in prison for disbursing more than $244,000 in bribes to secure support from the pension boards for his proposals. Federal authorities concluded that Mr. Dixon embezzled millions from those investments for personal gain.

At the time of these offenses, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) was a member of the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement System Board. George Stanton, who was her chief of staff while she served on the city council and pension board, already has pleaded guilty to accepting a $20,000 bribe from Mr. Dixon and has cooperated with authorities.

Questions have lingered for years about whether Ms. Tinsley-Talabi herself might face trouble, but she has never been charged. In 2013, The Detroit News reported that Ms. Tinsley-Talabi took "a Caribbean trip, campaign cash and a donation from a businessman while supporting his $10 million city pension fund deal." At the time, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi said authorities had not contacted her, but she would cooperate if they did.

The sentencing memorandum from the U.S. attorney in Detroit, filed a week ago, sheds more light on what allegations have been leveled against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi. Mr. Dixon contributed $1,000 to Mack Alive, a nonprofit tied to Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

And the sentencing memorandum for Mr. Stanton, who faces sentencing Thursday, was more specific. That memorandum says that in 2006, Mr. Stanton agreed to accept more than $100,000 from Anmar Sarafa, an owner of Steward Capital Management and Munros Capital, in exchange for Mr. Stanton helping Mr. Sarafa's $20 million Steward Capital investment proposal pending before the Police and Fire Retirement System Boad.

Mr. Sarafa is a member of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee.

"Stanton passed on to Sarafa directions from Tinsley-Talabi," the memorandum from the government says. "Tinsley-Talabi directed Sarafa, through Stanton, that Sarafa needed to donate

$3,000 to Tinsley-Talabi's political campaign. She also directed that Sarafa should give money to former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's Civic Fund in order to secure the votes of Treasurer Jeffrey Beasley and the votes of the mayoral bloc. Finally, Sarafa was told to give money to the Detroit Police Officers Association in order to secure the votes of co-defendant and Trustee Paul Stewart and Trustee Martin Bandemer."

The memorandum says the contributions were made, and the board approved his proposal.

The sentencing memorandum from Mr. Stanton's attorney indicates that Mr. Stanton at one point secretly recorded Ms. Tinsley-Talabi, but no incriminating information emerged.

A spokesperson for the U.S. attorney in Detroit did not respond to a message seeking comment about whether a decision has been to charge Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi did not respond to a message left with her seeking comment, nor one left for her via a spokesperson.

Question Raised On Bush-Era Memo As Larsen Named To Court

Newly named Supreme Court Justice Joan Larsen was hailed by Governor Rick Snyder and others as an outstanding choice for the court, but her co-authorship of a memo during the administration of former President George W. Bush dealing with habeas corpus rights of terrorism suspects quickly came to the forefront with some individuals calling for her to disclose her role in the controversial actions following September 11, 2001.

During a press conference where she was introduced, Ms. Larsen was asked if she had been involved in any advice to the president on "enhanced interrogation techniques," and Ms. Larsen said she had "no role in interrogation techniques" and only learned about some of the controversy after she came to Michigan to teach at the University of Michigan.

However, after her appointment to the Supreme Court was official, the Michigan chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union released a list of memos the national organization had sought when it questioned whether the Bush administration had authorized torture and constitutionally questionable detention methods of Al Qaeda members and other terrorism suspects, many held at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

Among those memos is one from March 5, 2002, co-authored by Ms. Larsen - who was then a deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel - and Gregory Jacob, an attorney advisor in the office of legal counsel, on the availability of habeas corpus rights to detainees. The memo was addressed to other attorneys in the U.S. Department of Justice and the memo itself has never been released to the public.

Kary Moss, executive director of the Michigan ACLU, said the organization took no position on judicial appointments, but, "this appointment should be accompanied by full disclosure about the role Larsen played in the development" of policies that authorized "torture, warrantless wiretapping, indefinite detention and other abuses."

A spokesperson for Mr. Snyder - who was asked after the press conference if the governor was aware of the questioned memo when Ms. Larsen was selected - said in an email, "Justice Larsen was fully vetted and we are confident in the decision and her talent, background and abilities."

Ms. Larsen succeeds Justice Mary Beth Kelly, who officially leaves the Supreme Court on Thursday. Ms. Kelly was the top vote getter for the court when she was elected in 2010, and Ms. Larsen will have to run in 2016 to complete Ms. Kelly's term on the court.

Ms. Kelly is resigning to return to private practice and advocate for juvenile justice issues.

Ms. Larsen's name caught many by surprise when it was revealed she was Mr. Snyder's top choice for the court. She has no judicial experience herself - but neither did Justice Bridget McCormack (who Ms. Larsen described as a friend and one of her biggest backers for the court) nor Justice Richard Bernstein when they were elected - and she said in a press conference it had been "years and years and years" since she had argued a case in court.

That should not matter, she said, since teaching and preparing lectures was described by a friend of hers as arguing in front of the Supreme Court.

Ms. Larsen is a graduate of the Northwestern Law School. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Northern Iowa. She clerked for U.S. Appeals Judge David Sentelle and then U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Ms. Larsen called them both great role models "in terms of thinking through the cases carefully, taking every case as if it is the most important case to be decided, treating the litigants with respect, knowing that their arguments are important to the litigants and to the court."

She also practiced law with the Washington, D.C., firm of Sidley and Austin.

Ms. Larsen joined the U-M law faulty in 2003, and her husband, Adam Pritchard, is also a faculty member. She joked that he was giving up his sabbatical to take over teaching her classes after her appointment to the court.

Asked about her judicial philosophy, Ms. Larsen said, "In short, I believe in enforcing the laws as written by the Legislature, signed by the governor. I believe in enforcing the text as written. I don't think that judges are a policy-making branch of government, and our role is to serve the people by enforcing the laws in the way they were written by the Legislature."

But when asked if she was a member of the conservative law group The Federalist Society, her answer was indefinite and roundabout.

"So, that's a great and interesting question, and I'm not actually sure I know the answer to it. ... If you look on the web you'll see I'm on their speakers list; I occasionally do programs for them. But, whether I'm actually a member or I pay dues, I honestly don't know the answer. So, I, I'm not dodging the question, I just don't actually know the answer. I've done some events for them," she said.

Ms. Larsen has done some events for The Federalist Society, including one in which Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. appeared.

She will also run for election for the first time in 2016 and said she did not think campaign contributions made to her would influence her.

Ms. Larsen was asked if she played any role in the controversy during Mr. Bush's administration on interrogation techniques. "The answer to that is none. I was in the Office of Legal Counsel at the time, but those national security measures in the Justice Department were classified and a close hold. And as you may have read how that process was run there, (there) were only certain people read in those things and I was not one of them. So, I read about the controversial memos when I got back to, when I was here in Michigan. I read them in the newspapers just like I assume you did."

She was not asked specifically about the memo on habeas corpus rights.

Mr. Young called her appointment a "perfect fit with a court that is second to none in its commitment to the rule of law and legal scholarship."

Attorney General Bill Schuette also said Ms. Larsen would be a "strong voice for rule of law" in Michigan.

But the question of the memo she co-authored did raise hackles.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of the liberal activist group Progress Michigan, said her working in the Office of Legal Counsel during Mr. Bush's administration came at "one of the darkest chapters in American history," and "Michiganders deserve to know whether their new justice believes that torture is legal, that the 4th Amendment doesn't protect Americans from extensive secret government surveillance and that they can be imprisoned without trial."

Supplemental Sees $7M For State Police Lawsuit, $6M For BAM Continuation

The Department of State Police would receive the funds to pay out a massive $7.7 million settlement for a crash involving a State Police trooper broadsiding another vehicle while in pursuit, killing one woman and injuring the two other women in the vehicle under a supplemental appropriations bill approved Wednesday by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

It is the biggest single settlement or judgment in a single case involving the State Police in the data available online from the Senate Fiscal Agency, which goes back to the 1985-86 fiscal year. In most years, combined settlements and judgments involving the department amount to something in the low hundreds of thousands.

Last year, three women - Jacqueline Nichols, Precious Cochran and Ms. Cochran's daughter, Robbie - were driving to a beauty salon together when State Police trooper Timothy Fagin went in pursuit of an individual driving a car without a seatbelt. After signaling the driver to pull

aside, the driver didn't stop, and the chase was on, according to a report by MLive regarding the incident.

Eventually, the driver continued to speed throughout the backstreets of Flint, and Mr. Fagin, in pursuit, struck the vehicle with the three women. One of the women, Ms. Nichols, was thrown from the car and died. The other two women, including the driver, Precious Cochran, survived, albeit injured.

The Nichols family sought to sue the state for $50 million, according to news reports, and it appears from the supplemental (HB 4102) approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee that the eventual payout among four separate cases all stemming from the incident - *Michael Nichols, et al v. Trooper Fagin; Michael Nichols, et al v. Michigan State Police, Robbie Cochran v. Trooper Timothy Fagin, and Robbie Cochran v. Michigan State Police* - that the settlement will cost the state $7,725,000.

An amendment was adopted to the bill (HB 4102) to allow $1 million of that to come from the Risk Management Revolving Fund rather than all General Fund. It was estimated that the fund had about $8.5 million and maximum that could be pulled for a settlement of this nature was $1 million, said Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), chair of the committee.

"We hope issues like this don't arise, but when they do, it's our responsibility to take care of them," Mr. Hildenbrand said in responding to a question from fellow committee member Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Evart) about the situation.

Shanon Banner, spokesperson for the State Police, said she was unsure how the settlement would be divvied up, as that is something for their lawyers to decide. Mr. Fagin was previously cleared of any criminal wrongdoing by the Genesee County Prosecutor's Office, Ms. Banner said, though the State Police did conduct an internal investigation and found that a violation of department policy had taken place and Mr. Fagin was disciplined accordingly. He remains a trooper.

Ms. Banner was unsure whether the settlement was the largest the State Police had ever seen, but admitted "we don't see settlements this large in our department."

"Michigan State Police does regret the tragic outcome, and while it doesn't change what happened, we hope it will provide some restitution to the affected families," Ms. Banner said.

BAM PROJECT: Also contained within the supplemental is boilerplate language for the Department of State is $6 million for the troubled Business Application Modernization project, which is to be re-appropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

An explanation states that provision re-appropriates the funds "as a result of vendor extenuating circumstances associated with the remaining contract deliverables impacting the department's legacy system."

Earlier this month, the state announced it had filed a lawsuit against HP over the project, arguing the company was not complying with requirements that it service the pieces it had completed. A

termination of cause letter was issued on August 28, arguing a lack of progress on the project, but HP was to continue providing support for the project.

Hildenbrand Chief of Staff Fred Schaible said the money was appropriated because the BAM project is still going to move forward in some form and this would allow that to continue. Otherwise, those funds would lapse into the General Fund, he said.

Department of State spokesperson Fred Woodhams said none of the money is going to HP.

"The supplemental continues the money set aside for the BAM project. It is money that was not paid to HP due to nondelivery of project items," he said. "The money allows the department to support, to the extent we can, working portions of the project - our online services portal at ExpressSOS.com and the system that serves vehicle manufacturers."

He also said that another vendor had not yet been selected for the project.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION: Another $50,000 General Fund was also appropriated to the Legislative Council for its Criminal Justice Policy Commission. Officials with the Senate Fiscal Agency said the money is intended to pay for the commission work itself, not a staff member. The commission is chaired by Republican former Sen. Bruce Caswell of Hillsdale.

Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) raised concerns about the funding, though, and it was ultimately cause for her to abstain from a vote on the S-1 substitute adopted to HB 4102, as well as abstaining from reporting the bill to the full Senate.

Appeals Court: Retroactive Exit From Compact Constitutional

Michigan violated neither its Constitution nor the U.S. Constitution when it retroactively withdrew from the Multistate Tax Compact in 2014 to avoid the possibility of losing as much as $1 billion in revenue, the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday.

The court unanimously upheld a ruling issued late last year by the Court of Claims, in *Gillette Commercial Operations v. Treasury* (COA docket Nos. 325528, et al).

The decision, written by Judge Christopher Murray and joined by Judge Kathleen Jansen and Judge Patrick Meter, encompasses cases brought by dozens of non-Michigan headquartered companies, including IBM.

Given the nature of the case, and what it could prove to be worth to both the companies and the state, an appeal to the Supreme Court is likely.

It was a decision involving IBM from the Supreme Court in July 2014 that led the Legislature to move quickly to take Michigan out of the compact.

In the 4-3 decision (it was a three-justice majority with one justice concurring, a technical issue that led some lawyers at the time to suggest the decision was not so sweeping), the Supreme Court held a non-Michigan based company could pass its income under the now-defunct Michigan Business Tax, which was an income tax and would allow companies to apportion their income under a three-step test. That meant the company's income was less and state budget and finance officials warned that the decision could cost Michigan's General Fund as much as $1 billion, which would have had to come from the 2014-15 fiscal year.

The Legislature passed a new statute in early September 2014 withdrawing retroactively from the compact so the companies could not claim the tax break for the years the MBT was in place.

In its ruling, the appeals court noted that the Supreme Court said the Legislature could have chosen to retroactively exit the compact when it enacted the MBT in 2007. The court also said it was following a U.S. Supreme Court holding that tax laws may generally be repealed retroactively, and that taxpayers have no vested interest in any tax law at any particular time.

The appeals court rejected arguments that the statute ending the state's presence in the compact violated federal and state constitutional provisions against impairment of contract. The compact was not enacted by Congress, the court said, so Michigan law governs its interpretation and it is not a contract between the states and the companies. Nor did joining the compact give the compact oversight body regulatory authority over the state and its tax laws.

The court said the compact specifically says that any state can withdraw unilaterally and without notice to the other states.

Nor did exiting the compact retroactively violate the companies' due process rights because the property rights in this instance were not vested. Quoting the U.S. Supreme Court, the appeals court said that taxes are not penalties nor liabilities but the way of apportioning the cost of government to those who derive benefits from its operations.

And the Legislature had a legitimate purpose in enacting the retroactive law, given the possible impact that the state would have to cut as much as $1.1 billion from the General Fund, the court said.

The court also rejected the argument the Legislature violated the constitutional provisions regarding separation of powers. The Legislature did not reverse the Supreme Court's *IBM* decision, the courts said; it enacted a new law. The law did not "impinge" on the Supreme Court, but corrected a mistake the Supreme Court itself noted.

Also rejected was an argument the law violated the Commerce Clause in the U.S. Constitution because the law does not overburden interstate commerce, nor is it discriminatory. While some legislators made comments in the press the plaintiffs said indicated an intent to discriminate, the appeals court said individual comments by legislators do not speak to overall legislative intent.

An argument that the law violated the First Amendment's right to free speech and to redress grievances to the government failed, the appeals court said, because there is no guarantee the speech or advocacy will persuade or be effective.

Federal Court Rejects Arguments Against New Bridge

Efforts by the owners of the Ambassador Bridge to get a federal court to block the Gordie Howe International Bridge failed Wednesday, as a U.S. District Court judge in Washington, D.C., rejected most arguments brought by the company.

The decision by Judge Rosemary Collyer, in *Detroit International Bridge Company v. Canada* (USDC docket No. 10-476) did not dispute that construction of the new bridge would hurt the business of the Ambassador Bridge. But she rejected virtually every argument the company made that the 2012 decision between the Canadian government and Governor Rick Snyder amounted to an unconstitutional taking of the company's property, or that the Ambassador Bridge was affected by a presidential proclamation to build a new bridge.

She particularly rejected the arguments by the company that it had an exclusive authority to operate bridges between Canada and the Detroit area. The complaints failed to state a claim, Ms. Collyer said.

And Ms. Collyer said an argument by the Ambassador Bridge that any action to build a new bridge should be subject to judicial review would violate the separation of powers.

She rejected an argument that a federal law on international bridges - which allowed for the agreement on the bridge - unconstitutionally delegated powers of dealing with foreign governments. Ms. Collyer said Congress can delegate its authorities and has done so in foreign affairs to the executive branch, so there is no issue on which to base a claim.

Officials with the Ambassador Bridge company could not be reached for comment on the decision or whether they would appeal.

Snyder: Details On Flint Water Action Coming

With pressure growing to resolve Flint residents' concerns about their drinking water, Governor Rick Snyder said Wednesday that later this week there would be more discussion on "more tangible action items" that will involve Flint city government and the federal government.

Mr. Snyder did not outline what will be discussed later this week except Mr. Snyder suggested that the action he and the state took to distribute water filters to Flint residents over the summer - which only came to light this week - may be part of the continuing action to assist the city until it can complete a system that will draw water from Lake Huron instead from the Flint River.

Asked if Flint officials - the city was under the control of an emergency manager appointed by Mr. Snyder - made a mistake is shifting their water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to drawing water from the Flint River (as it is preparing to have a system

drawing from Lake Huron), Mr. Snyder said it was possible the implications "weren't as fully understood" when the switch was made.

Water from the river has been found to have higher concentrations of lead, and many local activists have called for the city to switch back to the Detroit system.

On Wednesday, the Legislative Black Caucus called on Mr. Snyder to issue a state of emergency in Flint because of concerns with the water.

Bill Creating More Safety Requirements For Boats, Jet Skis Gets Pushback

Rep. Klint Kesto saw resistance from some Republicans on his bill requiring personal watercrafts with individuals in tow to display a flag to help others operating vessels in the water know to keep a look out.

Under HB 4534, a vessel with a person in tow must display a bright or brilliant orange or red flag that is 12 inches by 12 inches and is visible from all directions.

"In tow" is defined in the bill as an extended towline attached to a vessel for the purpose of engaging in a water sport.

Mr. Kesto (R-Commerce Township) told the House Regulatory Reform Committee Wednesday that he generally is not in favor of additional regulations, but, "in this case I believe it is appropriate," he said.

In 2012, he told the committee, a friend of Mr. Kesto's who lives in his district was towing his three children on tubes from a jet ski. A boat then broke the towline and two of the children were killed and one severely injured.

The operator of the boat was not drunk and no charges were filed against him, Mr. Kesto said.

The vice chair of the committee, Rep. Brett Roberts (R-Eaton Township) said he does not think a flag will help. He also said the jet skier Mr. Kesto talked about broke a number of laws - particularly not having a spotter when towing his children. And, he said, the boater who broke the tow line was clearly not paying attention.

"I worry that we are regulating everybody," he said. "We're going to be forced to put these flags on, and I know on my vessels that I own right now ... I don't have any place to even put this flag."

Mr. Roberts also said of the more than 5,000 boating accidents last year, only 52 were related to towing.

Mr. Kesto said it's hard to tell if the flag would have helped in the 2012 incident.

"The question is if we can, and it's not overly burdensome, are we still going to say no because it is only 1 percent (of accidents)," he said. "If you save one life, is it worth it?"

The two lawmakers exchanged a lengthy back and forth discussing if an operator of a vessel would see the flag and how effective it might be.

Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet) wondered if the bill should regulate how many people a person can tow, saying the man towing three of his children was maybe towing too many.

But Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing) said he thought the bill was a good idea.

The committee did not act on the bill.

TEAM PHYSICIANS: The committee did report HB 4792, which would allow out-of-state sports team physicians to legally treat their team when traveling to the state for competitions.

Board Approves Contracts Despite Protests Over Protest Process

State officials were warned Wednesday that they could see Freedom of Information Act requests multiply after the Administrative Board's decision to reject protests over two contracts.

The primary focus at Wednesday's meeting was a contract to develop a funding adequacy study for education in the state, but those involved in a bid for incontinence supplies for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget also objected to the abbreviated time to review and protest those bids.

Officials with DTMB said both the bids and the FOIA process were followed for both contracts. Bidders under the current process have five days to file a protest once the bid is announced, and FOIA provides five days for the subject agency to respond to the request.

Both Alex Rosaen, director of public policy and economic analysis for Anderson Economic Group, which had bid in the education adequacy analysis, and Len Wolfe, an attorney with Dykema Gossett representing one of the unsuccessful bidders on the incontinence supplies contract, said they had essentially three days to decide on and file a protest because there was a weekend during the five days to file the protest.

And both said they did not receive requested documents on the winning bid until after the protest deadline had passed.

"The official right to protest this contract has been a sham," Mr. Rosaen said. "No one outside the government knows what was in the winning bid."

Mr. Wolfe said the result in the two contracts would mean more work for the state on future bids. "You are basically creating a FOIA problem," he said. "If you going to basically tell people you've got to file a FOIA ... you're going to have vendors file FOIAs."

Officials said bids were ripe as subjects for FOIA requests once the bid submission deadline passed. Both Mr. Rosaen and Mr. Wolfe indicated they filed requests after the contract winner was announced.

Mr. Rosaen said there had also been concerns raised that the legislation requiring the education cost review had been designed to exclude certain bidders.

The concern was sufficient that Attorney General Bill Schuette's representative on the board said he was abstaining from voting on the education review contract. He supported approval of the remaining contracts before the board.

MSHDA Board Approves $3M Toward Improvements In Detroit

In two separate projects, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority approved $3 million total aimed at improving the housing market and economy in Detroit.

But officials said the projects were essentially pilots for ideas that could be used in other communities.

The new programs are designed to boost home values that in many areas of the city are held artificially low by the lack of sales, MSHDA Executive Director Kevin Elsenheimer told the board.

"We have an opportunity coming up that we don't want to let go to make some strategic investments in the city of Detroit," Mr. Elsenheimer said.

The first program, the Detroit Mortgage Program, will use $1.5 million in MSHDA funds, as well as federal funds and grants from philanthropic groups, to back mortgages that banks would otherwise not be able to issue in the city.

The program is not related to the subprime lending situation that led to widespread foreclosures during the recession, Frank Altman, president of the Community Reinvestment Fund, a lead partner in the project, said. "This is a program primarily for conforming borrowers and nonconforming properties," he said. "We're going to look for borrowers who have the ability to repay it."

But he said the mortgages could be for as much as 150 percent of the value of the house.

In addition to improving values by helping owners rehabilitate their homes, the project is also designed, through using first mortgages for the purchase and second mortgages for the rehabilitation, to increase the number of housing transactions in the city, Mary Townley, director of the MSHDA Home Ownership Division, said.

Part of the reason for the low values, she said, is the lack of comparables real estate appraisers use to set a property value.

Ms. Townley said the agency is working with as many as 10 banks for the program, and Mr. Altman said six banks had committed to issue a total of 1,000 loans.

The board approved $1.5 million for the coming year, but Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency could need to spend as much as $6 million over the next five years to keep the program going.

With other funds considered, Mr. Altman said the program had a total potential value of $250 million.

And Mr. Elsenheimer said it could expand to other cities if it works as hoped.

"We hope this will be proof of concept here in Michigan," he said. "We have some other cities that have similar problems."

Another $1.5 million was approved for the Public Spaces Community Places Initiative.

The MSHDA funds would be matched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and expanded through a crowdfunding program, supporters said.

The program would provide communities with traditional downtowns to apply for grants for community facilities.

"Michigan's done a phenomenal job for setting our communities on a path to planning and placemaking," Katharine Czarneki, MEDC Community Development Director, said. "The funds are for brick and mortar public spaces."

"It aligns with what our division is currently doing," Tiffany King, placemaking development consultant for MSHDA, said.

Mr. Elsenheimer said cooperation between MSHDA and MEDC makes sense.

"MEDC does some community development things that are very similar to the community development things we do here at MSHDA," he said. "We think it's time to talk seriously about how do we best leverage our resources as well as MEDC's."

RESTRUCTURING: Mr. Elsenheimer told the board in his first quarterly report on the agency's activities that he had made some structural changes that should save money but also make the agency a better place to work.

A first action, he said, is cutting back some on grants from MSHDA's foundation funds. Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency is running a "technical deficit" that he and his administration are working to erase.

"We are in no way running a general deficit," he said. "Our position is very, very strong."

But he said much of the agency's funds are restricted or committed, leaving them unavailable for general operations or certain grants.

Among other key changes is a new travel policy and a new procurement office, he said.

The travel policy, spurred in part by the excesses that caused the resignation of Mr. Elsenheimer's predecessor, included a move to the state's system from the in-house system the agency had been using, he said. It also has cut travel expenses by some 25 percent.

The new procurement office is overseeing about 120 contracts for the agency and is also producing some savings, he said.

But Mr. Elsenheimer has launched an Office of Employee Services and is developing a formal employee engagement process that he said is designed to make the agency a "destination" workplace in the state.

State: No Long-Term Health Effects Expected From Breathing Oil Spill Chemicals

Those living around the 2010 oil spill into the Kalamazoo River should not expect long-term health effects from breathing the chemicals released by that spill, the Department of Health and Human Services said in its final report on the issue Wednesday.

The report acknowledged that those living near the spill did experience health effects, including headaches, nausea, respiratory discomfort, and eye irritation, near the time of the spill in July 2010.

"By August 18, 2010, concentrations of oil-related chemicals in the air had fallen below human health screening levels that protect the public, including vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with preexisting illnesses," the department said in releasing its public health assessment on the issue.

The report said additional testing in 2011 and 2012 showed no oil-related chemicals in the air around the spill zone at levels exceeding human health protection limits.

Howrylak Offers Bill To Re-open Maxey

With the 2015-16 budget taking effect Thursday, Rep. Martin Howrylak introduced a supplemental appropriations bill Wednesday that would re-open W.J. Maxey Training School for juvenile offenders, which was closed under the budget approved earlier this year for the fiscal year that starts Thursday.

HB 4925 was sent to the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Howrylak said the school specialized in treating youth with mental health illnesses, and he doesn't believe the two public facilities, nor a private facility, will help those previously in Maxey.

He said at Maxey there was exceptionally low turnover, highly qualified staff and statistics proving their work was effective.

"Closing Maxey, I am quite certain, is going to help increase the possibility that these kids are going to end up in prison in the long term," he said.

He said those who were advocating for the Maxey closure do not have a plan and are simply hoping it won't be a regrettable decision.

Mr. Howrylak said some of the youth would end up in prison because of the closure, but Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson Bob Wheaton said no youth are being placed in prison, from Maxey or the other school, because of the closure.

The 48 youths in Maxey have been sent to one of the other two state facilities - Shawono or Bay Pines - independent living facilities, step-down facilities or "half-way houses," or private residential facilities, Mr. Wheaton said.

He said those who were in Maxey have been assigned to a variety of placements by the judges based in part on recommendations from the department on which facility would best meet the needs of the youths and provide the services that the youths need to rehabilitate.

"The closing of Maxey has resulted in no youths from Maxey going to prison or jail. And no youth were sent to prison or jail from Shawono to make room for youth from Maxey," Mr. Wheaton said.

Mr. Wheaton noted Shawono was not at capacity before the Maxey closure, but it is at capacity now.

He also said some who were in Maxey, and who have completed their treatment, have been sent home. But he said they would have been sent home even if Maxey hadn't closed, because their treatment was finished.

Mr. Wheaton said all of the youth have been transferred to new placements as of Wednesday, the last day of the fiscal year. He said the transfers have been taking place for months since the final decision to close the center was made.

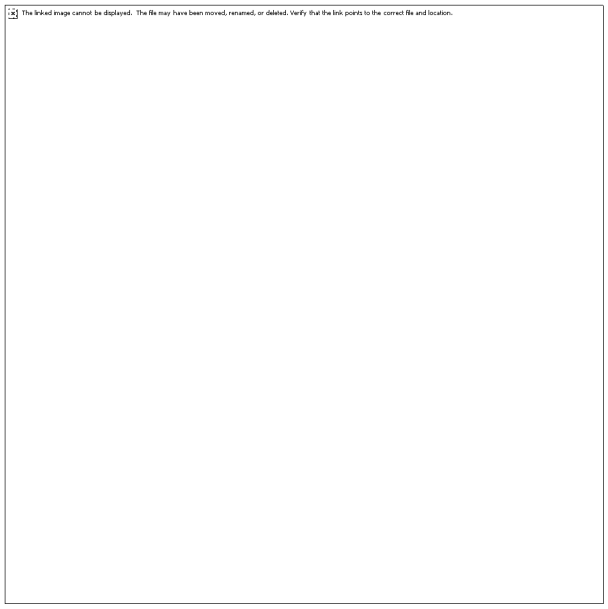
The department will continue to have a small crew of staff members remaining at Maxey to finish closing the facility down, he said.

Senate Appropriations Renames Room For Gast

Former Sen. Harry Gast's memory as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee will live on after the committee on Wednesday officially renamed the room to honor of the Southwest Michigan native that served some 32 years in Lansing, 18 of which were spent working on the budget.

Mr. Gast died at the age of 92 at the end of July (See Gongwer Michigan Report, July 30, 2015).

"He always kept the local focus. If you wanted to meet with him, you'd hope that you could meet with him on his tractor," Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph) said of Mr. Gast on the Senate floor as it adopted a concurrent resolution of tribute (SCR 16). "This family is a unique family - they gave their dad up for us, to have his great service in our chamber."



Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee gather for a picture to rename the room after the late former Sen. Harry Gast, whose daughter (blue coat) was also present for the ceremony.

Once session adjourned, most of the committee members met in their room, joined by Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) and Rep. Dave Pagel (R-Berrien Springs), to recall memories of Mr. Gast, who served in both the House and the Senate. Mr. Gast's daughter, Barbara Curtis, was also present.

"With term limits, none of us on this panel got the privilege to serve with Senator Gast. I had an opportunity to meet Senator Gast ... to this day, I have no idea what the meeting was about because I was so nervous," Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), chair of the committee, said. "I'll never forget the impression he left on me because of the respect he had of this place ... and how influential he was."

The panel was treated to a history lesson from a Capitol tour guide about the significance of the Senate Appropriations Room, which of course used to be the room for the Michigan Supreme Court to hear cases.

"If we had a Mount Rushmore for public servants, Harry Gast would be on that mountain," Mr. Pscholka said. "He was one of a kind."

Mr. Pscholka later spoke on the House floor at it adopted the Senate's resolution.

Mr. Proos gave one more story about when he spoke in front of Mr. Gast for U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph), and how after that, Mr. Gast "pulled me by the tie and said, 'you don't have enough damn gray hair yet,'" Mr. Proos said. "And by that, he meant, listen and learn."

Ms. Curtis gave a statement to Mr. Proos to read on behalf of her family and made only a quick comment about her father after.

"He strongly believed there were the right things to do and he could facilitate those things ... by bringing the right people together to talk about those things and the issues for both sides," she said.

Two signs indicating the official name of the room will be split, with one directly outside of it and the other inside, Mr. Hildenbrand noted.

Senate Approves Electronic Proof Of Insurance

Legislation enabling drivers to present electronic proof of auto insurance was approved by the Senate on Wednesday and sent to Governor Rick Snyder's desk.

HB 4193 would ensure that Michigan is no longer the only state in the Midwest that does not allow drivers to use a phone application for insurance validity. The bill saw unanimous approval from the chamber.

"This legislation simplifies life for Michigan drivers by allowing them to present proof of insurance on their phones and other devices, which they always have with them," said Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), sponsor of the bill, in a statement. "There are many benefits to allowing electronic proof of insurance, including the fact that electronic coverage is more difficult to falsify, so cases of insurance fraud will go down."

Currently, those who do not have proof of insurance during a traffic stop may later reduce the amount of a fine or fee by visiting the local courthouse with a paper copy of their insurance documents. But with electronic proof, Mr. Nesbitt said, people will save time and money by not having to drive to a courthouse after a traffic stop.

"This bill utilizes the best technology available so drivers don't have to jump through so many hoops if their insurance information is not correct in the LEIN system," he said. "It also allows law enforcement and the SOS to identify people who are skirting the law, which will make our streets and highways safer and save law-abiding motorists money. It's time to bring our insurance enforcement into the 21st century."

Heise To Run For Plymouth Township Supervisor

Rep. Kurt Heise announced Wednesday he is running for the Plymouth Township supervisor post in 2016.

Mr. Heise (R-Plymouth) cannot seek re-election in the House due to term limits.

"Plymouth Township I really think is on the wrong track right now on many levels," Mr. Heise said on why he running for the post.

Mr. Heise said his skill-set and education - he has two law degrees and will soon be in his 25th year as an attorney in the state - set him up to bring accountability to the position. He said the current board is more worried about politics than professionalism.

Mr. Heise said he will be challenging Shannon Price, the current supervisor, who was appointed in April. Mr. Heise said the interview and selection process was controversial. Mr. Price is well-known in Republican circles and is a former Wayne County commissioner, setting up a big-time battle for the GOP nomination.

If elected, the term lasts from 2016 until 2020. Mr. Heise said at this point he is not interested in running for attorney general in the future.

"I am really more of a local government guy," he said. "I think this would be an exciting new chapter of service."

Capital Notebook

MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE: The state might have to make some changes in the management of some of its lands in eastern massasauga rattlesnake territory if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enacts proposed rules naming the snake as a threatened species.

But those changes would be minimal, Dan Kennedy, endangered species coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources, told Gongwer News Service, because the DNR has been preparing for the federal rules since they were first recommended in 1999.

"The DNR's been working with the Fish and Wildlife Service on massasauga conservation for 16 years," he said.

The department is in final negotiations on management plan that would allow the state to continue most of its work with some changes, mostly in timing of activities, since it would become illegal to kill the snakes, Mr. Kennedy said.

For instance, the department would have to time prescribed burns to have the least impact on the snakes.

Mr. Kennedy said he did not know what effect the federal rule, expected to take effect in September 2016, might have on private land use in the region.

Massasaugas prefer swampy areas with nearby grasslands and are declining across their range (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada) largely due to loss of habitat.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE: The DNR launched a new video Wednesday explaining the neurological disease in deer and how it will affect hunters with the archery season beginning Thursday.

ONLINE SHOPPING: The Department of Treasury reminded online shoppers Wednesday that, beginning Thursday, they would need to keep any receipts from their purchases.

New legislation takes effect October 1 that clarifies which online businesses have to collect sales tax and, where the business does not, the customer is required to pay use tax on the purchase.

"It is important for individuals to understand that this is not a new tax; Michigan's tax on these types of sales has been on the books for more than 80 years," Treasurer Nick Khouri said in a statement. "The new provisions simply mean that various on-line and remote sellers, that will now be deemed to have some presence in the state, will begin collecting tax on the sales they make into Michigan."

CLEAN FUELS MICHIGAN: Nearly 30 companies and organizations in Michigan on Wednesday announced the formation of Clean Fuels Michigan, a new 501(c)(6) organization aimed at maintaining Michigan's position as a global leader in automotive manufacturing by advancing a "clear vision, strategy and advocacy centered on advanced powertrain technology and innovation," the groups said in a statement. "The overall goal is to promote investment, job growth and sustainable technologies in Michigan."

Michigan is one of relatively few states with no incentives supporting the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, the group cautioned, and the state must act quickly so it can capitalize on that developing marketplace and improve its overall economic competitiveness.

"Our members collectively believe in economic opportunities that stem from developing this technology and markets in Michigan," Eric Clinton, Manager of NGV Business Development at DTE Energy, said in a statement.

The group will advance clean fuel neutral policies, such as electric, natural gas, propane and hydrogen fuel cell technology, as well as advise policymakers and help commercialization efforts.

GRAND HAVEN EXPANSION: GLASSource, a specialty glass and mirror facility in Grand Haven, will expand its facility with the help of $209,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for infrastructure improvements heading to the city of Grand Haven.

The street is in very poor condition, a statement from the Michigan Economic Development Committee indicated, and needs to be reconstructed before an expansion can take place. The project - expected to generate nearly $2 million in private investment and create 21 jobs - will result in the reuse and development of an old manufacturing facility.

MEDC also announced Michigan Strategic Fund approval of $152,119 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the city of Grand Haven to make facade improvements for buildings located in downtown Grand Haven. The project will generate private investment of $69,835.

Signed by the Governor

SB 62, PA 131	RECORDING REQUIREMENTS (Hertel) Modifies recording requirements to include electronic signatures.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

SB 281, PA 132 FILING FEES (Schuitmaker) Provides for reallocation of portion of certain filing fees paid to the Wayne County retirement system for bailiffs in the thirty-sixth district court under certain circumstances.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

SB 468, PA 133 PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (Green) Modifies eligibility for licensure of pharmacy technicians and requirements for limited license pharmacy technicians.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: September 30, 2015

HB 4070, PA 134 PUBLIC OFFICERS (Heise) Creates incompatible officers exception for public safety positions.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, October 1

Rep. Sheldon Neeley **(D) Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, Suite 1200, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.**

Saturday, October 3

Rep. Klint Kesto **(R) Fundraiser, 4050 Vanstone, Commerce Township, 1 p.m.**

Tuesday, October 6

Sen. John Proos **(R) Fundraiser, 225 Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

Rep. Larry Inman **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 5 p.m.**

Michigan Senate Democratic Fund, Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Drive, Detroit, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 7

Rep. Al Pscholka **(R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.**

Rep. Pat Somerville **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

Rep. Jim Tedder **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.**

Thursday, October 8

Rep. Brandt Iden **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.**

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel **(D) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.**

Rep. Anthony Forlini **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, October 14

Rep. Andy Schor **(D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.**

Thursday, October 15

Canceled: ~~Rep. Michael Webber **(R) PAC fundraiser, Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 West Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.**~~

Wednesday, October 21

University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute presentations by Wolverine Caucus, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, October 8

Board of Dentistry, Conference Room 3, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

Tuesday, October 13

Accessibility Advisory Council, Flynn Pavilion, Picnic Way and Loiter Way, Belle Isle Park, Detroit, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, October 1

~~**Canceled:** House Insurance (Committee Room), **(Chr. Leonard, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**~~

HB 4836**LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE** (Lyons) Provides for establishing partnership programs under federal law.

House Education (Committee Record), **(Chr. Price, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.**

SB 103 **EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS** (Pavlov) Revises performance evaluation requirements for teachers and school administrators.

House Military and Veterans Affairs (Committee Record), **(Chr. Barrett, 373-2002), Room 308, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

- **Presentation by Chet Gryczan, project director of Defense Brake Systems**

HB 4796 **VETERANS** (Franz) Provides for employment protections for National Guard members who work outside of the state where they mobilize.

HR 156 **MILITARY VEHICLE SAFETY** (Barrett) A resolution to urge the United States Congress and the U.S. Department of the Army to accelerate federal funding to improve military vehicle safety from rollover accidents.

House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation (Committee Record), **(Chr. Rendon, 373-8474), Amway Grand Plaza, Hotel Heritage Hill Room, 187 Monroe Avenue Northwest, Grand Rapids, 4:30 p.m. or after session**

- **Presentations given by Experience Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Chamber, City of Grand Rapids, Kent County and ArtServe/ArtPrize**

Tuesday, October 6

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record), **(Chr. Jones, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.**

HB 4159 **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Johnson, J.) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry weapons in weapon free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.

SB 174 **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** (Schuitmaker) Revises motor vehicle service and repair act to provide interlock servicing center to be included within the definition of motor vehicle repair facility.

SB 175 **IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE** (Schuitmaker) revises guidelines for crime of knowingly providing false information concerning an ignition interlock device.

SB 176 **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** (Schuitmaker) Provides for department of state oversight of ignition interlock servicing centers.

SB 207 **OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED** (Jones) Amends certain definitions and procedures of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, or both.

SB 357 **ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK MECHANICS** (Schuitmaker) Includes breath alcohol ignition interlock mechanics and servicers in motor vehicle service and repair act.

SB 434 **ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING** (Casperson) Creates pilot program for preliminary drug testing at roadside stop.

SB **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Jones) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry

516 weapon in weapon-free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.
SB 531 **ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM** (Jones) Authorizes the state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.
SB 532 **JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND** (Proos) Establishes judicial electronic filing fund.
SB 533 **ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS** (Schuitmaker) Allows court or court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

Wednesday, October 7

Senate Education (Committee Record), **(Chr. Pavlov, 373-5314), Room 110, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.**

HB 4059 **PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES** (Hughes) Eliminates sunset on the allowance of retired public school employees to be employed at a reporting unit under certain circumstances without forfeiting retirement or health care coverage.
HB 4390 **ECONOMICS CREDIT** (Tedder) Allows 1/2 credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for Michigan Merit Curriculum.
SB 491 **ALTERNATIVE TEACHING CERTIFICATION** (Pavlov) Modifies provisions relating to alternative teaching certification.
SB 510 **STUDENT ONLINE PERSONAL PROTECTION ACT** (Pavlov) Creates student online personal protection act.

Subscribers Please Note

The Draft Biden organization circulated a news release Tuesday with the wrong Michigan legislator backing Vice President Joe Biden running for president. Former Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. is supporting Mr. Biden, not his son, Rep. Fred Durhal III. The release the Draft Biden organization circulated listed Fred Durhal Jr., but described him as a current, first-term member of the House who is an assistant minority leader (which Mr. Durhal III is). However, it is his father, Mr. Durhal Jr., who is backing Mr. Biden.

A campaign note in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly claimed that the Great Lakes Education Project endorsed Mary Whiteford in the 80th House District in the 2014 Republican primary. While GLEP is endorsing Ms. Whiteford in the upcoming special election, it made no endorsement in the 2014 Republican primary.

A story in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly described the penalties for coercing a woman into having an abortion under HB 4787 and HB 4830. The level of the crime would be tied to the actions constituting the coercion.

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Click the ▣ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 1, 2015

News

Morouns lose on virtually all counts in bridge lawsuit (Detroit Free Press, 10/1/2015)

Traffic stops might become easier with bill passage (Detroit Free Press, 10/1/2015)

Jones to state employees: Put a ring on it for bennies (Lansing State Journal, 10/1/2015)

State rep: DHHS should track foster kids' credit (Lansing State Journal, 10/1/2015)

Big trucks not bad for Michigan roads, truckers say (MLive, 10/1/2015)

New Michigan Supreme Court justice facing questions over 'indefinite detention' memo (MLive, 10/1/2015)

Why a retired Michigan State Police traffic expert is backing 80 mph speed limits proposal (MLive, 10/1/2015)

8 Mich. lawmakers urge Obama to extend Great Lakes aid (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Flint water woes seep into city, state politics (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Mich. to allow drivers to show insurance by phone (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Rep. Bishop gets first bill passed among Mich. freshmen (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Rep. Tinsley-Talabi linked to Detroit corruption case (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Snyder picks UM law professor Larsen for Supreme Court (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Editorials

Editorial: Another assault on women's rights (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/1/2015)

Don't give in to corporate blackmail to pay for roads (Macomb Daily, 10/1/2015)

Let's block attacks on sports referees before they happen (MLive, 10/1/2015)

Editor's Note: Tougher waiver for shots is working (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Editorial: Adding Larsen should make good court better (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Finley: Keep politics out of taxes (The Detroit News, 10/1/2015)

Blogs

A Commission By Any Other Name … (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/30/2015)

For Exiled Ex-Legislators, Offenses Preclude Usual Tributes Upon Death (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/30/2015)

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To: Antczak, Jason (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Thursday, October 1, 2015
Attachments: 151001dayplan.htm; Oct1Senate.htm; Oct1.htm; Oct1House.htm

Michigan Report for Thursday, October 1, 2015

Pressure Mounts On Flint Water; Snyder Prepares Actions

Cotter Monitoring Tinsley-Talabi Situation

Educator Evaluations Clear Latest Hurdle, Head To House Floor

Presumptive Parole Clears House With Schuette Still In Opposition

Engler Goes To Bat For Storey In 80th House

Cotter On Prevailing Wage: If Votes Are There, We'll Take It

Controversy Develops In Senate On Taxable Wage Base Bill

Senate Energy Expects One More Week Of Testimony On Bill

PSC Reports $4.2B In Savings From Efficiency Programs

Calley Heads To India For Trade Mission

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Volume #54, Report #195 -- Thursday, October 1, 2015

Pressure Mounts On Flint Water; Snyder Prepares Actions

A coalition of Flint and state organizations asked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday to order a switchover of the Flint water system with the Detroit Water and Sewerage system, in what is one of the most striking actions in the controversy. The demand came as state officials plan to announce a series of actions on Flint on Friday dealing with the water problems in the city.

One legislator - who also complained he had been denied documents from the state dealing with the switch from the Detroit system to using water from the Flint River (a state official said the wrong documents had been requested) - said there had been a general discussion, but no specifics about what Mr. Snyder might announce. Rep. Phil Phelps (D-Flushing) said he expected the state would provide more filters to residents to help curb lead in the water. Filters will be helpful, Mr. Phelps said, but not enough.

Governor Rick Snyder will not be at the event, to be held at Kettering University, but Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, along with Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant, Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon, Urban Initiatives Director Harvey Hollins and the state's chief medical officer, Eden Wells, will speak on the initiatives being pursued.

The presentation will be at 1:30 p.m.at the university's Innovation Center, 1300 Bluff Street.

The controversy over the water in Flint has grown exponentially since indications that lead levels, caused mainly by antique pipes and their connections, were elevated in children who were tested. Researchers said they could not absolutely say the elevated levels were from the water, but the measures showed the increase since the city made the switch. Also on Thursday, it was announced that the city had received donations to provide some 5,000 water filters to help contain the lead.

Prior to the discovery about elevated lead levels, the controversy over the system dealt largely with the smell and taste of the water. Flint switched from using Detroit water to drawing water from the Flint River in 2014 as the city prepared to build its own system that would draw water from Lake Huron. The switch was made largely because Flint and Detroit could not agree on a short-term contract to use the water, and the city, under a state-appointed emergency manager because of financial problems, did not want to pay the cost of Detroit water.

In a press conference on Wednesday, Mr. Snyder acknowledged that in making the switch, not all factors were probably considered.

The request for the EPA to order both the city and state to make the switch to Detroit water came with a variety of city and state groups, including the Concerned Pastors for Social Action, the

Flint Water Study Team, the Michigan Nurses Association, the NAACP-Michigan State Conference, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Michigan branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, getting involved.

The request charged that neither the state nor Flint were doing enough to fix the problem and urged that both be ordered to immediately have Flint's water system reconnected with the Detroit system, and that city residents be provided with a free source of water that meets EPA standards.

Mr. Phelps, meanwhile, complained that the Department of Environmental Quality denied and the Department of Treasury ignored a Freedom of Information Act request for documents related to the city's switch from Detroit water to river water. Anytime there is a change in water systems of the course of water, the community has to apply to the state for that authority.

But Brad Wurfel, with the DEQ, said Flint did not have to file that application because the city had always listed the Flint River as its back-up should it need it for a water supply.

However, there are other documents that are available - to Mr. Phelps or anyone - dealing with the process the city and state took preparing for the switch, Mr. Wurfel said.

Mr. Phelps said a DEQ official contacted him and said there were documents available and that they would be sent to him. The official asked that he drop his FOIA request, Mr. Phelps said.

On the advice of his lawyers, Mr. Phelps said he did not drop the request. But he had also asked the department for any documents that might have to do with the switch. After his request was denied, he received several documents dealing with the system, but the documents were from 2007 and did not have to do with the switch.

Mr. Phelps was surprised by the refusal and was planning what steps to next take.

In terms of what the state should do to help in the situation, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) told reporters after session on Thursday that he thought the state should first help with distributing filters to residents, especially those who may be most vulnerable, listing pregnant women, children, women that are nursing, those with immune system issues and the elderly among them.

"That should be done immediately," Mr. Ananich said. "I think we need to have corrosion control put in place as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, I think we need some independent, outside testers to come in and develop the confidence level that's just not there with traditional people in place. And I think we need to have a serious look at reconnecting with Detroit. I think the state needs to help us find a new source of water."

He said he would reserve judgment about how well the state has responded to the situation until after the administration makes its recommendations and remains unsure about any estimates on how much it might cost for Flint to reconnect to Detroit water.

"There's been some negotiations going on at the local level, but I think it's important to get the real cost because it's a public health issue. And I'm hopeful we'll find that. I would hope that all folks, with an issue of this magnitude, would not try to gouge a community that's been suffering the way they are," Mr. Ananich said. "I think we need to all, at the state level, make sure people are negotiating in good faith."

And Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said he is unsure what the state's role should be in terms of helping Flint. The Senate did, on Thursday, include a $100 placeholder to deal with Flint's water crisis in an appropriations supplemental it passed, but that was to keep the conversation going, Mr. Ananich said (see separate story).

"I don't know that we really have a solution there yet," Mr. Meekhof said after session. "We could use revolving funds maybe. I don't think the city of Flint is in as bad of financial trouble as the city of Detroit, so if they need to bond for something, they would have assets with which to bond and maybe fix the problem. There's lots of options that are out there."

Cotter Monitoring Tinsley-Talabi Situation

House Speaker Kevin Cotter said Thursday he is watching for further developments involving the allegations against Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi that she solicited and accepted bribes while a member of a city of Detroit pension management board, but at this point has no plans of the House pursuing action against her.

The difference between Ms. Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) and former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, who were put through expulsion proceedings (Mr. Courser resigning and Ms. Gamrat getting expelled), is that the investigation into the conduct in question started with an outside agency, Mr. Cotter said.

"I have been aware of this for some period of time ... just monitoring," Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) told reporters. "I know this is being investigated at the federal level. If we are called on at any point in time to assist or just called for information or things of that nature, we would certainly cooperate."

Sentencing memoranda filed in the past week by the U.S. attorney in Detroit involving two defendants in a wide-ranging probe of corruption in Detroit government suddenly brought new life to the allegations against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi that first surfaced two and a half years ago.

According to the memos filed by federal prosecutors in the cases against Roy Dixon and George Stanton, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi's chief of staff when she served on the Detroit City Council, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi allegedly helped orchestrate a bribery scheme to ensure an investor with a proposal before the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement System Board of Trustees won approval for his proposed investment. Through that scheme, the investor contributed $3,000 to Ms. Tinsley-Talabi's city council campaign via Mr. Stanton.

Additionally, the memos accuse her nonprofit of receiving a $1,000 bribe from Mr. Dixon.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi has not returned calls for comment. She would only answer "nothing" Thursday to an MLive reporter who approached her on the House floor.

Calls to the spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade about whether the federal government continues to investigate Ms. Tinsley-Talabi have not been returned the last two days. The Detroit News, without citing sources, reported that she does remain under investigation.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi might have a legitimate beef with the U.S. attorney accusing her of soliciting and accepting bribes in a sentencing memorandum, but not actually charging her, at least not yet, said Peter Henning, a Wayne State University law professor and former federal prosecutor.

"This can be problematic because it's accusing her of a crime without going through all of the usual requirements, presenting evidence to a grand jury, having a determination," he said. "Certainly, Tinsley-Talabi has a fair claim that, 'If you think I did something wrong, accuse me of it.'"

While the sentencing memorandum presents the bribery allegations as fact, all it really constitutes "is a statement by a witness as to what that person claims happened," Mr. Henning said.

The other major question is one of statute of limitations, Mr. Henning said. In general, federal crimes have a five-year statute of limitations. The alleged wrongdoing occurred in 2006 and 2007. Ms. Tinsley-Talabi left the council in January 2010 after losing her 2009 re-election bid.

Perhaps a charge under the federal RICO statute, which has flexibility on statute of limitations, is a possibility, Mr. Henning said. It's also possible the government long ago charged her and did not unseal the indictment or a defendant might agree to a tolling agreement where the statute of limitations is lifted, he said.

The government also might lack sufficient evidence to pursue charges or might have obtained the evidence too late for the statute of limitations and decided to at least air publicly what it had, Mr. Henning said.

"It may be that the government's memorandum is trying to send a message - not that it's going to charge in the crime, but to the citizens and perhaps even to the state House," he said. "I would think if we were going to see a charge against Tinsley-Talabi, we would have seen it already."

Educator Evaluations Clear Latest Hurdle, Head To House Floor

The House Education Committee on Thursday reported its second piece of major legislation in two weeks in sending teacher and administrator evaluations to the House floor after four months and four previous committee hearings with no action.

The legislation crafted by Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair) has been slightly controversial in the House after Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) and now-Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) spent much of last term creating statewide evaluation standards and training requirements that

saw support some education interests. And when the bill cleared the Senate earlier this year, Mr. Zemke and Ms. O'Brien both expressed disappointment in the changes that had been made (Ms. O'Brien voted against it on the floor).

But on Thursday, SB 103 cleared the committee 14-2 with Rep. Pat Somerville (R-New Boston) abstaining. Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) and Rep. Thomas Hooker (R-Byron Center) voted no. The bill includes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool.

Mr. Pavlov has emphasized the importance of local control in the evaluation process, but those in opposition to his original bill asserted it did not do enough.

Under the H-7 version of SB 103, the Department of Education would have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. The tool utilized by districts does not have to be the same for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation shall be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

Ms. Price also said new members of the House are not familiar with the issue, so there's still a fair amount of work to be done before a vote can be taken with the full chamber.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation shall be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Training for teachers and administrators on evaluation tools is also required. School districts and PSAs could create a consortium of two or more to conduct the trainings. All evaluators and observers would also be required to receive training from a person who has expertise in the training tool.

A school district or public school academy could also develop its own tool, and the department would promulgate rules for how a district would submit its own tool for placement on the list. Also required under the bill is for the district or PSA to publish on its website a variety of information about the evaluation tool and the evaluation process beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Of that information, a district or PSA would have to outline why its local evaluation tool or modification is appropriate, as well as the qualifications of the author of the tool or modification.

Mr. Zemke said the version of the bill reported from the committee gets the legislation closer to what he and Ms. O'Brien introduced last term. He would not comment on if he hopes to see additional changes made to the bill, only saying he was happy enough with the bill that he voted for it in committee.

Administrator evaluations would be conducted by the superintendent or chief administrator of a PSA, or their appointed designees. The board or board of directors would evaluate the superintendent or chief administrator.

If an administrator received an ineffective or highly ineffective rating, they would be required to create an improvement plan. For both teachers and administrators, if they received three consecutive ineffective or highly ineffective ratings, they would be let go.

For both teachers and administrators rated highly effective or effective for three consecutive years, their evaluations could move to biennially. The evaluations would move back to annually if the teacher or administrator received a lesser rating.

Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, districts would be required to either not allow a teacher with three consecutive minimally effective or ineffective ratings to teach the same subject area to the same pupil for two consecutive years or tell the parent why it cannot comply.

Also for teachers, at least two classroom observations are required each year, with one unscheduled, unless the teacher has been rated effective or highly effective for two consecutive years. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the administrators responsible for the evaluation must conduct at least one observation.

Finally, beginning July 1, 2018, the superintendent of public instruction shall not issue an initial professional teaching certificate unless the person has taught for at least three years and has received three effective or highly effective ratings either consecutively or nonconsecutively.

Ms. Price said there weren't many conversations with Mr. Pavlov in regards to the latest version of the bill, but she said she believes he will be able to accept it.

Mr. Pavlov's chief of staff, Brenda Resch, said Mr. Pavlov is pleased to see the bill move.

"Schools need to have certainty on this issue - the ones we've been hearing from have been preparing for current law," she said. "This has statewide impact on every teacher in every district, so it's important to get it right. He looks forward to the House completing this quickly so schools can move forward with setting policies that ensure quality for kids and fairness for educators."

Presumptive Parole Clears House With Schuette Still In Opposition

More prisoners would be presumed, absent compelling reasons, to not be a menace to society after serving minimum sentences and be released from prison under a bill that cleared the House on Thursday despite continued opposition from Attorney General Bill Schuette.

Mr. Schuette has long opposed presumptive parole and says the legislation will jeopardize the safety of Michigan residents.

HB 4138 cleared the chamber 67-39, with 21 Republicans and 18 Democrats voting no on the bill. Thirty-nine Republicans and 28 Democrats voted in support.

Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth), the bill's sponsor, said there are safeguards in place to ensure a person is not released from prison that would still be a danger to society.

"The parole guidelines are not being changed here at all. All we are saying is if you meet the thresholds for release, you are going to be released," he said on the House floor. "And even then, the Michigan Department of Corrections can still say 'nope.' There are safeguards in place. This is not on autopilot. That's a great bumper sticker, folks: 'this is not on autopilot.' This is a very well thought out process that we have put into place."

Mr. Schuette, however, continued to say in a statement that the presumptive parole measure allows the "the automatic and early release of violent criminals without the parole board determining the risk and safety dangers of violent criminals."

But the House Fiscal Agency analysis states plainly, "this would not be automatic." Under the bill, compelling reasons against presumptive parole include: objective and verifiable evidence that a victim would be caused hard by release; the prisoner has a pending felony charge; and the there is evidence the prisoner would be a danger to society if released, among other reasons.

The bill will now go to the Senate for consideration. Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said there are pieces of the bill he does like.

"But also, when we convict people here in Michigan of felonies, only about 20 percent of them go to prison," he said. "So that means people that are in prison are bad people. We have people which we're scared of and people we're mad at, and maybe we can do some different things with people with which we're mad at. Maybe we can have their debt to society paid in a different way."

Rep. John Chirkun (D-Roseville) and Rep. Vanessa Guerra (D-Bridgeport) spoke in opposition to the bill. Mr. Chirkun described an offender in his district that was found guilty of armed robbery and is a dangerous offender but would still qualify for release under the bill.

While he was speaking, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was visibly shaking his head no to signal that the person would not qualify.

Mr. Meekhof said he doesn't think there is intent in the legislation to let violent criminals out of prison.

He said the state "can do a better job of making sure that when they come out, they have a place to go, they have jobs of which they can go to and maybe turning away from a life of crime is a better option for them. That would be what we'd like."

Mr. Heise said in the 1980s and 1990s, to be "tough on crime," the state began putting more people in prison and toughening sentences.

"Did that work? Instead we've got thousands of people in prison right now who really don't need to be there," he said.

Mr. Cotter said he is happy with the reforms put in place and noted the bill is not retroactive.

"This is something that will be well-known at the time that sentencings are set. As I have been saying throughout this process, a minimum sentence has got to mean something," he said. "Why are we giving a minimum, why are we giving a range if that is not serving as a minimum for those who are model prisoners?"

Mr. Cotter did not say if Mr. Schuette called him about the bill, saying only they talk often. He also said he believes any concerns on legislation are often justified.

"It is something he obviously has strong opinions on. And we do too. So it's just a difference of opinion," Mr. Cotter said.

Chris Gautz, spokesperson for the Department of Corrections, said the department's projections show the bill in 10 years could lead to a decline of 3,000 prisoners. That would lead to savings of about $80 million annually after year 10, he said.

Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), the only Upper Peninsula representative to vote yes on the bill, called the tactics against it, "fear-mongering." He said the stories of tragedy told have happened under the current system.

"To use the current system's tragedy as an argument against trying to fix the system ... is kind of a nonsensical argument," he said.

ROLL CALL: Republicans voting no: Rep. Tom Barrett of Potterville; Rep. John Bizon of Battle Creek; Rep. Lee Chatfield of Levering; Rep. Triston Cole of Mancelona; Rep. Laura Cox of Livonia; Rep. Ray Franz of Onekama; Rep. Joseph Graves of Linden; Rep. Thomas Hooker of Byron Center; Rep. Holly Hughes of White River Township; Rep. Larry Inman of Williamsburg; Rep. Nancy Jenkins of Clayton; Rep. Joel Johnson of Clare; Rep. Dan Lauwers of Brockway; Rep. Tom Leonard III of DeWitt Township; Rep. David Maturen of Vicksburg; Rep. Aaron Miller of Sturgis; Rep. Peter Pettalia of Presque Isle; Rep. Jim Runestad of White Lake; Rep. Jason Sheppard of Temperance; Rep. Lana Theis of Brighton; and Rep. Henry Vaupel of Handy Township.

Democrats voting no: Rep. Charles Brunner of Bay City; Rep. John Chirkun of Roseville; Rep. Scott Dianda of Calumet; Rep. Gretchen Driskell of Saline; Rep. Pam Faris of Clio; House Minority Leader Tim Greimel of Auburn Hills; Rep. Vanessa Guerra of Bridgeport; Rep. John Kivela of Marquette; Rep. Robert Kosowski of Westland; Rep. Marilyn Lane of Fraser; Rep. Bill LaVoy of Monroe; Rep. Derek Miller of Warren; Rep. Jeremy Moss of Southfield; Rep. Sheldon Neeley of Flint; Rep. Phil Phelps of Flushing; Rep. Sarah Roberts of Saint Clair Shores; Rep. Charles Smiley of Grand Blanc; and Rep. Henry Yanez of Sterling Heights.

POLL: Hours before the House action Thursday, the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending released a poll that showed not only support for the changes in HB 4138, but a reversal in public attitudes toward crime and corrections.

"There's a complete 180 degree turnaround by voters," Ed Sarpolus, executive director of Target Insyght, which conducted the poll. "The priorities have switched."

The poll showed 64 percent support presumptive parole for eligible inmates. And incarceration ranked last among the options for reducing crime, with 34 percent saying long-term incarceration works. Mental illness treatment topped the list, with 82 percent saying it would reduce crime, followed by early childhood education at 80 percent.

Those polled also saw crime as a low priority for the state, with only 7 percent ranking it as their top concern. Road and bridge repair was the top priority for 25 percent, followed by the economy and jobs as top for 18 percent.

Some 70 percent said the state should be spending less on corrections.

The poll also saw 83 percent support for ending the mandatory two-year incarceration for felony firearm and giving discretion to the sentencing judge.

The poll, conducted September 15-17 of 800 likely voters, had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

PROBATION: Another criminal justice reform bill (HB 4137), approved by the House 101-5, would make various changes to probation policies, including creating swift and sure probation programs, which target high-risk felony offenders who have a history of probation violations or failures. Those offenders would receive intense supervision under the program.

Under the bill, a judge would be charged with carrying out the requirements of the program.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY: The House also approved a bill allowing any local elections held in conjunction with the presidential primary to move up to the date set for the primary.

The bill (HB 4904), cleared the chamber 105-1 and would allow other items than the presidential primary on that ballot and would provide filing deadlines to accommodate that shift.

It specifies it is intended to correct a Court of Appeals ruling that the presidential primary was not one of the state's regular election dates and so was not available for other issues.

ABLE ACT: Legislation that would allow individuals to open a savings account to pay qualified disability expenses of a designated beneficiary without having that money used against them for disability benefits also passed the House unanimously Thursday.

HB 4542, the primary bill in a three-bill package, would require an individual or designated representative to enter into an agreement with the Michigan Achieving a Better Life Experience

Program when opening an account, and then allow contribution to an account up to limits imposed by the Internal Revenue code and rules promulgated by the state treasurer (the idea for an ABLE savings account began in Washington, D.C., last December).

The bill limits an account balance to the amount allowed for an Education Savings Program account and allows income tax exemptions for contributions to an ABLE savings account as well as qualified withdrawals from an account provided in the Income Tax Act, addressed in HB 4543.

HB 4544 requires the state to disregard money in a designated ABLE account when determining a person's financial ability to qualify for other benefits.

Engler Goes To Bat For Storey In 80th House

Republican Jim Storey of Holland picked up a big-name endorsement Thursday in his special election bid for the 80th House District when former Governor John Engler urged voters to support him.

Mr. Storey, an Allegan County commissioner, is one of eight Republicans vying for the GOP nomination in the race to fill the vacancy left by the House's expulsion of former Rep. Cindy Gamrat. And besides Ms. Gamrat, he is one of two Republicans (the other being Mary Whiteford of Casco Township) with early traction.

Mr. Storey held several posts during Mr. Engler's time as governor, most notably as an appointee to the Liquor Control Commission, but he also headed up efforts to aid the surrounding communities when the U.S. Department of Defense shuttered the Wurtsmith and K.I. Sawyer Air Force bases and served as president of the Michigan Strategic Fund.

"Jim Storey provided outstanding results in every assignment to which I appointed him during my administration," Mr. Engler said in a statement. "I know him well, I trust him and so can the voters of Allegan County. My association with Jim dates to my own time in the Michigan Senate when he headed the House Republican press office. He was knowledgeable, hardworking, and highly effective. It is that combination of experience and conservative values, in my view, that Michigan sorely needs in the era of term limits, especially given the events of the last few weeks."

Mr. Storey said he got to know Mr. Engler in 1979. Then-House Minority Leader Bill Bryant had named Mr. Storey as House Republican press secretary, and Mr. Engler had just won election to the Senate after eight years in the House. Mr. Engler frequently stopped by the House Republican leadership office, and the two both worked on Peter Secchia's bid for Republican National committeeman.

Sources in Capitol community said Mr. Engler has been asking some members of his former administration to help Mr. Storey, and Mr. Storey said he has seen signs of it.

"I'm very grateful - very grateful - to the governor for giving me the visibility in Lansing that I may not have had because I haven't been in Lansing for the past few years," he said.

Mr. Storey said having the endorsements of the district's two representatives prior to Ms. Gamrat (former Reps. Bob Genetski II and Fulton Sheen), plus former Sen. Wayne Kuipers (who represented adjacent Ottawa County) and Mr. Engler should send a message to voters.

"All three say that I can be effective in delivering results for Allegan County and its communities," he said.

Cotter On Prevailing Wage: If Votes Are There, We'll Take It

House Speaker Kevin Cotter said Thursday to the call from prevailing wage supporters to allow the issue to go the 2016 ballot that the Legislature has the right to act on the initiative.

"I think there is broad support within our caucus to make the change. And if the votes are there, I plan on taking the vote," he said to reporters after House session.

The comments are similar to those Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) made to Gongwer News Service two weeks ago.

Mr. Cotter also said he hopes to hold a vote on roads sometime this month.

"We are at a period now of weeks. We are not talking months. I have been saying for some time now I want to get this on the floor in October, and I think we are on pretty good pace for that," he said.

Mr. Cotter also again addressed whether he supports $800 million new revenue, $400 million General Fund framework for roads. Several sources have indicated he is embracing the outline.

"For me it's not just about the proportion, how much is new revenue, how much is General Fund, but all the other details that make up a package," he said. "Where is it coming from and at what degree? And also what other pieces of the package exist."

Mr. Cotter, when asked if a Health Insurance Claims Assessment fix is still on the table as part of an agreement, said he would like to keep the package focused on roads as much as possible.

"Obviously HICA is an ongoing issue whether it is part of a roads plan or not. I am hesitant to complicate one priority with another," he said.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said this week as far as what Democrats are negotiating for as part of a road funding deal, there are two camps: one looking for assurances prevailing wage won't be repealed and another looking for tax relief for middle class families.

LEGISLATIVE FOIA: On some legislative Democrats calling for the Legislature to be subjected to the Freedom of Information Act, Mr. Cotter said the House has posted a variety of financial and salary information on its website.

He said House members deal with a lot of personal constituent information and he worries about that being made public. He noted the House Business Office report into former Rep. Cindy Gamrat and former Rep. Todd Courser accidentally published two former staffers' social security numbers.

Controversy Develops In Senate On Taxable Wage Base Bill

A bill that would require an annual, rather than quarterly, determination of the balance of the Unemployment Compensation Fund to set the taxable wage limit prompted a debate among Senate Republicans and Democrats about how much the state pays out in benefits and for how long.

SB 500 would also provide for the determination to be based on the fund's balance as of the previous June 30, and require the taxable wage limit to be reduced from $9,500 to $9,000 for the calendar year if the balance was $2.5 billion or higher on that date and projected to remain that level for the next quarter.

The Unemployment Compensation Fund is dedicated to paying unemployment benefits when due and is funded by employer contributions.

Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) offered an amendment to the bill that would have tie-barred the Senate bill to SB 525, which raises the maximum unemployment weekly benefit rate and indexes it to inflation. It would also restore the maximum timeframe for benefits from 20 to 26 weeks, Mr. Hood said in a speech on the floor.

"While I believe the goal of adjusting taxable wages based on a healthy trust fund was well-intended, I didn't support it then and I don't support it now," he said. "Considering the fact that it's been 13 years since we last adjusted the maximum weekly benefit and there have been so many other slashes to this program, I think my amendment is more than reasonable."

But his amendment was defeated largely along party lines, as was an amendment proposed by Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) that would have tie-barred the bill to HB 4655 that restores the additional six weeks of unemployment cut by the Legislature and signed into law in 2011.

"Our trust fund got into some trouble, we had to borrow money from the federal government ... and the fact that we're standing here with a healthy reserve is a testament to the hard work we've done in policy to make sure the trust fund is sound," Ms. Warren said. "If it is sound, let's ... give them just a little bit more."

SB 500 cleared the Senate on a 26-9 vote along party lines. Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren), Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart) and Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) were absent from session.

SUPPLEMENTAL INCLUDES PLACEHOLDERS FOR FLINT, U.P.: A $100 placeholder for Flint water services and another dedicated to "rent and state office facilities" were included in the final version of HB 4102, a supplemental appropriations bill that passed the Senate on Thursday.

"The rationale is we wanted to make sure we had an accurate number. We didn't want to put too much in or not enough and have to come back," Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said of the placeholder for Flint. "We want to get an accurate understanding of what it's going to cost to get us the help we need. My colleagues have been very good about allowing this first step.

House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said he is still reviewing the placeholder, though, and is not sure yet if the state has a responsibility.

"Obviously it is critical that we all have access to clean water, but at what point does it become a state responsibility is the question," he said.

The other amendment to HB 4102, offered by Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba), is to continue the conversation on costs associated with the closure of the Department of Health and Human Services office in Alger County, Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann said.

Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), Sen. Joe Hune (R-Whitmore Lake), Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) and Sen. Judy Emmons (R-Sheridan) voted against the bill, leaving the final tally at 30-5.

The supplemental includes more than $7 million for the state to settle a lawsuit involving the death of one and severe injuries of two others after a State Police trooper struck their vehicle while in pursuit of another vehicle. Records going back to the 1985-86 fiscal year show no other single case with a judgment against the state or settlement that high.

DEED SCAMS: The Senate also passed a bill, SB 366, regulating the solicitation of a fee for providing a public record.

The bill by Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) arose after a constituent complained to Mr. Hertel, who was at the time Ingham County's Register of Deeds, about paying an exorbitant amount of money for a deed that turned out be a scam. The sender claimed to be a local records office and required the recipient to pay way more than one should for a public record like a deed, or else (See Gongwer Michigan Report, July 1, 2015).

Senate Energy Expects One More Week Of Testimony On Bill

After another three-hour committee meeting Thursday, Sen. Mike Nofs told Gongwer News Service he expects to have one more week of testimony on legislation to update the state's energy laws before a substitute can be presented with "four or five issues" that could see some changes.

Mr. Nofs (R-Battle Creek), the committee chair, did not get into too many details about what those items would be, though at least one came up in testimony on Thursday, which is the issue of pre-payment of fees for alternative electric supplier companies. One of those companies, Wolverine Power Marketing Cooperative, said such a provision seemed "punitive," as it was solely focused on alternative electric supplier companies given that "no other utility in Michigan is being obligated to do this," said Kim Molitor, president and CEO of the company.

SB 437 - the focal point of Thursday's debate - requires an alternative electric supplier to pre-pay its contracts for the required periods if it relied on power purchase contracts for any portion of its demonstration of capacity supply. And if an alternative supplier relies on capacity that was the result of a wholesale market auction for any portion of its demonstration of capacity supply, the purchases cannot exceed 5 percent of the AES's capacity requirements.

Instead, Ms. Molitor recommended the committee consider subjecting AES companies to rules set forth by the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator, which oversees power supply for Michigan and other Midwest states, as a way to ensure capacity. By MISO's rules, a company can either participate in a capacity auction or submit a fixed resource planning option to demonstrate that they are able to serve their load of customers as well as reserve requirements.

"It's not feasible for any AES company to pay those pre-payment fees," Ms. Molitor said. "The most appropriate method would make the AES utilities follow the same rules as the utilities, and that is the MISO rules. I think making them live in that world levels the playing field for all electric providers in the state."

Another issue Mr. Nofs was willing to divulge is that of capacity, who should oversee that matter and how much is necessary to keep the grid reliable and affordable for ratepayers.

"You hear that we're putting some costs or concerns on capacity and that's a question that's still open that we're still looking at," he said. "How can we facilitate our concern of capacity for an AES to be able to report, that we feel comfortable, that the Public Service Commission will feel comfortable, and therefore we're not going to be subjected to penalties coming from MISO if they were short?"

Mr. Nofs said he does not plan to introduce a new substitute to either of the bills next week, and when asked if last week would be the last week for testimony, he said, "We're hoping so," but reiterated he will take as much time as is necessary for everyone to have a say.

"The process is important to me, and giving people the opportunity to speak is important to me, so we try to take in all the cards we get that day and try to take care of them," he said. "There are a lot of good recommendations coming from the participants and they're offering the language. I'll go to the very end if someone has got a better idea than what we've thought about here and it will make it that much stronger."

Mr. Nofs said he, the governor and Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), chair of the House Energy Policy Committee, are all hoping to have work completed on this energy package by the end of the year.

PSC Reports $4.2B In Savings From Efficiency Programs

Michigan energy customers in 2014 have been able to save $4.2 billion from the state's energy optimization programs that began in 2009, the Public Service Commission announced Thursday.

The revelation came as the PSC released its report on the state's energy optimization programs and the cost effectiveness of PA 295 of 2008. The report showed that overall, 2014 energy optimization program savings achieved for electric utilities were 141 percent of the target and 130 percent of the target for natural gas utilities. Those targets were set in the original act.

"The cheapest energy is the energy never used, and this has proven to be the case again with Michigan's energy optimization programs in 2014," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement. "Because they focus on reducing energy waste, energy efficiency programs benefit all utility customers. For every dollar spent on these programs in 2014, customers can expect to realize $4.38 in savings - more than any year since 2010. Customers who take advantage of energy efficiency programs personally benefit even more."

For measures installed in program year 2014, electric savings total more than 1.4 million megawatt-hours, and natural gas savings total over 4.8 million Mcf, the PSC said. And aggregate energy optimization program expenditures of $257 million in 2014 by all natural gas and electric utilities in the state are estimated to result in lifecycle savings to customers of $1.12 billion.

The PSC also said the downward pricing trend for renewable energy resources and the continued low cost of energy optimization has resulted in a combined weighted cost of $37 per megawatt-hour - which is less than any new generation, including new natural gas combined cycle plants, it noted - when compared to the Energy Information Administration levelized plant costs for 2014.

Calley Heads To India For Trade Mission

In an effort to expand markets for Michigan-made products and encourage more job creation for foreign direct investments in the state, Lt. Governor Brian Calley will lead a delegation of state and business leaders on a trade mission to India starting on Friday, the governor's office said Thursday.

"We are using this opportunity to build strong partnerships with India, creating trade and business opportunities for Michigan companies," Mr. Calley said in a statement. "We will be delivering the message that Michigan is more business-friendly than ever and the best state in the North American market to compete and grow while creating jobs."

Mr. Calley is set to meet with Devendra Fadnavis, the chief minister of the state of Maharashtra, as well as other government officials, the governor's office indicated. He will also provide remarks at the India-Michigan Global Summit, a new initiative launched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The lieutenant governor will also meet with executives from Indian automotive companies, as

well as Michigan companies with operations in India. The trip also will include meetings with Indian automotive suppliers and high-ranking government leaders.

The companies participating in the trade mission are Argo BioMedical from Auburn Hills, FutureNet Group from Detroit, Hosco Fittings from Wixom, Managed Programs from Auburn Hills and Orion Test Systems, also from Auburn Hills.

India is the 11th largest economy in the world with a sizable and rapidly growing domestic market, the governor's office indicated in its statement, as well as growing financial markets. In 2014, Michigan companies exported $296.7 million in goods and materials to India, which included chemicals, machinery, computer and electronic products, and transportation equipment.

The mission is Mr. Calley's fifth since taking office in 2011. He previously led missions to Chile, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico and the Netherlands.

Capital Notebook

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW NAME: The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan, is now the Michigan Association of State Universities.

"We have evolved over the decades from a council of university presidents into a full service association, where a wide array of higher education stakeholders come together to share best practices and collaborate in ways that make our universities stronger," Daniel Hurley, the group's CEO, said in a statement. "The association will remain the state's convener for the presidents and chancellors of Michigan's public universities, and many other groups of institutional representatives to collaborate and share expertise."

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 2, 2015

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Legislators take action to fix Flint water supply (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

Mich. House passes bill adopting 'presumptive parole' (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

No decision as UAW grapples with next steps (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

Presidential primary ballot could include local issues (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

Don't drink Flint's water, Genesee County leaders warn (Flint Journal, 10/2/2015)

Petition launched for EPA intervention in Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/2/2015)

State to announce Flint water action plan Friday at Kettering (Flint Journal, 10/2/2015)

Snyder signs Hertel bill on electronic signatures (Lansing State Journal, 10/2/2015)

5 reasons why report says Justin Amash could 'revolutionize' the U.S. House as Speaker (MLive, 10/2/2015)

Cotter: No immediate action on Tinsley-Talabi as feds investigate link to bribery scheme (MLive, 10/2/2015)

Michigan House revises prisoner parole procedure despite objections from AG Bill Schuette (MLive, 10/2/2015)

Michigan same-sex marriage leader married outside state Capitol: 'For realsies!' (MLive, 10/2/2015)

The GOP Immigration Plan to Save Detroit—and Syria (Politico, 10/2/2015)

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Michigan Dems may shift support if Biden runs (The Detroit News, 10/2/2015)

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More billboards won't fix Flint's violence problem -- gun control will (Flint Journal, 10/2/2015)

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Lapping Up The Sunshine, Trolling For Votes (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/1/2015)

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To: Antczak, Jason (DTMB)
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Michigan Report for Friday, October 2, 2015

State To Contribute $1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

19-Year MPSERS Error Results In $112M Refund To Seven Universities

Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

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Capital Notebook

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Volume #54, Report #196 -- Friday, October 2, 2015

State To Contribute $1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said Friday in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

"We're working around the clock on every level with so many partners to address the immediate health concerns," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said at a media event Friday to announce the plan. "We're now all working on a common response plan."

"We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, who did not attend the event, said in a statement. "Today's action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems."

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said the state still had substantial work to do.

"Filters and corrosion control additives are first steps, but anything less than an aggressive, comprehensive response is still unacceptable," Mr. Ananich said in a statement. "Our top priority remains ensuring Flint families have safe drinking water. I will continue to work to make that happen."

"We can't just rely on the kindness of strangers to protect our children," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said, noting recent contributions toward water filter purchases. "The governor and Department of Environmental Quality need to make this an urgent priority."

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901&locid=1" } (D-Flushing)

said help needs to happen sooner rather than later. "This is a public health crisis, and our children are in danger," he said.

Mr. Phelps had been pushing the state and the city for more information on the water switch and its effects to little avail (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541950101" }).

The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter urged that part of the plan be an executive investigation into why the DEQ did not act more quickly on the issue.

"The governor, finally, is assuming direct responsibility for responding to a crisis that every day is damaging the health of Flint's children," David Holtz, chair of the group, said in a statement. "His actions should be much stronger, however, and he needs to find out how we got to the point where Flint children are drinking lead and what the DEQ's role was in those decisions and actions."

The key elements of the plan, from the Snyder administration's perspective, are to continue testing and, in the short term, provide filters for those who need them, Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant said at the media event.

The state and the city will provide free water testing for anyone in the city, he said, and both entities are working to provide residents with water filters.

The state also will be testing the water in all schools in the city, Mr. Wyant said.

"We're working closely with public and private partners to provide water filters," Health and Human Services { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1" } said.

As part of that effort, the state will be providing $1 million and a number of charitable groups are providing filters or funding toward them, but Mr. Lyon said officials were also working with retailers to provide free or low-cost filters.

United Way, General Motors and the Making Our Children Smile Foundation announced Thursday a joint contribution of $105,000 toward purchase of filters.

Mr. Walling said filters would be available beginning Saturday morning.

Mr. Lyon warned, though, that the filters might not resolve the increase in blood lead levels found in recent testing.

"We cannot say conclusively water is the source of this," he said, noting that lead paint in older homes, and the remnants of it in the surrounding soils, continues to be the leading source of lead poisoning.

Mr. Lyons did not take issue with Genesee County's move Thursday to issue a water emergency for the city but said his agency would not be joining. "This is certainly an issue that deserves attention," he said. "I do not believe that it rises to the level of a statewide emergency. We are here with our resources."

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said two high-risk zip codes in the city did see increased blood levels in tested children after the city switched its water source, but she said levels in those areas, and citywide, were already at least twice the levels found in the rest of Genesee County and only increased significantly in one of the high-risk regions.

In the two highest-risk zip codes, blood lead levels were averaging 2.7 times averages for the county as a whole. After the water source switch, those averages climbed to 3.2 times the rest of the county. But for the city as a whole, lead levels were 2 times the rest of the county, she said.

Mr. Wyant argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not reoccur.

"Every time we tested the water, it was non-detect for lead," Mr. Wyant said of the state's quarterly testing. "So our issue is lead service lines."

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ would be part of a new Mayor's Safe Drinking Water Advisory Committee that would also include officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"With the mayor's help, we're going to expedite those corrosion controls," Mr. Wyant said.

"At this point we have confidence that we can put additional corrosion controls in place and it will be effective," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city also needs to step up its efforts to replace the lead service lines.

"We have a gap in our capital improvement plan that needs to be filled and we need to replace lead service lines in our city," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to $2 million a month.

"The city is not in a position to afford that cost, but I am looking to Lansing for additional funding and financing so that option could be available," he said.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed $1 million already toward the problem.

Mr. Snyder said during an earlier media call he was mediating discussions between the city and the Detroit system.

"It's just something that's currently in process ... I'm looking at this as an alternative to go with all these action steps," Mr. Snyder said. "We trying to help everyone get the facts: What is the data on what would be involved with potentially switching back? What would be the cost parameters? That's one of the reasons for the technical advisory council, to make sure we would see better results with switching back."

"I'd like science to make that determination," Mr. Wyant said of the need to change water supplies. "It's our sense that corrosion controls are going to be needed in either case."

In addition to assistance on the ground, the state launched a website, { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater" \t "blank" }, with information about the state plan and other efforts to address the water issue.

House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

While it is still believed a long shot for former Rep. Cindy Gamrat to come out of the House 80th District special election primary, the possibility is still there with an eight-person field.

But Ms. Gamrat faces tough competition with Allegan County Commissioner { HYPERLINK "http://www.storeyforallegan.com/" \t "blank" } and Allegan County GOP Vice Chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.votemarywhiteford.com/" \t "blank" } who are seen as frontrunners.

Mr. Storey of Holland appears to have the momentum one his side, at least this week, as he received an endorsement from former Governor John Engler. He also has the endorsement of former Rep. Bob Genetski and former Rep. Fulton Sheen.

The primary special election is November 3. The election comes after Ms. Gamrat of Plainwell was expelled from the House after participating in an extramarital affair with former Rep. Todd Courser and then being found through an internal investigation to have misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gains.

Mr. Sheen said voters in the district are looking for someone who has experience, and Mr. Storey has that in both the public and private sector.

"He's a known commodity," Mr. Sheen told Gongwer News Service Friday.

But he said Ms. Whiteford of Allegan is very much in the race as well, and is leading the field in signs around the district.

One issue with Ms. Whiteford, Mr. Sheen said, is her background is very similar to Ms. Gamrat's. He said they both tout their backgrounds as moms and nurses.

But Ms. Whiteford said that was an issue during the last campaign as well, and is not new to her. She said she tried to focus on her success as an emergency pediatric nurse. Ms. Whiteford noted she is not even sure where or how long Ms. Gamrat actually worked as a nurse.

Another factor for Ms. Gamrat, Jason Watts - who is also involved with the local party - said is that former Allegan County Commissioner Bill Sage, who has the endorsement of Republican National committeeman Dave Agema, will take some votes from the Gamrat camp.

Mr. Watts said he is not aware of Mr. Agema physically helping Mr. Sage in the district. Mr. Sage was also a part of a lawsuit the pair brought against Allegan County schools and the city after they brought a person into a school to talk about the "dangers" of Islam, but were shut down after law enforcement discovered the person may have had a $25 million bounty on their head. The case was dismissed earlier this year.

Mr. Watts also said Democrats in the district may be attempting to get Ms. Gamrat through the primary so their sole candidate, David Gernant, has a chance in the general.

Ms. Gamrat said she was not sure how re-connecting with the voters would go for her after the "negative media" during the last six weeks, but she said it has been going well.

"A lot of people have said my personal life is none of their business and that what Lansing did was wrong," she said.

So far, the candidates said there has not been any mail. But all three candidates interviewed Friday said they will begin issuing mailers soon. Mr. Sheen said the Allegan County Tea Party sent out emails including a Ms. Gamrat piece with a photo of her looking angry and criticizing those in Lansing for expelling her.

There have been phone surveys and messages. Ms. Whiteford said she sent a message last night but has also heard two others without disclaimers.

Ms. Gamrat said there was one telephone push poll that was negative against her, and did not include a disclaimer.

Ms. Whiteford said she is focusing on herself and is not going to go negative against Ms. Gamrat.

Mr. Storey and Ms. Whiteford said they have been knocking on doors and attending several meetings.

Mr. Storey said voters are upset they even have to participate in the special election.

"They are not happy that we face this," he said. "But they are also not at all interested in anything other than sending someone who can restore respect for this county to Lansing."

Ms. Whiteford agreed, saying voters are concerned about having good representation in Lansing.

Ms. Whiteford said if elected, her priority is to create relationships and vote conservatively.

"My priorities are to build relationships and vote conservatively for the people of this county," she said. "And take advantage of being in the majority Republican caucus. I really want to bring a voice for our farmers and out educators."

Ms. Gamrat was kicked out of caucus four months into her term.

Ms. Gamrat said she believes people are underestimating voters in the district and their frustration with Lansing politicians, who passed the state's largest budget but still are exploring a tax increase to pay for roads.

"One of the things voters ask all the time, they say why do they flip, why do people say one thing while they are campaigning and they get into office and they do something else/" she said. "I have a strong record that shows I will stand for the issues against increasing taxes and stand for limited government, for life and for the second amendment."

Mr. Storey said his priorities would include reducing the size of government and fulfilling special projects for Allegan County.

"First of all my priority will be ... to restore respect for Allegan County and value for our voice," he said. "To build the kind of coalitions that is necessary to get anything done."

19-Year MPSERS Error Results In $112M Refund To Seven Universities

The recent discovery of an error in how the state calculated payments to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System from seven universities prompted a $112 million refund to those schools.

The state's Office of Retirement Services was in the middle of a review of a new accounting standard to assist the seven universities gradually phasing out of the MPSERS system when staff realized MPSERS had overcharged the universities going back to 1996, said Caleb Buhs, spokesperson for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

Seven universities began to phase out of MPSERS starting in 1997 and received a refund September 30: Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Ferris State, Lake Superior State, Michigan Technological, Northern Michigan and Western Michigan.

As part of the phase-out - in which new employees were not put into MPSERS - the state allowed the institutions to spread their full retirement liabilities across all employees but made a miscalculation in the process, Mr. Buhs said.

So difficult to detect was the mistake that multiple regular independent audits and peer reviews never discovered it, Mr. Buhs said.

As soon as Office of Retirement Services staff discovered the error, they alerted their superiors who advised universities of the situation, Mr. Buhs said.

The $112 million is equal to just 0.25 percent of total MPSERS assets, he said, and so the refund would have no effect on the system's stability.

Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

While a plurality of voters favor ending Michigan's prevailing wage statute, it may not be enough support to prevent voters from blocking its repeal should it go to an election, a poll released Friday showed.

The poll, from Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group, showed that 49 percent of those asked supported repeal of the act, while 39 percent opposed it. Another 5 percent had no opinion and 11 percent did not know.

The results come from a poll done of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points. The poll was conducted from September 9 to September 14.

The issue of voter support may be moot if the Legislature approves an initiated act outlawing prevailing wage. Repeal supporters have turned in petitions signatures, which are still be reviewed by the state's elections officials.

If the Legislature does not approve the initiated act, then it would go before the voters in the 2016 election.

Perhaps one of the most surprising findings in the poll was that respondents who identified themselves as part of a union household were relatively split on the issue. While 43 percent were opposed, a surprising 39 percent were in favor of repeal.

Overall, those identifying as Republicans were strongest in support for repeal, with 60 percent in favor of ending the law. Democrats and ticket-splitting individuals were strongest against, with 53 percent against repeal.

And non-union households split dead-on, with 47 percent both supporting repeal and opposing repeal.

Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

The House Insurance Committee will take up legislation designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, and unsurprisingly, the Michigan Association of Health Plans said it is supporting the bills.

The lead sponsor of the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501" }

) is { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" } (R-DeWitt Township), who said last week the association met with him on the concept and suggested the legislation.

The committee is meeting on the legislation, also sponsored by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601&locid=1" } (D-Westland) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" } (R-Potterville).

The association said the package of bills is the first major update of state health insurance laws in more than 20 years. Over that time, insurance policies, consumers' needs and the insurance marketplace has changed dramatically. This package seeks to keep state laws strong, including those protecting consumers, while recognizing those changes in state and federal law.

"The health insurance industry is rapidly changing, and it is vital that state laws recognize those changes to allow companies to meet the needs of consumers," said Rick Murdock, executive director of the association, which represents virtually all state health insurance companies. "After discussions with Rep. Leonard, state regulators and consumer organizations, we believe this package addresses key issues while ensuring the state maintains strong solvency and consumer protection policies."

The bills, according to the association, would:

- Update the insurance code to give health insurers the ability and greater flexibility to develop new products in response to market demands;

- Streamline sections of the law that regulates health maintenance organizations to reflect changes in state and federal policies that now apply to all insurers;

- Clean up the code by eliminating duplication and outdated sections. For instance, Chapter 36, originally intended to regulate group disability policies, is now duplicated by Chapter 34, which originally regulated individual policies but has been amended over the years to include group insurers and HMOs. It also clarifies that several insurance mandates currently in law only apply to health insurance, and not to auto, life, or property and casualty insurers;

- Modernize the law to recognize electronic means of communications. For instance, it will allow insurance sales through websites without use of an insurance agent, while setting strong consumer protection standards to allow delivery of notices and forms to insureds and enrollees by electronic means if consumers desire;

- Recognize that virtually all insurers today are required to provide services that used to be provided mostly by HMOs, eliminating most special requirements on HMOs.

- Reduce regulatory requirements by streamlining the readability scoring process conducted by state regulators in certain cases where products are similar;

- Add language that addresses situations where policyholders sign up for coverage, use coverage, but never pay the premium;

- Revise the Code to conform to federal law prohibiting pre-existing condition exclusions and follow federal law for processing grievances, simplifying compliance for consumers and insurers; and

- Update the Patient's Right to Independent Review Act to enable Michigan to maintain its own external review process, rather than defaulting to the federal process.

Senate Legislation Seeks To Expand Promise Zones

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } and at least 12 other senators from both sides of the aisle have introduced legislation to expand promise zones and make some technical amendments for the Department of Treasury to better manage the program.

The bills, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001" }, consolidate current statute related to the program first created under former Governor Jennifer Granholm and inspired by the Kalamazoo Promise, which allows high school graduates from Kalamazoo Public Schools to attend certain universities or community colleges tuition-free within 10 years of graduation.

The main goal, Mr. Hansen's (R-Hart) legislative assistant Anna Mooney said, is to "continue to improve access to higher education for students across the state." The bills are already slated to have a committee hearing next Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee chaired by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" } (R-Frankenmuth).

Mr. Hansen is the lead sponsor on SB 539, which contains the major components of the package. It allows a governing body, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the public, to declare its intent to establish a promise zone by resolution. That body must then set a date for a public hearing on the adoption of a proposed resolution at least 20 days and not more than 40 days before the date of a hearing, which also must be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation, the bill reads.

At least 15 days after the public hearing, if a governing body intends to proceed with the creation of a promise zone, it must submit an application to the Department of Treasury, which will

review the application and determine if the area is eligible to participate. If it is, SB 539 requires Treasury to certify the eligibility to establish a promise zone.

There were 10 promise zones created during the Granholm administration, but the Jackson Promise Zone recently dissolved and the Muskegon Promise Zone is still under development. Under the bill, 15 governing bodies of eligible entities may be established as promise zones.

"It would be expanding the number ... but also to make technical changes on how it's administered from Treasury's end," Ms. Mooney said.

She said Mr. Hansen and his staff have been working very closely with Treasury on the issue and there are no known issues at this time. They are hopeful that the bills will move quickly through the Legislature, but that of course remains to be seen.

"Some of the changes that are needed in this bill will allow for some Promise Zones to get off the ground," she said. "We believe the timing is pretty essential for some of these zones."

A promise zone is required to fundraise privately for the first two years to distribute scholarships. After that time, if it can raise enough money to show a valid public interest in the program (and thus be sustainable), the zone is able to capture half of the growth in the state education tax as determined by the formula outlined in the bill.

Mr. Hansen's bill also gives local school districts the option to not participate in the resolution set forth by promise zone governing body and lays out a process for dissolution of a promise zone by a governing body.

Cities, townships, counties, local school districts or intermediate school districts not eligible by state standards may also still create a promise zone under Mr. Hansen's bill, but would not be able to capture revenue from the state education tax.

The bill creates some reporting requirements for Treasury to assess how well the program is working. Under the bill, the report is due no later than February 15 of each year and must include:

- The number of students who received financial assistance pursuant to the approved Promise Zone Development Plan during the prior calendar year;
- Of those students, the number who successfully completed a certificate or associate program, a bachelor's program, or a postgraduate or professional program;
- The number who withdrew from classes during the prior calendar year;
- The number of students who initially reached successful completion of more than the equivalent of 223 semester credits during the prior calendar year and the average time that took; and

- The graduation rate for students who first received financial assistance during each of the six prior calendar years.

The other bill in the package, SB 540, sponsored by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint), amends a section of the State Education Tax Act to align it with the other bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } (R-Sheridan), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), Sent. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing0, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek), Sen. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) are listed co-sponsors for both bills.

Court Rejects City's Action To Change Retiree Insurance

Harper Woods could not simply change retiree health care benefits that were established contractually, the Court of Appeals ruled Friday.

In sending the case, *Harper Woods Retirees Association v. Harper Woods* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001_C318450_61_318450.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }), back to the trial court, however, the appeals panel also said the retirees will have to show they have a vested interest in the health care benefits that would extend beyond the limit of any contract.

In an effort to cut costs, Harper Woods notified retirees that it was changing its health care benefits plan to one that would impose larger deductibles and co-pays than the plan the retirees were using and had been included in their contract.

The retirees formed an association and sued, but the trial court found for the city.

Judge Michael Gadola, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76401&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" }, held the city could not simply change the terms of the contract because it could save money.

The first principle of changing a contract is that a change be mutually agreed to, the court said. And even though the proposals to change the contract could appear reasonable, that is an invalid reason to unilaterally change a contract.

The court also rejected the argument that a 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling allowing a community to change a contract was a governing ruling. State courts do not have to abide with the findings of U.S. courts that are lower than the Supreme Court, the appeals panel said.

Court Throws Out Gag Order In Wayne County Jail Case

A gag order blocking anyone who might be involved in a trial involving the failed Wayne County Jail was thrown out by the Court of Appeals, which called the order overbroad, vague and constituting a prior restraint of the press and free speech.

The decision reversed the Wayne Circuit Court, in *People v. Sledge* and *People v. Collins* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001_C324680_79_324680.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

The case revolves around the decision to halt construction of a new jail after only about a quarter of the structure was built and was running more than $100 million over budget.

Carla Sledge was the county's former financial director and Steven Collins was the county's assistant corporation counsel, and both were indicted of two common law offences and two counts of willful neglect of duty.

The trial judge ordered proceedings in the case sealed, and further ordered that no one involved in the upcoming trial speak to reporters.

The Detroit Free Press protested and filed an action, arguing the orders were a violation of the constitutional right of freedom of speech. Following a hearing, the judge unsealed the proceedings but kept the gag order in place.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" }, joined by Judge Michael Gadola and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=190101&locid=1" }, held the gag order was an unconstitutional prior restraint on the freedom of the press.

In addition, it was unclear in its writing as to who might be considered a person participating in the trial, the appellate judges said. There are times when gag orders are permitted, the court held, but in this case the trial judge failed to meet the strict standards that would permit such an order.

Capital Notebook

WILDLIFE GRANTS: The Department of Natural Resources this week awarded $910,000 in grants for habitat improvement projects around the state.

The largest of the grants was $99,400 to the Michigan United Conservation Clubs for projects across the Lower Peninsula, followed by $81,095 for projects in Crawford and Oscoda counties.

The grants are funded with hunting and fishing license revenue.

CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION: Following adoption of new certificate of need standards, the Department of Health and Human Services has designated Accreditation for Cardiovascular Excellence and Corazon, Incorporated as the two accrediting bodies for cardiac catheterization services in the state.

ACTIVE SHOOTER: With the recent spate of mass shootings around the country, the Michigan Occupational Health and Safety Administration is participating in an active shooter training seminar hosted by the Delta College School of Criminal Justice.

"This training will focus on helping organizations develop strategies for effective crisis management to prepare for, manage, and recover from the aftermath of workplace violence, traumatic accidents, fatalities and workplace emergencies," the agency said in an email announcing the free training.

Those interested can register by contacting Dawn Jurik at (989) 686-9176 or { HYPERLINK "mailto:dawnjurik@delta.edu" \t "blank" }.

Appointments By The Governor

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION: State Police { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303901&locid=1" } of Brighton succeeds David Andrews to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Heidi Magyar of Laingsburg succeeds LaMont Campbell to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Michelle Rabideau of Grand Rapids succeeds Janet Lawson to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; and Julie Calley of Portland, Robert Collier of Grand Rapids, Bob Kolt of Haslett, David Price of Lansing and John Truscott of Okemos are reappointed.

All of the appointments expire October 1, 2018 and are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Shirley Stancato of Detroit succeeds Roy Roberts, who resigned, for a term expiring August 8, 2017, and Mike Morris of Northville is reappointed for a term expiring August 8, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

MICHIGAN AUTISM COUNCIL: Jeff DeLay of Davison succeeds Scott Gilman to represent Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans and Community Mental Health Services Programs and Diane Heinzelman of Petoskey, Anthony Ianni of Novi and Amy Matthews of Grand Haven are reappointed, all for terms expiring September 30, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Jason Gold of Ypsilanti and Beverly Burns of Detroit are reappointed for terms expiring July 22, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES: Karen McPhee of Lowell, senior education policy advisor to the governor; State Board of Education member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor); and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1" } of Okemos are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

MIDWEST HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT: Steven Ender of Grand Rapids, Ms. McPhee and Mr. Whiston are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION: Pamela Jarvis of Hastings succeeds Dennis Schornack, who resigned, for a term expiring November 15, 2016, and David Doyle of Okemos is reappointed for a term expiring November 15, 2018. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, October 6

Veterans Trust Fund Board of Trustees, Veterans Trust Fund Central Office, Fifth Floor, 222 North Washington Square, Lansing, 10:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/MVTF_Agenda_2014_451554_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Thursday, October 8

Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Committee, Clark Township Community Center, 133 East M-134, Cedarville, 6:30 p.m. (Following Natural Resources Commission; { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/EUPCAC_2015_October_8_Agenda_501422_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, October 6

Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute's Mobile Training Unit Event, Capitol Building exterior, Lansing, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, October 10

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R) Fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

Monday, October 19

82nd House District Candidate Jake Davison (R) Fundraiser, Cavelli's, 44 West Park Street, Lapeer, 5:30 p.m.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 8:59 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 5, 2015

News

Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal (Associated Press, 10/3/2015)

Prevailing wage law: Backers ask for public vote on repeal (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/3/2015)

Only two cases remain in more than dozen filed over new bridge to Canada (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/4/2015)

Bill Schuette on race for reelection (Detroit Free Press, 10/5/2015)

Bills target property tax cuts for 'big box' stores (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

Candidates for Courser seat gather for forum (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

Michigan Legislature: Bills on helmets, puppy mills, more (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette to unveil new book, share 'Big Lessons from a Small Town' (MLive, 10/5/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Vice presidential speculation begins for Gov. Rick Snyder (MLive, 10/5/2015)

Courser, opponents debate gun control at forum (The Detroit News, 10/3/2015)

Former aides sue ex-Reps. Gamrat, Courser (The Detroit News, 10/2/2015)

Jeb Bush plans return to Michigan for fundraiser (The Detroit News, 10/2/2015)

Editorials

Avoiding tap water has become a way of life in Flint (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

For Flint, vindication -- for Snyder, more questions (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

The case against term limits in the Michigan Legislature (Detroit Free Press, 10/4/2015)

Help Michigan schools and economy: Expand -- don't end -- electricity choice (Midland Daily News, 10/4/2015)

Ken Braun: Proposed laws would bring sensible speed limits and phantom student funding (MLive, 10/4/2015)

Rick Haglund: Gov. Snyder working hard to build future trade relationships (MLive, 10/4/2015)

Feds: Proposed pipeline rules could have prevented Michigan and other spills (Petoskey News-Review, 10/2/2015)

Drews and Johnson: Lobbying gone awry in Lansing (The Detroit News, 10/5/2015)

Editorial: Finish rape kit tests statewide (The Detroit News, 10/5/2015)

Blogs

Amash Gets A Nod From Conservative Publication (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/2/2015)

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Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 8:44 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 6, 2015

News

Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal (Associated Press, 10/3/2015)

Stepped-up drunken driving patrols lead to 100s of arrests (Associated Press, 10/6/2015)

Senators urge NASA to continue monitoring Lake Erie (Detroit Free Press, 10/6/2015)

Advocates call for Michigan gun control (Lansing State Journal, 10/6/2015)

Sorting out accountability in Flint water issues is "relatively complex" (Michigan Radio, 10/6/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette takes a tip from Taylor Swift in releasing book of life lessons (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Roads deal 'close,' says Michigan House Speaker, with plan 'on pace' to hit floor in October (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Snyder talks job creation, STEM and auto careers at Michigan Works conference (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Ted Cruz in Michigan: 'Nothing short of crazy' to take in Syrian Muslim refugees (MLive, 10/6/2015)

State plans Flint water filter giveaway Tuesday (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Editorials

John Bizon: Biologic medications offer great promise (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/6/2015)

Try again, try harder to get FCA deal for UAW (Detroit Free Press, 10/6/2015)

Judy Putnam: Doctors trump insurance in new model (Lansing State Journal, 10/6/2015)

McBroom: Courser, Gamrat expulsions warranted (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Moore: Anti-sanctuary bill wrong for Detroit (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Our Editorial: Toughen proposed forfeiture reforms (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Rep. Forlini: 'Michigan penalty' harms taxpayers (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Blogs

Dantonio's Forward For Schuette Book Irks Some Democratic Spartans (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/5/2015)

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 7:40 PM
To: Antczak, Jason (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Wednesday, October 7, 2015
Attachments: Oct7.htm; Oct7House.htm; Oct7Senate.htm; 151007dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 7, 2015

House OKs Medical Marijuana Shops, Edibles

Forfeiture Changes Clear Senate

Senate Panel Reports Retired Teacher Legislation

Advisory Committee Recommends Returning Flint To Detroit Water

House Appropriations Considers Regulating Large-Scale Dog Breeders

Natural Resources Gets Back To Aquatic Invasive Species

State Pays DeBoer, Rowse Attorneys $1.9M

Commission Urges Cautious Reaction To Sentencing Guidelines Ruling

Committee Continues Discussion On Safety Flag For Towing Watercraft

PSC Opens Natural Gas Safety Inquiry

Johnson Announces Funds Double Prior Candidates

Former Rep. Dingell To Remain In Hospital For A Little Longer

Court Orders Hearings On Village Military Bias Question

Revenue Bulletin Defines Total Household Income, Refers To Same-Sex Couples

Capital Notebook: State Has Spent $4M On Advertising Healthy Michigan

Capitol Jobs Marketplace Updated

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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Volume #54, Report #199 -- Wednesday, October 7, 2015

House OKs Medical Marijuana Shops, Edibles

Medical marijuana patients would pay a 9 percent tax on the drug, but would be allowed to purchase it from a licensed dispensary and be permitted to use topical or edible forms of the drug legally under bills approved by the House Wednesday.

The bills, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB420901" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421001" }, cleared the House with huge margins, 95-11 and 96-10, respectively, after months of negotiations.

HB 4209 outlines an entirely new regulatory structure that includes five different types of licenses for growers, processors, testing labs, secure transporters and dispensaries. Local communities would have to pass their own ordinances allowing provisioning centers.

Local governments would get a portion of the revenue from the taxes and be allowed to set up an annual licensing fee. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will also set a licensing fee.

The bill would set a 3 percent excise tax on the provisioning center's profits along with the 6 percent sales tax patients would pay at point of sale.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" } (R-Nashville) said he is confident the Senate will act on the legislation, as the workgroup negotiating the bills has included law enforcement since the beginning of this term. Mr. Callton said law enforcement opposition is what killed the bill in the final days of lame duck last term.

"They were more cooperative to come in because of the real possibility of legalization. They saw it happen in Colorado; they saw it happen in Washington; and they started saying, 'It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when,'" he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said he expects to take up and report the legislation. But he said he did not support reducing the excise tax to 3 percent from 8 percent.

"I think that was a mistake and we'll revisit that ... because there has to be enough money to make everything work right," he said. "I'm going to make sure that Michigan State Police, the sheriffs and the prosecutors are on board, so I may have to tighten it up a little bit, but I do anticipate passing the bills."

Mr. Callton said legislative Democrats wanted to see the tax reduced. He said the fee to get a medical marijuana card has produced excess revenue for the state and he believes the tax would "more than" pay for the regulations.

Under the bill, the excise tax would disappear if medical marijuana is legalized. Mr. Callton said if the drug is legalized in the state, he would like to see medical marijuana go tax free.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), who did not support the 8 percent excise tax, voted yes on the bills Wednesday. He said they were imperfect, but workable.

The legislation stipulates LARA would be tasked with promulgating rules to implement and enforce the act. The department would also set certain standards, including the minimum levels of insurance operators must carry and testing, qualifications and limits for those who operate facilities.

The bill also would regulate quality, chain of custody, chemical storage, transport and storage. A five-member board would also be created to deal with licensing.

HB 4209 would restrict marketing geared toward minors and, under an amendment approved Wednesday, would bar edible marijuana products from taking a shape that would be attractive to minors.

HB 4210 would allow use of non-smokeable forms of the drug, but would prohibit butane extraction in a residential area.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), sponsor of the bill, said the package is not about whether someone is for or against marijuana or even medical marijuana. She said it is about getting the most effective form of treatment to patients, especially children and elderly who likely cannot smoke.

"This is not a criminal justice issue, this is a health issue, and even more it's a moral issue," she said on the House floor. "Put yourself in these peoples' place. What would you do if it was your child?"

The third and final bill in the package, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482701" } , which passed 99-7, would create a seed-to-sale tracking system.

The Michigan Cannabis Development Association praised the passage of the legislation, calling it a historic step toward protecting patients and providing a clear framework for businesses.

"Michigan businesses committed to serving our patients and upholding the highest standards applaud the House for ending seven years of chaos and confusion that have affected patients, caregivers, local communities and law enforcement," Willie Rochon, MCDA secretary, said in a statement. "Michigan is now in position to have one of the strongest, most responsible medical

marijuana frameworks in the nation that will promote accountability, transparency and safety. Once signed into law, these safeguards will provide tremendous relief and certainty to patients while eliminating the bad actors who put people and communities at risk."

Mr. Callton said he has been working on the issue for four and a half years and feels good about its passage.

"It's a step toward acceptance of medical marijuana for certain classes of patients," he said.

Mr. Callton also noted the issue has brought both libertarians and liberals together. He said those who have committed against new taxes voted yes on the medical marijuana legislation, including the tax. He said Democrats lobbied for a decrease in the excise tax.

"We saw a lot of things flipped on their head here," he said.

Forfeiture Changes Clear Senate

The Senate unanimously on Wednesday passed a package of bills overhauling how law enforcement uses civil asset forfeiture support.

The forfeiture legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB449901" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450001" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450301" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450401" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450501" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450701" }) was last taken up at the end of August in the Senate Judiciary Committee (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541630103" }) but saw few changes.

The bills impose reporting requirements on law enforcement agencies for all forfeitures to increase transparency and raise the evidentiary standard for drug forfeiture and public nuisances from the current "preponderance of evidence" to "clear and convincing."

Holly Harris, executive director for Fix Forfeiture - a coalition that includes the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and Americans for Tax Reform, among others - applauded the passage of the legislation that will now head to { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his signature.

"It is said that sunshine is the best disinfectant and today the Michigan Senate put a bright light on their state's civil asset forfeiture procedure, which will go a long way in protecting innocent property owners," she said in a statement. "Now the state will have a uniform reporting system, bringing transparency and ultimately fairness to the process."

And Jason Pye, director of justice reform at FreedomWorks and partner with Fix Forfeiture, said in a statement that the package was "grounded in common sense."

"The reforms will offer significant protections to innocent property owners from government overreach and bring much-needed transparency to the process," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of Judiciary, said he will continue to work on the issue as supporters say more reforms need to be made to asset forfeiture laws. And he defended law enforcement, which came under heavy criticism for abusing the civil asset forfeiture process.

"I think if they're given adequate direction, they will do their job appropriately," he said.

Mr. Jones also brushed off criticism that the police just have a profit motive.

"It's always easy to throw rocks at law enforcement. You could say they're writing too many tickets because there's a profit motive," Mr. Jones said. "I think for the most part, the average police officer or sheriff deputy wants to go out and do their job to the best of their ability, and they're not in it for profit."

MCOLES: The chamber also passed a package of bills codifying the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES), and prescribed the powers and duties of that commission.

All the bills in the package ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9201" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9301" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9401" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9501" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9601" }) saw unanimous approval.

The bills put into statute MCOLES, created long ago under a governor's executive order, and update and consolidate various statutes and executive orders currently governing their operation.

"The commission ... is responsible for setting professional standards for law enforcement officers, creating curriculum for law enforcement training, licensing law enforcement officers and administering the Justice Training Fund and training to locals fund," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), the primary sponsor of the package, said on the Senate floor. "Perhaps now more than ever, it is important to ensure that our law enforcement officers are held to the highest standards and that they are qualified for the important work they do."

She also said the legislation would clearly define which individuals with law enforcement authority are licensed and regulated by MCOLES, and it also gives the commission the ability to "hold officers accountable when they violate the public trust."

Senate Panel Reports Retired Teacher Legislation

After some initial hesitation about allowing retired teachers with a background in subjects that have a critical teacher shortage to serve as substitutes, the bill cleared the committee with unanimous support and an S-5 substitute.

The substitute to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB405901" } would re-enact, until July 1, 2018, expired provisions that allowed a public school retiree to work in an area identified as a critical shortage discipline as a substitute teacher, instructional coach or school improvement facilitator without losing his or her pension. Until that time, the reporting unit in a critical shortage area at which a retiree was hired would be required to pay 100 percent of the contribute rates for unfunded actuarial accrued liability for retiree health care and pension for that employment.

In order to be hired back, a person would have to have retired between June 30, 2010, and September 1, 2015. A retired individual (as of after June 30, 2010) who was rehired back and met certain conditions would have to forfeit his or her pension and health care benefits for the entire month in which he or she was re-employed by a reporting unit.

And the Department of Education must post a listing of critical shortage disciplines on its website.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy) raised some concern as to why an individual who retired would go back to work, namely on a full-time basis, but a teacher from Saginaw ISD said if there was a need to service multiple schools for one discipline, especially during a time of shrinking budgets for schools, that might be a district's only option.

The S-5 substitute was adopted with unanimous approval, and the bill was reported similarly.

INTERIM CERTIFICATIONS: Without any discussion, the committee also reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB49101" }

(the S-2 version it had adopted at previous meeting), which allows the board of a school district or ISD to hire a non-certificated, non-endorsed teacher to teach a course in writing, journalism or health sciences, or a course in a discipline designated as a critical shortage discipline.

More specifically, an individual's service as a full-time instructor in a field of specialization at the college level would be considered occupation experience in that field of specialization.

The bill also requires an alternative teaching program, for an interim teaching certificate, to include training in classroom management, and it eliminates the grade point average requirement for those holding a master's or doctorate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in order to receive an interim teaching certificate.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights) registered the sole vote in opposition of the bill.

HIGH SCHOOL ECONOMICS: The committee also discussed but did not report a bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001" }) that would allow the half-credit economics requirement for a high school diploma to be satisfied by completion of a one-half credit course in personal economics.

"What I'm seeking to do is not only bring greater awareness for financial literacy, but also to allow more flexibility for our students," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston), sponsor of HB 4390.

Several members of the committee expressed an interest in making such a course a requirement rather than an elective, but Mr. Tedder greeted that idea with caution.

"I think it's critical we allow flexibility," he noted.

ONLINE PROTECTION: The committee also began taking testimony on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001" }, which would create the Student Online Personal Protection Act to establish certain prohibitions and requirements that would apply to an operator of an Internet website, online service, online application or mobile application with actual knowledge that the site, service or application is used primarily for K-12 purposes.

Such an "operator" would be prohibited from knowingly engaging in certain targeted advertising, using information gathered by the operator to amass a student profile or selling a student's information. They would also be prohibited from knowingly disclosing covered information - or personally identifiable information or material in any media format - unless the disclosure was made for certain purposes.

"My intent is to be able to protect the kids in our educational system. We're gathering more and more data on our kids and I don't think the opportunity to sell this data should be possible," {

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), the committee chair and sponsor of the bill, said. "We need to make sure this doesn't go too far and become an enterprise."

Advisory Committee Recommends Returning Flint To Detroit Water

An advisory committee reviewing the water situation in Flint has recommended that the city return to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department as part of an effort to resolve lead and other contamination issues in the city.

In a tweet, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said he would make an announcement regarding the Flint water system although he did not offer any detail as to the details of that announcement.

The city moved to taking water from the Flint River last year in an effort to cut costs, but residents initially complained about taste and clarity and recent tests have shown increased blood lead levels in some areas of the city.

"Reconnecting to the Detroit water system is the right next step if it restores confidence among Flint residents about the quality of drinking water. The lead levels reported in Flint's water are unacceptable and Flint residents deserve access to safe water," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1" } (D-Flint), a key proponent of returning to Detroit water, said in a statement.

"However, reconnecting to Detroit does not entirely solve the problem," Mr. Kildee said. "The state's previous decision to go to the Flint River source, and the corrosive nature of its water, could have already done permanent damage to the city's water distribution system. Flint's infrastructure, already aging and in need of repair, very well likely needs major investments."

Mr. Walling said last week that returning to Detroit water was on the table as an option, but, given the $1 million monthly price tag, would likely require state assistance (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541960101" }).

Mr. Snyder at the time committed to a one-time $1 million grant, but not to any long-term assistance on the issue.

Michigan Radio quoted members of the advisory panel saying the switch back would take at least two weeks to complete.

House Appropriations Considers Regulating Large-Scale Dog Breeders

Large-scale dog breeding kennels with 15 intact female dogs used for breeding would be regulated in the state under a bill in the House Appropriations Committee, but members were concerned the $25 fee in the legislation was not high enough and that breeders would not register with the state.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB489801" } , large-scale breeders would be required to register with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and pay a $25 fee. However, James Averill, state veterinarian, said the fee is not enough for the department to do inspections.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1" } (R-Bloomfield Hills), sponsor of the bill, said the bill is essentially a consumer protection measure. He said people buy puppies, with cash, for hundreds or thousands of dollars and won't find out until later if there are genetic defects.

"You only have to set one foot in those facilities and you know it's wrong," he said. "There's no gray area that gets in the way of our action. What's happening in those places is disgusting, unethical and inhumane. It has to stop."

The idea is to eventually inspect the facilities, so members wanted to see the fee at least cover that service. Under the current bill, inspections would be complaint-based rather than annual.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), chair of the committee, noted that passing legislation to increase a fee is usually difficult.

He also said in a statement released later that the existence of "puppy mills" is a result of public demand for good family pets, but a lack of oversight and regulation only exacerbates existing problems with overpopulation and conditions for those animals who are not adopted into a loving home.

"We need to think of unadopted or otherwise homeless dogs, cats, or other domestic animals from the perspective of their potential to be a pet in our homes," he said. "The difference between the ones on the streets and the ones in these mills isn't a big one, and the one thing they definitely both have in common is that they're better off in a loving family than in conditions like these. We have a moral imperative to act."

Vicki Deisner, legislative director for the Midwest region with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the fee in Ohio is $100.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" } (R-Clayton) said the Legislature had to increase fees for the Agriculture department this budget year because the fees were not covering the services from the department.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said he thinks the large breeders would simply not register with the state.

The bill does not have an incentive to register with the state, but there is a $1,000 fee per violation for those are caught not registering, Mr. Averill said.

Currently, the department is neutral on the bill, but those with the department said they are confident they can get to a position of support.

The bill would also require a breeder to wait until a puppy is eight weeks old before adopting it out, or it would be required to adopt it out with the mother. The bill also limits each facility to 50 intact females.

Ms. Deisner said 30 other states regulate large-scale breeders. She said when neighboring states pass large-scale breeding regulations, some breeders who do not want to comply will move to states without the regulations.

"With Michigan now surrounded by states with regulations, you could see an influx of breeders from Ohio and other Midwest states who want to operate without oversight," she said.

She said dogs from large-scale breeders, like one in Lake City, have a variety of problems including behavioral and health issues. At the breeders found and shut down in Lake City, the dogs lived in poor environmental conditions and did not have food or clean water, she said.

The committee did not act on the bill, but will bring it up again next week.

Natural Resources Gets Back To Aquatic Invasive Species

A local government would be able to adopt an ordinance to prevent, control or eradicate aquatic invasive species in waters within the its boundaries and impose fees if an aquatic invasive species were present in the waters under legislation discussion by the Senate Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday.

The fees collected - which could be for invasive species prevention, control or eradication; using a boat launch or boat washing station; or parking a motor vehicle and trailer used to haul a boat - would be required to be deposited in a restricted fund for expenditure on aquatic invasive species prevention, control and eradication.

And while most who testified on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10401" } were supportive of its provisions, the Department of Natural Resources took no position on the bill as written, stating that while it can appreciate the intent behind the bill, it does not want to discourage boaters from using any of Michigan's numerous inland lakes.

The ordinance could not impose fees totaling more than $10 per boat per day or $45 per boat per year, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of the bill states. And the ordinance would have to exempt a pesticide applicator, lake management consultant, or other person engaged in aquatic invasive species management activities from payment of a fee, as well as a government entity or a nonprofit organization.

The DNR also had questions about how the bill would be enforced if it did in fact become law.

But members of the Michigan Waterfront Alliance and the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association said something needs to happen sooner rather than later.

"We've been concerned about the members of Michigan living around the lakes having to bear the brunt of the invasive species war," said Bob Frye, president of the group. "It's very challenging when you have a number of public launch sites at our different lakes and the public contributing to the problem, but the public not given a chance to confront the problem."

Questions arose over how much of a fee would be appropriate and in what manner but to no consensus.

The Michigan Townships Association, Michigan Association of Counties and Michigan Municipal League were among supporters of the bill, as was the Michigan Environmental Council (though the latter said more needed to be done to figure out how to get more funds to the table to address the issue overall).

The committee did not report the bill.

LIQUID INDUSTRIAL BY-PRODUCT: The committee did, however, report three bills related to changing liquid industrial by-product laws to bring them up to speed with federal laws. S-1 substitutes making mostly technical changes were adopted to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40001" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40101" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40201" }.

The bills would refer to what is now liquid industrial waste instead as liquid industrial by-product instead, and exclude from the classification of such a material that is used or reused as an ingredient to make a product and meets certain criteria otherwise.

The bills also eliminate a requirement that a generator of liquid industrial by-product use a site identification number when necessary for transportation and pay the Department of Environmental Quality a $50 fee for deposit into the Environmental Pollution Prevention Fund for each number the generator uses.

SB 400, specifically, also allows required records and documents to be maintained in an electronic format and allows a transporter to dispose of septage waste or liquid industrial by-product on land if authorized by the DEQ.

The department, at the last committee hearing, was in support of the legislation, and the bills were reported Wednesday with unanimous approval.

State Pays DeBoer, Rowse Attorneys $1.9M

The price of the state of Michigan's defense of its now nullified prohibition on same-sex marriage is $1.9 million.

On Wednesday, the state completed payment to the attorneys for April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, the lesbian couple from Hazel Park who challenged the state's limitation of marriage to couples of the opposite sex. The U.S. Supreme Court, ruling on their case and others, struck down such laws and held that gay couples have the right to marry.

The attorneys had filed during the summer for $1.9 million in attorneys fees. On Wednesday, both the plaintiffs' attorneys and the Department of Attorney General agreed to stipulate in the U.S. District Court that they had agreed to dismiss the motion on attorneys fees.

Carole Stanyar, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys in the case, said the total cost of the case was between $2 million to $3 million. They did not bill the state for costs and some attorneys fees. Donors picked up the rest.

Andrea Bitely, spokesperson for the Department of Attorney General, said the department had no comment on resolution of the legal fees matter.

Supporters of allowing same-sex couples to marry had heavily criticized { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } for deciding to defend the state's limitation on marriage in court. Officials in other states decided not to defend their bans.

Commission Urges Cautious Reaction To Sentencing Guidelines Ruling

The Criminal Justice Policy Commission will study the effects of a recent Supreme Court ruling that makes statutory sentencing guidelines advisory to trial judges, but it urged the Legislature to avoid, at least for now, trying to correct the ruling.

But the commission also recommended that sentencing guidelines be retained as a way to reduce disparities in sentencing.

The commission named making sanctions within the guidelines as one of its three top priorities for the coming months.

The guidelines ruling, in *People v. Lockridge* (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541480102" }), was in line with recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings on guidelines, Solicitor General Aaron Lindstrom told the commission. In both rulings, the courts held that the statutory guidelines allowed factors to affect sentencing beyond the facts determined by the jury, which violates the Sixth Amendment right to trial by jury.

The result, Mr. Lindstrom said, was greater disparity in sentencing in federal courts since the first ruling in 2005. But he noted that the departures from the federal guidelines have tended to

be downward, as federal judges rejected some of the lengthy sentences, particularly for drug crimes.

Mr. Lindstrom did not expect as much deviation from the state guidelines, which the Michigan Supreme Court said judges would still have to consider. "I think people have more of a perception that the state guidelines are more where they should be," he said, though he added the burden would be high for a defendant, or a prosecutor, to show that a sentence was improper.

"I don't think that the reasonableness test is going to lead to overturning many decisions," he said.

Though in its second recommendation for Wednesday it urged maintaining guidelines as a way to ensure some consistency in sentencing, the commission still, in its first recommendation, called on the Legislature to do nothing for now. Rather, the commission said it would track sentencing patterns in the wake of the ruling and make future recommendations based on that data.

As part of the commission's charge to review sentencing, members will be working through the recent recommendations from the Council of State Governments to the Law Revision Commission.

Among the first of the seven CSG findings the commission will tackle is that the guidelines should be structured to produce more consistent sentencing.

CSG had recommended that the state narrow the cells in the guidelines to provide more narrow sentencing recommendations based on the score for a particular conviction.

While commission members agreed there was some need for consistency, they also argued for some room for trial judges to make decisions based on the particular case and local conditions.

Tied to that, the commission will be discussing CSG's finding 6, that the state has to monitor sentencing practices.

To do that, commission members said, the state is going to have to provide the commission with some funds for staff.

Several commissioners argued the state also needs to create a new sentencing commission to meet the federal guidelines ruling. "I don't know if the Court of Appeals is going to say our guidelines are reasonable when they haven't been updated since 1998," St. Joseph Circuit Judge Paul Stutesman said.

Barbara Levine said the policy commission was charged with determining whether the guidelines are proper.

Former Sen. Bruce Caswell, chair of the commission, said discussions on funding for the commission were happening behind the scenes, but he urged members to come together on some

of the recommendations that might involve funding quickly if they are to be factored into the 2016-17 budget.

The commission will also be discussing the recommendation that the state concentrate its funding on programs that reduce recidivism.

But that will first require setting a definition for recidivism, Kent County Sheriff Larry Stelma said.

The state also needs to find ways to better track services provided to inmates after they are released. Both Kyle Kaminski with the Department of Corrections and Andrew Verheek with the Michigan Association of Community Corrections Advisory Boards said there currently is little tracking of people who switch between state and county corrections systems.

Mr. Kaminski said the responsibility lies with the counties.

"We're responsible for them while they're placed under our supervision, but they're not our people, they the community's people," he said.

Mr. Verheek said many counties do not have the capacity to collect the data the commission will need.

Sheryl Kubiak, who represents the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence on the commission, said the commission's recommendation also has to touch on implementation of the programs.

"The department and community corrections have looked at the programs and have for the most part tried to bring those programs to Michigan," Ms. Kubiak said. "It's in the implementation. ... It's not just here's an evidence-based program."

MEETING TIMES: It was unclear at the end of Wednesday's meeting whether the commission might change its regular meeting times. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) urged a change to avoid conflicting with Senate session.

Mr. Johnson said he would have liked to comment on some of the commission's recommendations, but had to leave for session before voting began.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township), who joined the meeting after session (Mr. Johnson did not return), said the meeting times were fine for him and he would ask to have some committee meetings adjusted to avoid the commission meetings.

Committee Continues Discussion On Safety Flag For Towing Watercraft

The Department of Natural Resources said Wednesday it is neutral on a bill that would require personal watercraft with individuals in tow to display a flag to help others operating vessels in the water know to keep a look out.

The House Regulatory Reform Committee held its second meeting on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453401" } Wednesday and did not report the legislation.

The department said it was neutral because there are both positives and negatives associated with the legislation.

Trevor VanDyke, legislative liaison with the department, said some believe the bright colored flag will help, while others believe it could actually distract a boater from looking at the water.

Mr. VanDyke also told the committee anyone born in 1996 or after is required to take a boater safety course before operating a vessel.

Nicki Polan, executive director with the Michigan Boating Industry Association, said if passed, the new requirement could deter those interesting in boating from doing so, as it is another regulation.

MMA AND BOXING REGULATIONS: The committee also took up a pair of bills regulating professional boxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts or similar "unarmed combat."

The responsibilities of the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission are revised in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15201" }, and that commission, alongside the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, would have jurisdiction over all boxing or MMA contests. The legislation also revises and establishes new regulations concerning the conduct of the events, as well as revises fee amounts for licenses to have such events.

Among the regulations are ensuring a contestant has been drug tested and having an on-site inspector. Women would also be required to submit a negative pregnancy test before competitions.

The committee did not vote on SB 152 or { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15401" }, but will next week, said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" } (R-Onekama), chair of the committee.

PSC Opens Natural Gas Safety Inquiry

As Public Service Commission staff have become aware of a number of gas service lines servicing residential or commercial gas customers connected directly to gas storage field,

transmission pipelines, regulated and unregulated gathering lines, oil and gas wells, and gas processing facilities, the commission has opened an inquiry into gas safety issues.

The inquiry on natural gas distribution utilities, gas gathering or transmission pipeline operators and gas storage system operators seeks to determine three major points:

- The number and locations or residences or other structures receiving gas under the same or similar circumstances as previously outlined;
- The specific type of interconnection and source of gas for each connection to a residence or other structure; and
- The safety equipment currently installed at each connection.

The connections often occur when the pipeline or storage field operator provides natural gas to a property owner in exchange for paying for a right-of-way or easement across the property, the PSC said in a statement, and such facilities may not be compliant with the Michigan Gas Safety Standards.

Providers will have until December 1 to submit their responses to questions in the table in attachment two of the order (case U-17585), and providers that do not have connections as described in the order shall respond by indicating so, the PSC said.

ALPENA POWER COMPANY: The PSC on Wednesday also approved a settlement agreement authorizing Alpena Power Company to implement its 2016-17 energy optimization plan resulting in a decrease of 7 cents a month on the bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, effective January 2016 (case { HYPERLINK "http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17770&submit.x=0&submit.y=0" \t "blank" }).

Johnson Announces Funds Double Prior Candidates

Lon Johnson, the former Michigan Democratic Party chair running for the 1st U.S. House District, announced Wednesday on Twitter that he had raised more than $350,000 in the most recent quarter.

Mr. Johnson, who is challenging former Kalkaska County Sheriff Jerry Cannon for the Democratic nomination in the seat, posted a graphic that showed Mr. Cannon had raised only $130,000 during his first quarter as an announced candidate for the 2014 election. For third quarter of 2013, Mr. Cannon reported $130,390 and reported $104,495 on hand (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=522040102" }).

The graphic showed Mr. Johnson had also raised more than Gary McDowell in his second bid against { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1" } (R-Crystal Falls) in 2012. The graphic showed Mr. McDowell brought in $156,000 during that first

announced quarter. Mr. McDowell reported raising $156,674 during third quarter of 2011, with $154,213 cash on hand (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=502040103" }).

Quarterly reports are due October 15.

Former Rep. Dingell To Remain In Hospital For A Little Longer

Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell remained hospitalized Wednesday after undergoing a heart event that physicians told him was not a heart attack.

As usual, Mr. Dingell, the longest-serving member of Congress in American history, leavened the situation with humor on Twitter.

"It wasn't a heart attack, but doctors are recommending I do all I can to try to forget the end of that Lions game," he said. "Here for a few more days."

On Tuesday, upon declaring he was in the hospital, Mr. Dingell lamented, "Being old sucks."

Physicians determined it was not a heart attack after Mr. Dingell underwent an angiogram Wednesday at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=190901&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn), Mr. Dingell's wife, said via her Facebook page that Mr. Dingell would undergo a procedure on Friday "for some new equipment" with the exact kind still under discussion.

"John Dingell is one tough SOB and he said to tell you he is a tough old Pollack who is going to be around to keep rascality under control for awhile more," she said. "He is feisty as ever, asking a ton of questions, with lots advice for everyone including me on what we have to do for the health care system."

Court Orders Hearings On Village Military Bias Question

A ruling for Vicksburg that it did not discriminate against a police officer because of his military service was reversed by the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday and ordered returned for more proceedings.

In making the decision, Judge Raymond Kethledge, joined by Judge Ralph Guy Jr. and Judge Jane Branstetter Stranch, said there was evidence that Vicksburg village officials had acted against David Eichaker because he was active in the military reserves. The court ruled in *Eichaker v. Vicksburg* ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/15a0677n-06.pdf" \t "blank" }).

Mr. Eichaker sued the village after he had been denied the post of chief of police, and then the new chief demoted him first from lieutenant to a sergeant and then a patrol officer. Mr. Eichaker

said the factor that seemed to turn the village officials against him was his service in the military reserves which included a tour in Afghanistan.

He sued under the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. The U.S. District Court for Western Michigan granted summary judgment to the village.

But the federal appeals panel held that in looking at the evidence there was ample evidence to suggest that Mr. Eichaker was subjected to bias because of his military activities, including comments made by the village president in a closed meeting to select a new chief, that Mr. Eichaker should not be selected because he had a young family and was focused on his military career.

Revenue Bulletin Defines Total Household Income, Refers To Same-Sex Couples

A newly released state revenue administrative bulletin defines total household income in relationship to the state's Homestead Property Tax Credit and home heating credit. But the document is one of the first state documents to refer to same-sex couples.

The bulletin, RAB 2015-18, outlines all forms of income received by persons in a household - including wages, salaries, tips, Social Security payments, business income, alimony and prize winnings - and defines what constitutes a household.

Household is defined as a claimant and the claimant's spouse. The bulletin also says the claimant must have resided in the state for at least six months.

The bulletin also said, "The terms spouse, husband and wife include individuals lawfully married to a person of the same sex whether married in Michigan or another state."

The couple has to include all their income if they are required to file joint returns, even if they live separately, and if they live together in the same residence even if they file tax returns separately.

Capital Notebook: State Has Spent $4M On Advertising Healthy Michigan

In response to legislation proposed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) to prohibit state departments from advertising the Healthy Michigan (expanded Medicaid) program, a spokesperson with the Department of Health and Human Services said the state funded $2 million in fiscal year 2014 and the same in fiscal year 2015 to advertise the program to "reach and engage target populations so we can improve health outcomes in Michigan."

Ms. Schuitmaker, speaking to Gongwer News Service on Tuesday, said she introduced her legislation, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54201" }, because "the Medicaid expansion surpassed the expectations, and here we are spending more and

more money to get people more and more dependent upon government," she said (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541980111" }).

Although the department did not give a specific statement on the bill itself, it defended its use of appropriated funds for the program that has provided health care to some 600,000 residents as a provision of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"When we initially rolled out the Healthy Michigan Plan, we knew how important it was to provide residents with clear, consistent information that would make the enrollment process as smooth as possible for applicants," Jennifer Eisner, spokesperson for DHHS, said in a statement to Gongwer. "In talking to our partners, we know that continued public education efforts play a vital role in ensuring eligible residents are not only getting coverage, but also understanding how to use it to improve their health."

Ms. Schuitmaker's bill was sent to the Senate Health Policy Committee.

VETERANS HOMES: Leslie Shanlian has been appointed chief executive officer of the Michigan Veteran Health System, which oversees the state's two veterans homes.

Ms. Shanlian, who takes the post October 26, is a licensed nursing home administrator. She was most recently deputy director of the Aging and Adult Services Agency.

"Leslie has a proven track record of serving Michigan's aging residents and their families, and we are excited to have that level of expertise in the Michigan Veteran Health System," Jeff Barnes, director of the Veterans Affairs Agency, which houses the veterans homes, said. "Her leadership during this transition will reinforce MVAA's core values of innovation, inclusion and customer service for the veterans who live in the homes and the staff who provide quality long-term care there."

CAPITOL MODILLIONS LOTTERY: The Michigan State Capitol Commission will conduct a lottery giving 100 winners the right to purchase one of the old modillions replaced as part of this year's restoration.

Those wishing to enter the lottery should contact Valerie Marvin at { HYPERLINK "mailto:vmarvin@legislature.mi.gov" \t "blank" } or by leaving a message at 517-373-2358.

The cost to purchase one of the old modillions is $100.

Entrants should include their name, preferred phone number, mailing address and e-mail address. Only one entry is allowed per person. Entries will be accepted from Tuesday, October 6, 2015, until midnight Friday, October 16, 2015.

A public drawing will select the 100 winners. It will be held at noon October 19 in Room H-65 of the Capitol. Entrants do not need to be present to win.

Capitol Jobs Marketplace Updated

Gongwer News Service's Capitol Jobs Marketplace page, a feature Gongwer is pleased to offer advertising jobs available around the Capitol, has been updated.

For details on the new job posting and how to have a job from an organization posted, see { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/programming/jobs.cfm" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Friday, October 16

Commission on Services to the Aging, Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging, 2501 14th Avenue South, Escanaba, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/October_2015_CSA_Agenda.doc" \t "_blank" })

Monday, October 19

Crime Victims Services Commission, Third Floor Conference Room, Lewis Cass Building, 320 South Walnut Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/CVSC_AGENDA_10-19-15.pdf" \t "_blank" })

Thursday, October 22

Canceled: ~~Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m.~~

Thursday, October 29

Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, October 8

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93601&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=328" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

- **Testimony only:**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401" } U.S. HISTORY LESSONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401" }) Encourages and requires instruction in certain United States historical information to be included on state testing.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB20901"
}
{ AMERICAN HERITAGE DOCUMENTS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" }) Allows and prohibits censorship or restraint of instruction in certain American heritage documents.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB21101" }

{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701" }) Provides for genocide education.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&

billid=2015H
B449301" }

Tuesday, October 13

{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88701&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/finance.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

{ HYPER LINK "http:// www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53801" } **ESCHEATS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701" }) Streamlines uniform unclaimed property act audit process.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015H
B449301" } **FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" }) Provides for individual income tax checkoff for fostering futures scholarship trust fund.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB5

4301"
}
{ FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP ({ HYPERLINK **HYP ERLI NK "http ://ww w.gon gwer. com/i ndex. cfm?l ink=l egisla tion_ billde tail.cf m&bi llid=2 015S B544 01" }** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001" **})** Requires credit to income tax check-off contributions to the fostering futures scholarship trust fund.

Subscribers Please Note

A story in Monday's Michigan Report contained the incorrect day for the Kent Circuit Court to hear the state's motion for a preliminary injunction against Hewlett Packard regarding the Business Application Modernization project. The hearing is Friday, October 9.

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 8, 2015

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Dingell to have 2nd heart procedure, stays in hospital (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Group: IRS should probe pro-Schuette spending (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Michigan House OKs medical pot rules with wide support (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State moving 1,600 prisoners out of Kinross in U.P. (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/8/2015)

Forfeiture package sails through Michigan Legislature, requiring police to disclose profits (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Medical marijuana dispensaries, taxes and edibles approved by Michigan House (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan Senator challenges 'any state elected official' to gas tax debate (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Planned Parenthood not mishandling fetal remains in Michigan, state finds (MLive, 10/8/2015)

30,000 Michigan Teamsters face pension cuts (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Flint health experts support Detroit water reconnection (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

House votes to expand types of medical pot allowed (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Law that ends tax-debt loophole snags homeowners (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Mass evictions loom after homes sold off (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Our editorial: Good behavior paroles will cut costs (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

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Michigan legislators need to check their priorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Waiting for answers, action in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Sex Trafficking in Michigan (Huffington Post, 10/8/2015)

Stop flow of microbeads into Great Lakes and break toxic chain (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Moss: Mich. Supreme Court shuts door on young readers (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

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Joey Gamrat Video: Mom 'Not Here To Play Games And Attend Cocktail Parties' (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/7/2015)

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Michigan Report for Thursday, October 8, 2015

Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

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In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

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Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

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Volume #54, Report #200 -- Thursday, October 8, 2015

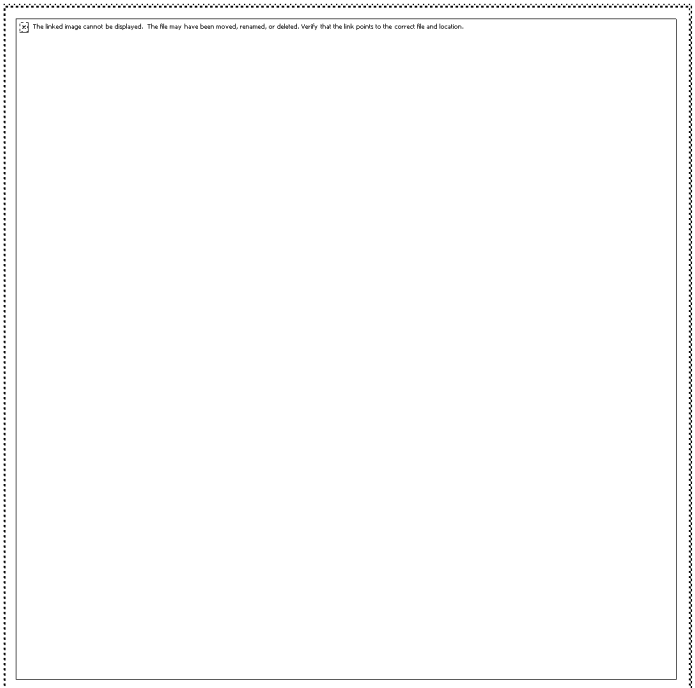
Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

FLINT - Top legislative leaders immediately said Thursday they would support state funding to aid Flint's return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

In an especially alarming finding, Department of Environmental Quality { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1" } said Thursday that initial water screening at 13 Flint schools showed four of 37 samples exceeding the federal threshold on lead of 15 parts per billion that requires action to be taken. The four samples came from three different schools. One school's level hit as high as 101 parts per billion.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, a day after a technical review board recommended the city return to using the Detroit water system, said he backed the city's decision no longer to use the Flint River and declared he would ask the Legislature for $6 million toward the $12 million cost to use the Detroit system until next summer. By then, the new pipeline for the regional Karegnondi Water Authority to draw water from Lake Huron should be completed.



{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } listens as a reporter asks him whether the emergency manager he appointed to run Flint made a mistake in switching the city's water source to the Flint River.

"It will be better for the citizens of Flint in terms of public safety, which is the paramount concern," Mr. Snyder said at a news conference. "This is a comprehensive next step to add to the steps we'd taken last week."

The Mott Foundation will contribute $4 million, and the city of Flint will contribute the remaining $2 million.

The calls for the state to cover some or all of the cost of switching water systems stemmed in large part because it was an emergency manager, whom Mr. Snyder appointed to run the city during a financial crisis, who made the decision to leave the Detroit system and use the Flint River as a way of saving almost $1.5 million a month to aid the city's troubled finances.

Officials said it would take about two weeks to make the change from drawing water from the river to the Detroit system.

"A switch back to Detroit water is the fastest way to protect public health and to stabilize Flint's water system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said.

Mr. Snyder also is calling for about $3.5 million to pay for additional state staff in Flint schools (Health and Human Services to gauge exposure to lead, DEQ to handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to assist with plumbing engineers). The funding also would support testing and evaluating the water and continuing to supply residents with filters to screen out lead.

Even after the Detroit system begins supplying water, it can take up to six months for the corrosion controls to take full effect, Mr. Wyant said.

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant) said the situation is a "serious public health crisis," and the state must act.

"It is clear there is going to be a need for some money from the state, and I am supportive of that," he said.

Mr. Cotter said he did not know how quickly the House would approve funding, but termed the issue urgent.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), the House Appropriations Committee chair, said he wants to act next week. There is a vehicle supplemental appropriations bill in the committee that would enable quick legislative passage, he said.

Mr. Pscholka said the move to switch water sources should have come sooner, and he voiced that to state officials. A week ago, Mr. Snyder announced several action steps that included distributing filters to residents, among other measures. He said then that switching to Detroit water was under consideration.

"I was not happy last week. I ran into some folks at the MSU game. Representative Neeley was there and Dan Wyant was there. ... and I voiced my opinion," Mr. Pscholka said, referring to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint). "I just felt we needed to get this done and we needed a longer-term solution than what was being proposed last week. And I am glad to see we had some pretty quick response."

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), said the Senate would likely take up the issue next week.

"It is a public health crisis and the Senate will work to help address that issue so there is safe drinking water for Flint," she said. "There's just some disagreement about where that money may come from."

Mr. Snyder said officials held off recommending a return to Detroit water because they wanted to analyze what the best decision would be. In the end, the change is the best move both in terms of water quality and restoring the confidence of Flint residents that their water is safe. Officials also were studying the logistics and cost involved in switching to Detroit water, he said.

"I thought it was best to listen to the scientists, the researchers that are doing this great work, and they confirmed that they believed it was the appropriate answer," he said. "It really was waiting for the data to really say this clearly was the best answer."

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Wyant were asked why the DEQ had not tested the drinking water in the schools. They said the state had followed the federal rule, which does not require it. But now the state will test the water in Flint schools and evaluate whether to make that a permanent endeavor.

Several praised the decision, but given the gravity of the situation, did so coolly and also said much more work remains to address the large number of lead components in the city's water infrastructure.

"I view this not as a victory for our community, but as a fix that is unfortunately necessary," said Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1" } (D-Flint) called for Flint not to pay anything toward the switch.

"Flint is a financially distressed city, and it should not have to empty out its bank account to pay for the state's failures," he said in a statement. "The decision to switch to the Flint River water source was made while the city was under state emergency management, and now it is incumbent on Governor Snyder and the state to fix - and pay - for the problem they created. Flint paying anything for the problem that the state created in the first place means that other improvements, including to the city's aging water infrastructure system, could be delayed."

The Michigan Environmental Council called for testing all Flint children for lead exposure and for the state to study the feasibility of testing children statewide for lead. It also called for the state to require all local governments to determine which homes in their jurisdictions have lead service lines.

"The plan announced today to switch Flint back to Detroit for its drinking water supply is a positive step," said Andy McGlashen of the MEC in a statement. "But there's a lot more state leaders can do to resolve the crisis and make sure nothing like it ever happens again in Michigan."

Lynna Kaucheck, senior organizer for the group Food and Water Watch, said the switch should have come long ago after more than a year's worth of complaints about the water. Prior to the lead crisis, there were complaints of severe discoloration, foul taste and smells, and rashes.

In January, the city declared its treatment for bacteria in the water had led to an excessive level of a cancer-causing chemical in the water.

"Unfortunately the switch may come too late for some Flint children who will suffer a lifetime of consequences from having been poisoned by the high levels of lead in Flint's drinking water," Ms. Kaucheck said in a statement. "We can only hope that Governor Snyder and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality learn from this tragedy."

Mr. Walling said the realization of children having elevated blood levels has been devastating to the Flint community.

"I could hardly sleep knowing that our youngest and most vulnerable children could be at greater risk if precautionary steps were not taken," he said.

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

FLINT - { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said Friday he

supports an "after-action report" to review how his administration, and others, responded to concerns about unsafe levels of lead in Flint's drinking water in the wake of heavy criticism that his Department of Environmental Quality downplayed worrisome data and reacted slowly to the situation.

There are several major lines of criticism against Mr. Snyder and his administration on their handling of Flint's water:

- The emergency manager Mr. Snyder appointed to run Flint during its financial emergency put finances before public safety when deciding to switch the city's water source from the Detroit system to the Flint River to save almost $1.5 million a month while awaiting the construction of a new regional system pipeline to Lake Huron;

- A DEQ spokesperson { HYPERLINK "http://michiganradio.org/post/leaked-internal-memo-shows-federal-regulator-s-concerns-about-lead-flint-s-water" \l "stream/0" \t "blank" } to Michigan Radio in July the importance of a leaked U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo raising worries about lead in the water (Brad Wurfel told Michigan Radio, "anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can relax");

- A Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson { HYPERLINK "http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state_says_its_data_shows_no_c.html" \t "blank" } data produced by Hurley Medical Center in Flint showing elevated levels of lead in children's blood (Angela Minicuci told The Flint Journal the state's data was more comprehensive and "much more accurate" than the Hurley data); and

- The DEQ's testing of water samples was inadequate.

"Right now I want to stay focused in on the solutions and taking actions to solve the problems," Mr. Snyder said when asked about the need to review what went wrong. "And then we'll go back and continue an analysis to say are there recommendations that'd we'd like to work with our federal partners ... to improve processes when you change water sources or are there ongoing things we should be looking at on a more frequent basis or who is being looked at."

Mr. Snyder did suggest many changes could be needed.

"I think it's clear there will be at least several recommendations that will be out there, both at the state level, the local level and the federal level on things that we could have potentially seen opportunities," he said. "I do want to credit people though for trying to work together to promptly resolve this as it was identified."

Both Mr. Snyder and DEQ { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1" } said several times the state performed all the water tests required under the federal lead and copper rule. Both said one apparent hole is that nothing requires testing the water in schools, which Mr. Snyder said "probably should be something that could be corrected in the longer term."

Mr. Snyder also said officials "promptly found the resources" to switch the city back to Detroit water as soon as possible.

He did not answer a question about whether it was a mistake in 2014 for his appointed emergency manager to switch the water source to the Flint River. The state returned control of Flint city government to its elected officials earlier this year.

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ was testing the water in the system every six months for lead as required by federal rule. In December, the test showed 6 parts per billion. The next test showed 11 parts per billion. Under federal rule, having two consecutive tests means the community must be informed and the water system must increase its corrosion controls.

The letter advising Flint residents of the lead situation went out in August, Mr. Wyant said.

Mr. Wyant, in an interview, was asked if the DEQ should have been more circumspect in its public statements about the safety of the water.

"Yes," he said. "Lessons learned."

Of the DEQ's overall performance in the situation, Mr. Wyant said staff followed its consistent protocol and federal rule.

"They responded in a timely fashion," he said. "The real questions that we'll get to on this after-action review is what more should have happened and what more could have been done. We have to be open and honest that some changes will be necessary going forward."

As to why the Department of Health and Human Services initially downplayed the Hurley data, DHHS { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1" } said initially the citywide data showed seasonal patterns.

"But as we dug into it and did figure out there was a statistical variation, we acted immediately and quickly, and that's why we took the action steps we did last week," he said.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said the DEQ "has a lot of work to do" when asked how it performed.

"I think they're internally looking at the mistakes that were made whether it's in communication or in following the procedures and protocols. They seem dedicated and I'm going to hold them to changing those policies going forward," he said. "There's no question that mistakes were made in the drinking water division of the Department of Environmental Quality and that needs to be looked at."

Mr. Ananich said the change in tone from the state in the past week will help after the initial response seemed combative.

"There's panic, there's anger, there's distrust," he said of the mood in the city. "Folks really want to know answers because they want to protect their family. Those answers are starting to come out now, and I think it's in a much more direct way. The mistakes of the past, where the lack of transparency and the lack of empathy and giving straight answers, that's (ending) now."

Flint City Councilmember Wantwaz Davis said the state's support for moving the city back to Detroit water corrects what had been a horrendous decision by Mr. Snyder's emergency manager to draw water from the Flint River.

He said he would give the state a B+ for its handling of the issue, mainly because of Thursday's decision to switch to Detroit water.

"Now it will give some form of sigh of relief to the kids and also to the elderly people who have compromised immune systems," he said. "Now they've gotten it right."

Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

The House Workforce and Development Committee on Thursday discussed legislation allowing an intermediate school district to enter into an agreement with an employer in the state to train workers and recoup the costs in part through a diversion of income tax withholding from the new jobs.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475001" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475101" }, introduced by Rep. Phil Potvin (R-Cadillac) would extend the program that is currently seen between community colleges and employers in the state.

Mr. Potvin said there is "quite a gap" in the job market forming as those between 50 and 60 years old are starting to retire.

"We want to open that opportunity up, in particular where I am from in the 102nd District ... we have no community college within the area," he said. "When you've got a local industry, in particular in Cadillac we have 4,200 manufacturing jobs. ... What this will allow us to do is continue to create that opportunity."

Steve Locke, with the Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District, said they often hear from employers that they need workers with a certain skill set.

He said the ISD currently has the facilities to train workers, but under current law they are traveling 50 or 60 miles from the area to the nearest community colleges for training.

"We think this is an awesome opportunity to reduce barriers for partnerships," he said.

Paul Galbenski, dean of the Oakland Schools Technical Campus northeast, said if enacted the bills would help ISDs strengthen relationships with local businesses and meet the needs of the local economy.

"It's an incredible economic development opportunity also for local employers to be able to get their employees trained," he said. "And it does provide multipurposing for our career and technical campus. We have these facilities and this would then help us spread the standing infrastructure cost over more buildings and provide more of those opportunities."

He said in career and technical programs the most costly portion is maintaining the equipment.

Under the bills, an ISD providing such could provide various services, including training or retraining for new jobs; adult basic education and job related instruction; development, readiness, and remedial education; and vocation and skill assessment services and testing.

An agreement between and ISD and an employer must provide for costs that may be pay from a new jobs credit from withholding, new employment resulting from the project or from tuition and fees.

The agreement must also contain an estimate of how many new jobs will be created by the employer; a provision that fixes on a quarterly basis the minimum amount of new jobs credit from withholding to be paid for program costs and if it is insufficient, the employer would agree to provide funds to make up the shortfall; and provide for the payment of an administrative fee in an amount equal to 15 percent of the agreement.

An ISD receiving money from employee withholding would file a quarterly report to the Department of Treasury under the legislation certifying the amount it received from each of its partners.

Annually, the ISD would be required to submit additional information to the department, including names of employers, amount of the withholding and other information.

The committee did not act on the bill.

DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

The first major update on of the state's health insurance laws in more than 20 years saw its first committee hearing Thursday, and the Department of Insurance and Financial Services has some concerns, but appears willing to work toward an agreement.

Gabe Basso with DIFS told the House Insurance Committee that the department does not yet have an official position on the bill. Mr. Basso then outlined the department's concerns to the committee.

"We have been working with stakeholders throughout this process and will continue to do so," he said.

The department had multiple concerns with the pending legislation, including various changes in the code to reflect federal changes, like a former requirement to have certain notices written in "plain English," but is now referred to as "culturally and linguistically appropriate."

Under the current drafts, a provision requiring the director to approve forms to ensure they are not misleading was changed so that the director would not have to approve the forms unless significantly changed from the previous form.

Mr. Basso said that appears subjective to the department and it would like the original provision to remain.

Teri Morante, with the department, also said it is looking to get 90 days in the bill to do its review of health plans. She said right now the department does it in 120 and has 16 people working overtime to get it done.

She said even 90 days is a stretch to do the review, but under the legislation the department would be required to do it in 60 days and it doesn't seem possible.

Dominick Pallone and Judy Hooyenga with the Michigan Association of Health Plans testified to the House Insurance Committee making its case as to why the package of bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501" }), designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, is needed.

Mr. Pallone said the bills would allow the association to continue working with its partners, including local governments, DIFS and the Department of Health and Human Services on the Medicaid side, in new and innovative ways.

The bills would allow health maintenance organizations to offer administrative services organization plans without a financial risk. While currently many HMOs have separate administrative services organization businesses, they are not within the same network.

Ms. Hooyenga said under the changes in the bills, an HMO will be able to operate an administrative services organization and keep the same network, helping enrollees keep the same doctors.

HB 4934 would adopt National Association of Insurance Commissioners model, which would reduce conflicts when coordinating with national insurers out of state, Ms. Hooyenga said.

Other changes included in the bills are:

- Medicaid HMOs would still have to have a third of its governing board comprised of enrollees or representatives of membership, or they would have to create a consumer advisory board;

- An expedited process for approval of experimental drugs;

- Eliminating minimum dollar coverage for substance disorder services;

- Excluding coverage for illegal activities that include driving with an illegal blood alcohol level or operating a meth lab;

- Allowing delivery of documents electronically under certain conditions; and

- In the Patients Right Independent Review Act, the deadline for filing would change from 60 to 120 days.

Group Charges A.G.'s Office Pushes Excessive FOIA Fees

An organization that was asked to pay $52,000 to the Department of Treasury to obtain records its requested under the Freedom of Information Act charged that { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } was behind efforts to deny the public access to documents through "exorbitant fees for easily searchable documents."

A spokesperson for Mr. Schuette called the assertion absurd.

However, documents released by the liberal group Progress Michigan had to prove a bit embarrassing to state officials as items the Department of Treasury had intended to be redacted were actually readable. And those sections showed that instead of denying a request from Progress Michigan to obtain documents "per advice from the AG, the response carries a $52K fee. This may cause them to 'cry wolf.'"

Progress Michigan had requested documents from Treasury and other departments related to Paul Pastorek, education advisor to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }. After the group received the bill of $52,000, it filed an FOIA on how its initial FOIA request was handled.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, said documents indicate the Department of Attorney General was trying to price people out of documents that should be public.

The public has already paid for the documents requested, as they are produced by state workers whose salaries are paid for by the taxpayers, Mr. Scott said.

In fact, other departments did respond to the request and did not charge the organization, Mr. Scott said.

Progress Michigan was attempting to get information on why Mr. Snyder's administration moved school reform efforts from the Department of Education to Treasury.

In its initial response to the organization, the department said the request was overbroad. Requesting all documents would mean a minimum of two hours to check the documents of more than 1,200 department employees, Progress Michigan was told.

The request was later modified, but Mr. Scott said it was ridiculous to say every department worker would have to be checked because only a few workers would have had dealings with Mr. Pastorek. And in the end, Mr. Scott said, Treasury essentially asked of all workers that anyone who had documents referring to Mr. Pastorek to supply them.

The issue, Mr. Scott said, was whether Mr. Schuette or his department directed Treasury to call for the $52,000 fee. Reporters questioned if the documents specifically indicated the attorney general's office directed the decision on the fee.

Andrea Bitely, spokesperson for Mr. Schuette, said Progress Michigan's own documents show the attorney general's office called for the material to be released.

"But the taxpayers expect they won't have to pay for an attack group's fishing expedition, so we follow the law on fees. It's just tiresome games from a political attack group," she said in an email.

However, since the question of large fees being charged for FOIA requests has been raised by a number of organizations (Gongwer News Service has also had to negotiate with the state over fees charged for FOIA requests), Ms. Bitely was asked if the Department of Attorney General had discussed with departments how FOIA fees should be set. By Thursday evening, there had been no reply to that question.

Mr. Scott also said the dispute shows that reforms in how FOIA laws are applied are needed.

In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

Having reliable and cost-effective electricity sources are critical to corporate operations, top executives from two of Michigan's largest companies told the Senate Energy and Technology Committee on Thursday, but the first priority is ensuring the state has competitive costs.

Supporters of electric choice cheered comments made by the president of Dow Chemical's North American operations, who said the best way to get the electricity the company needs "is through a competitive bidding process."

Offsetting those remarks, the chief energy executive for Ford Motor Company said his firm supports { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701" }, the controversial measure now before the committee. The bill needs changes, George Andraos said, but will help assure reliability while the state gets to a lower overall cost.

Mr. Andraos, Rich Wells of Dow and Pete Milojevic, president of the Midland Cogeneration Venture, spoke almost equally about cost and reliability, with much of the focus on reliability.

Mr. Wells and Mr. Andraos said any interruption in reliability causes major production headaches and costs for their firms.

While a homeowner seeing a flashing signal - indicating the power was out for a while - might have to deal with the annoyance of resetting their microwave oven, a Dow plant has to shut down for the time the power is off, Mr. Wells said.

"We need reliability for the long-term and the next second," Mr. Wells told the committee.

Mr. Andraos said the power doesn't even have to shut off for it to force a plant to close. If there is a 30 percent reduction in wattage produced, that shuts down a production line. And the time it will take to restart the line could mean millions of dollars lost in production.

In outlining energy costs in states where Ford has production plants, Mr. Andraos acknowledged Michigan had higher costs, although those costs had dropped from 2014 to 2015.

Pressed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } (R-Clarklake), a major supporter of expanded electric competition, Mr. Andraos said that Ford was part of a group of companies that had urged utilities to provide more competitive electric costs.

But he also said in those states that had greater electric competition, the source of electricity tended to be more vulnerable.

Mr. Milojevic said if needed, and given a one-day advance notice, MCV can ramp up to provide more electricity that is available regionwide through distribution systems.

He also said MCV is the lowest cost producer, adding, "We've been cost competitive for 25 years."

And he agreed with Mr. Wells that electricity should be available to customers on an open-bidding system that would allow all producers to compete so long as they can meet reliability standards.

Mr. Wells implied cutting electric costs further would go a long way towards making Michigan more competitive. Tax and regulatory changes the state has made in the last five years have made an excellent start to making the state more competitive, "but it can do more," he said.

Steve Transeth, a former member of the Public Service Commission and now an energy consultant, said the state needs to do more to ensure reliability. The bill would require alternative energy suppliers to certify they can meet their customers' demand, but he said that is not enough.

"I would require of anybody in the state that they demonstrate that they have firm capacity to meet their obligations," Mr. Transeth said. He said the bill as structured now would not require the incumbent utilities to prove they can meet projected demand.

ROBOCALLS: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } (R-Whitmore Lake), a member of the committee, said in a statement Thursday that some organization has been conducting robocalls in his district on the issue.

Mr. Hune said the calls include some misleading information on SB 437 and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801" } and, while they allow recipients to be transferred to his office, he is not connected to the calls.

Cotter Still Hoping For Road Funding Solution In October

Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) told reporters after session that talks continue to go well.

Mr. Cotter did say he opposes outlining where the General Fund portion of a roads deal would come from.

"I don't think we have to specify the cuts ahead of time. I think we pass a balanced budget and make those decisions as part of the appropriations process," he said.

Mr. Cotter was also questioned as to if there is an agreement among the Legislative Quadrant not to talk about specifics from the meetings.

He said because they are negotiating, the details can change from day-to-day.

"It doesn't do anything productive to have the details of the day out there," he said. "Let's wait until we have an agreement around the table. Once we all have signed off on that then we'll take it back, we'll make it public, we'll share it with caucuses. We'll share it with the public at large and see if we can get it passed."

Mr. Cotter also said he does not wish to debate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) on whether new revenue is needed for roads.

"It's not that I am not willing to debate. I am going to spend my energy on things that are productive to solving the problem," he said.

Senate Panel Exploring Billboards In Special Use Zones

The Senate Transportation Committee began discussions Thursday on legislation that would allow billboards in areas with certain special use permits where zoning would not otherwise allow the signs.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43501" }) was drafted to resolve concerns of a billboard company in the Grand Rapids area that had been ordered to remove a sign in an area zoned for manufactured housing, a residential designation, but with a special use permit to allow some commercial development.

But Department of Transportation officials said the bill as drafted would put the state out of compliance with federal law and could risk loss of federal transportation funds.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell) said the bill was designed to resolve an issue facing Grand Rapids Outdoor, which had converted an existing billboard to digital, had that sign approved by the township, but then had the Department of Transportation reject the permit because it was not in a commercial or industrial zone.

"Even if you don't like billboards ... this is an appropriate place for a billboard," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

Stephen Disselkoen, vice president of Grand Rapids Outdoor, said the board is next to a commercial storage facility, and he said the size of the facility, under Michigan law, automatically makes the area commercial.

He also said the department had not been involved in the permitting process until the very end.

"The underlying zoning has this name of manufactured housing community," Mr. Disselkoen said. The township is saying nowhere does it say our list of uses is exhaustive."

Matt DeLong, Development Services Division administrator for the department, said federal law does not allow such signs.

"Billboards are not an allowed use per se unless you specifically zone for billboards," Mr. DeLong said. "They are specifically not allowed where you have a special use permit. It goes to the underlying zoning."

Mr. DeLong could not comment specifically on the Grand Rapids Outdoor case because it was still in litigation with a decision from the administrative law judge expected soon.

But he said the bill, in allowing billboards in non-commercial zones, would put the state out of compliance with federal law and so risk up to 10 percent of the state's federal highway funding.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba) chastised the department for not taking residents' side on such issues.

"That's where the rub seems to come in is our government doesn't seem to want to help our businesses stay in business," Mr. Casperson said. "I think you guys had ways to try to defend him."

Mr. DeLong said the department does try to work with residents to bring billboards into compliance, so he said challenges to department decisions are rare. "We very rarely lose because we don't arbitrarily (take cases to administrative hearing)," he said. "Most are resolved long before that. ... The last thing we want to be doing is spending our time or the constituent's time in an expensive process."

But he also said the department did not challenge rulings against it.

Senate Approves Implied Consent For Drug Tests In Crashes

At-fault drivers in a crash that leads to serious injury or death would be considered to have consented to a blood or urine drug test under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15301" }, passed Thursday in the Senate.

The bill, which passed 30-5, would allow police to collect blood or urine from the at-fault driver and to use the results of tests of those materials in a criminal prosecution.

"Billy's Law closes a loophole that has delayed or denied justice from crime victims and their families," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the bill sponsor, said in a statement.

The bill was named for Billy Kochis and John Pomeroy, who died from injuries suffered in a traffic crash on U.S. 131 near Grand Rapids in 2013. The at-fault driver in the case would not consent to testing and a magistrate did not issue a search warrant, so police were not able to confirm suspicions that the driver was under the influence of drugs at the time of the crash.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: The Strategic Fund approved grants to five projects around the state Thursday that would reportedly generate $14 million in private investment and 121 jobs.

Edmore was awarded $625,875 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the Edmore Marketplace, redevelopment of an historic downtown building for an indoor marketplace and activity center and outdoor farmers market. The development is expected to generate $870,000 in investment and 66 jobs.

Hillsdale was awarded $785,500 in CDBG funds for 42 Union Street Redevelopment, retail space and eight apartment units, a projected $1.5 million investment and three jobs.

Benzie County received $463,370 in CDBG funds for the Crystal Mountain expansion project in Weldon Township. The $10 million project is projected to create 48 jobs, and the grant funds will pay for training.

Munising has been awarded $459,050 in CDBG funds to develop the Pictured Rocks Interpretive Center in a currently vacant and blighted building. Another $500,000 in private investment is expected for the project.

Port Huron Citadel, LLC was awarded $200,000 in Michigan Community Revitalization Program grants to revitalize the building of the same name in downtown Port Huron into a mixed use space including a theater. The $1.2 million project is projected to create four jobs.

Senate Approves Ban On Breed Prohibitions

Local governments would not be able to adopt breed-specific dog control ordinances, and those already in place would be overturned, under legislation that passed the Senate on Thursday.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB23901" }), passed on a bipartisan 25-11 vote, would not prohibit general restrictions on dogs or dog owners.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said the bill was another infringement on local control.

"I firmly believe our community leaders must retain the authority to address these matters at the local level," Ms. Warren said, noting that 27 communities already have some form of breed-specific ordinance.

But only { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) from the Democratic caucus joined Ms. Warren in opposition. Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } of Harrison Township, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } of Canton Township, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } of Sheridan, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } of Saint Clair, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } of Clarklake, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } of Midland and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" } of Ida also opposed the bill.

Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

Those wanting to film the Capitol from the air would need a permit under legislation introduced Thursday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54901" }) would give the Capitol Commission authority over drone flights on, or above, the grounds. Anyone wanting to use a drone would have to apply to that body for a permit.

The commission has already banned drone flights from the grounds.

"If the Capitol Commission wants to allow trained photographers to use drones for a special event or a wedding, that would be appropriate," Mr. Jones said in a statement announcing the legislation. "However, allowing anyone to buy a drone and then take it down to the Capitol to buzz the building is not fun and games. It's inappropriate and puts the visiting public at unnecessary risk."

The bill would make it a 93-day, $500 misdemeanor to fly a drone around the Capitol without a permit.

Capital Notebook

CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR: The Civil Rights Commission announced Thursday a special meeting to discuss three more candidates to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1" }.

Officials said technical problems with the job posting caused the candidates to be overlooked during initial resume reviews.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit.

PIPELINE LAWSUIT: The National Wildlife Federation announced Thursday that it was suing the U.S. Department of Transportation for failure to prevent oil pipeline ruptures and resultant spills.

The group is arguing that all pipelines nationwide that touch a water body are being operated illegally because there are not sufficient safeguards in place to prevent spills.

"We hope today's action will be a catalyst for long-overdue protections that benefit people, communities, and wildlife," Mike Shriberg, regional executive director of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center, said in a statement. "The federal government needs to enforce the law to prevent oil pipeline disasters from fouling our water and threatening our communities and iconic places."

The { HYPERLINK "http://blog.nwf.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/11/files/2015/10/2015-10-08-Complaint-NWF-v-DOT-FILED.pdf" \t "blank" } was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, October 12

Civil Rights Commission, Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit, 3:30 p.m. (Special meeting to discuss candidates overlooked because of problems with job posting system)

Tuesday, October 13

Canceled: ~~Controlled Substances Advisory Commission, 10 a.m.~~

Friday, October 16

Canceled: ~~Board of Acupuncture, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.~~

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, October 13

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88301&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/education.html" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" }, 373-5314), Room 110, Farnum Building, 12 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cf **ECONOMICS CREDIT** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601" }) Allows 1/2 credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for Michigan Merit Curriculum.

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{ **MANDATORY EXPULSION** ({ HYPERLINK
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({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/finance.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15501" } **HIRING VETERANS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301" }) Creates credit for certain employers that provide employment for certain veterans.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15701" } **SALES TAX EXEMPTION** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301" }) Exempts collection of sales tax on core charge for automobile and recreational vehicle parts of batteries.

{ **ESCHEATS** ({ HYPERLINK **HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701" **}**) Streamlines **LINK** uniform unclaimed property act audit process.
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53801" }
{ **FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP** ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" **}**) Provides for **ERLI** individual income tax checkoff for fostering futures scholarship trust fund.
NK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54301" }
{ **FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP** ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001" **}**) Requires credit to **ERLI** income tax check-off contributions to the fostering futures scholarship trust fund.
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Wednesday, October 14

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89701&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/regreform.html" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" }, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 1 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4134401" } **OCCUPATIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201" }) Authorizes certain military experience as the basis for licensure for a boiler installer, boiler repairer and boiler special inspector.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4134401" } **USED MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Requires certain forms of payment for used tires, wheels and rims at used motor vehicle parts dealers.

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Thursday, October 15

**{ HYPERLINK
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({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/econ_dev.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" }, 373-
5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901" } **PROMISE ZONES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Allows additional promise zones and modifies their administration.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901" } **STATE EDUCATION TAX** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601" }) Modifies distribution of state education tax.

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HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" **})** Repeals sunset
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Michigan News & Opinion For October 9, 2015

News

Snyder signs law to let drivers show insurance on phone (Associated Press, 10/8/2015)

Echoing state, Detroit schools cut back on standardized tests (Bridge Magazine, 10/8/2015)

Giving Michigan nurses more authority to prescribe drugs and treat patients (Bridge Magazine, 10/8/2015)

Feds to release 83 prisoners in Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Former Rep. John Dingell gets pacemaker (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Group says high fees used to conceal state records (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Treasury: 'We really goofed this up. We're fixing it.' (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Capitol drone ban bill introduced (Lansing State Journal, 10/9/2015)

Complaint asks IRS to investigate dark money group behind pro-Bill Schuette ads (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan dog 'breed discrimination' ban would prohibit local ordinances (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan House revealed information on Courser and Gamrat, but won't disclose on 108 other reps (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan's Candice Miller floated as possible 'interim' House Speaker (MLive, 10/9/2015)

Snyder seeking $9.35M in state aid for Flint water crisis, and Michigan lawmakers are on board (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Complaint: Schuette supporters won't disclose donors (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Duggan in D.C. talking housing, refugees (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Flint water tests suggest statewide lead issues (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Michigan leader defends Planned Parenthood (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Michigan pays $1.9M in legal fees for gay marriage case (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Editorials

Flint water crisis: An obscene failure of government (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Our view: Asset seizure bills provide transparency (Midland Daily News, 10/9/2015)

Electric regulation must move Michigan toward renewables, efficiency (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Susan J. Demas: GOP gay marriage fight cost Michigan much more than $2M (MLive, 10/9/2015)

Frost: Detroit's growth must be inclusive (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Blogs

How's Come Utah Figured How To Raise Money For Roads? (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/8/2015)

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Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 9:41 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 12, 2015

News

Active shooter training part of security plans at Michigan universities and colleges (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

State under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis (Associated Press, 10/11/2015)

DTE, Consumers Energy want to shut off Michigan's renewable energy mandates (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/12/2015)

Flint doctor makes state tell truth about lead in water (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Major reforms afoot for juvenile offenders (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan House looks at banning microbeads (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan's Energy Evolution: A Special Report (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

U-M freshman class has more minorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Who gets money in Vets Day raffle? (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

First warning of rising lead levels in Flint water came 9 months ago (Flint Journal, 10/10/2015)

Flint water crisis doesn't change KWA pipeline plan to finish in June or July (Flint Journal, 10/11/2015)

Trust needed for Flint to rebound from water crisis, say those who know (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

8 facts about property assessments and tax rates in Michigan (Kalamazoo Gazette, 10/12/2015)

Bill would reopen Maxey, restore 65 state jobs (Lansing State Journal, 10/12/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/11/2015)

Report: Nearly $24 million in suspected drug assets seized (Macomb Daily, 10/12/2015)

Detroit-area law enforcement join AG Bill Schuette to oppose parole reform (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette alleges anti-police sentiment, elitism in presumptive parole legislation (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Sponsor sees 'green' on medical marijuana dispensary bill (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Lawmakers, parents seek 'Wyatt's Law' to protect kids (The Detroit News, 10/10/2015)

Mich. cops seized $24M in 2014 in drug cases (The Detroit News, 10/11/2015)

Michigan finds electronic thieves at the gas pump (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Schuette calls complaint about campaign ads 'pathetic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Snyder officials take on painkiller overdose 'epidemic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Editorials

Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Brian Dickerson: Was Schuette's $2-million lesson a bargain? (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Our view: Time for an independent redistricting commission? (Midland Daily News, 10/11/2015)

Prison time, forfeiture and medical pot: Lansing is on a bipartisan roll (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Proposed legislation addresses Michigan's gap in early literacy: guest column (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Rick Haglund: Finding funds for road repair not an easy fix (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Improvements in college counseling are underway (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Our Editorial: Detroit's blight progress (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Jack Lessenberry: Matty Moroun and the Port Authority (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 10/12/2015)

Blogs

Flint Water Catastrophe Roils Snyder Administration (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/9/2015)

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 7:03 PM
To: Antczak, Jason (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, October 12, 2015
Attachments: Oct12Rules.htm; 151012dayplan.htm; Oct12.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, October 12, 2015

The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

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Calendars

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Volume #54, Report #202 -- Monday, October 12, 2015

The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

The Flint water crisis has caused the debate over Michigan's local financial emergency law to roar back to life with considerable fury emanating from Flint that the law's focus on bringing a community's finances back into balance played a major role in the actions that led to using the Flint River as a temporary source of drinking water.

A lack of sufficient corrosion controls in the water pumped from the Flint River allowed lead from service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in some spots well past federal limits and rising levels of lead in children's blood, prompting a frantic effort in the past two weeks to get filters to Flint residents and businesses, and switch back to Detroit water until a new pipeline to Lake Huron serving the city and counties to the east is finished.

When the final decision was made in 2014 to begin drawing water from the Flint River, ending a more than 40-year agreement with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to pull water from that system, Emergency Manager Darnell Earley was in total control of city operations under the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act.

Predating the city falling under control of an emergency manager in 2011, Flint, along with Genesee, Lapeer and Sanilac counties, had been studying forming a new authority to build their own pipe to Lake Huron, breaking away from the Detroit system. Flint was debating whether to switch to the new authority or draw from the Flint River. At the time, the concern from local officials, according to reports in The Flint Journal, was the cost of upgrading Flint water infrastructure. There was widespread agreement that the quality of water in the river was good.

And eventually those cost concerns ended consideration of using the Flint River as a permanent source of drinking water.

In 2012, with Emergency Manager Michael Brown now running the city, his administration began considering use of the Flint River as a temporary water source until the new Karengondi Water Authority pipeline could be completed.

In 2013, the council voted to drop Detroit water for the new Karengondi system.

Eventually, with a decision needing to be made on where to draw water until that system could be completed, Mr. Earley signed an order to draw the water out of the Flint River, saving more than $1 million a month. It was a decision lauded by many local officials, with Flint Mayor Dayne Walling pushing the button to shut off water from Detroit. Glasses of treated river water were raised to celebrate the moment.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) was a member of the Flint City Council during this time, and he said the crisis shows the state needs to change the emergency manager law.

"The emergency manager law from my perspective caused 100 percent of the problem," he said.

Changes need to be made to assure a review panel on decisions made by emergency managers involving the health, welfare and safety of the community, Mr. Neeley said. He called { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" } a failed experiment.

"There should be some safeguards," he said.

While the council did vote for the KWA, it never voted on switching to the Flint River as a temporary source of water, he said, and to the extent local officials praised the reliability of the river as a drinking water source, he said that was because they assumed the water would be properly treated.

Further, Mr. Neeley said the emergency manager at the time of the vote, Ed Kurtz, vetoed the resolution adopted by the council, which he said contained changes to Mr. Kurtz's version, and then Mr. Kurtz, under his emergency manager powers, implemented his initial resolution.

But { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), the sponsor of the original emergency manager law (later replaced with PA 436), said the law is not to blame. Flint wanted to leave the Detroit system for years.

"There's a lot of revisionist history going on here," he said. "The emergency manager didn't make the decision to build a pipeline to Lake Huron."

And Mr. Pscholka said local officials were involved in the decision to begin pumping water out of the Flint River.

"It was not as simple as the emergency manager declaring I'm going to be a hero and save a million and a half dollars by doing this," he said. "The locals were involved in this."

Mr. Pscholka said he saw no need to change the law to address this situation.

At some point, an engineer must have advised Mr. Earley the river would work as a water source, Mr. Pscholka said. The same thing would have happened had the city not been under emergency management.

"The blame game, I'm sure, will continue," he said. "But my focus right now on the floor is to make sure the people of Flint have safe drinking water."

The Legislature is expected to move swiftly this week on putting up $6 million toward the cost of Flint drawing water from Detroit until next summer.

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

In a report that focuses on the Holland School District, a top Wall Street rating agency has determined that problems the district is facing due to enrollment are indicative of problems that many districts across Michigan are facing.

And according to an analyst for Moody's Investors Services, these problems are ones school districts across Michigan have faced for several years. While the agency has downgraded the credit ratings of 44 school districts so far this year, that follows a number of downgrades made over the last several years.

Andrew Van Dyck Dobos, a Chicago-based analyst for the firm, said school districts across the state may see lower credit ratings across the board and have to recognize that as a "new normal."

State policy on school finance, adopted in 1994 as part of the Proposal A school finance reforms, makes it extremely tough for districts to raise revenues locally, he said, which is unusual among other states in the Midwest. Plus, the state's policy now has funding following the students instead of being based more on a geographic basis.

Almost the only way districts can raise funds is by attracting more students, and that has been made difficult by an estimated 13 percent drop in Michigan's population of children under 18 from 2000 to 2012.

While the report focused on Holland, it said the issues that district faced were similar to problems school districts across the state are facing.

Michigan schools held "count day" last week to establish student population. Schools do not have to report their totals until November, and state officials said there have been no early reports on enrollment.

The state forecasted total school enrollment for the 2015-16 school year at 1.493 million students, down 14,700 from the total in 2014-15, during the May Revenue Estimating Conference. Of that projected total, 1.335 million were expected to attend traditional public schools, while 158,000 were anticipated to enroll in charter schools and the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit.

In Holland, Moody's said the district was forecasting a drop of 174 students on top of declines in six of the past seven school years. If the district does lose that many students, it would mean a cut in total state aid of $591,000.

Enrollment concerns run across the state, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said. In rural areas, school population has declined because of overall demographic factors - with more older people living in the areas - and with families leaving the areas in search of jobs.

In suburban areas, Michigan's schools of choice policy spurs ongoing competition for students, which means some districts get more students from other districts as opposed to a natural increase, he said.

And in larger urban areas, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, traditional public schools face more competition from charter schools.

The report also said state aid per student has been stagnant in Holland and statewide.

In the 2015-16 budget, total school aid funding is $13.89 billion, up from $13.68 billion in the 2014-15 budget.

The minimum per pupil allowance, according to the state, is $7,391. Moody's, however, said Holland will see school aid of $7,126 per student, which is $318 less per student than it was in 2011.

The state has raised money for schools, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, but increases to districts have not followed inflation as much as they had in the past.

Adding to the fiscal problem is the limitation the state has for school districts seeking more funding on a local level. Since the adoption of the Proposal A in 1994, property taxes paid for schools are collected and allocated by the state.

Virtually the only option Proposal A allowed for local schools to raise more money at the local level for operations has to come countywide, and very few counties have adopted that option, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said.

All that means, he said, is that until school populations recover and grow, school districts will have to deal with ongoing fiscal issues.

That will affect credit ratings and mean more downgrades. Since 2009 - and including 2015, though figures for 2014 were not immediately available - Moody's has downgraded a total of at least 181 school districts. Dozens of those were downgraded multi-steps in their overall credit worthiness.

Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said districts statewide may see an overall downgrading of their credit ratings, and have to expect that to continue.

In dealing with the realities of their finances, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said Michigan districts have thus far been more innovative than districts in other states in finding solutions. For example, he said, in dealing with employee contracts many districts have worked out one-time payments to teachers and other workers instead of adopting general wage increases.

HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

While the Department of State and Hewlett Packard await continuation of a court hearing on their dispute over how they managed the Business Application Modernization project, HP has returned its workers to the state, a department spokesperson said.

The state terminated its contract with HP and then sued the company. HP pulled its workers from the project and refused to turn over the source code. Major worries have been raised about a collapse of online services without access to that source code and an orderly transition.

The state is seeking a preliminary injunction ordering HP's staff back to work and the turning over of the source code.

Department spokesperson Gisgie Davila Gendreau said HP staff was working side-by-side Monday with staff from the departments of State and Technology, Management and Budget. And the two sides are working out a transition plan, she said.

"It's a step in the right direction," she said.

The court hearing on the motion for a preliminary injunction is scheduled resume Friday.

Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Consumers Energy on Monday projected lower heating costs this winter for its natural gas customers, with savings of more than $100 for an average residential customer depending on weather and actual usage.

"We're reducing costs for customers due to our gas purchasing program which takes full advantage of lower commodity costs," said Tim Sparks, the company's vice president of energy supply operations, in a statement. "Customers also benefit by Consumers Energy's underground storage system ... (which) allows us to buy gas when it costs less in the summer, for use by customers during the colder winter months."

Customer heating costs could be down by more than 15 percent based on normal winter gas consumption, the company estimated. Business customer savings will depend on their gas usage.

The company also noted that its customers are paying 60 percent less for natural gas than a decade ago, and the last time fuel prices were this low was in 2001.

Consumers' natural gas commodity price has hovered around the $5 mark for the last three years ($5.45 per thousand cubic feet in 2012, $4.63 in 2013 and $5.14 in 2014), but that saw a dramatic dip in 2015 to $3.31.

The Public Service Commission has not yet issued its annual Michigan Energy Appraisal for the winter of 2015-2016 that projects the total sales in Michigan for natural gas, electricity and petroleum, among other fuels. The appraisal for natural gas for last winter was an expectation of an increase in sales by about one percent from 2013 under the expectation that temperatures would return to more normal conditions in Michigan.

Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

Michigan's statewide unemployment rate matches the federal rate of 5.1 percent, but estimates by the state show that in four cities unemployment is still in double-digit figures.

Unemployment has dropped considerably in those cities from the stratospheric highs - jobless rates of 30 percent and higher in Highland Park and Pontiac - during the Great Recession. But the numbers still stick out compared to the state's overall decline in unemployment.

In August, according the state's Labor Market Information section, Highland Park had the highest jobless rate in the state at 15.7 percent.

That was followed by Detroit at 12.7 percent, then Pontiac at 11.6 percent and Inkster at 11 percent.

Georgetown Township, in Ottawa County, had the lowest unemployment rate among the cities and townships tracked, with the jobless rate at 2.1 percent in August. Northville Township in Wayne County had the second lowest unemployment rate at 2.2 percent.

In contrast, no county had a jobless rate in double digits in August. Schoolcraft County had the highest jobless rate at 9.6 percent. Mackinac County had the lowest unemployment rate in August at 2.8 percent, and 41 of Michigan's 83 counties had unemployment rates below the state's rate of 5.1 percent.

State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs announced Monday that any registered child care facilities in Flint can receive free water filters.

The Department of Health and Human Services is providing free water filters to the child care providers, including an additional filter for any home-based providers who already received one as a resident.

The Genesee County Community Action Resource Department is also providing water-filtering pitchers.

Both the pitchers and filters will be available at the GCCARD office, 2727 Lippincott, beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. To qualify, those picking up pitchers and filters have to show a child care license and proof of employment at the facility.

Capital Notebook

MOTOR CARRIER SCHOOL OPENS: Twenty-one recruits have begun training to become Department of State Police motor carrier officers. They will receive instruction in firearms, water safety, defensive tactics, patrol techniques, report writing, ethics, first aid, criminal law,

precision driving, commercial vehicle law and commercial vehicle inspection procedures. Those who graduate will conclude the program in February.

PASSENGER RAIL: The Department of Transportation announced Monday it was seeking proposals on asset management plans for upcoming intercity passenger rail service.

The { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_RFP_RA_REQ1844_OR-15-185_posted_502471_7.pdf" \t "blank" } is particularly to outline parts of that maintenance that could be provided by Michigan companies.

"The challenge is that if we do NOT prepare to compete for this service, the economic benefits of providing such services could go to other states," the bid request said. "In addition, absent an effective strategy or system in place to provide for long-term care of the fleet, rail service and the multi-state investment in new equipment could be compromised due to premature wear and tear that could have been prevented by adequate planning."

Proposals are due November 2.

LARA ISSUES TWO KENT COUNTY CHILD CARE SUSPENSIONS: The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs expects to suspend the child care certificate of registration of two Kent County residents.

The first, Sandra LaFortune, at 122 Wadsworth Street SW, in Wyoming, is to be suspended after a complaint investigation found in July violations of law regarding family and group child care homes.

Under the suspension, Ms. LaFortune is prohibited from operating a family child care home at the aforementioned address, or any other address or location. She may not accept children for care, and she must inform all of the parents of children in her care that her certificate of registration has been suspended and she can no longer provide child care.

The second suspension is for Terri Kowalczyk, 3584 Leonard Street NW, in Walker. The suspension comes as a complaint investigation earlier this month found violations of law regarding caregiver suitability, supervision, capacity, record maintenance, bedding and sleeping and equipment, and home maintenance and safety.

Ms. Kowalczyk is subject to the same disciplinary actions and required information to her clients as Ms. LaFortune, LARA noted in a statement.

Campaign Notes: Prevailing Wage Challenge Deadline

Challenges to the proposal to repeal prevailing wage are due October 26 at 5 p.m., the Department of State announced Monday.

Sample petitions used to review the submission by Protecting Michigan Taxpayers were released Monday. Requests for copies of the petitions can be made to the Bureau of Elections at { HYPERLINK "mailto:election@michigan.gov" \t "blank" } or (517) 373-2540.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, October 20

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R) Fundraiser, The Exchange, 141 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 21

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=365701&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R) Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, 12th Floor, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 22

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" } (R) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

An Evening with Frank J. Kelley, presented by the Michigan Political History Society, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 5 p.m.

West Michigan Meet the Players, hosted by Michigan Association of CPAs and the State Bar of Michigan, Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 10

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } (R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 5 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R) PAC fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, October 13

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94801&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=349" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- **Testimony only:**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB27401" } SADDLE MOUNT VEHICLE COMBINATIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Modifies maximum length for saddle mount vehicle combinations.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB27401" } SPEED LIMITS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501" }) Modifies speed limits on highways.

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NK modified speed limits on certain roads.
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({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/judiciary.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }, 373-1721),
Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

{ CONCEALED CARRY ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" **}**) Prohibits open-
RLIN carry of firearms in certain areas but allows concealed carry in those areas.
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Wednesday, October 14

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"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=306" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Presentation by Keith Creagh, Department of Natural Resources director, regarding changes in hunting and fishing license fees**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB478301" } **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Increases civil fines for solid waste.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94601&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=347" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" }, 373-2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB34901" } **DELINQUENT TAXES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Revises delinquent taxes notice provision.

{ INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING ({ HYPERLINK

HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" **}**) Expands
RLIN tangible personal property eligible for an industrial processing exemption.
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HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701" **}**) Expands tangible
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{ HYPERLINK
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({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/natlresources.html" \t
"blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" }, 373-5314),
210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

{ **WATERS AND BOTTOMLANDS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Waives payment for occupying waters or bottomlands in certain circumstances.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89601&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/outdoorrec.html" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }, 373-1721), Room 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.**

- **Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=87901&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/approps.html" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" }, 373-5307), Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol, 2 p.m.**

- **Discussion regarding boilerplate report benchmarks of new programs funded at $500,000 in FY15 budget: Making Michigan a No-Wait State for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; Child welfare performance-based funding; and the School Safety Hotline**

{ **SECONDARY ROAD PATROLS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" }) Declares that counties, cities, and villages have met the necessary terms of their agreements for road patrol services and secondary road patrol funding as they relate to maintenance of effort.

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Thursday, October 15

**{ HYPERLINK
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({ HYPERLINK
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=350" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101&locid=1" }, 373-
5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

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ELECTRICIANS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" }) Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite. (Testimony only)

Tuesday, October 20

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96201&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=320" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Presentation on invasive species from the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division**

Wednesday, October 21

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=95601&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=313" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- **Pure Michigan tourism campaign return on investment and fiscal year 2015-16 marketing plan**

Wednesday, October 28

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=95601&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=313" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- **Hearing to discuss with the Department of Technology, Management and Budget updates on IT Investment Projects and Space Consolidation**

Tuesday, November 3

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96201&locid=1" }({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=320" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Update on the Recreation Passport program from the Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division**

Tuesday, December 8

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96201&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=320" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Presentation on Chronic Wasting Disease from the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division**

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 13, 2015

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Michigan close to banning powdered alcohol from shelves (Associated Press, 10/13/2015)

Michigan utilities want to end renewable energy mandate (Bridge Magazine, 10/13/2015)

Guns in Michigan churches? Bars? Schools? Maybe (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Mich. House may ban bits in soaps that hurt Great Lakes (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

AG Bill Schuette rallies against parole reform, proposes more privatization (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Concealed guns in schools? Bill gets hearing this week (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Midland Rep. Moolenaar votes to de-fund Planned Parenthood, repeal Obamacare (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Ousted Rep. Cindy Gamrat, 6 others set for candidates forum (MLive, 10/13/2015)

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters makes first Bay City visit since taking office (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Snyder officials take on painkiller overdose 'epidemic' (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

State's $300,000 e-textbooks flunk out with critics (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

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Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Michigan has no real solution to gun violence (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

What happens to Flint kids poisoned with lead? (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Dave Agema may run for Congress - and he hasn't changed a bit (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Lansing's handgun swap will let weapons in schools (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

Blogs

The Debut Of A Dog Into Paw-litics (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/12/2015)

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Attachments: Oct13House.htm; Oct13.htm; Oct13Senate.htm; 151013dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Road Funding Talks Falter -- Again

Bill Allowing Concealed Guns, Ending Open Carry In Gun-Free Zones Clears Senate Panel

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Court Hears Arguments On Whether MCCA Is Public Body

Education Board Pushes Professional Development Attached To Evaluations

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Volume #54, Report #203 -- Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Road Funding Talks Falter - Again

Call it an impasse, a stall, hiccup or some other term, but weeks of discussions between { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and legislative leaders clearly suffered a setback Tuesday.

For weeks, Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant - House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) and House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) - have sounded upbeat about progress toward an eventual deal to raise $1.2 billion in funds for roads.

And while not revealing details, there was a general sense that they had agreed on the road funding package but were still working out the complementary legislation needed to sell it to the rank-and-file members of each of the four legislative caucuses. So when Mr. Snyder declared after Tuesday's meeting they had hit an impasse, it was surprising, if not shocking, considering the long, difficult path efforts to win new funding for roads has taken.

"We had made a lot of progress in prior meetings. We're at an impasse now," Mr. Snyder said.

But that was not a universally accepted characterization of the situation. Mr. Meekhof described the situation as a "stall," and Mr. Greimel said he hoped the various parties had not reached an impasse.

And while Mr. Snyder gravely warned he would not continue to meet with the Legislative Quadrant on the issue absent resumption of progress, suggesting he might cancel Wednesday's meeting, by late Tuesday night, that meeting had yet to be officially scrubbed.

The problem appears to center on an income tax cut as part of the overall package. Democrats are resisting, concerned it would strain the General Fund and damage the programs that rely on it for their funds. Republicans want the income tax cut to soften the blow for their members of voting to raise taxes.

While never officially announced, the road funding package is expected to involve $400 million from a gasoline tax hike, $400 million from other new revenues - mainly from ending the

depreciation on vehicle registration fees in the first years of owning the vehicle - and $400 million dedicated from the General Fund.

Mr. Snyder declined to discuss details of the meeting but said it was "fair to say people have different perspectives as to what tax relief might look like."

And Mr. Greimel said, "We would prefer tax relief that benefits fairly broad groups of incomes as opposed to the Senate Republican income tax cut that disproportionately benefits the wealthy and the well-connected."

The Senate-passed plan called for reducing the income tax rate based on a complicated formula involving how much state revenue had grown.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for Mr. Cotter, said House Republicans will continue to negotiate and work on a solution that fixes the roads and protects Michigan taxpayers.

"Including tax relief in the deal has been part of the negotiations from day one, and it remains a Republican priority," he said. "We put together a responsible, balanced budget this year that included $400 million for road repairs, and we can do it again in a way that protects Michigan's hard-working taxpayers."

Mr. Snyder made it clear he saw diminishing returns to continuing to hold meetings absent more progress.

"Unless I see progress, I'm not going to schedule more," he said.

Mr. Snyder said he hoped legislative leaders would take time to reflect and understand a compromise would be needed.

Mr. Greimel called for meetings to continue.

"I am committed to continuing to meet and see if we can talk through the disagreements and reach an agreement on a road plan that is fiscally responsible and sustainable," he said. "I have also made it very clear that I am not willing to agree to any proposal that jeopardizes funding for public safety, education and health care."

Mr. Meekhof, in a statement, emphasized that the Senate had passed a road funding plan that called for an $800 million gasoline tax hike and dedicating $700 million from the General Fund to roads.

"Since passage of the Senate plan, I have been realistic in my expectations that ultimately a road funding plan would include compromise in order for all parties to agree," he said. "For me, taxpayers deserve long-term tax relief, especially when we are seeking additional resources to fund our roads. I am disappointed that months of discussion and progress at the leadership level have stalled, but a standstill at the leadership level is not an indication of unwillingness on the part of the Senate."

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said the use of the word "stalled" instead of impasse was deliberate.

"Impasse implies a much more negative state than we're in at this point," she said. "The majority leader is still optimistic that a road funding solution is possible."

Mr. Meekhof also is willing to meet if others want to do so, Ms. McCann said.

Lance Binoniemi of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association said he long ago had learned not to get too excited about the good developments on roads and not too upset at the bad ones.

"We've had a lot of these types of days where talks seem to break down," he said.

He also put the best face on the use of the term impasse, which he said surprised him.

"They've never had a deal in place so there's always been an impasse," he said, chuckling.

More seriously, Mr. Binoniemi said the intensity shown Tuesday was a sign that Mr. Snyder and legislative leaders are getting to the real issues of a deal.

"I haven't heard from one person out of the quadrant yet that talks are done, they've failed and they're not coming back," he said. "I remain optimistic. We've had days like this before and we've survived to the next day. Until someone throws up their hands and says it's done, we're not going to do this, I don't get too nervous."

Bill Allowing Concealed Guns, Ending Open Carry In Gun-Free Zones Clears Senate Panel

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a bill that would prohibit open carry in gun-free zones such as schools, churches and hospitals, and instead allow those with concealed pistol licenses to carry a concealed firearm in those facilities.

Backers say the bill would address the problem of people openly carrying guns on or near school property, which in an age where mass shootings at schools are sickeningly common has prompted school officials to put their building in lockdown while police determine the situation. In some instances, the person openly carrying is doing so to make the point they legally have the right to do so.

But the legislation also would wipe out one of the key pieces of the 2000 overhaul of the concealed pistol license law by effectively wiping out gun-free zones. To convince then-Governor John Engler to sign a bill taking away the power of local gun boards to decide who could get a CPL and instead making licenses automatic to law-abiding applicants with no record of involuntary commitment for mental illness, the gun-free zones were established.

The committee reported two bills - one by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) in

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201" }, and the other by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56101" }, which was just introduced and sent to the committee on Tuesday.

An amendment was adopted to Mr. Green's bill to tie-bar it to Mr. Meekhof's bill (and vice versa), as Mr. Green's bill makes the concealed carry change in the state's handgun licensure law while Mr. Meekhof's makes the concealed carry change in the penal code.

"Permit holders have lower rates for arrests and convictions than police officers," said John Lott, a pro-gun researcher and economist. "Since 1950, with just two exceptions, every mass shooting has taken place where guns are banned."

As the state's law is currently written, a person cannot possess a firearm on the premises of a financial institution, a church or other house of religious worship, a court, bar, theatre, sports arena or stadium, day care center and hospital.

Although the Senate hearing room was packed full of various opposing interests, and especially parents of school children who derided Mr. Green's legislation as unnecessary and problematic, the committee voted 4-1 to report the bills as substituted and with amendments to the full Senate floor for consideration. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren) opposed the bill.

Testimony in opposition to SB 442 began with several church officials and then led into school officials, including the superintendent of Ann Arbor Public Schools and the Michigan Association of School Boards, among others. Several other education officials who were also CPL holders testified in opposition, followed by gun control advocates and then gun rights backers.

"We are not coming here as an association that's anti-gun, but one concerned about the safety of our students," said Don Wotruba, executive director of MASB. "(Open-carry) has become disruptive. Moving to a concealed carry system only hides the danger; it doesn't get rid of it."

Mr. Wotruba also argued that allowing concealed carry in gun-free zones such as schools could make the ability of police officers to respond to mass shooting situations more difficult in that they will first have to identify who is or is not carrying before trying to figure out which direction a shooter went or who it could be. All of that takes time away from their ability to act quickly in such a situation, he said.

But Mr. Green, speaking to reporters after the vote, said some of the people testifying against the bill, and especially the school groups, "weren't testifying on the bill."

"Every one of their statements was 'we don't want guns in schools.' It wasn't a matter of 'we've got guns in schools, let's change the law,' which is what I'm trying to do. Their whole testimony didn't really discuss what the bill was doing," he said. "I think the message that was sent today was 'we don't want guns in school,' and we understand that. We're trying to fix a fix, trying to do them a favor.

"We, as gun owners, have every right in the world to carry in most of the gun-free zones. Are we going to give that up? We're taking a step back and saying we'll cover them up if you guys are willing to do it. They don't even want that," Mr. Green said.

And he said some of the testimony spoke only to hypotheticals.

"I've always said to the stadium folks that wanted to be left in the gun-free zones, you don't even know if there's any bad guns there. You only want to disallow good guns," he said. "The debate is going back and forth about what's a gun zone, and the fact is most people could carry there today because the penalties are so light."

All told, the committee permitted slightly more than hour of testimony after Mr. Green and Mr. Lott spoke on the merits of the bill for more than 30 minutes at the start of the committee. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge) said he sought to report the bill despite that many more people wished to testify on their position on the bill given some committee members had other meetings they had to get to. Mr. Jones said he would, however, stay to listen to anyone else who wished to speak on the matter.

After the vote, Mr. Bieda said he thought it "insulting" to the people who traveled to testify, as well as insulting to the institution. His remark was met with applause from many in the audience, which Mr. Jones immediately gaveled down.

Mr. Green was not immediately sure how soon the bill could be taken up by the full Senate.

Mr. Meekhof has said he supports the legislation, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has been opposed to essentially ending gun-free zones.

House Panel Considers Banning Certain Kinds Of Abortions

The House Criminal Justice Committee discussed banning dilation and evacuation abortions on Tuesday, with the Republican sponsor of the bill calling the procedure "barbaric," but Democrats charged the procedure is used in 95 percent of second trimester abortions and would limit women's access to care.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1" } (R-Livonia), sponsor of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483301" } and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483401" } banning the procedure, which in the bill is called a "dismemberment abortion," and would charge anyone who performed the procedure - except to save the mother's life - with a felony punishable by two years in prison and/or a $50,000 fine.

Ms. Cox called the procedure cruel and said during it, "tiny, unborn humans are literally torn apart."

"It seems unconscionable to me that this type of abortion exists and it is time that this practice ended," she said.

In 2014 there were 26,321 reported abortions in the state, with 2,264 being dilation and evacuation procedures, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The bill defines "dismemberment" abortion as "an abortion in which the physician, an individual acting under the delegatory authority of the physician, or any other individual performing the abortion deliberately and intentionally uses any instrument, device, or object to dismember a living fetus by disarticulating limbs or decapitating the head from the fetal torso and removing the dismembered fetal body parts from the uterus regardless of whether the fetal body parts are removed by the same instrument, device, or object or by suction or other means."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=94401&locid=1" } (D-Muskegon) said according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the procedure is the safest method for women 14 weeks pregnant and later.

Ms. Cox said there are other abortion procedures available and the dilation and evacuation procedure is not necessary.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said similar laws have been challenged in Oklahoma and Kansas and asked Ms. Cox how the state would pay for a court challenge.

"I am actually ready for the fight," Ms. Cox said. She also said the state would determine how to fund such a fight during the appropriations process.

Matt Allswede, a gynecologist and the vice chair of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Michigan chapter, said the group is alarmed at the attempt to ban physicians from providing safe and evidence-based health care.

He said according to the CDC, pregnancy complications were the sixth-leading cause of death for women between 20 and 34 years old.

"The bills create a dangerous environment for women by preventing doctors from having every option available when providing care," he said. Mr. Allswede said science, not political beliefs, should be the basis of medical decisions.

Mr. Allswede, who said he had performed the procedure last week, said it is a very intense experience.

"It is something that is very emotional for us as people as well as physicians," he said. "And yet we do it because we do believe in those circumstances it is in the best interest of the woman. Our choice to proceed with something that we may have our own emotional feelings to contend with, it's superseded by our professional commitment to do what's best for our patients."

Mr. Allswede said the reason the procedure is safer for second-term abortions is a medical abortion that creates a "mini-labor" experience. He said the medication used are sometime problematic for patients and the pro-longed process makes patients more susceptible to infections, which is the biggest threat to future fertility.

Ed Rivet, with Right to Life of Michigan, spoke in support of the bill, said the dilation and evacuation procedure facilitates the harvesting of fetal organs.

Mr. Rivet then took out a pair of forceps and brought out a plastic fetus to "demonstrate" the procedure. Mr. Rivet later told the committee he had never performed an abortion, had never seen one in person, but had seen the procedure done on a video on the internet.

"Initially I was going to apologize for the gruesomeness. You can see my hands shaking," he said after his demonstration. "But this is just the reality of it, folks. It's just the truth about how a child is torn apart, piece by piece."

Daniel Wechter, a gynecologist who is anti-abortion, said he has only had to use the procedure to save the life of a mother six times in his 41-year career. Mr. Wechter said he works with high-risk pregnancies.

He said he disagrees that the procedure is safer than others when it comes to second trimester abortions. He said of the physicians with whom he spoke who support the right to a legal abortion, they told him there is a degree of cervical trauma from the procedure.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan also spoke in opposition to the bill. In written testimony, the group said the bills are unnecessary, unconstitutional and unsafe.

The committee did not act on the bill Tuesday, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" } (R-Plymouth), chair of the committee, indicated the bill would come up in the committee again.

Court Hears Arguments On Whether MCCA Is Public Body

If the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is a public body, then the Legislature violated the Constitution by not making it subject to the state's Freedom of Information Act, the Supreme Court was told Tuesday. If it is not a public body, then the issue is moot.

And the MCCA in its response argued that in fact it was not a public body, that it was created as a private, non-profit agency answerable to insurance companies and not the public. While its decision on the insurance surcharge individuals have to pay on their auto no-fault insurance does have an impact on the public, the public is not actually required to pay it as the insurance companies could cover the cost, the Supreme Court was told.

The arguments before the court, in *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault v. MCCA* (SC docket No. 150001), were to determine if the court will actually hear full arguments on the issue, or decide the case on the arguments presented.

The case drew lots of attention, as the Supreme Court chambers were crowded with people, many who were injured in auto accidents. At one point MCCA attorney Lori McAllister said the public had a lot of interest in the case, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" } joked that he thought they were all there to see the newest justice, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=394301&locid=1" }.

Opponents of change to the no-fault system have argued for some years that the MCCA needs to open itself to public scrutiny so it can be determined how much in assets it has and the real impact it has on insurance rates.

The matter is on appeal from the Court of Appeals which held the MCCA is not a public body. The trial court had said it was a public body.

Joanne Swanson, arguing for CPAN and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, said the issue is simply that the MCCA is a public body and that in enacting the MCCA the Legislature unconstitutionally exempted it from the FOIA and failed to amend and republish the FOIA as is required by the Constitution.

The state's no-fault law was enacted in 1972. The FOIA was enacted in 1976. Then in 1978, the Supreme Court upheld the no-fault law in the *Shaver's* decision but said the Legislature had to enact further protections to ensure insurance was affordable and that motorists had access to information about how their rates were derived. In meeting the requirement of the Supreme Court, the Legislature adopted changes to the no-fault act, and among those was adopting the MCCA.

The overall structure of the MCCA and its impact on the public makes it a public body, subject to the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said.

And the overall intent of the FOIA shows that if the Legislature intended it to not be subject to the FOIA then it had to specify which documents would not be subject to the law, she said. But the Legislature described no documents that would be exempt and, in fact, did not describe documents at all.

There are exceptions for public bodies from the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said, but the MCCA does not rise to those exceptions.

But Mr. Young asked if the issue did not hinge on a "threshold question" of whether the agency was a public body.

And Ms. Swanson acknowledged that if the MCCA was not a public body, then it was not subject to the FOIA.

Ms. McAllister agreed that was the essential issue and said the MCCA was not intended to be a public body.

"The Legislature can decide what is a public body," Ms. McAllister said, and it did not decide that the MCCA is a public body. The statute creating it clearly says the agency is a non-profit corporation that has no ability to interact with policymakers or to set policy. It has no state revenues and its benefits go to insurance companies.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=11701&locid=1" } asked if it has no impact on the public, and Ms. McAllister said that it did - through its annual assessment on auto insurance -- but the same could be said of any corporation.

And even then, Ms. McAllister said, the statute allows the insurance companies to absorb the assessment by themselves and not pass it on to the motorists.

Education Board Pushes Professional Development Attached To Evaluations

As the Legislature completes work on educator evaluation changes, the new law should provide opportunities for teachers to improve based on their evaluation, the State Board of Education said in approving recommendations at its meeting Tuesday.

The board unanimously recommended the Legislature approve an evaluation system designed to improve teacher performance and student learning and that provided teachers an appeal from poor evaluations.

The board did not take a specific position on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }, but it urged the Legislature to retain in it all of the recommendations of the Council for Educator Effectiveness.

"The purpose of educator evaluation has never been to fire people. That is not the best practice," Deputy Superintendent Venessa Keesler said.

Rather, she said, the evaluations should show most teachers where they need to improve. "Teaching students is not a thing that's easy to do and it's not something that's static," she said. "It's about improving the effectiveness of our professionals, not about firing our way to proficiency."

Ms. Keesler acknowledged that evaluations would show some teachers that they should re-evaluate their professional choices, but she said those would be few.

But she said that those ranked ineffective remained less than 1 percent of teachers is not surprising

"I don't think that we would expect to see a significant number of our teachers who are ineffective," she said. "Most of our teachers are good teachers who can be better."

Ms. Keesler said it would be unfair at this point to draw any conclusions about the state's teacher evaluation system based on the proportions of teachers ranked highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

"It's also important not to judge our system until we have a system," she said. "We want them to have a statewide system so that they're comparable."

The department is not urging the Legislature to adopt a single evaluation system, but is pushing to narrow down the number of tools, maybe to the four that were recommended by the Council on Educator Effectiveness that developed some of the guidance for educator evaluation systems.

Ms. Keesler noted that some 44 percent of districts are using their own evaluation system. While it is usually a modified version of one of the recommended tools, she said that still leaves teachers without comparable evaluations across districts.

Student growth should be part of the evaluation system, but Ms. Keesler said it had to be measured correctly. She said the department is urging districts to use measures beyond the state assessments.

"They may not be proficient, but that doesn't mean they haven't made growth," she said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said there are a variety if situations where a teacher's ability might not coincide with student improvement.

"Some of our lowest performing districts had the highest percentage of highly effective teachers," he said. "That might well be true."

One element of new student growth measures could be Student Learning Objectives, Norma Jean Sass, deputy superintendent for education services said in a separate presentation.

The goal of the program, which the department is currently developing, is to set goals for individual students and to measure them based on those goals.

"It's another way for the teacher to become very invested in this," Ms. Sass said.

"This is kind of an answer for those untested subjects and grades as well," Linda Forward, director of the Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation, said.

Board member Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) said the final system also needed to have an appeal process. She said the current plan, to allow teachers to appeal to their superintendent, was not sufficient.

She said teachers could be given poor evaluations because of their advocacy efforts rather than their actual teaching ability, and then fired based on those evaluations. "They become a target," she said. "Who's to stop that if the superintendent is complicit?"

Ms. Keesler said the department is also supporting an appeal process, but she said getting the evaluation system right could lessen the need for appeals because teachers would feel the evaluations are fair.

The board's resolution called for an appeal to an independent third party.

Districts are also at various stages in implementing evaluation systems, Ms. Keesler said. "Some well down the road," she said. "Others have been waiting for the state to provide more guidance."

She said many districts have not adopted one of the four recommended tools in part because they fear the state will mandate they use one of the others, she said.

The $12 million the department has for training on teacher evaluation will flow through intermediate school districts and will likely be concentrated on the four recommended tools, Ms. Keesler said.

She said the funds are targeted for ISDs so the training can be more targeted to the needs of the districts. Those that already have systems well underway would not need basic implementation training, she said.

The department is holding some of the funds aside for research work, Ms. Keesler said.

"There are some thigs we don't know about evaluation that would help us be smarter about educator evaluation," she said. "Administrator evaluation is an area that is far less well defined in the research; that was far less well defined in the Ball report."

Deborah Ball was chair of the educator effectiveness commission.

TEACHER TRAINING: Michigan might not have any additional colleges to train teachers under a moratorium extended Tuesday by the board.

Department officials requested that the moratorium, which technically expired in August, be renewed until they can develop a strategy for approving new institutions.

Ms. Keesler said officials are developing a plan that would allow approval of new institutions with programs in areas where the state has teacher shortages. The new moratorium is for three

years, but Ms. Keesler said the department could come back to the board in as little as six months with a plan.

She said there had been some inquiries about creating new institutions by some out-of-state schools, but no official applications.

Education Board Objects To Mandatory Third Grade Retention

The state should not be requiring school districts to retain students who cannot read at third grade level, but it should require districts to have a plan to address those students, the State Board of Education said in a resolution regarding { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" }
.

Board members said retention needed to be an option, but that there was little data on the long-term effects of holding students back.

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) suggested the idea that districts be required to create a retention policy that has to be approved by the Department of Education.

"In my eyes, retention has to remain on the table because this state has fallen behind year after year after year," Ms. Weiser said.

She said having the department approve the policy would ensure students would receive the assistance the need to get to grade level once they are retained, and hopefully before retention is needed.

Ms. Weiser had recommended the board call for mandatory retention where a district does not provide an approvable plan. "If that's not in there or there's a loophole, then we're right where we're at," she said.

But other board members recommended instead that the legislation include an "enforceable" mandate for the district plan.

"There's a lot of ways that could be accomplished," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said.

The board, in its resolution, praised the other strategies in the bill designed to improve reading proficiency.

SUBJECT MATTER STANDARDS: Mr. Whiston said new science standards would likely be ready for adoption at the next board meeting, but that social studies standards would likely wait until January.

He said there had been substantial changes to the draft standards based on public input, so the department was planning to put the revised draft out again for public comment.

Officials did recommend that the board adopt, at its next meeting, new standards for preparation of teachers of world languages. The new standards are based on American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, but with Michigan-specific elements.

Senate Panel Debates Mandatory Expulsion

After a teacher's life was threatened by a student in Grand Rapids with no apparent recourse for the school district without the threat of being sued, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } developed the framework for legislation that would require a school board to expel a pupil in grade six or above who threatened to kill a school employee, volunteer or contractor.

But the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan told the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday that it is concerned such a mandatory requirement as is outlined in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB20801" }, without giving discretion on a case-by-case basis, could result in poorer student outcomes and potentially more people in jail.

In addition to mandatory expulsion for threatening someone's life, a school district would not have to spend more money to provide instructional services to a permanently expelled student than the amount of per-pupil payment the school district receives, SB 208 stipulates. And school boards would be required to report all such threats to law enforcement officials and prosecutors.

The now-retired teacher that prompted the legislation, Diane Jelke, said she and other teachers and counselors did as much as they could to give the superintendent of the district reason to expel the student in question given the situation, but the district's attorney feared a lawsuit such that the verbal threat that was made - despite the attempted physical assault - was not enough to expel the student.

While sympathetic to her story, some senators were concerned about the grander implications such a law could have on students and the way schools operate. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart) said that he was concerned the bill did not also include community colleges, especially given recent events elsewhere.

"The evidence shows these types of one-size fits all policies do more to harm student outcomes," said Rodd Monts, field director for the ACLU of Michigan. "When these serious incidents occur, school districts should have the tools of whether some other exclusion ... is necessary. We ask you include discretion in this legislation, that each case be reviewed against a set of exceptions."

He said that while he and the ACLU can appreciate that there will be cases where the removal of the student is best for all involved, his organization asks that such an option not be mandatory. He said what is threatening to one person may not be to another, or in some cases, the students can be taught to be better as individuals and members of society.

"There are a number of advocacy organizations that provide students and parents the help they need in these cases where (schools) don't know what to do," he said. "You can't simply suspend and expel your way out of problems."

ECONOMICS CREDIT: The committee did report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001" } with unanimous approval. The bill would allow one-half credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy the Michigan Merit Curriculum for economics.

ONLINE PROTECTION: With another week of no testimony on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001" }, which would create the Student Online Personal Protection Act to essentially protect certain student information from being amassed by the operator of the system or sold, committee chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair) said he would allow the bill one more week in committee before voting it out.

Education Board Urges No Guns In Schools

Legislation to allow only those with concealed pistol licenses to have firearms in schools, provided they remain hidden, still goes too far, the State Board of Education said Tuesday in a rare split vote.

The board, in a 7-1 vote, supported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426101" } to prohibit openly carrying firearms in schools and opposed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201" } that would end open carry in but allow those permits to concealed carry in schools and a variety of other venues currently considered gun-free.

"This is something I have to spend way too much time thinking about: what happens when someone comes on campus with a gun," said board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich (D-Rochester Hills), who develops emergency management plans for Macomb Community College.

Ms. Ulbrich heads the board's legislative committee and wrote the resolution.

"There is no place for guns in schools," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said. "If guns are around, they are going to be used, even if by accident."

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) said she had a "unique perspective" on the issue given that her child had armed guards at school while her husband served as an ambassador.

"I will be voting for this, but the clash between personal rights and children's rights is there," Ms. Weiser said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said the proposal infringes on the right to bear arms and urged leaving the decision to the local districts.

"I'm just not sure that we can speak across the board for every school culture," he said.

And he indicated allowing weapons into the buildings could have stopped some of the recent shootings.

"It's no accident that many of these shootings have taken place in in areas where guns are outlawed and only the outlaws have guns," he said.

Michael Shibler, superintendent of Rockford Public Schools, said during public comment that he would not want anyone other than police and security staff to try to decide whether a person is dangerous.

"You cannot expect an employee of our building ... to be able to assess a person coming into our building, that person's mental state," he said.

The district instead built security vestibules in all of its buildings and visitors must be allowed past those. "Something like that is going to protect as best we can," he said.

Education Board Calls For Blood Lead Testing For Flint Children

All school children in Flint should have their blood tested for lead given the recent water issues there, the State Board of Education said in a resolution Tuesday.

The board called for the state to provide the blood tests in the schools or other locations convenient to parents, and to not charge the parents for it.

"These parents need to know what they dealing with at this point," board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich said in moving a resolution calling for legislation. The final resolution simply called for action.

The resolution was the result of a statement issued Tuesday by board member Pamela Pugh (D-Saginaw) calling on the Department of Education to work with the Department of Health and Human Services and others to be sure the blood tests are offered.

Ms. Pugh also called on the board and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1" } to work with the School Reform/Redesign Office, now in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, to prevent any future state takeovers of school districts.

"Unless we interject, areas in Michigan will continue to live under the threat of becoming U.S. sacrifice zones, where costs are cut, budgets are balanced, and profits are made at the expense of the health and wellbeing of our children, especially our most burdened children living in low-income families," Ms. Pugh said in her statement.

Deputy Superintendent Kyle Guerrant said the department only had authority over such issues where it provides grants funding, but he said later in the meeting that efforts were under way to provide the testing free to Flint residents.

Cotter Rebuts Presumptive Parole Criticism

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } already led his chamber in support of presumptive parole measures in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" } , but with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } expressing his opposition loudly during the past week, Mr. Cotter released a statement of support Tuesday.

"Presumptive parole is a responsible way to reform our broken prison system and protect the rights and safety of Michigan residents. Contrary to many reports, the proposed bill simply requires parole boards to give a compelling reason to deny parole when prisoners with a high probability of success have completed their minimum sentence," Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said.

The House passed HB 4138 earlier this month despite Mr. Schuette's objections. Mr. Schuette said on Michigan Public Television's "Off the Record" last week that the bill would allow for violent criminals to be released from prison early. Mr. Schuette has also said the release of prisoners outlined in the bill is automatic and the parole board is not able to determine risks and dangers of each prisoner.

But the House Fiscal Agency analysis says the measures in the bill would not be automatic. Under the bill, compelling reasons against presumptive parole include: objective and verifiable evidence that a victim would be caused harm by release; the prisoner has a pending felony charge; and the there is evidence the prisoner would be a danger to society if released, among other reasons.

"The process is even simplified for parole boards by filtering out prisoners who don't have a high enough probability of success, including repeat offenders and prisoners who face additional charges," Mr. Cotter said. "Any parole board willing to deny a man his freedom and keep him locked up beyond the court-ordered sentence ought to at least have a reason for doing so."

State Names Companies For New Medicaid Care Contract

The 11 managed care companies which will be able to provide Medicaid coverage to an estimated 1.7 million people in the state beginning in January have been named by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The companies will handle recipients in 10 different regions across the state, called by the department "Prosperity Regions," and the most populous areas will see more companies competing for Medicaid recipients.

Region 1, which is the Upper Peninsula, will have just one company open to handle recipients: the Upper Peninsula Health Plan.

Four companies - McLaren Health Plan, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan, Molina Healthcare of Michigan and United Healthcare Community Plan - will compete in all the remaining regions.

The other companies open to Medicaid recipients are Blue Cross Complete of Michigan, Priority Health Choice, HAP Midwest Health Plan, Aetna Better of Michigan, Harbor Health Plan and Total Healthcare.

Dems Call For Snyder To Fire DPS EM Earley Over Flint Water Crisis

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon on Tuesday said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } should remove Darnell Earley as the emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools because of his decision as emergency manager in Flint to move the city temporarily to the Flint River as the city's source of drinking water.

That water received insufficient treatment to prevent corrosion, causing lead to leach into the water. Now the city will switch back to the Detroit water system until the water pipeline to Lake Huron through a new local authority is complete.

"This catastrophe began with the governor's appointed emergency manager, and as much as Governor Snyder would like to pretend, this is not a matter of negotiating at the boardroom table. This is a situation where you pay for your mistakes and put those responsible on the chopping block," Mr. Dillon said in a statement.

Mr. Snyder, asked whether Mr. Earley should be replaced at DPS, said that he was no longer the emergency manager in Flint and that local Flint officials had decided long before Mr. Snyder put the city under an emergency manager to switch water sources as well as designated the Flint River as its backup source.

Powdered Alcohol Ban Heading To Governor's Desk

The House on Tuesday passed a bill banning powdered alcohol in the state, readying it for the Senate to present to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24001" } cleared the House 102-3 with no changes from the Senate version.

The bill would prohibit the sale, distribution and possession of powdered alcohol. Other states have already banned the product, and other states - including New York and Ohio - are considering bans.

Committee Roundup

PETTALIA EYEING SPEED LIMIT VOTE BEFORE THANKSGIVING: The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee could vote on legislation to raise speed limits on some highways and freeways before the recess for Thanksgiving and the start of firearm deer hunting season.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001&locid=1" } (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair, said he has been surprised at the level of interest from the committee in pursuing the legislation. He anticipated changes to the legislation, but that it possible it would move on an amended version.

Capital Notebook

IPPSR NAMES NEW DIRECTOR: Former Treasurer Doug Roberts Sr. is retiring from his post as director of the Michigan State University Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and MSU associate professor Matt Grossmann has been named as the new director.

CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR: After Monday evening's meeting, the Civil Rights Commission still had three candidates to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1" }. The commission reviewed three candidates who were inadvertently not in an initial list of resumes, but did not consider any of them worthy of an interview.

Names of the candidates to be interviewed are to be released later this week.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, October 15

Fire Safety Board, Suite H, 3101 Technology Boulevard, Lansing, 1 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/SFSB%20Agenda%2010%2015%2015.pdf" \t "_blank" }

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Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } FILING FEES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB28101" }, PA 132)

Provides for reallocation of portion of certain filing fees paid to the Wayne County retirement system for bailiffs in the thirty-sixth district court under certain circumstances.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB46801" }, PA 133)

Modifies eligibility for licensure of pharmacy technicians and requirements for limited license pharmacy technicians.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: September 30, 2015

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB407001" } PUBLIC OFFICERS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" }) Creates incompatible officers exception for public safety positions.
, PA 134

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 14, 2015
News

Senate panel OKs concealed guns in 'gun-free' zones (Associated Press, 10/14/2015)

'Clean slate' law for offenders could be boon for business (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Poll: Michigan voters strongly favor state prison reform (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Senate panel OKs concealed weapons in schools (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Road funding talks break down over income tax cut (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Ex-emergency manager says he's not to blame for Flint River water switch (Flint Journal, 10/14/2015)

Flint City Council OKs $2 million for reconnection to Detroit water (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Lawmaker's lawsuit claims Flint, state withheld documents on water safety (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Michigan lawmakers 'offended' by lack of DHHS answers (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Supreme Court returns to Capitol for a day (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Aide to Michigan congressman accused of attacking man with kitchen knife, using gay slur (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Ann Arbor schools chief asks lawmakers to keep concealed guns out of schools (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Cindy Gamrat says a Republican lock-out would be a slap in the face (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Income tax debate at heart of latest Michigan road funding stalemate (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Meth lab map shows why Michigan lawmakers are continuing crackdown (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Powdered alcohol ban passes Michigan House (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Court: Pot as tip no reason for police to seize car (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Gun control debate draws voters' attention in Mich. (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Snyder: Road fund talks hit dead end (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Editorials

Editorial: No need for more speed on Michigan highways (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/14/2015)

For GOP, bloodying unions comes before fixing roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Sorry seems to be the hardest word for the state to say to Flint (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Ken Braun: Fixing the federal debt needs to start at Michigan's Capitol (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Column: Presumptive parole isn't safe for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Editorial: Detroit community policing cutting murders (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Letter: Dem tax plan would help families (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Yanez: Prevailing wage good for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Flint's lessons (Toledo Blade, 10/14/2015)

Blogs

Flint Crisis Comes On Eve Of Mayoral Election (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/13/2015)

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Attachments: Oct14.htm; Oct14House.htm; Oct14Senate.htm; 151014dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

House Approves Nearly $10M For Flint Water

Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial

State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

Bridge Authority Has 6 Potential Bidders

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Volume #54, Report #204 -- Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

The state has reached tentative agreements with its bargaining units on new contracts for state employees.

Two unions - the Michigan Corrections Organization and the Michigan State Employees Association - confirmed Wednesday the major aspects of the tentative deals between the state and their unions: a one-year contract for wages and health care starting October 1, 2016, that provides a 1 percent base wage increase, and 1.5 percent lump sum payment for employees in October 2016.

Sources told Gongwer News Service the same provisions apply to tentative agreements between the state and other unions representing state employees.

The Service Employees International Union 517M also announced a tentative agreement but did not publicly offer details.

Officials with the United Auto Workers Local 6000, the state's largest employee union, did not return calls for comment.

"While this agreement isn't perfect, it maintains key pieces of our contract that members said were very important to them, such as their health care costs," MCO President Tom Tylutki said in a statement. "Our negotiations centered on the issues members told us were important. Health care is their number one concern."

The agreements are merely tentative and still require ratification from union members as well as approval from the Civil Service Commission.

But presuming union members ratify them, it will set one key piece of the upcoming 2016-17 fiscal year budget.

Other portions of the contracts would last the traditional three years. However, the Office of State Employer pushed for a one-year deal on the wages and health care components out of concern about what will happen with the federal excise tax on premium health care plans, MCO said in a bulletin to its members.

That is the so-called Cadillac tax in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Under that law, starting with the 2018 tax year, if the aggregate cost of the health care coverage an employer provides exceeds a statutory dollar limit, then the excess is subject to a 40 percent excise tax.

The idea behind the tax was to reduce health care spending. But it is providing a rare point of agreement between Democratic supporters of the law and Republicans who have long called for the Affordable Care Act's repeal. Unions and Democrats have said the tax should be repealed, as have Republicans and business groups, but it is unclear what will happen.

A spokesperson for the Office of the State Employer declined to comment.

Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

Attorney General Bill Schuette faced heat from Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof Wednesday regarding legislation pending in the Senate on presumptive parole, and Governor Rick Snyder also defended the legislation.

In the past week, Mr. Schuette has launched a campaign-style assault on the legislation, referring to it as "early" release, "catch and release" and "autopilot parole." Supporters of the bill have said he is just totally wrong in his characterization of the bills.

"He's been out there on a limb on this, throwing out a direct line and saying stuff like it's anti-cop, which was over the top, and he and I had that discussion yesterday," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said of Mr. Schuette. "He's certainly within his right to comment on public policy. (But) he doesn't make public policy, he just follows what we do."

Still, Mr. Schuette's fusillade against the legislation may be having an impact. Mr. Meekhof said his caucus is voicing considerable concern about it.

Mr. Schuette has been relentless on the issue. Last week, on WKAR's "Off the Record," he said HB 4138 was "elitist" because those who live in nicer areas would have fewer worries about criminals being released back into society (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 9, 2015). And his Twitter account gives updates seemingly every hour or two about "autopilot parole" and examples of parolees re-offending once released.

"Public safety is the first responsibility of government. Autopilot release of violent offenders is bad for our neighborhoods, cities and small towns," he said Tuesday in a joint statement with Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton, his Democratic opponent in 2010 for attorney general. "We cannot build a better, stronger, safer Michigan if our public safety is threatened."

Mr. Schuette and Mr. Meekhof are also potential rivals for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in 2018 when Mr. Snyder cannot seek re-election.

Asked if he told Mr. Schuette to keep his nose out of the matter, Mr. Meekhof responded, "I said it was probably not a wise idea to talk the way he talked about the caucus on the other side. He said he'd take that under advisement."

Mr. Meekhof said he was unsure whether Mr. Schuette had apologized to the House members who drafted and supported HB 4138, which passed the House earlier this month 67-39 and currently sits in the Senate Government Operations Committee chaired by Mr. Meekhof.

"But he probably ought to think about how he treats everybody in general, and if he really wants to get public policy done, the best effort would be to work with people," Mr. Meekhof said.

Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely declined to comment on Mr. Meekhof's comments.

In addition to comments by Mr. Meekhof, Governor Rick Snyder expressed support of the measure in prepared remarks. This came a day after House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) also felt compelled to defend the legislation against Mr. Schuette's criticism.

"Michigan needs a smarter criminal justice system that doesn't simply punish people who commit crimes, but frees up resources that can instead be used on effective efforts to reduce criminal activity and make our communities safer," Mr. Snyder said. "House Bill 4138 creates consistency in parole decisions for low-risk offenders by ensuring that they are all subject to the same standards when being considered for parole."

Mr. Snyder also noted the long-term impact of the change could be housing about 3,600 fewer low-risk felons in state prisons a decade from now, freeing up some $80 million "that can be reinvested in preventing crime rather than continuing to keep low-risk offenders behind bars after they have served their minimum sentence."

HB 4138 currently awaits action in the Senate Government Operations Committee, chaired by Mr. Meekhof, who said he had a "healthy discussion" with his caucus on the matter on Wednesday.

"We're looking at this presumptive parole along with some other corrections reform. Senator Proos has some great ideas that we're probably going to combine with it and come up with a better package," he said.

But Mr. Meekhof also admitted that there was "a lot of concern" among his caucus members, especially since the issue has always started in the House, even last term.

"They needed a lot of information to even understand the terms that were being talked about because we really haven't studied this at all in our caucus," he said.

Given the expectation that Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph) would lead on another package of corrections reform, Mr. Meekhof said it would be "a little while" before there would be any action on the issue in the Senate, though specifics beyond that were not discussed.

On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

Wednesday was meant to be a cooling off day following Tuesday's impasse on talks to generate $1.2 billion in new funds for roads, but instead the disputes continued.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said he was surprised at remarks by House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) on road funding talks and how a proposal that the Legislative Quadrant may have on the table is insufficient.

The problem continues to be whether and how to provide income tax relief as a sweetener to an expected gasoline tax increase (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 13, 2015).

"He sat in the same room, saw the same spreadsheets I did and understood that the way we're doing it by the redirection of revenue going a little bit at a time and tax rollback only when there is over-the-top revenue," Mr. Meekhof said midday Wednesday. "He saw that it worked, so I'm not quite sure where he's coming up with his assertion that it's cutting anything."

The quadrant meeting scheduled for noon was canceled. Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said it was too soon on the heels of Tuesday's meeting, after which Mr. Snyder declared the talks at an impasse. But Ms. Wurfel said Mr. Snyder would continue talking to leaders on the issue.

Mr. Meekhof said the rollback has been on the table the whole time, "and now at the 11th hour (Mr. Greimel) wants it removed," Mr. Meekhof said. "I'm not going to remove it."

The income tax rollback passed by the Senate helped to garner some Republican votes for the meat of the legislation that seeks, in part, a gas tax hike. The Senate plan is complicated, only allowing a reduction in the tax if revenues grow and putting no bottom on how far the income tax rate could fall.

"The only dispute is, is it the rate of inflation or a little bit more than the rate of inflation?" Mr. Meekhof said of the rollback likely to be included in a final deal on road funding. "But it's the same mechanics."

Asked if he felt as though Mr. Greimel's concerns were "coming out of nowhere," Mr. Meekhof said the first he had heard of such a concern came Tuesday. But he said the Senate stands ready and willing to work on a plan.

"We sent over a plan with an income tax rollback, specifically protecting the things we think are important, and dedicating money towards roads. I think that was a good plan," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said Mr. Greimel ought to "find a way to compromise with Speaker Cotter and get it done."

But Mr. Meekhof wouldn't go so far as to say that if a roads solution doesn't get done soon that it would be solely Mr. Greimel's fault. Pointing fingers, he said, doesn't solve the problem.

"We're trying to solve the problem, and throwing mud around isn't going to make it better or give us a better opportunity to do it," he said.

Greimel spokesperson Katie Carey said Mr. Greimel was disappointed when the governor canceled the quadrant meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday.

On Mr. Meekhof's comments, Ms. Carey said: "We respectfully disagree with the Senate majority leader. We were always concerned with the hit to the General Fund."

Ms. Carey noted public schools, safety and other Democratic priorities are funded through the General Fund.

She also said an income tax cut is going to help the wealthier residents of the state.

"It is not going to help low-income Michiganders," she said.

She also said the Democrats are trying to find a roads solution that focuses mostly on roads.

"We want something that is more concrete that will be a long-term financially sustainable solution to fix the roads," she said.

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro said Mr. Cotter and Mr. Snyder met Wednesday and discussed goals on the issue moving forward. Mr. Cotter remains hopeful talks will resume, Mr. D'Assandro said.

House Approves Nearly $10M For Flint Water

The House unanimously voted Wednesday evening to approve $9.35 million to return Flint to the Detroit water system and pay for additional state staff in the city's schools to gauge exposure to lead, handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water and to assist with plumbing engineers.

HB 4102 passed the House 105-0.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement he attended House session Wednesday and told them the importance of passing the legislation.

"The people of Flint have the same right to clean, safe drinking water as residents in every district," he said. "I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle recognizing this and moving swiftly to secure resources. This is an important step necessary to fix the current crisis, and once this is complete, it's important that our next priority is getting to the bottom of how this happened. We need to make sure this never happens again."

Governor Rick Snyder last week called for state funds to be used return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River and to pay for additional state staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs working in the city.

The supplemental appropriations allocates $6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; $300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; $1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; $1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; $850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and $200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the $9.35 million allocated, $7.15 million is from the General Fund.

Rep. Al Pscholka, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said he was pleased to see a unanimous vote for the bill.

"There is a time in this Legislature that we have to have statesmanship and stateswomanship and this was one of those times. This is a public health emergency in Flint," he said.

Mr. Pscholka said some members speculated whether the funds should come from the Budget Stabilization Fund, but said that was not necessary.

"We are in a fiscal position in order to handle something like this," he said.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

The $6 million will go toward a contract between the city and the Detroit system to pay for water service until next summer when a new regional pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed. The Mott Foundation is putting up $4 million and the city of Flint the remaining $2 million.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS: The House unanimously passed HB 4843 Wednesday, which would protect minors seeking medical treatment, or helping a minor seek medical treatment, for an overdose or other drug-related illness or injury from possession charges.

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) introduced the bill in response to the loss of Mason Mizwicki, a Watervliet teenager whose mother, Lori Mizwicki, has been an advocate for greater awareness of the prescription drug problem.

"Even taking up the legislation has helped to start much-needed conversations about the problem," he said in a statement. "It's not isolated to one town or one portion of the state. This can happen to any teen, anywhere. We have to keep a spotlight on the issue."

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

The House spent nearly 7 hours Wednesday attempting to gather enough votes to pass a bill designed to get third grade students reading proficiently, but eventually called it quits with a positive outlook on the bill's chances Thursday.

"Very definitely," said Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township), sponsor of HB 4822 when asked if she thought the bill would pass Thursday.

"We're working really hard and a lot of our members had questions today, so we are in the process of answering a lot of those tomorrow," she told reporters after the long session.

Indeed, Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), had earlier told reporters the questions coming from members were overwhelming and needed more time to be properly answered.

Both Democratic and Republican House members were in and out of the chamber on Wednesday, clearly attempting to come to some kind of agreement on the bill.

At about 7:30 p.m. the Democrats went into caucus, when they returned to session the House voted on the Flint water fix and then adjourned shortly after.

Ms. Price said it is hard to say what kind of changes might be made to the bill before final passage.

She said members didn't understand how much interaction there would be with the child once they have been identified as having a reading deficiency.

Ms. Price also said some members were concerned because students who were making progress in reading should be promoted from third grade.

"But if you are in third grade and you're still reading at first grade level and you've made progress since the beginning of first grade, is that enough progress?" She said. "You still need to, when you get into fourth grade, be able to read to learn. And if you're not there yet, it's going to be more difficult."

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Democrats, agreed that there are a lot of questions and concerns from members. She said she is hopeful the chamber can come up with the votes to pass the bill Thursday.

Ms. Carey said Democratic members are looking for some changes in the retention piece of the bill and parental involvement.

"In the end we all have the same goal for this legislation. It's just a matter of how do you get there and what those look like," she said.

The bill, as reported form committee, would retain some third-graders who are reading more than a grade level behind, but it also provides for many intervention services before the third grade assessment and outlines "good cause" exemptions.

Similar legislation was controversial last term and was never able to be voted on by the full House.

Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

Rep. Robert Kosowski on Wednesday told the House Regulatory Reform Committee one way to get more funding for the state's roads and bridges is to legalize sports gambling and simulcasting horse races at casinos in the state.

HB 4469 and HB 4470 would allow casinos to accept wagers on sporting events, remove the current prohibition on televising simulcast horse races at casinos and allow for wagers on the races as well.

Mr. Kosowski (D-Westland) said he would be open to expanding the bill to horse racing tracks in the state.

To actually become law, the bills have several obstacles to overcome. First, a two-thirds majority is needed from both chambers and would need voter approval during the general election. Additionally, a federal court found that New Jersey's efforts to legalize sports betting violated federal law.

But Mr. Kosowski said the court is going to re-hear the case and there is a chance the original decision would be overturned.

"There are bookies everywhere. We all know this. Why not regulate it?" Mr. Kosowski said.

Originally, Mr. Kosowski intended to use the legislation to get more road funding. But he said as he has done more research, he would like some of the revenue generated to go to the race tracks in the state, and some funds to go to gambling addiction treatment and prevention.

Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama), chair of the committee, asked Mr. Kosowski what kind of support he had for the bill, noting that he didn't have any co-sponsors. Mr. Kosowski said he doesn't ask for co-sponsors and he believes the support is there.

Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill U.S., a bookmaking company, told the committee regulating the business is best.

Mr. Asher said suspicious activity can be reported and investigated in real time. And, he said, since it is the company's money being used there is incentive to call and report such activity.

"Oversight and protection do not occur in Michigan, however, because the illegal operators ...exist, and are not regulated," he said.

Mr. Asher said if casinos outsource the bookmaking there is little risk to them because companies such as his often front the cost.

He also said there may be losing days or weeks in the business, but there are very few losing months.

George Kutlenios, president of the Michigan Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association, told the committee in June 2014 that Michigan thoroughbred horses returned to the Hazel Park

raceway and saw 10,000 fans. He said attendance on regular days has consistently averaged 6,000 people.

Mr. Kutlenios said he appreciates the bill but would like to see a provision creating a relationship between any venue wishing to simulcast thoroughbred racing and a licensed state track to "ensure sustainability and quality of Michigan thoroughbred racing, and the resulting support to the state's agricultural industry can continue."

MMA AND BOXING REGULATIONS: The committee did report SB 152 and SB 154 regulating professional boxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts or similar "unarmed combat."

The responsibilities of the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission are outlined in SB 152, and that commission, alongside the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, would have jurisdiction over all boxing or MMA contests. The legislation also revises and establishes new regulations concerning the conduct of the events, as well as revises fee amounts for licenses to have such events.

Among the regulations are ensuring a contestant has been drug tested and having an on-site inspector. Women would also be required to submit a negative pregnancy test before competitions.

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

The Michigan Chamber announced on Wednesday its endorsement of Republicans Mary Whiteford in the 80th House District and Gary Howell in the 82nd House District, where former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser are running for re-election, respectively.

Mary Whiteford of Casco Township lost to Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell) in the 2014 Republican primary for the seat. Ms. Gamrat was expelled from the House last month but has said the voters deserve a voice in the process and is attempting to win her job back.

"Mary Whiteford will be a strong supporter of job creation and economic growth and we are pleased to endorse her in this special election," said Michigan Chamber President and CEO Rich Studley, in a statement. "The residents of Allegan County deserve better representation. We believe Whiteford possesses the experience and strength of character necessary to serve the 80th House District well."

Ms. Whiteford also has the endorsement of the Great Lakes Education Project and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce political action committee.

Mr. Howell of North Branch is the Lapeer County Intermediate School District president and is taking on 11 other candidates in the 82nd District primary, including Mr. Courser (R-Lapeer), who resigned before he was able to be expelled from the House.

"Gary Howell understands the importance of pursuing policies based on individual freedom, incentive and opportunity to keep Michigan moving forward," said Jim Holcomb, senior vice president and general counsel for the Michigan Chamber, in a statement. "If elected, Howell will provide the residents of Lapeer County with the effective representation they deserve."

Endorsements in the 82nd District are split up more than in the 80th District. Former Rep. Kevin Daley has endorsed Chris Tuski of Lapeer, who is a farmer and volunteer firefighter. And GLEP has endorsed Jan Peabody of Lapeer, who lost in the 2014 primary to Mr. Courser.

In the 2014 Republican primary, the state Chamber endorsed Ms. Peabody. It did not endorse in the 80th.

The November 3 special election primary comes as Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser were participating in an extramarital affair together while serving in the House. An internal House Business Office investigation then found the two were misusing state resources to attempt personal and political gains.

Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Revenue generated from the increase in hunting and fishing license fees is about $5 million less than expected, Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh told the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.

Mr. Creagh said the department expected $18 million from the change in fees in the 2014-15 fiscal year, but only saw $13 million. And in the 2013-14 fiscal year, which included seven months of the new fee structure, the department expected $11.8 million in new revenue, but only received $7.8 million.

Austin Scott, the House Fiscal Agency analyst for the DNR, said he expects to receive more revenue numbers for the fiscal year that ended two weeks ago.

Mr. Creagh said the changes in fees also changed buying patterns, as the licenses are shorter term rather than annual. He also said the increase in the out-of-state licenses has affected those hunters coming into the state.

A non-resident hunter must purchase a $150 base license and then purchase additional licenses for the species they wish to hunt, which range from $8 to $25. Out-of-state fishing licenses also increased from $42 to $67.

But, Mr. Creagh told the committee, the state is not out of line in its fees compared to neighboring states, and the fees are a bargain compared to states out west.

Rep. Michael McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills) said many groups encouraged the increase in fees when the Legislature began considering them and noted it may simply take time for the increases to set in.

LANDFILL ODOR VIOLATIONS: The committee reported HB 4783, which would increase penalties under Michigan's waste management laws for first and second violations of the law from $10,000 and $25,000 each day, to $25,000 and $75,000, respectively.

The bill cleared the committee 25-0, with Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) and Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) abstaining.

Mr. Yanez said he abstained from voting because the Department of Environmental Quality is working on updating the waste management laws and an additional series of bills could come up.

And Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), chair of the committee, said he looks forward to working with Mr. Yanez on the issue, because he does not believe the bill increasing the fees will be the last piece of legislation on the issue.

The Michigan Waste and Recycling Association was opposed to the bill, saying it would increase the fines for all firms and all violations, including compost facilities and municipal properties.

Mr. Pscholka, however, said the fines have not been increased since 1987.

"This is not out of the ordinary," he said. "This is something we should have been doing all along."

Mr. Pscholka introduced the bill in response to ongoing odor issues and a citation by the DEQ for inadequate daily cover by the Orchard Hill Landfill in Southwest Michigan.

"Let's go have a barbeque in one of these neighborhoods," he said in a statement. "You have to have a real sense of what it is like to have this in your backyard, for years. If you're not willing to put a little more pressure on these bad actors, you're saying you'd be willing to put a down payment on a house here."

Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

The Department of Civil Rights could potentially have three of its four most recent directors also be members of the commission that heads it.

Among the three candidates to be interviewed to succeed retiring Director Matt Wesaw is Agustin Arbulu, who succeeded Mr. Wesaw on the commission in January 2013. He left the commission earlier this month and has yet to be replaced.

Mr. Arbulu is president of Metro Care Services, which provides health care and legal consulting in the Detroit area.

The other Michigan candidate is Portia Roberson, who is group executive for ethics and civil rights for the city of Detroit. Ms. Roberson was among those interviewed when Mr. Wesaw was hired and was discussed as a Democratic candidate for attorney general for the 2014 election.

And Akia Haynes is deputy director and general counsel for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, where she has served since January 2013. She has also served as a deputy attorney general for the state, as well as a private practice attorney.

Mr. Wesaw had been a member of the commission, and so had been Kelvin Scott, who served as director from February 2009 to February 2010 when he died. Both had served as chair of the commission.

House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

What Rep. Lee Chatfield, chair of the House Local Government Committee, had thought would be a brief discussion turned contentious as local government groups raised concerns over his legislation to regulate charity donation bins.

All agreed the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was clear that the bins could not be prohibited (the court found they were charity speech and so protected under the First Amendment), but locals wanted to retain the right to oversee their location and maintenance.

Mr. Chatfield (R-Levering) said the goal of his bills (HB 4862 and HB 4863) is to unify regulation of the bins, which allow people to leave clothing, books and other materials for the charity listed on the side.

Local governments had tried to ban the bins, arguing, as some still did Wednesday, that they attract not only legitimate donations but also trash dumping.

Suzanne Schultz, managing director of design, development and community engagement for the city of Grand Rapids, brought pictures of bins overflowing with various materials.

Ms. Schultz said allowing cities to control the locations through zoning would help, but she said communities needed to be able to issue civil infractions for bins that become a nuisance.

"Courts are not going to take this up if it's misdemeanors," she said, echoing others who had argued the penalties as laid out in the legislation would be too costly to enforce.

But Judy Allen with the Michigan Townships Association said limiting the location regulation to zoning would limit townships' ability to regulate the locations because of their lesser planning powers, and it could potentially leave some bins unregulated.

"Everyone who has a bin, they would be grandfathered in and be a nonconforming use," she said.

She also joined others in urging against a cap on the annual licensing fee. The bill provides for no more than $75, but since local governments cannot charge more than their costs anyway, she said taxpayers would have to subsidize the system if costs rise above that cap.

Mr. Chatfield said his goal with the bill was to create a system and uniformity across the state. But he also said the bills would allow communities to do some of the things their representatives had asked.

"If the bill doesn't prohibit it, there will be more things locals will be able to do," he said.

Officials with Planet Aid, which had been the defendant in the federal lawsuit, said the bill would allow their operations but would help to weed out those not caring for their bins.

Kai Nelson said his group checks its bins once a week and has systems in place to allow response within 24 hours if there is a problem reported.

But he said local government groups' call for agreements between the charity and the property owner are not necessarily workable. He said in many cases the properties where the group places collection boxes have absentee or corporate owners and a local property manager is the right person to make the agreement.

Mr. Nelson said the company would be open to provisions that would require even its existing boxes to be licensed and, if they do not meet siting requirements, moved. He said the company has already done that in some locales that have adopted regulatory ordinances.

Mr. Chatfield said he would continue to work with all of the parties to meet their concerns in the legislation.

TAX CAPTURE: In what was intended to be the primary focus of the meeting, libraries said any changes to tax increment financing authority laws have to allow them more say in captured taxes.

And Eric Lupher with the Citizens Research Council said the state needs to place more limits on the authorities.

"Libraries are having to return for more millages in the future when their revenues are being captured by tax increment finance authorities," Lance Werner with the Kent District Library, speaking for the Michigan Library Association, said. "We're living within our means but our means are being siphoned away."

He noted, for instance, that the Litchfield library loses 47 percent of its funds to tax capture.

Mr. Werner said the libraries did not object to all tax capture authorities, but they should be given more power to choose which ones are appropriate to get library revenue. Current law, he said, allows them to accept all or reject all.

"We want to work with the tax captures ... so we can explain to our investors where our money is going," he said.

He said libraries should also be permitted to opt-in for all authorities. He said some provide for library revenue to automatically be captured and require the libraries to opt out.

Mr. Lupher said future authorities need to be given a limited time to operate. While courts have ruled that tax capture for economic development is constitutional, he said TIFAs have morphed into something that might not be.

"They're being used for police and fire; they're being used for street fairs," he said.

And he said they are being routinely renewed instead of expiring when an intended project is completed.

"There should be some finality to this," he said, adding that in many cases there is also less accountability for the funds.

"Those revenues have just been pushed off budget and you don't hear about it," he said.

Mr. Lupher, pointing to issues raised with recent millages to support the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts, said existing authorities also should be limited to capturing the taxes that are in existence when the authority is created. To capture any new taxes should require creation of a new authority, he said.

REWARDS: The committee also began discussions on HB 4292, which would allow county commissions to approve up to $20,000 for rewards leading to arrests for certain crimes.

Rep. Tom Cochran (R-Mason), sponsor of the bill, said in a recent incident where an Ingham County sheriff deputy was killed during a chase, the county was limited to offering $2,000 for information on the suspect, who had fled.

He said that limit was set in 1948.

"This money falls more in line with what the value of money is today," Mr. Cochran said of the bill. "This is a little more enticing to have people come forward."

Mr. Chatfield questioned whether the bill, which addresses only counties, should be expanded to cover other local governments under the same theory.

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial

The Senate voted unanimously Wednesday to eliminate the deadline in the law for a defendant convicted of a felony at trial, serving prison for that felony, to petition the court for DNA testing of biological material identified during an investigation that led to his or her conviction.

Those convicted of felonies may also request a new trial based on the results of that testing under SB 151. Currently, such a petition must be filed by January 1, 2016.

Only Michigan and Louisiana currently have sunsets on such provisions.

FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION: The Senate also approved SB 372, which provides firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan. The bill requires the state fire marshal to extend reciprocity certification to a firefighter from another state who seeks to work as a firefighter in Michigan as long as the individual was certified in another state after completing a program that meets or exceeds Michigan's standards.

"I have heard from many fire chiefs and local officials about how difficult and expensive it is to recruit and retain firemen in our local fire departments," Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Ida), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Part of the problem is that Michigan currently does not recognize out-of-state firefighter certification. This legislation will improve our local fire departments ability to protect families and staff their departments at appropriate levels."

State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

News that Michigan's unemployment rate fell to 5 percent in September, putting it below the national unemployment rate for the first time in 15 years, brought plenty of cheers Wednesday.

The national unemployment rate in September was 5.1 percent.

"We need to stay focused on our goal, but it also is important to look back to see how far we've come. Michigan's unemployment rate was once the worst in the United States," Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement. "Today we are below the national average for the first time since August 2000. This means more people in Michigan are able to use their skills and are finding fulfilling jobs to support themselves and their families, making our cities and our communities stronger in a variety of ways."

Mr. Snyder posted a photo of him from 2000 on his Twitter feed with much less gray hair and a beard to commemorate the occasion.

Employment rose for the month by 10,000, and the labor force was up, too, by 3,000.

In the past year, the unemployment rate has fallen from 6.7 percent, and employment is up by 68,000.

"Since early 2015, several key labor market indicators have shown improvement in Michigan and in the nation," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Monthly unemployment rates in the state and nation have been comparable, as have over-the-year payroll job growth rates."

Bridge Authority Has 6 Potential Bidders

The Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority announced Wednesday that six companies had responded to its request for qualifications to build the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

The authority is now submitting the qualifications to a review panel of authority members and experts to determine the three most qualified potential bidders.

"The private sector has shown a vibrant interest in working on the Gordie Howe International Bridge project, between this RFP, the responses we received to our recent RFP for early works, as well as the recently-held Industry Days," Mark McQueen, chair of the authority's board of directors, said in a statement. "Although site preparation has already begun for the eventual construction of the new Canadian Customs plaza, businesses and travelers on both sides of the border understand that the completion of the new bridge is dependent upon the successful conclusion of the pending RFP process."

Committee Roundup

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS: The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday began taking testimony on reviewing boilerplate language that requires reports of agencies that spend more than $500,000 in new or expanded programs.

The first programs up for review were making Michigan a no-wait state for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; child welfare performance-based funding; and the Ok2Say school safety hotline.

"This is harder work than passing budgets, is going back and checking and seeing if we're delivering on our promises," Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), whose idea it was to conduct such reviews, said in committee. "The intent of this is not necessarily to review why we did something. The intent is to review whether what we said we were going to accomplish is actually occurring."

By and large, Mr. Shirkey and other members of the committee requested more specific and detailed metrics, especially identifiable metrics like number comparisons, of all of the programs reviewed Wednesday. The committee expects to review another three programs next week, and chair Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell) recommended that members consider the practice for their own subcommittees when and where possible.

Capital Notebook

DEADLINE THURSDAY FOR LOCALS TO APPLY FOR GRANTS PROGRAM: Municipalities have until 11:59 p.m. Thursday to apply for the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships grant program. Any city, village or township experiencing one or more conditions of "probable financial distress," under PA 436 of 2012, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, is eligible to apply.

STATE CHRISTMAS TREE HAILS FROM WAKEFIELD: A 66-foot spruce from Wakefield in the Upper Peninsula will serve as the state's Christmas tree this year.

Florence Daniels is donating the tree to the state in memory of her husband, Jim Daniels, a former teacher and youth sports coach.

The tree will arrive October 31, and as per longtime tradition, be illuminated at the annual Silver Bells in the City celebration that Lansing holds to kick off the holiday season Friday, November 20.

MACMHB ANNOUNCES CEO: The executive board of the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards has announced Robert Sheehan will lead the organization as chief executive officer effective immediately. Prior to his new role, he served for 18 years at the CEO of the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties.

Mr. Sheehan replaces Michael Vizena as CEO of MACMHB. Mr. Vizena is retiring.

"Behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities affect so many of Michigan's residents, and are central to overall health, yet are often overlooked or stigmatized in the public eye," Mr. Sheehan said in a statement. "I look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the Association's members - hundreds of innovative provider and healthcare management organizations across the state - as they serve those in our communities with behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families."

LAND LEASES: The Department of Transportation will be leasing 17 parcels of land around the state for agricultural use only.

The lease sale is scheduled for November 4 at 10 a.m. (doors open at 9 a.m.) at the Office of Aeronautics Auditorium at Capital City Airport, 2700 Port Lansing Road in Lansing.

Those interested in bidding must attend and provide a sealed bid for each parcel.

CASINO REVENUE: Two of the three Detroit casinos saw revenue increase both for the month of September and for the third quarter, the Gaming Control Board announced Wednesday.

MotorCity Casino saw the most growth, with the $35.7 million it collected in September representing a 7.5 percent increase over the same month in 2014. For third quarter, its revenue was up 3.6 percent over the same period in 2014.

MGM Grand Detroit was up 4.6 percent in September to $45.2 million and up 0.5 percent for the quarter.

Greektown Casino saw revenue decline 0.1 percent for the month to $26.6 million and 2.4 percent for the quarter.

Appointments By The Governor

BOARD OF MECHANICAL RULES: Robert Fosburg of Caledonia, Christopher Freeman of South Lyon, Catherine Gay of Troy, Daniel Grafmiller of Fenton, Kenneth Misiewicz of Lake Odessa and Mark Riley of Berkley are reappointed for terms expiring October 1, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: Jill Marlan of DeWitt succeeds Vijay Kumar, who resigned, to represent professionals for a term expiring December 31, 2016. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

IRON INDUSTRY MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD: Charles Swanson of Marquette and Bob Niemela of Ontonagon are reappointed for terms expiring October 4, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Elaine Didier of Plymouth succeeds Tara Fulton to represent librarians from a special library, and Judith Houser of Waterford is reappointed, both for terms expiring October 1, 2018. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: Sen. Phil Pavlov of St. Clair is appointed to represent the Legislature, filling a vacancy, and Deana Strudwick of White Pigeon succeeds Sondra Stegenga, who resigned, to represent public or private providers of early intervention services. The appointments are for the remainder of terms expiring October 31, 2016. Barbara Corbin of Jenison, Judy Goth-Owens of East Lansing, Lauren Heilman of Cadillac and Prachi Shah of Ann Arbor are reappointed for terms expiring October 31, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

MICHIGAN PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE: James "Jim" Matthews of Grand Haven succeeds Eleonora Huskey to represent pharmacists, and Margo Farber of Grosse Pointe Park, Steven Hadesman of Bingham Farms, Anthony Ognjan of Shelby Township and Victoria Tutag Lehr of Birmingham are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring October 1, 2017, and are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

SKI AREA SAFETY BOARD: James Grundstrom of Negaunee succeeds Jim VanderSpoel to represent public members from the Upper Peninsula, and Steve Robinson of Birmingham succeeds Ron Edwards to represent engineers with ski experience. Mr. Grundstrom's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2018. Mr. Robinson's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointments By The Supreme Court

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: Robert Gardella is reappointed commissioner-at-large for a three-year term beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board. Brian Shekell and Krista Haroutunian are appointed commissioners-at-large for three-year terms beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Thursday, October 15

~~Canceled: Senate Elections and Government Reform (Committee Room), (Chr. Robertson, 373-1721), Room 210, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.~~

HB 4904 **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY** (McBroom) Provides for the presidential primary election as a regular election date and clarifies filing deadlines for candidates for local office and for all local ballot question.

SB 189 **AVIATION FEES** (Casperson) Removes certain restrictions on recovery of costs and fees in an action involving this state.

SB 190 **PREVAILING PARTY FEES** (Robertson) Removes certain restrictions on the award of costs and fees to prevailing party in a case involving this state.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Thursday, October 15, 2015

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Volume #54, Report #205 -- Thursday, October 15, 2015

Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

While Democrats were hopeful after a late session Wednesday they would be able to support a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade, in the end, House Republicans passed the bill Thursday with only three Democratic lawmakers in support.

The bill, HB 4822, cleared the chamber 57-48. Immediately after the bill's passage, both Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) requested they be removed as co-sponsors.

Under the bill, students could be retained in the third grade if they do not test proficiently in reading. The bill does outline multiple reading intervention programs in an effort to get students reading at grade level before retention is necessary. There are also "good cause exemptions" outlined in the legislation.

Additionally, in a change adopted Thursday, the retention portion of the bill would not go into effect until the 2019-20 school year, a two year delay from what was in the reported version of the bill.

Democrats speaking on the House floor said they were concerned about the lack of parental involvement in the retention process, the negative impacts of retention and the possibility that the funding in the current year budget for literacy programs would not actually cover the costs to schools.

Mr. Zemke, who had been working with fellow Democrats and the bill's sponsor, Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township), on an agreement, said in his opposition speech he still considered Ms. Price a friend, though she might not feel the same.

Mr. Zemke said he was voting no because an amendment he offered, which would allow a student who has been working on an individualized reading plan since the end of second grade, but was still not proficient in reading by the end of third grade, to move on to the next grade level while still working the individualized plan, was not adopted.

"I am not going to remove the hope of a 9-year-old. Period," he said on the House floor. "You want to see what's going to happen when you paint that picture. ... They're working hard, they're playing by the rules, they're doing everything right. ... And then you take it away. What do you think they're going to do for the rest of their educational career? They're not going to try. Because they played by the rules and they got screwed anyway."

Ms. Price said she was disappointed to lose Mr. Zemke's support, but said his proposed amendment watered down the retention provisions in the bill to a point where she was no longer comfortable.

"I understand what he was saying," she said. "But right from the get-go, the line in the sand has been for people to say, 'No, you need to read.' And we can't keep promoting kids because we're not getting them where they need to be."

Ms. Price said the reason the House worked so hard to get the bill passed this week rather than working longer behind the scenes is she wanted to get it done before the Legislature finds itself in an election year and before other education policy debates, like Detroit Public Schools, come up.

According to the House Fiscal Agency analysis, in the 2013-14 school year as many as 39 percent or 42,500 third grade students did not test proficiently in reading under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

With the "more rigorous" National Assessment of Educational Progress test, in 2013, 69 percent of fourth-graders did not reach proficient reading levels.

Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto) said the bill is not a reactive, retention-focused measure. She said it includes many intervention programs that work to help students improve their reading.

"It is not acceptable to allow our kids to not be able to read and yet send them along their way," she said.

Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit), one of the three Democrats who voted for the bill, said there is a 47 percent illiteracy rate in Detroit. He said current policies tell children in Detroit, "It's okay to be a failure."

He criticized comments from other members saying retention would emotionally impact children.

"How emotionally affected is that third-grader going to be when they grow up to be an adult with kids of their own who they cannot take care of because the system failed them?" he said.

The Great Lakes Education Project praised the passage of the bill, saying it was "a great day for school children in Michigan."

"We extend our deep appreciation to Rep. Amanda Price, the chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as to House leadership and those 57 members who voted to help kids today," GLEP Executive Director Gary Naeyaert said in a statement. "As the leading advocacy organization supporting this bill, we are confident Senator Phil Pavlov and the Senate Education Committee will schedule hearings soon so this common sense policy can be evaluated and passed in the Senate and then sent to the governor for his signature."

The bill outlines intervention programs for children before they go into the third grade. Students are allowed to be taught other subjects that they are proficient in - like reading and math - in a fourth grade setting, while still receiving reading interventions at the third grade level. There are also good-cause exemptions to retention outlined in the bill.

The Department of Education would be required to approve at least three reliable reading assessment systems and recommend or create a reading/literacy coach model. The reading/literacy coach would be required to undertake 11 tasks, including working with teachers to diagnose and address reading deficiency.

The bill would increase the costs for the department, but the 2015-16 fiscal year budget included $900,000 to implement the early literacy initiatives. The school aid budget also included additional funding for a portion of the implementation costs for schools.

Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, school boards and charter school boards of directors would be required to select one of the reading assessments from the MDE and provide any student with a reading deficiency at any time with a reading improvement plan and provide notice to parents about the student's reading deficiency.

Reading intervention programs for those students showing a deficiency would need to include a screening of progress at least three times per year; provide a highly effective core reading instruction; and take place during regular school hours. Parents would also receive a "read at home" plan.

Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill

The House on Thursday passed a bill outlining teacher and administrator evaluations in the state, and the bill appears to have an easy path through the Senate and onto Governor Rick Snyder's desk.

The bill, SB 103, passed 97-8 after four months of debate in the House and many changes - following a tough debate during the 2013-14 term. The bill was initially controversial, as Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of Senate Education Committee, took a different approach from the House versions of the legislation drafted during the last term.

Mr. Pavlov, after the bill passed Thursday, said he was comfortable where the House went with the legislation.

"They're protecting my key tenants, and that is that, one, any money that goes to the department is dedicated toward actual training," he said. "The second thing I wanted to make sure happened was it didn't water down the historic reforms we got on tenure. Thirdly, the important concept was locals would have the ability to form and choose a model that best fits their situation."

The House-passed version of the bill establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or

make modifications to an existing tool. Changes added Thursday stipulated the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund

Since the bill originated in the Senate, the chamber has to concur in the House changes to send it to Governor Rick Snyder's desk.

Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland), the vice chair of the House Education Committee, said the bill avoids a "one-size-fits-all" evaluation system.

"Under this legislation, school districts will have the flexibility to decide on their own evaluation standards to meet that goal," she said in a statement. "The House has included additional language that will make certain teachers, principals and superintendents are all familiar with and trained in their district's evaluation methods."

Under the bill, the Department of Education would have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Training for teachers and administrators on evaluation tools is also required. School districts and PSAs could create a consortium to conduct the trainings. All evaluators and observers would also be required to receive training from a person who has expertise in the training tool.

A school district or public school academy could also develop its own tool, and the department would promulgate rules for how a district would submit its tool for placement on the list. Also required under the bill is for the district or PSA to publish on its website a variety of information about the evaluation tool and the evaluation process beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich was both heartened and relieved Thursday to have a supplemental appropriations bill unanimously approved in the Senate to provide $9.35 million to help his city of Flint get better water faster, but it was a cautious optimism as there is much left to do, he said.

Of the money, $6 million will go toward switching from the Flint River as the city's source for drinking water back to the Detroit system. Insufficient corrosion control for the river water

caused lead in the service lines and pipes to leach into the water, leading to led levels above federal standards for remediation and rising levels of lead in Flint children's blood.

"As soon as we switch over to Detroit, we're not going to automatically have clean, drinkable water. We're still going to have to use the filters, still going to have to make sure they take precautions, because it takes a while to rebuild the corrosion controls against the pipes," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) told the press after session. "I'm not an expert by any means, but it could be a few months.

"The one benefit I do think we have going forward is Flint will probably be the most tested water anywhere in the world over the next six months, as it should be, to make sure we rebuild that trust," he said.

The Senate decided quickly to take up HB 4102, as the House sent it over Wednesday evening after a unanimous vote among representatives as well.

And within hours, Governor Rick Snyder signed the bill into law, becoming PA 143 of 2015 with immediate effect.

"This funding is a coordinated response to a serious problem and I'm pleased so many parties came together to help deliver safe drinking water to the city of Flint," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "Reconnecting to the Great Lakes Water Authority is only the first step, as the state will continue testing and inspections to ensure Flint families and children have clean water in their homes and schools."

A week ago, Mr. Snyder called on the Legislature to provide funding to the city to help it in its efforts to switch back to the Detroit water system and have staff from both the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health and Human Services. During that time, and even before, there had been a lot of finger-pointing about who ought to ultimately be responsible for the crisis that has caused Flint to go on high alert due to elevated levels of lead in its water.

And many of those questions of accountability remain, Mr. Ananich said.

"(The switch) was during the period of an emergency manager, and there wasn't many decisions allowed to be made by local elected officials. I can't speak about whether they were part of the conversations or not," he said. "It was the decision of the emergency manager to switch over, a decision by a different emergency manager to stay on it, and a third emergency manager denied the request to go back.

"It definitely needs to be looked at, the emergency manager laws, make sure there's some accountability on the back-end before they leave. They shouldn't be leaving cities with such crises when they leave," Mr. Ananich said.

But the other question is who should look at what and how. Mr. Ananich said he wasn't sure yet whether the state should investigate itself (effectively), a commission should review the situation, the Legislature should make changes to existing laws or create new ones, or more.

"All those questions need to be looked at," he said. "I'm not 100 percent sure exactly what method it should be, but I think it's warranted to have a further look at what happened, what mistakes were made, and how to make sure it doesn't ever happen again in cities like Flint but also across the state.

"This isn't a victory for my community. This is a fix to a problem that never should've happened," he said.

The supplemental appropriations allocates $6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; $300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; $1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; $1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; $850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and $200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the $9.35 million allocated, $7.15 million is from the General Fund.

Driskell Leads Walberg In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops $200,000

The highly touted challengers to U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop and U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg posted strong fundraising totals in the third quarter, based on campaign finance reports filed Thursday.

The reports showed their Democratic challengers, Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline) and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert, with strong hauls.

But the reports also showed a number of candidates with steep hills to climb in their efforts to either be their party's nominee or to unseat the incumbent.

In what could be the closest funding race based on reports available at press time, Ms. Driskell, the latest Democrat to face off against Mr. Walberg (R-Tipton), raised $203,698 for the third quarter and $523,610 for the cycle, leaving $435,004 cash on hand.

"Working families, students, and seniors across the 7th District are standing behind our campaign, and we are really proud to be building grassroots momentum from a network of neighbors," Ms. Driskell said in a statement announcing her fundraising. "It's because of their enthusiasm and support that we'll continue to attract the resources necessary to win."

Mr. Walberg raised only $133,160 for the quarter. But he had raised $753,284 so far for the election cycle and had $922,034 in cash on hand.

In the 8th U.S. House District, Ms. Gilbert raised $200,372, all in the third quarter. She had $183,317 left in cash on hand. It was her first report since declaring her candidacy.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) had not filed his reports as of press time. The deadline was 11:59 p.m. Thursday

In the 1st U.S. House District, Jerry Cannon, the Democratic nominee in 2014, appeared to have donors staying away in droves. His first report for his new committee showed he raised only $3,640 and spent nothing. Mr. Cannon created a new campaign committee for his second run and did not show the transfer of any funds from those coffers, having spent the full $1 million he raised.

Former Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson, expected to be the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, reported $350,977, all raised in the latest quarter. Of that, he had $293,265 left in cash.

U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls) is not seeking re-election and so far no Republicans have stepped up to replace him.

Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba), one of those named as a possible candidate, has retained an active campaign account from his prior run for the seat and reported raising a net $180 so far for the election cycle (he returned $2,700 in contributions). He showed $12,759 in cash on hand, but $22,570 in debt.

Paul Clements, so far the sole Democrat challenging U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph), had $135,374 in cash after raising $154,808 so far toward the election, $151,126 last quarter. He has spent $29,100 toward his second effort to unseat Mr. Upton.

Mr. Upton had not yet filed his reports, but historically has raised substantially more than Mr. Clements is reporting.

In the race to succeed U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township), former Sen. Alan Sanborn reported raising just $4,070 for the third quarter and $46,337 overall. That left him $25,851 cash on hand.

Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-Saint Clair), in contrast, raised $57,349 for the quarter and $164,729 total for the cycle toward his effort to succeed Ms. Miller. He reported $126,153 cash on hand.

Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey, who is challenging U.S. Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-Detroit), now the longest-serving member in the U.S. House, brought in $18,840, all in the third quarter. She had $7,900 cash on hand. Ms. Winfrey formed her committee late in the quarter, on September 21, so had little time to raise money before the close of books on September 30.

Mr. Conyers did not report much of a war chest either, but it was still substantially larger at $40,588. He raised $42,997 for the third quarter and $193,322 for the cycle.

Pavlov Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts

Sen. Phil Pavlov is leading the charge in the Senate to prohibit compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus or neonate obtained as the result of an elective abortion, introducing two bills on the matter on Thursday that were sent to the newly created Senate Oversight Committee.

The bills come amid a controversy over Planned Parenthood charging for the costs of acquiring such tissue.

"The key is we need to protect the unborn in the state of Michigan, and these bills do that," Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair) said of SB 564 and SB 565.

The first bill states "a person shall not knowingly financially benefit from or receive any type of compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus, or neonate including any organs, tissues, or cells that were obtained as the result of an elective abortion."

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), who is one of the 17 Republican co-sponsors to SB 564 and SB 565, the latter of which enacts sentencing guidelines for a violation of the prohibitions in SB 564, deferred questions on the bills to Mr. Pavlov, noting that he has been in numerous conversations with various members of the caucus on the matter.

Asked about that level of prioritization in the Senate Republican caucus, Mr. Pavlov said, "The leader saw it fit to create a special committee to examine the issues of the unborn and protecting the unborn in Michigan. This is all about taking away any financial motivation to sell or traffic these elective abortion procedures."

Planned Parenthood has said repeatedly it does not sell fetal tissue, but only seeks to compensation for the costs of obtaining the tissue, storing it and transporting it.

Indeed, the Senate Oversight Committee where the bills were sent, was created in mid-September, with Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Rockford) as chair and Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) as majority vice chair (See Gongwer Michigan Report, September 17, 2015).

Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) and Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland) are also on the committee, as well as named co-sponsors to the bills. Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) was designated as the lone Democratic member of the committee.

Mr. Pavlov said he could not speak to specific instances of such things happening in Michigan, but pointed to the national controversy related to Planned Parenthood that he said prompted the desire to draft some kind of legislation.

The controversy, of course, happened over the summer when The Center for Medical Progress, an anti-abortion organization, secretly recorded and edited a video of Planned Parenthood's senior director of medical research, Deborah Nucatola, talking about procedural techniques to preserve certain organs that can later be donated for research purposes, which is legal. It would be illegal to sell any tissue.

She also says in the video Planned Parenthood is sensitive about being seen as gaining a profit from these donations, and will charge for shipping and other costs the clinic takes on in the course of making donations.

Planned Parenthood has denied selling organs and charged that the video was heavily edited to give a false impression.

Additionally, earlier this week, Planned Parenthood announced it would no longer accept any reimbursement as part of its fetal tissue donation program, Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood for mid and south Michigan, said Thursday.

"So it doesn't change anything that will happen for us," Ms. Carpentier said. "In order to take this off the table as a sticking point for our opponents, we're not going to take reimbursement. And to the extent we have any, we'll find ways to cover those costs ourselves."

More important to her and her organization at this point, she said, is the hope that Mr. Pavlov's legislation doesn't have any effects on the "important medical research that comes as a result of fetal tissue donation."

"I think my concern about this is the Legislature may be dinking around in areas where they are unfamiliar with," she said. "As is commonly the case, legislators put these things together ... don't create specifics and often create limbo positions."

But Mr. Pavlov said he is not sold on someone's word.

"When someone tells you you're not doing something, you require them to prove a negative," he said. "Partial birth abortion has been banned, but we just saw through a series of videos that it's still taking place. We're going to make sure we put an end to it and protect the unborn child."

Asked how the language might affect stem cell research or in vitro fertilization procedures, Mr. Pavlov said he did not think it would affect either.

"I think it's pretty clear. Part of the strength of the bill is its simplicity," he said. How it is proven that a person "knowingly" did so is not defined in the bill, however.

Mr. MacGregor did not immediately return a request for comment on when his committee might take up Mr. Pavlov's legislation, but Mr. Pavlov said he just had a conversation with Mr. MacGregor about the matter on Wednesday when the bill was still on Mr. Pavlov's desk.

Domestic Violence Package Clears House

A father who was found by "clear and convincing" evidence to have raped the mother would be denied visitation or custody under bills passed Thursday by the House that create "sensible" protections for the victims of domestic violence.

The lead bill, HB 4481, passed 101-4, would allow a court, after a fact-finding hearing where evidence presented was deemed clear and convincing, to deny custody and visitation with the child to the father.

"Michigan needs to send a message that we stand with the victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape," Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Too often in cases of sexual assault and domestic violence, a rapist will use the threat of seeking custody of the child to intimidate pregnant victims into not pressing criminal charges of the attack. It is unthinkable that we would allow this to occur when we have the ability to provide victims with the protection and peace of mind they need in order to heal."

The other bills in the package passed Thursday were HB 4476 and HB 4477, which passed 104-1 and would revise the service of process in actions appealed to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals if a court order has been issued to prohibit release of the address of the party being served and make changes to the mediation process if domestic violence was involved, respectively.

HB 4478 passed 96-9 and would allow a personal protection order to include a pet. And HB 4479 passed 103-2 and would treat an assault against a pregnant woman the same as domestic violence in terms of repeated offenses.

EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe

The Education Achievement Authority has been added to the list of Detroit institutions subject to a Federal Bureau of Investigation corruption inquiry with the guilty plea Thursday of former Mumford High School Principal Kenyetta Wilbourn-Snapp.

The Detroit News reported Thursday that investigators had been looking into the relationship between Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp and at least one of the district's contractors.

The district, designed as part of the Snyder administration's efforts to improve school performance, has been the subject of criticism both for its efforts in that direction and for its administrative operations.

The Detroit Free Press reported Thursday afternoon that Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp had accepted a plea in relation to an investigation into kick-backs she received. The paper said documents showed a possible relationship with Allstate Sales and For-Most Educational Consulting and Training Group.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for the Snyder administration, declined to comment on the investigation beyond noting, as did a statement from the EAA, that it was an internal review that uncovered financial discrepancies that pointed to the alleged corruption. State and EAA officials had forwarded that information to federal law enforcement.

"Our office was in full coordination in reporting and bringing to light with appropriate state and federal law enforcement agencies," Ms. Wurfel said in an email response.

The district, created through an interlocal agreement between Detroit Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University, was intended to receive struggling schools from around the state but so far has only 15 Detroit schools.

Former Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan had canceled the contract with the EAA to be the sole recipient for any schools taken over by the state for poor performance, in part over concerns raised that the tactics the EAA was employing were not actually improving student achievement.

The district was also slammed for spending on furnishings and travel under its initial chancellor, John Covington.

EAA supporters have been working since early in the last legislative session to codify the EAA to be clear that it had the authority to oversee schools other than in Detroit, but so far have come up short in that effort.

Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards

The Michigan Nurses Association on Thursday said a poll commissioned by the group shows 80 percent of voters support having minimum staffing standards for nurses working in the state.

Currently there is no law, but Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) and Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) are planning to introduce legislation in their respective chambers.

"Michigan residents are saying loud and clear that our registered nurses are being forced to care for too many patients at once," Mr. Hoadley said. "Chronic nurse understaffing jeopardizes the care and safety of people in our hospitals every day. The only real solution is to pass a law that gives nurses enough time to spend with each patient and provide individualized care."

The Safe Patient Care Act the lawmakers plan to introduce includes implementing a staffing plan specific to each unit that adheres to minimum nurse-to-patient ratios based on research and national professional standards; limiting mandatory registered nurse overtime to instances of genuine emergencies; disclosing actual registered nurse staffing levels; and informing patients how to report potential violations of the law.

Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg) said it is time for a public policy conversation on staffing levels for nurses in the state.

"It's just plain wrong that when you go into the hospital, your nurse could have far too many patients to be safe," he said. "A nurse's workload can literally be a matter of life or death for you or your loved one. This is a case where the government needs to enact reasonable standards to protect all its citizens, and I'm glad to see bipartisan movement toward achieving that."

The poll commissioned by the group also showed 77 percent of voters agree that "the quality of patient care in MI hospitals is suffering because registered nurses are being assigned too many patients per shift." And 44 percent of households with an overnight hospital stay in the past two years believe the quality of care suffered due to nurses having too many patients at one time.

The statewide survey of 600 Michigan voters was commissioned by the Michigan Nurses Association and conducted by telephone (landlines and cell phones) September 8-14 and had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points, a statement said.

Anderson Robbins Research, a Boston firm, conducted the survey and was chosen because it has worked with both nursing and hospital organizations and Democratic and Republican clients, the group said.

Revenues Mostly Steady In September

State revenues were $30.8 million better than expected in September, but entirely because of a $42.6 million reimbursement the state received from the federal government in home heating credit refunds, a Senate Fiscal Agency report released Thursday showed.

Revenues to the School Aid Fund were $38.3 million more than forecast in May, while revenues to the General Fund were $8 million less than expected.

Through September, revenues to the General Fund are $25.9 million below the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference forecast and revenues to the School Aid Fund are $66.9 million below expectations.

September was the first month since January that sales tax revenues exceeded the year-over-year figure for the month from the previous year.

Net income tax revenues were up 11.6 percent from September 2014. Also up from the previous year was the sales tax (3.3 percent), the state education property tax (13 percent) and the Real Estate Transfer Tax (3.1 percent).

Declining from year-ago levels were the Corporate Income Tax (-14.7 percent), the insurance tax (-95.4 percent) and the oil and gas severance tax (-48.5 percent).

Committee Roundup

PROMISE ZONES: The maximum number of eligible entities that may be certified by the Department of Treasury to establish educational promise zones assisting in affording a postsecondary education would increase from 10 to 15 under legislation reported by the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee Thursday.

SB 539 and SB 540 would also require a promise zone development plan to include provisions regarding the assessment and reporting of student performance, as well as allow Treasury to adjust the calculation of captured State Education Tax revenue if the boundaries of a promise zone were changed by a merger or other circumstance.

The bill also requires the property and assets of a dissolved promise zone authority to be used solely for the purposes of promoting access to postsecondary education, but the committee adopted an S-2 substitute to SB 539 that includes "trigger language" regarding such dissolutions,

one legislative aide told the committee. In it, a Promise Zone Development Plan must be submitted to Treasury within five years of a municipality deciding to have such a zone, and once that zone is granted by the state, the municipality must begin awarding scholarships within two years.

Language was also added to ensure Promise Zones include in their development plans how they'll track data on students.

The bills were unanimously reported to the full Senate for consideration.

Capital Notebook: Former President Clinton To Speak At MSU

Former President Bill Clinton is the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service and will be the keynote speaker at the Governor Jim Blanchard Public Service Forum on November 18 at Michigan State University.

Mr. Blanchard and his wife, Janet, donated $1 million for the program.

"The goal of this lecture series is to provide generations of students, faculty and people in the MSU community with the opportunity to hear and learn from national and international political leaders and others," Mr. Blanchard said in a statement. "(Mr. Clinton's) public service in politics, followed by his excellent work through the Clinton Foundation, is exactly the type of dedication and inspiring story we hoped to bring through the Blanchard Forum."

Mr. Blanchard was one of Mr. Clinton's most enthusiastic supporters when the then-Arkansas governor ran for president in 1992. After Mr. Clinton won, he named Mr. Blanchard the U.S. ambassador to Canada.

The Department of Political Science in MSU's College of Social Science administers the Blanchard Forum and statesmanship award.

The event will be held at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center and will serve as a fundraiser for the program, MSU said in a statement, with proceeds paying for student attendance at this event and future ones.

DEBANO DEPARTS RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION: Brian DeBano, the president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurants Association, is leaving the organization after four years. A statement from the association said he was leaving to pursue future ventures but did not specify what those would be. Justin Winslow, the association's vice president of government affairs, will serve as interim president and CEO.

"Brian has left the MRA in great shape and for that we sincerely thank him," MRA Board of Directors Chairman Ken Miller said in a statement. "Under his leadership, the association is financially and operationally sound and our strong reputation remains intact. I have no doubt he will be successful in his future ventures."

TALBOT GETS FULL TERM AS CHIEF APPELLATE JUDGE: Court of Appeals Chief Judge Michael Talbot will keep the chief judge title through 2016, under a Supreme Court order released this week. The court named Mr. Talbot to the post in January to fill the remaining year of the term begun by then-Chief Judge William Murphy.

GROUP SUPPORTING ENERGY LEGISLATION STARTS COUNTDOWN CLOCK: Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, a group that supports energy legislation backed by the chairs of the House and Senate energy committees, has started a "countdown clock" to mark when some coal-fired plants will be shuttered next year. The site also is designed to let visitors urge legislators to support SB 437 and SB 438 as well as HB 4297 and HB 4298.

"To account for growing capacity concerns, Michigan must responsibly replace the power we will lose due to these plant closures," said Kelly Rossman-McKinney, spokeswoman for Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DIRECTOR LEAVING: Michigan Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn is resigning from her position to become regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training, the state's Talent Investment Agency announced Thursday.

She will be headquartered at the federal department's regional office in Chicago and assumes her new duties on November 30.

Ms. Quinn will manage a team that oversees a 10-state region including Michigan. The regional office ensures that employment and training programs at the state level reflect the political and socio-economic conditions that impact state and local economies.

"Michigan has been fortunate to have someone of Christine's caliber spearheading these critical workforce development initiatives," said TIA Director Stephanie Comai, in a statement. "She has a genuine passion for helping workers to succeed in this changing economy and for helping employers to meet their talent needs. On behalf of our entire agency, I wish her all the best."

Stephanie Beckhorn, who currently serves as director of programs for the Workforce Development Agency, was named acting director.

COLBECK, HERTEL TO DEBATE ROAD FUNDING: After issuing a challenge to his fellow legislators in either chamber to debate him on why a tax increase is necessary to help pay for the state's ailing infrastructure, Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) has found acceptance to such an invitation from Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing).

The debate is to take place on Tuesday, October 20, between 1:45 and 2:45 p.m., the location to be determined but for sure in Lansing, according to a statement from Mr. Colbeck's office.

Doors are to open at 1:30 p.m., Mr. Colbeck's office said.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, November 4

Michigan Pancreatic Cancer briefing (Hosted by the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and sponsored by Celgene Corporation), Mackinac Room, Anderson House Office Building, Lansing, 8 a.m.

Wednesday, December 9

Michigan Railroads Association winter board meeting, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, October 20

Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, Legislative Council Conference Room, Third Floor, Boji Tower, 124 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Thursday, October 22

Waterways Commission, Council Chambers, Rogers City Hall, 193 East Michigan Avenue, Rogers City, 9 a.m. (8 a.m. Work Session)

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Michigan Report for Friday, October 16, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA

Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

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Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case

Supplemental Agency Calendar

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Legislative Committee Schedules

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Volume #54, Report #206 -- Friday, October 16, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

The process leading up to the vote on two separate bills related to education policy was "intense," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, who led the charge on legislation to get third-graders reading at grade level and another outlining educator evaluations in the state, told Gongwer News Service.

"I think maybe I can sleep now," Ms. Price said Friday. The House voted Thursday { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" }, which would set up interventions for students struggling with reading in their early elementary grades and would also retain students if they are not reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

The bill was more controversial than { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }, outlining educator evaluations, and it took two long session days this week before the third-grade reading bill had enough votes to eventually pass the House 57-48.

"It was a heavy lift," Ms. Price said.

Though a similar bill did come up last term on reading proficiency, it never got enough traction for the full House to bring it up on the floor.

But this term, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } also made it a priority. A work group was put together with various lawmakers and stakeholders who met for three hours every Thursday during the summer, Ms. Price said.

"That process was very intense," Ms. Price said.

Ms. Price, during her floor speech on the bill Thursday, said she wouldn't consider herself "fire-y," but when talking with stakeholders on the third grade reading bill, she said it wasn't difficult for her to hold her ground on ideas she thought would harm the legislation.

"It's hard for me not to get fired up about this though," she said. "Every so often there is one piece of legislation that takes over your heart. For me it is this bill. I think it is likely because I love to read so much and I don't want any child to be deprived of that ability."

Ms. Price said her passion originated with hearing the statistics of how many students in the state were not reading proficiently before entering the fourth grade. Using the state assessment, it's 30 percent of kids, she said. But when looking at a more rigorous national assessment, it's almost 70 percent.

Ms. Price said she used to have conversations with former Rep. Joe Haveman about how the state could decrease its prison population, and both agreed it started at early childhood.

"If you start giving children a better education ... then they will have more options in life," she said.

The bill began as a bipartisan effort with Democrats involved in the work group and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), the minority vice chair on the Education Committee, and House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) co-sponsors on the bill.

However, Democrats ended up offering a variety of amendments that were not adopted to the bill, and the bill passed with only three Democrats voting in support. Mr. Zemke and Mr. Greimel removed their names from the bill.

"I will just be honest," Ms. Price said of losing the Democratic support. "I was very disappointed."

Ms. Price said it is not a partisan issue, but there was a disagreement on how to get increased reading proficiency in the state.

"I don't think anyone disagrees our children's reading scores are too low," she said.

Ms. Price said the retention portion of the bill got too much attention. She said the intervention pieces in the bill are the key. But last term, instead of being in a single bill, the legislation was a package of two. One held the retention portion and the other held the interventions.

Ms. Price said she believes that led to a focus on the retention last term and this one.

"Truly, I do not want to retain any kids," she said.

On the Senate side, Ms. Price said she believes { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, is on board with the bill. She said he was on the work group as well.

"I have every reason to believe it will pass in the Senate," she said.

Another bill that passed this week, SB 103, which outlines educator evaluations in the state, began dramatically but eventually passed with relative ease in the House.

"If you had asked me about that three months ago, I would have (been surprised)," Ms. Price said of the bill passing drama-free.

But Ms. Price said the committee worked hard with stakeholders to get a final product out of committee.

"We were pretty confident when it came out of the committee it would move forward easily," she said.

On what's next for the Education Committee, Ms. Price said Mr. Zemke and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1" } (R-Holland), the vice chair of the committee, have been working in a group discussing teacher preparedness.

She also said a debate on how to move forward with Detroit Public Schools is also coming to the committee.

Mr. Snyder has advocated getting state funds help pay off DPS debt and developing a new district in the city.

Ms. Price said she understands where the governor is coming from with his proposal, but also knows her caucus will be hesitant because of the money involved.

She also said she wants something sustainable put in place.

"I am very concerned that whatever is put in place is sustainable and in 10 years we won't be right back here," she said. "That means for me financial stability and academic improvement."

Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } was not shy earlier this week about the fact that his caucus has numerous concerns and questions about a bill allowing presumptive parole for inmates reaching their earliest release date, and responses from several members of that caucus on Friday only further illustrate the bill is in trouble in the chamber.

"I did not hear one person pushing this at all, and I think it's very telling this wasn't referred to Judiciary committee or the corrections budget (subcommittee) where it should be," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) said of general caucus support or opposition to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" } .

Indeed, when the House passed the bill earlier this month, Mr. Meekhof sent it to the Senate Government Operations Committee, which tends to serve either as a bill graveyard or a place where very controversial legislation that needs a longer period of time to review goes.

Of the prospects of this bill in particular, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) said it was likely the latter. Mr. Kowall said he does not himself have a position on the bill as it was sent over.

"Right now I'm listening to all sides," he said. "There's concerns, rightfully so, with prosecutors and sheriffs. It's a long way from being done."

Having run a small police department himself, Mr. Kowall said, he shares the concerns of some on whether those who would be paroled are still a danger to society and whether they were prior to being locked up.

"It's all the typical concerns over what type of parolees will be looked at to let out, the danger to society, (and) are we letting out people we're afraid of or people we're simply mad at," Mr. Kowall said. "It's all the same discussions that have been going on in the House and it's just going to take a while."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph), chair of the Senate Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee, said all the conversations are exactly what need to be had for meaningful reform, though. He said his colleagues have been interested in whether HB 4138 would indeed show savings to the cost of corrections, how much, and whether it begins to change the way the department operates "for the benefit of the taxpayers and public safety."

"I have a lot of questions as to what the intent of the bill is and whether or not the intent matches the goals and objectives. If the intent is to save us money, I'm not sure this gets us to the kind of savings we want," he said. "If the intent is to provide the kind of services necessary to reintegrate offenders into Michigan society after they've served their time, I'm not sure this accomplishes that goal either."

Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) earlier this week pointed to Mr. Proos as being one of the lead legislators on the matter as the Senate considers the legislation and other types of Corrections reform. When asked about those alternatives, Mr. Proos listed numerous options, including:

- Continuing investment in law enforcement as the deterrent and as the public safety factor;
- Continuing investment in things like the Swift and Sure program, as well as the pilot program Parole Sanction Certainty (which follow the same model as Swift and Sure on the probation side to ensure parolees are receiving the kind of services they need to prevent them from becoming repeat offenders, he said); and
- A continued effort to ensure the cost structure in the Department of Corrections is "closely aligned with private sector costs so as to get the best taxpayer value possible," he said.

In fact, those issues are so central to this matter, Mr. Proos said, that he expects to have a hearing to discuss prisoner education, the positives and negatives of that expenditure, and whether it's meeting present-day job needs in various communities.

"After all, every three-to-four years, we parole the entire population of the Department of Corrections," he said. "If the folks are not prepared for parole, the question should be asked, why aren't they?"

He continued, "You have to peel away all the misinformation that exists on all sides of the issues and try to get to the root cause and the root problem. This isn't just a discussion about finances, it's not just a discussion about criminals, it has to be a more comprehensive and broad conversation about corrections, the judiciary and law enforcement and our entire criminal justice system."

Of the House plan, he said it calls into question "the most salient question about parole" in that some offenders are not as ready as others to go before the Parole Board before their earliest release date.

But Ms. Schuitmaker, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who also served on the House committee during her time there, said the rate at which Michigan already paroles most of its prisoners is exactly why the legislation isn't necessary.

"We've done a lot in probation and swift and sure ... to try to rehabilitate people or hold them accountable to break the cycle of crime," she said. "I think the statistics don't bear it out and most people are let out within their first year of their earliest release date.

"I think also, we've had two reports from (Council of State Governments) come in and dispel the myth that we have all these people in prison that shouldn't be there," Ms. Schuitmaker said. "I think when you take a look at how we rank comparatively, we send fewer people initially to prison than surrounding states and that's why you see on the back-end that we keep more people. Michigan does a good job keeping people with substance abuse problems out of prison."

And the cost savings are "minimal" at best, she said.

As to the chance the bill might have in the Senate, especially in the immediate future, Mr. Proos said his hope is simply that the bill takes the time necessary for such a monumental change.

"We'll look at the positives and negatives of the House package and take that into account as it relates to comprehensive reform and criminal justice," he said. "I commend the House for working on a package that has opened the door to real conversations (about Corrections)."

EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Friday it had developed a Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force to provide technical assistance to the city and the Department of Environmental Quality as they work through the water issues in the city.

The task force will be led by Region 5 Deputy Regional Administrator Susan Hedman and will assist with developing and implementing a plan to secure water quality, including measures to optimize corrosion control, it said. Task force members will also be available for consultation purposes, as well as to coordinate, as necessary, with federal, state and local public health agencies to assist with protection of public health.

"EPA is committed to working with our state and local partners to ensure a safe and reliable drinking water supply for the residents of Flint, Michigan," Ms. Hedman said in a statement. "The formation of this task force continues our commitment to providing technical assistance to the city of Flint and the state of Michigan."

The task force is intended to provide technical guidance for both the coming switch back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage System and, once it is completed, to the new pipeline from Lake Huron by the Karegnondi Water Authority. The various officials and experts are intended to be available on-site in Flint.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the switch back to Detroit water was expected to be completed by 5 p.m. Friday, earlier than expected.

The DEQ welcomed the additional assistance, spokesperson Brad Wurfel said. "We are glad to have the continued technical support and counsel from our federal partners," he said." We have been working closely with the U.S. EPA on the challenges in Flint, including its added presence on the city's technical advisory and the Governor's 10-point plan. This is welcome news and we anticipate it will help us implement the Governor's strategy."

Elected officials from the region also hailed the EPA's assistance.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said he had requested the EPA send in advisors.

"I welcome the EPA's announcement today that they'll be sending technical advisors to Flint to assist the city and MDEQ on site with ensuring the safety of Flint's water," Mr. Kildee said in a statement. "The task force is a result of letters and phone calls over the past week with Administrator McCarthy and the EPA. In those communications, I repeatedly requested that the EPA send technical advisors to Flint to help with the transition of water sources. I am pleased to see that within a week the EPA has responded positively to my request, and I'm hopeful that this announcement is a step forward for the future of Flint's water."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } (D-Bloomfield Township) also took some credit for the additional assistance being lent to Flint.

"All Michiganders deserve access to safe and clean drinking water, and the increased lead levels found in the Flint water system are simply unacceptable. I personally raised this issue with EPA Administrator McCarthy and have called on the EPA to provide the necessary resources and technical expertise to help ensure the water system is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing," Mr. Peters said in a statement. "All levels of government need to work together to prevent this

type of situation from ever happening again, and the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force is a good first step."

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) was also pleased to hear the news.

"The EPA plays an important role in managing Flint's crisis recovery. We should work closely with them and consider whether they may be able to offer additional support," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said. "I also hope the EPA will be able to help us determine what happened and provide us with a solid oversight framework going forward. It's crucial that we take steps to ensure this never happens again."

The Task Force will be comprised of scientists and technical experts from the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago, the National Risk Management Research Lab in Cincinnati and the EPA drinking water program. In addition, EPA will ask { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to designate a DEQ official and the Mayor of Flint to designate a city official to serve as points of contact for the Task Force, the EPA said.

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } was able to outraise Democratic challenger Melissa Gilbert, but not by much, his quarterly campaign finance report showed.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) raised $213,962 for the quarter compared to the $200,372 Ms. Gilbert raised (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542050104" }). But his $396,776 in cash gave him a substantial funding head start in the race. He has raised $529,352 total for the cycle. He also brought in $2,975 total for the cycle from other authorized funds.

He did, though, still have $31,872 in debt.

Paul Mitchell is leading the race to succeed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), at least based on funding, reporting $328,025 raised in his first quarter in the race. He had $363,758 cash on hand but also had a $250,000 loan from himself as part of those funds.

Ms. Miller, as she wound down her campaign, still had $739,721 in cash, though she raised nothing for the quarter and only $7,675 for the cycle.

Democrat Paul Clements does have a way to go to catch { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph)

on fundraising. Mr. Upton reported collecting $235,000 for the quarter and $1.28 million so far for the cycle. He had $829,168 in cash.

Among his total funding, Mr. Upton had $67,493 for the quarter and $89,790 for the cycle from other authorized committees.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1" } (R-Crystal Falls), had he chosen to run, would have been substantially behind his likely Democratic challenger, at least in current fundraising. Mr. Benishek reported raising $119,903 for the quarter and $633,467 for the cycle. He showed $446,341 cash on hand, which was more than Lon Johnson, but still had outstanding debts of $89,500.

SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } (R-Tipton) slightly outraised challenger { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) for the quarter. In addition to the $133,160 his campaign raised in contributions for the quarter, his leadership fund, the Walberg Victory Fund, transferred $77,970 to his campaign committee. That fund provided him $93,844 in total for the cycle. Those receipts were included in his $922,034 in cash on hand reported Thursday.

Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA

The Supreme Court in { HYPERLINK "http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/434504/150001_2015-10-16_or.pdf?t=1445014759186&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=22923628" \t "blank" } has vacated a Court of Appeals ruling holding that the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act and remanded the case to the appellate court for further action.

Specifically, the Supreme Court vacated the conclusion of the Court of Appeals that the establishment of the MCCA did not violate Article IV, Section 25 of the Constitution, which requires the section or sections of any act altered or amended by a bill to be re-enacted and published at length.

The MCCA statute specifically exempts the records of the association from being public, but the Legislature did not also amend the FOIA to exempt MCCA records.

In its order regarding *CPAN v. Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association* (SC Docket No. 150001), the Supreme Court said the Court of Appeals on remand should rule on an issue it left untouched in its first ruling - whether the MCCA is a public body. If it is a public body, then it should again decide whether the statute creating it violated the Constitution's requirement that all statutes amended should be re-enacted and published.

If it is not a public body, then the entire issue is moot because then the MCCA would not fall under the jurisdiction of the FOIA.

The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault and others have urged the opening up of MCCA records. Insurers, which run the MCCA, have resisted the change.

The Supreme Court held arguments Tuesday on whether to grant leave to appeal (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542030104" }).

Major points of discussion during those arguments were the question of whether the MCCA is a public body and whether the Legislature erred in not amending the Freedom of Information Act.

Attorneys for the two sides vigorously disagreed on whether the MCCA is a public body with CPAN contending it is and the MCCA arguing it is not.

In a statement, CPAN general counsel George Sinas said he expected CPAN to prevail on the question of whether the MCCA is a public body.

"When the Michigan Legislature publicly creates such entities through its legislative power, the entity created should be considered a 'public body' and therefore be subject to FOIA," he said. "This allows that all interested citizens who impacted by that entity will have the ability to learn the truth about the way it operates."

Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } announced Friday a new task force to turn the comments { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" } collected over the summer on special education into new policy recommendations on special education.

Mr. Calley started his listening tour on special education at about the same time the Department of Education was seeing substantial backlash to a package of administrative rules changes that opponents said would give more power to school districts to limit or deny services.

Among the key recommendations Mr. Calley collected from his public meetings and online surveys was stronger language controlling how districts use restraint and seclusion to control behavior.

He had asked the State Board of Education, when he presented his findings to that body (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541760103" }), for help developing a dispute resolution process.

Mr. Snyder is seeking quick work from the task force, asking for a final report before the end of the year.

"This group will help us remain focused on putting Michigan's special needs children and their families front-and-center when considering reforms to this vital component in our educational system," Mr. Snyder said.

In addition to Mr. Calley, who will chair the panel, the task force includes education board members Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) and Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor).

Legislators on the panel include { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264501&locid=1" } (D-Allen Park).

Karen McPhee, Mr. Snyder's education adviser, as well as Walled Lake Schools elementary teacher Melody Arabo, who was Michigan Teacher of the Year for 2014-15 will also participate, as will Mary Bouwense, president of the Grand Rapids Education Association and a special education teacher; Elmer Cerano, executive director of Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service; Teri Chapman, director of the Department of Education Office of Special Education; Diane Heinzelman director of special education for Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District and chair of the Michigan Autism Council; Laura Jones, founder of Special Education Advocacy and Development; Scott Koenigsknecht, superintendent of the Ingham Intermediate School District; and Marcie Lipsitt, founder of Michigan Alliance for Special Education.

Appeals Court Upholds Registry For New Non-Sex Convictions

The requirement, added in 2011, that those who have a prior criminal sexual conduct conviction who commit a new felony have to register as sex offenders is a recidivist law and so is constitutional, the Court of Appeals said in a case released Friday.

Anthony Tucker, who was required to register after pleading guilty to felonious assault and domestic violence charges, argued the law was unconstitutional because it added to the penalty of his prior offense. He had been released from probation for a 1990 assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct conviction before the registry took effect in October 1995.

Mr. Tucker argued the new provision requiring him to register was an ex post facto addition to that earlier charge.

The court, in a per curiam published decision signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108801&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77401&locid=1" } (*People v. Tucker*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015_C322151_31_322151.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }), found the law met the standards for a recidivist statute.

"Defendant's registration was not required until he committed another felony in 2013," the court said. "His 1990 conviction was used to enhance the consequences of his 2013 felony, which was committed after the effective date of the statute."

To be considered ex post facto, the law would have had to require Mr. Tucker to register immediately on its effective date based on his prior conviction, the court said.

The court also rejected Mr. Tucker's argument that the prohibition on him being in school safety zones and the requirement that he register in person were cruel and unusual punishment. The court, citing a variety of prior cases, found the provisions were not punishment.

CONDOMINIUM OWNERS: Residents of a condominium are on their own land and so cannot sue for slip and fall injuries, the court said (*Francescutti v. Fox Chase Condominium Association*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015_C323111_36_323111.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

Michael Francescutti sued after such a fall, arguing the association was negligent for not keeping the snow and ice from the walks. The association countered that it was an open and obvious hazard.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108901&locid=1" }, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1" }, said the association owed Mr. Francescutti no duty as a lessor because it was not. He, as a unit owner, was a co-owner of the common area where he fell.

"Defendant is not leasing the common areas to plaintiff under a lease and, therefore, it is not a 'lessor'," Mr. Sawyer said.

Nor, because he is a co-owner, is he an invitee or a licensee owed any duty of care by the association, Mr. Sawyer said.

Campaign Notes

FARM BUREAU ENDORSES WHITEFORD: The Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPAC has endorsed Rep. Mary Whiteford of Allegan in the 80th House District special election.

Ms. Whiteford is up against seven other Republicans in the special election primary for the seat, which was vacated when former Rep. Cindy Gamrat was expelled. Ms. Gamrat is also running for re-election.

The Farm Bureau also endorsed Ms. Whiteford in her 2014 bid.

Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case

Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates continued the hearing held Friday on the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering Hewlett Packard to turn over the source code for the Business Application Modernization project for the Department of State and assist the department with an orderly transition following the state's termination of HP's contract.

Department spokesperson Gisgie Davila Gendreau said the two sides have agreed on a transition plan and that HP agreed to provide the source code by Monday until the judge rules on the state's request.

The hearing will continue November 2.

TOURISM SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP RFP: Travel Michigan has issued a request for proposals for a contractor to create a series of regional workshops and materials to educate Michigan's travel industry on utilizing social media to promote their destinations and better engage with Pure Michigan.

The RFP seeks a contractor to educate members of the state's tourism industry on the latest social media strategies, trends and best practices; organize and host a series of regional, in-person workshops and develop a Social Media Tourism Toolkit; create and maintain a social media Resource Library and provide industry members with a self-assessment workbook that will allow them to audit their social media efforts and presence.

Application questions will be due via email by 3 p.m. Eastern Time on October 22, 2015, a q-and-a posted to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation website on October 28 and electronic proposal submissions due by 3 p.m. on November 4, 2015.

The complete RFP can be viewed online at { HYPERLINK "http://www.michiganbusiness.org/public-notices-rfps/" \t "blank" }

BONE MARROW STANDARDS: The Certificate of Need Commission announced Friday that the members of its Bone Marrow Transplant Standards Advisory Committee had been posted on its { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71551_2945_5106-122713--,00.html" \t "blank" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, October 20

Administrative Board/Building Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/bcagenda_16764_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Administrative Board/Finance and Claims Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/fcagenda_16770_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Administrative Board/Transportation and Natural Resources, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/dnr_agenda_222565_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Wednesday, October 21

Natural Resources Trust Fund, Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Agenda_-_October_21_2015__502659_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Thursday, October 22

Canceled: ~~State Police Retirement Board, Conference Room A, First Floor, General Office Building, State Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, 1:30 p.m.~~

Subscribers Please Note

An item in Thursday's Capital Notebook contained the incorrect year through which Court of Appeals { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1" }'s term as chief judge runs. It runs through 2017.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 20, 2015

News

Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on prevailing wage law (Bridge Magazine, 10/20/2015)

Blind activist to stand trial for resisting police (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Federal appeals court hears Ambassador Bridge challenge (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

DEQ chief says state used wrong federal water rules in Flint for 17 months (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

DEQ replaces water official after state acknowledges 'mistake' in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Emails show feds warned state in February of leaching lead in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Michigan marijuana arrests rise as use increases nationwide (Michigan Radio, 10/20/2015)

'Green Tea' Party? Far right Republicans, liberal Democrats aligning on Michigan renewable energy issue (MLive, 10/20/2015)

How Snyder plans to sell his $715 million plan for Detroit schools to Michigan lawmakers (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Schuette fights resentencing as 'juvenile lifers' debate returns to U.S. Supreme Court (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Watch live: Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder to detail plans for Detroit schools, debt relief (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Legislation calls for microbead ban, environmentalists say its not enough (Petoskey News-Review, 10/20/2015)

Mich. GOP calls on Gilbert to refund spouse's cash (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Snyder defends environmental director on Flint crisis (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Editorials

Gov's plan to fix DPS: The best we've got (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Column: Teacher evaluation bill lacks mandates experts say are necessary to lift student achievement (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Lawmakers must stand up for Medicare cancer care in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Here's how bad things are for Democrats in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Column: Update young offender sentencing (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Right-to-know victory (Toledo Blade, 10/20/2015)

Blogs

The Road Funding Debate And Michigan State's Miraculous Win (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/19/2015)

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Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:26 PM
To: Antczak, Jason (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Attachments: Oct20.htm; Oct20House.htm; 151020dayplan.htm; Oct20Senate.htm

Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Cotter, Meekhof Now Tangling On Roads

Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

Bills Would Increase Motorcycle Safety Course Fee

Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

Snyder Names Two To Oakland Circuit Court

Committee Roundup

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Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Activity Reports

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Calendars

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Volume #54, Report #208 -- Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Cotter, Meekhof Now Tangling On Roads

Efforts to find a way to generate $1.2 billion more for the state's roads further devolved Tuesday when Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } and House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } disagreed, publicly and privately, about the next step to take to break the stalemate on the issue.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) met in Mr. Meekhof's office for a little less than an hour Tuesday with staff, other legislators and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" }. The meeting began about a half-hour after Mr. Meekhof took the unusual step of publicly calling for the House to convene conference committees and put before the House the "deal" for a vote.

That "deal" is the 400-400-400 plan that relies upon $400 million in new revenue from raising the gasoline tax by 6.5 cents per gallon, $400 million from fees, largely through ending the depreciation in new vehicle registration fees and $400 million from the General Fund.

"There's other bells and whistles, but that's the base plan," Mr. Meekhof told reporters after session. "The drafts are completed, so no other work needs to be done. I have the drafts ready. A conference committee could meet. And I'm asking them to call the conference committee, put the last best deal we had on the table up for a vote, and go get the votes."

Mr. Cotter, exiting the leadership meeting later, asked if he could comment on the situation, simply said, "No."

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro later dismissed Mr. Meekhof's request.

"Senate Majority Leader Meekhof abruptly left the last quadrant meeting early because Rep. Greimel changed his mind on an income tax cut, so he should know there is no deal," he said. "Speaker Cotter has been working with the governor on the issue since then, and he remains hopeful we can find reliable support for a permanent road funding solution."

Adding to the acrimony, later in the day, WOOD-TV, the NBC affiliate in Grand Rapids, aired a story in which House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) went further on the manner in which Mr. Meekhof allegedly left the last Legislative Quadrant meeting with the governor.

"I want to continue talking with the other quadrant leaders. I made that very clear last week when Arlan rushed out of the room like a child when he couldn't get his way," Mr. Greimel told WOOD-TV.

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said Mr. Meekhof would not comment "on the actions of his colleagues" in quadrant meetings, saying those meetings are for frank conversations.

As to Mr. Cotter's rejection of Mr. Meekhof's request, she said, "I would find it surprising that the speaker and ... Representative Greimel aren't interested in moving the process forward."

Legislative sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said Mr. Cotter now plans to try to see if the House, using mainly Republican votes, can pass a new plan and essentially dare the Senate and Mr. Snyder to say no. Several sources said, at least initially, Mr. Cotter is considering another try at the 600-600 plan ($600 million in new revenue and $600 million dedicated from the General Fund).

The House took a stab at a 600-600 plan in August, but it faltered because House Republicans were short of the votes in their caucus, and Mr. Snyder declared $600 million from the General Fund was too much without addressing other pressures on it, such as the coming sunset of the Health Insurance Claims Tax, a key source of Medicaid funding.

A week ago, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cotter declared an "impasse" in negotiations for a bipartisan deal for road funding. The main problem was that Mr. Greimel resisted the size of the income tax cut Republicans were seeking.

The quadrant has not met since that meeting.

"The House has this in their lap and they have the ability to act, and I'm asking them to act," Mr. Meekhof said. "I think to say it this way, the plan we put forward guarantees the road funding and gambles on the fact we'd have revenue for tax relief."

And Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) seemed to agree.

"There's a point in time where we do have to have some action," Mr. Ananich said. "I get the point he's talking about ... the House has kind of Charlie Brown-ed us a number of times on these roads deals."

Mr. Ananich said he has some concerns about the proposal by his Senate Republican colleagues because it does not account for a potential downturn in the economy.

"It's similar to Proposal A in that it only ever goes down, it doesn't go up. If there's a bad year or a series of bad years, that cut would compound the problem, and we've seen it's difficult to raise taxes," Mr. Ananich said. "So I'm hopeful we can have a conversation and figure out a plan that

meets the need of tax relief but at the same time doesn't put the budget in a long-term sustainability issue."

Mr. Snyder, leaving the leadership meeting, said he appreciates where Mr. Meekhof is coming from with a call for the House to vote, but did not make the same request.

"There's an issue for the House and the Senate to have dialogue and discussion because it's a conference committee issue, but ... that last plan was a pretty reasonable compromise," he said.

Business Leaders for Michigan and the Michigan Municipal League issued a joint statement supporting Mr. Meekhof's call for the House to bring the 400-400-400 plan to a vote and also warning against any plan using more than $400 million from the General Fund for roads, saying it would jeopardize other key services.

Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Only two senators opposed supporting a revamped proposal that provides a framework for educator evaluations on Tuesday, sending the bill that had just been passed by the House last week to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his approval.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) voted in opposition to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) was absent from session.

The bill has seen something of a wild ride in the Legislature, as it first passed the Senate back in May, but with much more dissent (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541000103" }). Among those who had first opposed to the bill's passage was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701&locid=1" } (R-Portage) who, when she served in the state House last term, worked alongside { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) to craft a bill.

Ms. O'Brien supported the bill that passed the Senate 35-2 on Tuesday, saying she felt many stakeholders had been included in the process and were actually heard this time.

"It's focused on good, sound, education policy," Ms. O'Brien said of the final version Tuesday.

The House began taking up SB 103 in June, but before long it became clear there was too much distance between what the House Education Committee chair, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } (R-Park Township), envisioned for the bill and what { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, had in mind. Making matters worse is that an adviser for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } in June told the House committee that Mr. Snyder did not support the bill in its current form (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541200101" }).

"I think the districts started realizing that if we don't make this happen now, they'll be under current law, and current law just wasn't going to be acceptable," Mr. Pavlov told reporters of what finally broke the log-jam on the matter. "So we wanted to make sure going into this school year that teachers, administrators and boards knew there was going to be a new policy in evaluating teachers that was better than current law, and I think that's what really started moving the discussion."

The bill heading to Mr. Snyder now establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool. It also the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund.

The Department of Education would also have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights) praised the bill on Tuesday as providing "clearly defined evaluation expectations to help create a system of effective teacher evaluation accountability," as well as allows for more local decision-making.

"This bill as amended will help us hold our educators accountable and ensure our students are receiving a quality education in the state of Michigan," Mr. Knezek said.

SB 103 also provides $14.8 million for districts to train administrators and teachers on the use of new evaluation tools.

The bill was well-received by various education interests, especially those had been pushing for such reforms since the first report from the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness years ago.

"Although the legislation passed by the House and Senate does not contain all of the council's recommendations, it does change the focus of evaluations," Michigan Education Association President Steven Cook said in a statement. "Instead of punishment, the goal of evaluations is now aimed at improving classroom instruction. In creating the Ball Commission and using its report as a guide, the Legislature acknowledged that experts in the field are invaluable in guiding education reform forward. That too is a change for the better."

Others were pleased to see the bill's final passage but looked to the Department of Education for leadership going forward.

"Michigan has not invested in nor developed new systems to better train and support Michigan's existing teachers. "We've done even less for school leaders," said Amber Arellano, executive director of The Education Trust-Midwest, in a statement. "Now the Department of Education can change that. It will need to play an unprecedented leadership role in systems change, oversight and ensuring the new system is providing sophisticated feedback to teachers, improving instruction across all districts and dramatically raising student achievement. Combined with the state's new college- and career-ready standards for teaching and learning, this is a huge opportunity for Michigan students."

The Tri-County Alliance for Public Education, which includes superintendents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, also applauded the vote by the Senate.

"Effective teachers and administrators can make all the difference in the world when it comes to educating our kids, and constructive evaluation will strengthen teaching in our classrooms," said Russel Pickell, superintendent of Riverview Community Schools.

"We commend Senator Pavlov and the Michigan Legislature for working in good faith with educators on this legislation," said Mark Burton, executive director of the Alliance. "His leadership on this issue should be held up as an example of how legislators can learn from those on the frontlines of education to achieve our common goals and ensure our kids are prepared for college and a career."

And officials with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals said passing the bill in its H-8 form was "an important milestone" for the state's principals, but more work still needs to be done.

"Educators finally have a clear target: implementing improvement-focused evaluations and growing the quality of all educators. Today's vote validates the work of the schools that have already begun the hard job of implementing quality evaluation systems and will support those districts that still need to make the transition," the group said in a statement. "Regardless, there is still plenty of difficult work ahead to implement this new law, improve our collective performance and ensure that every student benefits from the expertise of skillful educators. The

Department of Education also has a significant role to play moving forward in providing guidance for schools and allocating the funding appropriated to support these systems."

Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } said Tuesday it is "really troubling" that individuals within the Drinking Water Division of the Department of Environmental Quality spent more time protecting their reputation than they did protecting citizens, but he wouldn't go so far as to call for DEQ { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1" } to resign or be fired.

"I think we need to have a thorough investigation before we make any decisions about who should be fired or anything like that. I think it's clear he sees the gravity of the problem in his department, and I think he's learning that every day," Mr. Ananich told reporters after session. "But we have to get the bottom of how folks in the Drinking Water Division could so blatantly do everything they can in their power to hide the truth from the public, and that's pretty clearly what they did. "

The Flint Journal recently { HYPERLINK "http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/emails_show_feds_told_state_of.html" \l "incart_story_package" \t "blank" } that emails exchanged among several DEQ and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials show flags had been raised about lead possibly leaching into Flint's water system some seven months ago.

Mr. Ananich said he's had some preliminary conversations with Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) about next steps the Legislature could take to ensure accountability and help the citizens of his hometown regain trust in their water, their elected officials and their government. But Mr. Ananich said the two need to have more formal discussion about a course of action.

Mr. Ananich said he was also in the process of sending a request to the state's auditor general, who happens to be auditing the drinking water division, to add a few questions about the process and procedures in place in the event that a situation like has happened in Flint were to break out.

"When you get an email from somebody on your personal account, four or five people, and none of them have the self-respect for my community to say, 'hmm, maybe I shouldn't do this, maybe I should take this to the next level,' that's a problem," Mr. Ananich said. "That's a cultural problem that people would be more concerned about hiding something than telling the public the truth, and it's really troubling."

He said he felt there ought to be an investigation, though he wasn't immediately sure the form that could take. He hoped it would be independent, he said, and that "if things come out that people were negligent or purposeful in their actions, I think there needs to be some very serious consequences."

He also suggested a possible avenue is through the recently-created Senate Oversight Committee, especially because the House has a committee of the same name too.

"But I think with a department that's got such a heavy responsibility and one division in particular has shown that for the last 18 months they've failed, that warrants our involvement," Mr. Ananich said. "We have to get to the bottom of it. Every day more and more information comes out and it just gets worse."

Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } may have cleared one major hurdle on Tuesday when the Senate passed a bill outlining a framework for the evaluation of teachers and administrators, but more work is still in front of him when it comes to potentially leading in the Senate on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s recently announced plan for Detroit Public Schools, as well as a bill on third-grade reading proficiency that passed the House last week.

Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said he is reviewing the proposal by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } on how to revamp Detroit Public Schools and pay down its debts without harming education for the students enrolled in the district (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542070101" }).

"We've been meeting with the leaders and the coalition over the last several months. I think it's got a long way to go, but I think again, there's a need there," he told reporters after session. "There's a crisis looming. So we'll work through that just like we have with any other issue."

Mr. Pavlov said one of his preliminary concerns about the plan is school of choice, and the ability of parents and students to have "unfettered choice to educational opportunities" without be penalized, he said.

But he's also concerned about the amount of funding that Mr. Snyder is requesting for the Legislature, "because you're taking that from all other students in the state of Michigan," Mr. Pavlov said.

Although some believe the plan could start over in the Senate, Mr. Pavlov said he was not immediately sure himself, but the Senate GOP caucus has a great deal of interest in the proposal.

As to whether he could personally support something like what Mr. Snyder is asking, especially given how much money and effort has already been given to Detroit, Mr. Pavlov said, "I'm not convinced anybody is willing to go and reward bad behavior, but we do have a problem and that is that these kids need to be educated. So there's got to be a balance there."

He said he thought it to be "a big ask" to try to get the deal on DPS done by the end of the year, seeming a little more open to a timeframe that is before the beginning of the next school year.

"I think some of these issues are going to work themselves out over time, and to put a timeframe and predict when that would happen is going to be very difficult from where we are today," Mr. Pavlov said.

READING PROFICIENCY: Mr. Pavlov's committee was also assigned the task Tuesday of reviewing { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" } , a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade. The bill cleared the House last week with only three Democratic lawmakers in support - although it had cleared committee with support from the Democrats (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542050101" }).

Mr. Pavlov said he has no specific timeframe on the bill, admitting he hadn't really followed the issue very closely in the House until this point.

"I think we've clearly identified there's a problem here in this state. There's a number of issues I'm concerned about," he said. "We've made the largest investment in the country on early childhood education. We're asking the questions - when are those results going to start showing up? Why are kids still getting into third grade with all this additional support and still not having the highest proficiencies in reading. We're not just looking at third grade reading, we need to look at the Great Start program all the way through third grade."

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Family and friends would be permitted to get mental health treatment for a person close to them before an unfortunate incident under legislation passed by the House Tuesday.

In 2004, former Governor Jennifer Granholm signed "Kevin's Law" in honor of Kevin Heisinger, who was beaten to death in a Kalamazoo bus/train station by a man with schizophrenia who stopped taking his medication.

Current law allows judges to order involuntary assisted outpatient treatment, but only after a major incident occurs.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB467401" } , which passed 103-2, sponsored by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" } (R-DeWitt Township), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"This reform is sorely needed because current law makes it very difficult for people who might not recognize the severity of their situation to obtain the treatment they need," Mr. Leonard said in a statement. "In the same vein, we must guarantee individuals' due process rights are protected by providing legal counsel to guide them through the court process if they believe AOT is not necessary. This protects both the public safety and the privileges of the individual."

Supporters have said under current law (passed about a decade ago), a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen, and communities have been confused by the complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been used much.

"We must make public safety - including the well-being of the individual in need of care - a priority in this type of situation, but also ensure that their rights remain protected. This legislation strikes that delicate balance." Mr. Leonard said. "I want to thank Lt. Gov. Calley for bringing this issue to my attention, and for the strong leadership he has shown working to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens."

HB 4674 does the following:

- Offers early intervention, since current law requires a serious incident that might endanger public safety to occur before AOT may be requested;
- Simplifies the process of seeking court-appointed treatment; and
- Allows a judge to order AOT before an incident has occurred that could cause injury to the prospective patient or a member of the public.

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

A debate between two sitting senators that was supposed to be on the fundamental question over whether a tax increase is a necessary component of a final road funding solution went a bit off topic Tuesday as other issues such as the cost of health care, maintaining prevailing wage and fewer taxes on the middle class found their way into the hour-long back-and-forth.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) was pleased last week when { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) took him up on a challenge Mr. Colbeck had earlier raised to his colleagues about having a public debate on the necessity of a tax increase as a component for a road funding solution. But what began as a fairly civil disagreement on whether the objective was to raise $1.2 billion or to fix the roads in a manner that made them more sustainable eventually turned into a debate about the philosophical differences between Democrats and Republicans.

Mr. Colbeck began the discussion, saying he hoped to obtain an agreement that he and Mr. Hertel were trying to solve the same problem - a search that would come back perhaps in a manner he hadn't expected to, which is, not at all. Mr. Colbeck said beyond that key point, he wanted to debate his proposal, which in brief was to reprioritize existing funds, reduce expenses

on fixing roads, leverage existing resources, and, if none of those were amicable, talk a tax increase.

Mr. Hertel took his opening statement in a completely different direction, saying that while he agreed funding Michigan's roads is the single-most important issue facing the state today, "I think people are frustrated because under this governor and this Legislature, they're paying more in taxes and they're not getting much out of it," he said. "I think people are frustrated with the massive tax cuts that have gone to corporations and have not gone to helping people in their everyday lives."

And he called Mr. Colbeck's proposal "a math problem" that focused more on logistics than it did on creating a long-term, sustainable funding solution for the state's roads and bridges.

"You believe the objective is to find $1.2 billion. I believe the objective is to find a way to fix roads faster than they degrade," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Mr. Hertel returned, "$1.2 billion is the number the experts have come up with, not me. That's to maintain our current road system. I think we should invest more money into research and development to build longer lasting roads, but that's not been talked about in the Legislature."

The disagreement on the $1.2 billion number would continue, as Mr. Colbeck argued the problem could be smaller at about $700 million if the state would invest more into roads materials that were more sustainable, such as those being developed at the University of Michigan. Mr. Colbeck would raise other examples, but Mr. Hertel said his research into such materials and their companies is that they hadn't been tested in a practical manner, such as serving as a highway instead of a driveway, yet.

"I believe it's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which, after some time, had finally revealed itself to involve a look at, and use of, restricted funds (which Mr. Hertel said was unconstitutional), as well as possibly using money associated with the Michigan Strategic Fund and the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Colbeck said fixing the roads ought to be considered economic development, and so the use of MSF funds would be warranted. And there is an excess of money in the BSF, so at least some of that could be directed toward roads, he said.

But Mr. Hertel ripped both as one-time solutions (though Mr. Colbeck later argued that funds from the BSF could be made into ongoing funds). He also pointed to some of the details in Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which Mr. Hertel alleged included taking money away from sexual assault prevention funds for university campuses and newborn screenings.

"I just don't understand. You can't play a legislative shell game. People pay these fees because they expect a service," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal.

"All I'm saying is let's look into and make sure the actual funds are meeting the needs," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Before long, the debate slid into an argument over whether to keep the state's prevailing wage and what the cost of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has to the state, though it would eventually return to point when questions from the audience were asked, the first of which questioned whether the Department of Transportation ought to be investing more into research and development projects on roads.

"They have (the) equivalent of sand box. The problem is, we never seem to convert those projects, those sandbox items into changes of how we fix those roads. I think we need to do a better job," Mr. Colbeck said of MDOT. "We're not getting the bang for our buck we deserve."

Mr. Hertel defended MDOT, saying like other parts of the state budget, theirs has been cut "to the bone."

"I'm all for doing more for less but you can't expect that to routinely work forever," Mr. Hertel said. "If you had a plan that was sustainable, don't you think Rick Snyder would jump on it?"

Both had different takeaways from the defeat of Proposal 1, but both also had concerns about an income tax rollback.

"I'm always for a tax rollback, but I'm cautioned by the fact that one of the first things we did when I came into the Legislature was to stop a rollback," Mr. Colbeck said. "I'm not convinced it would go all the way down, because people are still fixated on raising taxes."

"It's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of the rollback. "It scares me to roll it down in good times but have no time to go up in bad."

Bills Would Increase Motorcycle Safety Course Fee

The maximum fee for a motorcycle safety course would increase from $25 to $50 under legislation discussed in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Tuesday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB485301" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB485401" }, introduced by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston), would increase the fee and require the Department of State to waive the written knowledge test, road signal test and driving skills test for an applicant who had successfully passed a private or public motorcycle safety course.

Under the first bill, government agencies offering the motorcycle safety courses would be allowed to charge up to $50, but could charge less if they chose.

Mr. Tedder said the fee not been increased since 1982. He said $25 does not come close to covering the cost of the class. He also said the fee is so low, some sign up for the class but then do not show up.

Under the current program, the public entities providing the classes submit a grant request to the department for reimbursement. Mr. Tedder said because the fee is low and the Motorcycle Safety Fund has shrunk, they are not always reimbursed for the full amount spent.

"Several institutions have voiced concerns over their ability to maintain hosting the class because they are quite frankly losing money," Mr. Tedder said. "This is an opportunity to make these whole so they can continue hosting these classes."

Mr. Tedder said he took one of the courses a couple months ago, and took a class from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.

He said at the class booklets were provided, and six hours were spent out on the course and a motorcycle was provided during the class at no additional costs.

"For $25 I received nearly nine hours of quality instruction and at the end of that experience successfully completed a secretary of state approved test," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica) questioned why the increase was so large. "I am thrown back a little bit by a 100 percent increase in fees," he said.

Mr. Tedder said the fees were artificially maintained at a low level.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=100001&locid=1" } (D-Ypsilanti) said he thought the fee should be $100. "The fee has been $25 for 30 years," he said.

American Bikers Aiming Toward Education also supports the legislation. The committee did not act on the bills.

MDOT PRESENTATION: Department of Transportation { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=304101&locid=1" } also spoke to the committee Tuesday on various efficiencies within the department and projects it's working on this year.

Mr. Steudle said the department has reduced staff by 15 percent during the last three years and combined with other efficiencies has saved $316 million during that time.

In 2015, he said, the department has saved $13.5 million by partnering with private entities to provide more street lights in Detroit, and saved $22 million through bond refinancing.

Mr. Steudle said during the next five years, the department will invest $503 million annually to repair and rebuild roads.

He said $168 million will be invested annually to repair bridges.

The committee ran out of time and Mr. Steudle was only able to take a couple questions from committee members but will return at the request of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001&locid=1" } (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair.

Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Companies that provide electronic services to schools would be prohibited from targeted marketing to students under legislation reported Tuesday from the Senate Education Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001" }), as reported, would ban advertising to students based on information the company collected on them as well as prohibit sale of any of that information.

The student or his or her parents would be permitted to request disclosure of any of the collected data, but the company would also be required to delete any or all of that data if the school district requests that.

The bill was reported unanimously with an S-2 substitute.

SHARED TIME: The committee also began discussions on bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB459401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB479001" }) that would allow kindergarten students to be eligible for shared time.

Current law allows students in first grade and above who are home schooled or attend a private school to take some classes at their local public school, with the school being reimbursed based on the amount of time the student spends at the public school.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), sponsor of the bill, said the current law was written when kindergarten was generally part-time and so did not lend itself to shared time programs.

"Half-day kindergarten is pretty much not the rule anymore," he said. "This allows both home schoolers and private schools to work together with the public schools."

Mr. McBroom said there would need to be conflict substitutes approved when the committee moves the bills, which appeared to have general support from Republicans, to accommodate recent School Aid Act changes.

Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

Legislation putting new limits on civil asset forfeiture, one of the few major issues in recent years that largely united both conservative and liberal legislators, was signed into law Tuesday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

The package of bills sets new reporting requirements for governments and police agencies on property seized, as well as setting new stricter standards governments must follow before seizing property.

"These new reporting requirements will raise the bar so that a fair balance is struck between private property rights and law enforcement's effective ability to do their job in pursuing criminal activity," Mr. Snyder said in a statement about the seven-bill package.

The main measure, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450401" } (PA 148) requires all government entities to report any and all property seizures and forfeitures to the State Police. The State Police will then compile a report on those seizures which will be given to the Legislature and posted on the department's website.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB449901" } (PA 153) raises the threshold to "clear and convincing evidence" to seize property in nuisance abatements. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450501" } (PA 154) the plaintiff in a controlled substance case has to show the seizing property was a violation again by the clear and convincing standard.

Also signed were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450001" } (PA 149) { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450301" } (PA 150, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450601" } (PA 151) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450701" } (PA 152) which amend different statutes to comport with the new standards.

Mr. Snyder also signed a package of Senate-House bills to help ensure individuals who rely on service animals have greater access to public facilities. The bills were created after a number of incidents where individuals were prevented entrance to some public places because they had a service animal, most commonly a dog, with them.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB29801" }

(PA 144) makes it a crime to deny access to someone with a service animal, or to attack a service animal. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB29901" } (PA 145) exempts service animals from licensing fees if they are assisting a person with a disability or a veteran with a service-related disability.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB452101" } (PA 146) requires the Department of Civil Rights to offer voluntary identification for service animals, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB452701" } (PA 147) makes it a misdemeanor to falsely identify a service animal.

Other bills signed by Mr. Snyder were:

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB6401" }, PA 155 — PATIENT CARE POLICIES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }) Requires establishment of patient care policies and compliance procedures based on nationally recognized guidelines or best-practice resources, and provides other general amendments.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdet — HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }) Allows employment of or contracting with health professional to provide medical treatment to nursing home patients regardless of business entity status of nursing home.

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Signed: October 20, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB6601" } PA 157 — LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }) Clarifies application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB6701" } PA 158 — BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }) Clarifies application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" }) TEACHER CERTIFICATES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB6 Revises requirements for professional teaching certificate and requirements for alternative teaching certificate process.

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Snyder Names Two To Oakland Circuit Court

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } on Tuesday named two people to the Oakland Circuit Court, one of which was Hala Jarbou to succeed new Court of Appeals { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=334101&locid=1" }.

Also named was Jerry Matis to succeed Judge Rudy Nichols (who served in the House for two years and then was elected to the Senate in 1984 succeeding the recalled Sen. Phil Mastin. He was elected to the court in 1990).

Ms. Jarbou is currently with the U.S. Department of Justice as an assistance U.S. attorney in the Drug Task Force. She must run for full term as judge in 2016.

Mr. Matis is in private practice and is also the vice chair of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. He previously had been on the Rochester City Council. He must run in 2016 to complete the term which will end in 2020.

Committee Roundup

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES: The committee began discussions Tuesday on legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490801" }) to remove the sunset date on authority for the Natural Resources Commission to set regulations for recreational feeding of deer and elk.

Supporters said it was important for the commission to retain that authority as part of the effort to combat chronic wasting disease and other communicable diseases.

But { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269801&locid=1" } (R-Ray Township) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan) argued for extending the sunset three years.

Mr. Goike said he was happy with the commission's work now, but said that could change. "Why give it away and then have to do legislation to get the power back," he said of legislative control over the commission's actions.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=328701&locid=1" } (D-Marquette), sponsor of the legislation, said the legislative process takes too long. "Three years from now, chronic wasting disease is going to be more of a threat, not less," he said.

Amy Trotter with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs said it would be a waste of time to keep a sunset on the authority given the small likelihood any of the parties would reverse their support for the commission's work.

Mr. McBroom noted there was nothing that would prevent the governor from taking the authority from the commission and giving it to the director, as former Governor Jennifer Granholm had done with oversight of invasive species.

Campaign Notes

GILBERT ENDORSEMENT: The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 951 has endorsed Democrat Melissa Gilbert in her run for the 8th U.S. House District.

"Melissa has a proven track record of protecting workers' rights and supporting unions, which strengthen the voices of American workers," John Cakmakci, president of the local, said in a statement. "I am confident that she will fight for Michigan's working families in Congress."

Capital Notebook

SIMON TO CHAIR AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES: Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon will serve as chair of the Association of American Universities for the next year. Ms. Simon was elected to the post by the association's board on Tuesday.

The association includes 62 of the top research universities in the United States and Canada, and both promotes university research and the relationship between the United States government and university research.

As chair, Ms. Simon will act as the spokesperson for the association, especially on issue that directly concern research universities.

GORZ JOINS MAC: Elizabeth Gorz has joined the Michigan Association of Counties as the organization's governmental affairs associate. Before joining the counties organization, she was a lobbyist at Capitol Affairs, and had been a staffer for former Senate Majority Leader and now { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } (R-Rochester), and an aide to former Sen., now { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=71001&locid=1" } (R-Midland) and to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights).

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, October 21

Board of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/2015%2010-21%20Agenda%20Podiatry%20Full.doc" \t "_blank" }; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/2015%2010-5%20Agenda%20Podiatry%20DSC.doc" \t "_blank" }))

Wednesday, November 4

Criminal Justice Policy Commission, Senate Appropriations Room, Third Floor, Capitol, Lansing, 9 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, October 28

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364901&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 29

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=265001&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, LaPita Banquet Hall, 22681 Newman, Dearborn, 5 p.m.

Thursday, November 5

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370401&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 12

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=104001&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, November 13

Rep. Sheldon Neely (D) Fundraiser, Signature Chop House, 1537 Pierson Road, Flushing, 7 p.m.

Sunday, November 15

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=352101&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 24645 Muirfield Drive, Taylor, 4 p.m.

Sunday, November 22

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1" } (D) Fundraiser, 277 South Rose Street, Suite 5000, Kalamazoo, 11:15 a.m.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Wednesday, October 21

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93501&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=306" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4890" } **ANIMALS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" }) Modifies pet shop, dog pound and animal shelters act to include large-scale commercial dog breeders and to make other general revisions.

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(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701&locid=1" }, 373-8474),
Room 326, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- **Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.**

{ NATURAL RESOURCES ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701" **}**) Provides for
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(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" }, 373-5323),
Room 210, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

{ UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" **}**) Repeals and
ERLI recreates uniform interstate family support act (UIFSA).
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{ FRIEND OF THE COURT ({ HYPERLINK
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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" } **PARENTING TIME** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Updates parenting time reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB52001" }

Tuesday, October 27

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88701&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/finance.html" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" } **REFUND INTEREST** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" }) modifies timeline for interest claims on refunds.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446101" }

{ **REFUND INTEREST** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264301" }) Aligns interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446201" }
{ **SALES TAX ON GASOLINE** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401" }) Revises provisions for prepaid sales tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB468501" }

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 21, 2015

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Committee Ties Homestead Credit To Inflation

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Court To Coast Guard: Issue Bridge Permit Or Explain Why Not

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Volume #54, Report #209 -- Wednesday, October 21, 2015

House Republicans Go It Alone, Pass Road Funding Plan

House Republicans on Wednesday found the votes, mostly within their own caucus, to pass a $1.2 billion road funding plan with no guarantees of support from Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof or Governor Rick Snyder.

The plan involved $600 million in new revenue through a gas tax increase and registration fee increases and $600 million from existing sources. An income tax rollback and an expansion of the Homestead Property Tax credit are also included.

Business groups were also split in their reception of the plan with some seeing it as a breakthrough and others as fiscally irresponsible (see separate story).

"I think that this is a very good plan," House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said after the bills passed. "We are going to be working with our partners. This is a huge step forward. I think this is a good grand compromise plan."

But House Democrats tore the plan apart as irresponsible and said the only reason the House Republicans wanted to vote on a plan this week is because Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) "challenged" Mr. Cotter to take a vote on a plan the quadrant leaders had been discussing.

"Let's just set the record straight here for everyone," said Rep. Marilyn Lane (D-Fraser), the minority vice chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. "This is a knee-jerk reaction plan simply to match egos with our counterparts in the Senate."

Those talks fell apart last week, with House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) concerned about an income tax rollback.

Mr. Meekhof called for Mr. Cotter to hold a vote on the plan anyway. Mr. Cotter refused. At that point, as Gongwer News Service first reported Tuesday, Mr. Cotter began attempting to put together support for a 600/600 plan that could pass with Republican support only.

And about 9 p.m. Wednesday, he did.

It was seen as a retort both to Mr. Meekhof and Mr. Greimel.

"This plan is an embarrassment to the Legislature and it has managed to combine most of the worst aspects of the terrible plans we have seen over the course of the last year," Mr. Greimel said.

The plan would include a 3.3-cent increase effective in 2018 in the overall fuel tax, as well as an additional 4 cents for diesel to bring it up to the gas tax level effective in 2017.

The plan would increase registration fees by $400 million total, averaging $55 additional per vehicle for both passenger and commercial vehicles ($40 for passenger vehicles).

To offset the tax increases, the plan would increase the amount of homestead property tax credit available by both increasing the amount of income affected, to 3.5 percent from 3.4 percent, and increasing the income cap to $60,000, with the phase-out of the credit starting at $51,000. That is a $10,000 increase from the current caps.

The phase-in of the plan would provide $400 million for fiscal year 2016-17 and increase to $1.2 billion by FY 2020-21. Part of the increase is General Fund, which would increase from $150 million in FY 2018-19 to $600 million the final year.

The tax credit offset would start with $40 million in FY 2017-18 and increase to $200 million in FY 2020-21.

The plan also includes a proposed income tax roll-back beginning in 2019 if general fund revenue outpaces inflation.

Democrats criticized the income tax rollback for not having a floor and said it could severely strain the General Fund.

"It's a fiscal time bomb," said Rep. Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak)."And I don't know if anybody on this floor knows just how explosive it could be."

But Mr. Cotter said the income tax rollback was a crucial feature of the final plan in terms of getting votes.

SB 414, the income tax rollback bill, is not tie-barred to the other bills in the package.

The bills passed with varying support, with 54 votes needed for passage, some bills passed narrowly: The gasoline tax increase passed 56-50 (HB 4614, HB 4616 and HB 4738); HB 4736 boosting vehicle registration fees passed 55-51; The competitive bidding bills (HB 4610 and HB 4611) and the expansion of the Homestead Property Tax Credit (HB 4370) passed 62-44; the income tax rollback passed 61-45 and HB 4737 concerning warranties passed 101-5.

Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit) was the only Democrat to vote for many of the bills other than the legislation regarding warranties.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica) said the plan would "literally" pave our roads.

"Today we vote for investing in our future," he said. "We vote for tax relief for seniors, and families. ... We are choosing to govern. Today the residents of Michigan have a good roads solution."

Now the question is what the Senate and Mr. Snyder will do. The speculation was rife Wednesday night that Mr. Snyder could relent on his concerns about the impact to the General Fund.

"Forward progress is a good thing, though (the) governor does have some concerns," Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said, saying any solution must be "fiscally responsible."

Said Mr. Meekhof in a statement: "I am happy the House sent over an idea for the Senate to consider. I look forward to talking with the governor and legislative leaders about the proposal. I have not had an opportunity to review the legislation, yet. The next step is for my fellow caucus members and I to review the details."

Business Groups Divided On Road Funding Plan

Business Leaders for Michigan came out strongly against the plan, saying it relies too heavily on the General Fund.

"We believe this is unsustainable and fiscally irresponsible," the group said in a statement. "The state General Fund has not grown in real terms since 1999. Redirecting $600 million from the General Fund to roads means fewer dollars would be available to make college more affordable, train Michigan workers and incent job creation. All are important to our state's future. We should not have to choose between them. The plan adopted by the House would fix one problem but create another."

The group called for the Senate to pass a plan that fixes roads without putting other important priorities at risk.

Also voicing concern, prior to the vote, was the Detroit Regional Chamber, at least on the idea of going beyond $400 million from the General Fund for roads. While the chamber urged the Legislature to act, it warned, "further dedication of the General Fund beyond the $400 million ... would be short-sighted and run counter to Michigan's best interests."

But the Michigan Chamber of Commerce hailed the House vote.

"We commend Speaker Cotter and the House GOP for taking action this evening to pass a comprehensive plan to fix Michigan's roads," said Michigan Chamber President and CEO Rich Studley in a statement. "Breaking the impasse on this key issue is an important and positive step forward."

And the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan praised the lower reliance on higher taxes and fees than other plans.

"Speaker Cotter and House Republicans deserve credit for listening to what the voters said with the Proposal 1 defeat - more prioritization of spending and less reliance on funding roads with across the board tax hikes," said NFIB State Director Charlie Owens in a statement. "The House

plan attempts to look at existing resources and balance any tax increases with cuts in other taxes."

Snyder Names Flint Water Task Force

With controversy growing over how the state handled the water crisis in Flint, Governor Rick Snyder on Wednesday named a five-member independent advisory task force to investigate actions by the state involving water use and testing in the city.

As Mr. Snyder made the announcement, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint) and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) called for the federal Environmental Protection Agency to investigate the controversy and its handling by the Department of Environmental Quality.

Mr. Snyder's announcement and the separate calls by Mr. Kildee and Mr. Ananich come as revelations of some internal emails from the DEQ brought into question how seriously some officials viewed the problem.

When the state announced earlier this month it would push for Flint to be reconnected to the Detroit Water and Sewerage System - the city's emergency manager decided in 2014 to draw water from the Flint River while the city prepared to join a pipeline drawing water from Lake Huron after no agreement could be reached on a short-term contract with the Detroit system - Mr. Snyder said he would create the independent body.

Along with looking into how the state handled the crisis, which after more than a year of complaints about water taste and smell broke wide open this past summer when tests showed elevated levels of lead in the water, the task force is to make recommendations to the state for "future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents."

Co-chairing the task force will be former Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, now with Public Sector Consultants, and former Democratic Rep. Chris Kolb, now with the Michigan Environmental Council.

Also named to the task force is Matthew Davis of the University of Michigan Health System, Eric Rothstein of the Galardi Rothstein Group and Lawrence Reynolds of Mott Children's Health Center of Flint.

Mr. Snyder said he wanted an "unbiased report" that looked at past actions affecting the Flint water situation and recommendations to help ensure that all state residents have access to safe drinking water. He said administration officials would cooperate fully with the task force.

There was no time frame set on when the task force would issue a report.

Mr. Ananich on Wednesday, meanwhile, released a letter to the U.S. EPA asking for a formal review of the DEQ's handling of the Flint water situation, emphasizing that the public needed to know if "the misapplication of federal water testing rules was intentional or due to negligence.

"Our citizens deserve answers," Mr. Ananich said.

And Mr. Kildee also wrote to the EPA, saying to ensure failures like that with the Flint system does not occur again, an investigation into how the crisis occurred is necessary.

"Unfortunately, the citizens of Flint are the victims in this situation. They deserve a thorough investigation and answers to these questions," Mr. Kildee said in his letter.

Snyder: Plan Could Mean More Students In Detroit Schools

One of the structural issues facing Detroit Public Schools is loss of students, but Governor Rick Snyder said his plan to restructure the district could reverse that.

The plan Mr. Snyder outlined this week (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 19, 2015) would, among other things, split the district, with educational functions moving to a new entity (new co) and historical debt remaining with the current district (old co).

"By leaving the debt with old co, you can see improved performance and hopefully that will lead parents to say they want to see their children go to DPS," Mr. Snyder said Wednesday on Detroit Public Television's MiWeek.

Mr. Snyder said his plan is also designed to balance the needs of the district with the desire of those outside Detroit to have control of the funds funneled there.

Under the plan, the old district would remain under the current elected board, but the new entity would be headed by a board appointed in part by the governor and in part by the mayor. That board would, over six years, move to an elected body.

Mr. Snyder said he had comments from Detroit residents and officials that they would like to see the district remain under elected control, or at least move back to that more quickly.

"I tried to propose a balance because I got comments from the rest of the state that if the state's making a huge investment, they should have some control," he said.

As to the state funds headed to Detroit under Mr. Snyder's plan, he said it was not substantially different from what the state has done on school pensions since he took office.

"The $70 million compared to what we've been helping districts with MPSERS is actually a smaller obligation," he said of the state funds that have gone directly to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System.

And he said not assisting the district could mean more dire consequences.

"If it's not done in this fashion, it's ultimately going to end up in court, not necessarily in bankruptcy, but in court," he said.

Action also needs to come soon, he said. His proposal would have the changes in place before schools start their new fiscal year in July.

"The longer we wait, the better chance we have of having an uncontrolled financial default," he said.

Meekhof: Problems With DPS Plan; Wyant Should Not Be Fired

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof said Wednesday his caucus has a number of concerns with a plan floated by Governor Rick Snyder earlier this week to reform Detroit Public Schools which includes providing $715 million over 10 years to get the district out of debt out of debt.

"There's some things in there to like and a lot of things we have concern over. My concern, and my caucus' concern, has been getting an educational experience in front of these kids that gives them the best opportunity to be successful," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters after session. "We have all these great, new, innovative and cool jobs coming to Detroit, and it would be a shame if we couldn't put an educational experience in front of these kids that gives them the ability to be eligible for those jobs."

He said he hasn't even talked about the money aspect of the proposal with his caucus given how new it is, but there are general concerns there too.

"We want to do the best by all taxpayers, but again, the effort is to try to get performance improvement for those kids so they can get those great jobs in Detroit," he said.

Asked whether he thought the proposal and the money associated with it would be a tough sell to his caucus, Mr. Meekhof said "almost everything" is a tough sell at this point.

"We've done some very innovative and creative things over the last four or five years, very successful, and now we're at some really tough stuff that we have to solve, but that's why people sent us here. And we're going to do it," he said.

FLINT WATER: Mr. Meekhof said he hasn't talked with Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) on whether a legislative hearing could be had to review the actions taken - or not - by varying authorities when it comes to the Flint water crisis, but Mr. Meekhof did not believe Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant need be fired over it.

"I support Dan. I think he's done a terrific job on a lot of other issues. This one is difficult for a host of reasons because a couple of local governments couldn't get their act together for some period of time," Mr. Meekhof said. "Decisions were made because they thought they needed to make those decisions separately, and the results weren't very good. There's a whole lot of blame to go around, but at this point we've fixed the problem."

Indeed, as Mr. Ananich has previously pointed out, the decision to switch the city's water source and then later deny a request to return to water from the Detroit system had gone through three

state-appointed emergency managers. But Mr. Meekhof skirted on whether those people ought to be held responsible either.

"I don't know that the state knew that," he said to a question about the state needing to react if it in fact knew a public health crisis was growing. "If I'm understanding what's happening, they tested at the source, when they bring it in, and that was their only requirement. So after that, I'm not sure what their culpability would be."

Asked if the Legislature had the ability to hold emergency managers responsible for their actions while serving, Mr. Meekhof said he thought that to be the case but would also be interested in seeing "alternate opinions on that."

"I think Director Wyant and folks are doing an after-action and are concerned, and I want to see what their after-action reports are," he said.

Large School Bond Proposals, Road Millages Highlight November Ballot

Thirty-seven proposals for school bonds and nine proposals for new or increased local millages to fund road maintenance are among the many measures voters will see on their local ballots November 3.

Two cities - Keego Harbor in Oakland County and Portage in Kalamazoo County - will vote on whether to decriminalize possession of up to one ounce of marijuana on private property for those 21 and older.

Two other communities - Lathrup Village in Oakland County and Mount Pleasant - will decide on term limits for local elected officials.

Twenty-four school districts will vote on whether to renew their 18-mill property tax on all commercial and non-principal residences. Seven school districts will decide on passing sinking fund property taxes for infrastructure needs, and nine municipalities will vote on tax increases to fund public safety.

Several cities also will elect local elected officials. Among those generating interest at the Capitol are those for the Lansing and East Lansing city councils, as well as the Flint mayor's race, where Mayor Dayne Walling is trying to win re-election amid that city's water crisis.

A Gongwer News Service analysis of ballots in the communities that will hold elections showed 169 separate ballot proposals in school districts, municipalities and other voting jurisdictions.

The largest bond initiatives in school districts for infrastructure improvements:

- $185 million for Rochester schools

- $175 million for the Grand Rapids schools
- $128 million for the Portage schools and a separate bond for $16 million
- $67.5 million for the Saline schools
- $64.86 million for Kentwood schools
- $57.4 million for Woodhaven-Brownstown schools
- $55.24 million for the Kenowa Hills schools
- $49.55 million for the Owosso schools
- $44.6 million for the Hastings schools
- $32.6 million for the Grand Blanc schools
- $27 million and $10.2 million for the Dowagiac schools

Voting on new or increased road millages: Allen Park, Boston Township in Ionia County, Charleston Township in Kalamazoo County, Crystal Lake Township in Benzie County, Clare, Harbor Springs, Lapeer, Meade Township in Huron County and Pipestone Township in Berrien County. Grosse Ile Township in Wayne County also has an $18.8 million bond proposal to fund road and water needs.

Another six municipalities have road millage renewal questions in front of voters.

A complete chart of all local ballot proposals is available via the Gongwer website. Subscribers can sort the chart by voting jurisdiction, county and type of proposal.

Lower Fuel Prices Should Permit Savings On Winter Bills, State Says

The Michigan Agency for Energy released its energy appraisal for the upcoming winter on Wednesday, expecting residents to save big on their heating bills "thanks to lower fuel prices and predicted warmer-than-normal temperatures," the agency said.

Michigan's energy market is also expected to have adequate reserves and lower prices, the agency said in a statement. With the expectation of a return to normal winter weather, consumption of home heating fuels such as natural gas, propane and distillate will fall, it said, while demand for motor fuels such as gasoline and diesel will rise.

The National Weather Service projects Michigan to have a 40-to-60 percent chance of a warmer than normal winter, as well as a 40 percent chance of a drier than normal winter.

Michigan's total electricity sales in 2015 are expected to decrease by 0.2 percent from 2014 sales, assuming normal weather for the rest of the year, the agency determined. The projected decrease is driven by the industrial sector, whose usage is expected to fall by 4.4 percent, while residential demand is projected to decrease by 0.5 percent. The commercial sector expected to increase by 3.6 percent, it said.

Total natural gas sales are projected to increase by 2.1 percent in 2015 to 859.5 billion cubic feet assuming normal winter weather for the remainder of the year, the agency found. The increase is primarily due to consumption in the electric generation sector, it said.

"In recent years, the electric power industry has begun a shift toward natural gas generation, in part to reduce air pollutants and in part to take advantage of lower fuel costs," the agency said. "With an expected return to normal winter weather, natural gas consumption for the residential and commercial sectors should fall below 2014 levels."

The average residential winter natural gas bill for the four largest utilities in Michigan is expected to average $512, an 18 percent reduction from last year.

Michigan propane usage is projected to decrease by 5.8 percent in 2015 assuming normal winter weather for the remainder of the year. Colder than normal temperatures and a concerted effort to promote early fills caused propane use to increase 15 percent in 2014. Propane prices this winter should be the lowest Michigan has seen in many years, the agency said.

U.S. crude oil production averaged 8.7 million barrels per day in 2014, the highest production levels seen in decades. Continued growth is expected through the 2015 calendar year, reaching 9.2 million barrels per day in 2015, but is expected to retreat in 2016 as new investments are reduced in light of current crude oil prices.

Finally, gas sales in Michigan are projected to increase by 2.1 percent in 2015, marking the third-straight year of increased demand. Consumption increases in 2015 are likely due to significant decreases in the retail cost of gasoline that resulted from lower crude oil prices.

In fact, the AAA Fuel Report determined the average price of unleaded gasoline in Michigan was $2.48 on October 1, 2015, down 26 percent from the same time last year when it averaged $3.36.

Johnson: County Treasurer's Office Needs Relationship With Legislature, Governor

Sen. Bert Johnson is one of several candidates who have recently thrown their hat in the ring to be the next Wayne County Treasurer, and he said Wednesday his qualifications and relationships in the legislative and executive branch could make him a good candidate.

The Detroit Free Press reported that eight applications had been received for the position in the wake of the decision by current County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz to retire. Mr. Johnson (D-Highland Park) is said to be up against former Rep. Phil Cavanagh, a Democrat from Redford Township, as well as Etta Wilcoxon, who had previously run for Detroit city clerk and mayor; David Szymanski, who retired in September as former chief deputy county treasurer; Richard

Hathaway, chief assistant to Prosecutor Kym Worthy; Beverly Kindle-Walker, who has run for county treasurer numerous times; James Williams IV, a former Wayne County Commission candidate; and George "Jerry" Paffendorf, who heads Detroit data firm Loveland Technologies.

"Michigan probably needs to undertake a very comprehensive rewrite of our property tax rules and our codes. It's how we fund our cities, how we fund our schools. I think it's a broken system," Mr. Johnson told Gongwer News Service Wednesday. "I think a lot of that begins with stabilization of what it means to be the Wayne County Treasurer's Office and the property tax ordinances down there that govern the area. Wayne County is centrally important to not just Southeast Michigan but Michigan as a whole because when Wayne County is broken, the entire state does not work."

Mr. Johnson said the county is losing so much money in property as vacant or abandoned lots continue to go up for auction, and he's interested in changing that.

"I actually think, from the perspective that Wayne County has been a leader over the years in county government, that that office is as important as the work the Wayne County Executive has to do, if it can ever get right," he said. "I think part of getting right is having a legislative relationship here with both the legislative and the executive. I think then Michigan becomes a better place for people to live, work, play and pray."

The Free Press said a three-person committee made up of Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, Chief Probate Judge Freddie Burton Jr. and Ms. Worthy are expected to meet at 2 p.m. Thursday in room 700A of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center to discuss applicants - a meeting that is open to the public.

Mr. Johnson said interviews are currently slated for early November, though it remains unclear if every candidate will be interviewed or just a select few the committee determines are the best fit.

Pavlov Announces Hearings On Academically Failing Schools

Sen. Phil Pavlov on Wednesday announced his Senate Education Committee will conduct a series of hearings, beginning November 4, on Michigan's academically failing schools.

The hearings will involve the committee and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston, Department of Education staff, Richard McLellan and former Oakland Schools Superintendent Vickie Markavitch. Invited guests also include State School Reform Officer Natasha Baker and Governor Rick Snyder's Senior Advisor for Education, Karen McPhee.

The hearings are slated to begin at 8:30 a.m., a statement from Mr. Pavlov's (R-St. Clair) office indicated, and official public notices will still be posted for each hearing as the meetings approach.

The purpose, Mr. Pavlov's office indicated, is to continue the conversation on the fiscal health of the state's public schools, especially in light of Mr. Snyder's recent proposal for Detroit Public

Schools (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 19, 2015) and work the Legislature completed earlier this year on an "early warning system" for financially distressed schools.

"The academic health of our schools is equally important, and given the Legislature's purview over elementary and secondary education provided for in the Michigan Constitution, it is appropriate that the Senate Education Committee should lead this discussion," the statement said.

Large-Scale Dog Breeder Regulations Clear Committee

A bill regulating large-scale dog breeding kennels with 15 intact female dogs used for breeding in the state would be required to pay a $500 fee under the H-3 version reported from the House Appropriations Committee Wednesday.

HB 4898, under its original version, would have required a $25 fee to be paid by the kennels.

The bill was sent to the full House 24-2, with Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) and Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) voting no. Rep. Sarah Roberts (D-Saint Clair Shores) abstained.

Under the bill, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development would receive $10,000 to implement the requirements.

However, the department would not perform regular inspections of the kennels and would largely rely on complaints and local animal control for kennel inspections.

The department would be required, 18 months after the bill is enacted and annually for four years after, to submit a report on:

- the number of registrations,
- the approximate number of animals housed at each registered location,
- the number of inspections performed,
- the number of complaints received,
- the number of penalties arising from complaints, and
- recommendations regarding staffing levels and best practices for working with partners.

Kennels found in violation of the regulations would be subject to a $5,000 fine.

Ms. Roberts offered two amendments on the bill but neither was adopted. The first would require the department to do unannounced inspections of at least 50 percent of the kennels.

"I feel the intent of the bill is good, and looking at some of these regulations they're a step in the direction. I just feel that there need to be inspections," she said.

The second amendment would have codified the amount of space that is in a dog enclosure.

In a statement from Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), the chair of the committee, it said other Midwest states have regulations in place to prevent the establishment of '"puppy mills."

"I'm proud to vote on behalf of these animals," he said. "It's not often that this committee is in a position to take a first step on a moral or ethical issue. I'm thankful to Rep. McCready and the other advocates who brought the issue before us."

The bill establishes requirements for importation and sale of or resale of a dog, as well as vaccination and health certification requirements.

Committee Ties Homestead Credit To Inflation

Seniors and low-income residents would see more money back each year from the Homestead Property Tax Credit under legislation approved Wednesday by the House Tax Policy Committee.

The bill (HB 4871) would index the credit to inflation. The caps on property value and income would also increase with inflation under the plan.

The program provides a credit for property taxes exceeding 3.5 percent of household income, with seniors able to claim all of that and low-income families 60 percent. But current law caps the credit at $1,200, the property taxable value at $135,000 and income at $50,000 (those with incomes more than $40,000 lose 10 percent of the credit for each additional $1,000).

As reported from committee, the changes would begin with the 2016 tax year. The bill also makes clear that the Consumer Price Index would apply to total household resources.

Though the committee did not take testimony on the issue Wednesday, the Michigan Catholic Conference praised movement on the bill.

"This is good tax policy that addresses the economic reality for Michigan's low-income families and senior citizens," Michigan Catholic Conference Vice President for Public Policy and Advocacy Tom Hickson said in a statement. "Each year people see their day to day costs rise due to inflation; this policy addresses those increases and provides relief for those who experience daily the hardships of a strained family budget. House Bill 4871 is a welcome step toward recognizing the dignity of lower-income residents and seniors."

The committee also reported SB 349, moving up the date on which county treasurers can send delinquency notices; and SB 369 and SB 370, which exempt equipment used in producing alcoholic from sales and use taxes as industrial processing equipment.

Bill Would Allow More Residential Maintenance Work Without License

The House Regulatory Reform Committee on Wednesday took up a bill that would increase the current threshold for when licensure is required for performance of residential improvement work from $600 to $4,000.

Currently, a license is not needed by a person working on one project by one or more contracts if the aggregate contract price for labor, material and any other item is less than $600. HB 4282 increases that to $4,000.

And HB 4281 would modify how the funds in the Builders Enforcement Fund could be used. Under the bill, not more than 30 percent could be used for enforcement purposes and not more than 70 percent to issue grants to a statewide residential building and trade association for workforce development and outreach programs related to the residential building industry.

"This allows for those who do handyman work to not go through the entire licensing process for basically a handyman businesses," said Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama), the chair of the committee and sponsor of the bills.

Mr. Franz said the bill originally increased the dollar amount to $10,000, but after negotiations with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs agreed on $4,000.

Rep. Marilyn Lane (D-Fraser) said she would be more comfortable with a figure around $1,500. She said for $4,000, a significant amount of work can be done to a home. And without the license, the department would not be held accountable if something went wrong.

"It really takes away consumer protections," she said.

She also said she was concerned about the amount of funding the department would lose with the reduction of licensing fees.

Lee Schwartz, with the Home Builders Association of Michigan, spoke in support of the bill. He said when the legislation was introduced in previous sessions, the group was not in support, but the $600 threshold does not have many real-world applications.

ANIMAL SHELTERS: The committee also took up HB 4915, which would establish holding periods of animals for shelters in the state before other actions could be taken.

Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills) said the intent of the bill was to allow local shelters to keep animals for longer than the holding period in the bill indicates. But the bill analysis said the holding period is a mandate and pre-empts local ordinances.

Mr. McCready said he would work with Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing), who asking about the holding period, to correct any issues.

Under the bill, for a dog that does not have current, traceable evidence of ownership and is not a candidate for adoption or a sterilization release program, the holding period would be four days. For dogs with traceable evidence of ownership, the period would be seven days.

For cats without current, traceable evidence of ownership, an animal control shelter or an animal protection shelter may observe a zero-day holding period for that cat if it is a candidate for adoption or a sterilization release program.

Amy Trotter with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs advocated for some changes to the bill. Ms. Trotter said the group would like to see the countdown of the holding period begin on the following business day from whenever an animal - particularly dog for her members - was found.

Ms. Trotter said when hunting with dogs, for example, sometimes the owner is not familiar with the area and doesn't immediately know what shelters to contact.

She also noted the group has seen those who oppose hunting with dogs take a collar off of a hunting dog before taking them to a shelter, which, under the bill, would reduce the holding period because the dog would not have traceable evidence of ownership.

Court To Coast Guard: Issue Bridge Permit Or Explain Why Not

The District of Columbia U.S. Court of Appeals has told the U.S. Coast Guard to either issue a navigation permit allowing construction of a second Ambassador Bridge span or explain why.

The order, issued Monday as part of a federal lawsuit the Detroit International Bridge Company has against Canada, requires the Coast Guard to issue a permit by January 4, 2016, or it and the litigants in the case shall explain why a permit has not been issued.

The order is the latest incident in the ongoing battle over new bridges between Detroit and Windsor. While the focus has been on getting final approvals and construction plans for development of the Gordie Howe International Bridge - promoted by Governor Rick Snyder, most Detroit-area business and the Canadian government - the owners and operators of the Ambassador Bridge have not given up efforts to build a second span to the 86-year old bridge.

This specific issue - various aspects of the controversy have been litigated - has to do with a navigation permit from the U.S. Coast Guard. Such a permit is needed before a bridge could be built.

In 2009, the Coast Guard issued a draft finding that construction of a second span would have no significant adverse environmental effects.

But it held off on issuing a navigation permit for regulatory reasons. A U.S. District Court found the Coast Guard was justified in delaying the permit.

Mickey Blashfield, spokesperson for the Detroit International Bridge Company, said in response to the order, "The 'delay game' has gone on long enough. We look forward to the Coast Guard's response to the court."

The permit would be an important step in gaining final approval for a new bridge, though a question of whether the Canadian government would permit the second span to proceed remains.

Senate OKs Blue Alert System

A "blue alert" system to broadcast information on attacks on police is heading to Governor Rick Snyder for final approval after getting final approval from the Senate Wednesday.

SB 336 saw unanimous approval to concur in a House substitute to the bill that includes a definition of "law enforcement officer" and includes language that a law enforcement agency investigating the incident had information identifying an individual as a suspect connected to the incident.

Under the bill, the Department of State Police would have to establish and maintain a Blue Alert Plan to disseminate information to radio and television stations when a law enforcement officer was killed or seriously injured by an offender who had presumably not yet been apprehended.

A House Fiscal Agency analysis of the bill determined the bill would have a "significant" fiscal impact on the department to the extent the State Police would encounter costs to develop and maintain such a system, estimated to include $10,000 to develop information technology systems, $10,000 for server storage and $300 a month to operate a plan in partnership with the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Various police organizations have spoken in support of the bill.

FAILURE TO YIELD: The chamber also passed by a margin of 36-2 legislation to prescribe a misdemeanor penalty for failure to yield to an approaching emergency vehicle (currently a civil infraction), as well as prescribe felony penalties for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle causing injury or death to emergency personnel (SB 421).

The misdemeanor would be punishable by a maximum fine of $500 and/or up to 90 days' imprisonment, while the felony for injury could be punishable by a maximum fine of $1,000 and/or up to two years' imprisonment and the felony for death could be punishable by a maximum fine of $7,500 and/or up to 15 years' imprisonment.

Its companion bill, SB 422, amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to add the felonies to sentencing guidelines.

Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) and Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) voted in opposition to the bills.

MIOSHA Violations Cited in Ypsilanti, Holland

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration has issued citations for alleged violations of worker health provisions in two separate cases involving companies in Ypsilanti and Holland.

DMC Consultants, Inc., in Ypsilanti, is facing $265,200 in penalties after a health inspection at two duplexes in the city between July 8, 2015 and August 14, 2015 was conducted and found 14 alleged violations. Citations were issued for a total of seven willful/serious violations related to asbestos at 955 Madison Street, and another five for the same issue at 113 Bell Street.

The company has 15 working days from receipt of the citations to comply or contest the violations and penalties, MIOSHA, part of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, said in a statement.

In Holland, Gates Electric, Inc. and Electrical Inspection Service, LLC face $357,000 in penalties. MIOSHA's Construction Safety and Health Division conducted a fatality inspection of the two companies at a Brink Warehouse between June 16, 2015 and August 19, 2015, during which time six alleged violations were identified.

Gates Electric was issued four willful and serious citations related to electrical installations while one willful citation was issued to Electric Inspection Service related to the General Duty Clause about following the National Electric Code and power being energized to work operation prior to the completion of installation.

Both companies also have 15 working days from receipt of the citations to respond.

Michigan In Top 15 For Energy Efficiency

Michigan is the 14th most energy efficient state in the nation, the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy said in its annual scorecard released Wednesday.

Michigan received 23.5 points out of a possible 50 points in the scorecard.

Among the highlights the group noted were the loan programs for small businesses for pollution prevention and energy efficiency. It also lauded the state for having energy efficiency standards for state buildings.

The group also praised the state for the energy efficiency measures included in PA 295 of 2008, which is currently under discussion for revision.

Among the areas where the state lagged was not having an energy efficiency standard for state fleets and adopting federal efficiency standards for both commercial and residential buildings.

But environmental interests raised issue with the rating though, noting that Michigan's ranking slipped from 12th place.

"Michigan's energy efficiency standard has saved families in Detroit and across the state billions of dollars on their energy bills and we must build upon this progress, not turn back the clock," said Guy Williams, president and CEO of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, in a statement. "Michigan families face the highest electricity costs in the Midwest and we must protect and expand our energy efficiency standard to rein in rising costs."

Committee Roundup

SENATE FAMILIES, SENIORS AND HUMAN SERVICES: The committee reported a package of bills (SB 517, SB 518, SB 519 and SB 520) that would amend various statutes related to child support, specifically that a Michigan tribunal issuing a spousal-support order consistent with state law have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify that order throughout the existence of the support obligation. Similarly, a tribunal could not modify a spousal-support order issued by a tribunal of another state or foreign county having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over that order.

The bills are to ensure the state is in compliance with current federal law on such matters or else risk losing about $175 million in child support funding for the current fiscal year. There is also a larger potential fiscal risk in that if the bills are not passed, the state may not be in compliance with policies governing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant, risking another $775 million in federal funding, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of the bills determined.

The bills were reported with unanimous approval and no amendments.

Campaign Notes

ROAD ASSOCIATION PAC ENDORSES HOWELL, STOREY: The County Road Association of Michigan RUSH-PAC announced its endorsements of candidates in the special election primary on Wednesday, choosing Republican Gary Howell of North Branch in the 82nd House District and Jim Storey of Holland in the 80th House District.

Mr. Howell is running to fill the vacancy caused by former Rep. Todd Courser's resignation and Mr. Storey is running to fill the vacancy caused by Rep. Cindy Gamrat's expulsion. The PAC also endorsed Democrat David LaGrand of Grand Rapids in the 75th House District.

Mr. LaGrand is running to fill the vacancy caused by former Rep. Brandon Dillon becoming chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

"With legislators still unable to pass the type of road funding package needed in 2015, now more than ever RUSH-PAC recognizes the importance of supporting candidates who understand how important Michigan's local road system is to our economy and quality of life," said Denise Donohue, RUSH-PAC treasurer and director of the County Road Association of Michigan.

LASINSKI OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN FOR 52ND: Democrat Donna Lasinski of Scio Township officially announced her campaign to run for the 52nd House District on Wednesday. Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline) currently holds the seat but is forgoing re-election to run for the 7th U.S. House District.

Ms. Lasinski currently serves as the Ann Arbor School Board treasurer and has a long career of education advocacy and volunteer service around Washtenaw County.

"I'm very excited to be running to serve you in Lansing. With a record of making positive change, I will bring a strong voice for our communities to Lansing," she said in a statement. "Together we can secure our kids' future and make sure everyone has access to the quality education they deserve."

Capital Notebook

PORTAGE BUSINESS EXPANSION: The Michigan Strategic Fund approved an $875,000 grant for Pro Services Inc., which provides skilled trades and maintenance technicians to a range of industries, as the company plans to construct a new Center of Excellence and corporate headquarters in Portage.

The project expects to generate a total capital investment of $3.9 million and create 175 jobs, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation said in a statement about the expansion.

MORENCI, ALLOUEZ TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GRANTS: The Michigan Strategic Fund approved a $250,000 community development block grant fund for job training needed for a KAMCO Industries, Inc. expansion project that includes the acquisition of a building in Morenci. The project expects to generate $22.7 million in private investment and create 60 jobs. Michigan was chosen over other locations in the Midwest, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation noted.

And Keweenaw County was awarded a $20,000 community development block grant fund for the Keweenaw County Mountain Lodge Study Project located in Allouez Township. The project is a best-use study to consider possible change in ownership or operations, expecting to result in future job creation, the MEDC said.

MEDICAID IN THE CLOUD: The state has moved its Medicaid Management Information System to cloud-based servers, which officials said would both improve service delivery and cut costs.

"It's important for Michigan to look for more and better ways to take advantage of technology to improve services for our residents," Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement. "This is an innovative approach, allowing us to more efficiently share information and resources in real-time, helping residents get the health care they need."

The system allows real-time access to data and allows Michigan and Illinois, one of the partners in the project, to share information.

FLU SEASON: The state has confirmed the first three cases of influenza for the season, Department of Health and Human Services officials said in a release Wednesday calling for residents to be vaccinated.

Officials said there was one case of influenza A (H1N1) and three cases of influenza A (H3N2) found October 4-10. The release did not say where the cases were but said all were adults.

Subscribers Please Note

The first name of Oakland Circuit Judge Jeffrey Mattis was misspelled in Tuesday's report.

The initial version of Wednesday's House Activity Report incorrectly said HB 4268 had been enrolled. The enrolled bill was actually HB 4286. The final version of the House Activity Report has been corrected.

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 22, 2015

News

Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on prevailing wage law (Bridge Magazine, 10/22/2015)

Blue alert bill receives final passage in Legislature (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2015)

House passes sweeping roads plan raising gas tax, fees (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2015)

Task force appointed to examine Flint water controversy (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2015)

City will conduct internal review of Flint water crisis, administrator says (Flint Journal, 10/22/2015)

Kildee, Ananich call for federal investigation into Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/22/2015)

State rep: MDOT leader has to go (Lansing City Pulse, 10/22/2015)

Service dog law signed, mental health bill passes House (Lansing State Journal, 10/22/2015)

Ann Arbor school board member launches campaign for State House of Representatives (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Fact check: Gamrat demands apology for reports she misused 'taxpayer dollars' to hide affair (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Meekhof goes 'Back to the Future' in push for action on road funding plan, fuel tax increase (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Michigan House approves brand new $1.2B road funding plan in late-night session (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Snyder sports Spartans tie after losing bet on Michigan: 'Now let's all root to beat Ohio State' (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Biden's decision gains Clinton a Michigan endorsement (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Court: Issue Detroit bridge permit or explain denial (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

House OKs debt limit plan as deadline looms (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Kildee calls for federal probe of Flint water crisis (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Michigan House passes $1.2B road funding plan (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Snyder becomes tied-up as a Spartan (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Editorials

MDEQ e-mails show stunning indifference to Flint peril (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2015)

Flint, Detroit not only U.S. cities vulnerable to water problems (MLive, 10/22/2015)

Editorial: Michigan jobless rate shows economic growth (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Rep. Miller: Fiorina should be next president (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Thompson: Inkster fights to survive (The Detroit News, 10/22/2015)

Blogs

With The Canadian Election, Any Change In The Bridge Status? (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/21/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 26, 2015

News

Officials select next Michigan civil rights chief (Associated Press, 10/26/2015)

Another week at the Capitol, two more abortion bills (Detroit Free Press, 10/26/2015)

Is emergency manager law to blame for Flint water crisis? (Detroit Free Press, 10/26/2015)

Lots of cash in elections, but not for Courser, Gamrat (Detroit Free Press, 10/26/2015)

Michigan State Police trains new motor carrier officers (Lansing State Journal, 10/26/2015)

Michigan House GOP roads plan could leave tough budget decisions up to future legislators (MLive, 10/26/2015)

Ousted Michigan Reps. Courser, Gamrat raise less than $2,000 each for re-election campaigns (MLive, 10/26/2015)

School starting before Labor Day? Bill to allow it raises alarms with Michigan tourism industry (MLive, 10/26/2015)

Bill lets retirees teach, get pension due to lack of subs (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Mich. lawmakers find new urgency to stop Asian carp (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Michigan joins suit to overturn feds' power plant rule (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Michigan State Police using cell snooping devices (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Editorials

Follow the money trail in campaign donations (Detroit Free Press, 10/26/2015)

Why presumptive parole is a bad idea for Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 10/26/2015)

Wolfram: Legislature should incentivize utilities (Lansing State Journal, 10/26/2015)

Michigan's dirty little secret (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/26/2015)

Editorial: Roads plan jammed up behind the barricades (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/26/2015)

Editorial: Snyder's DPS fix faces several tests (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Let's find a clean water solution for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Our editorial: Scrap 'pay or stay' with court rule (The Detroit News, 10/26/2015)

Blogs

DNR Video Shows You How To Process A Deer; It's Probably A PG Film (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/23/2015)

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Michigan News & Opinion For October 27, 2015

News

Pension debt could give new Detroit Schools a stumbling start (Bridge Magazine, 10/27/2015)

Proposed state bill has doctors, nurses at odds over who can give anesthesia (Bridge Magazine, 10/27/2015)

Increase in drug abuse, death prompts state action plan (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Farm Bureau asks to join clean water lawsuit (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Senate to take up roads plan today (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

State school superintendent's son killed in car crash (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Ex-emergency manager says local leaders made decision to use Flint River water (Flint Journal, 10/27/2015)

$1.2B House road funding plan set up for swift action in Michigan Senate (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Michigan State Police trains new motor carrier officers (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Murray who? Meet state office buildings' namesakes (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Michigan marijuana legalization groups confident in cash backing for petition drives (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Report: DeVos family, Michigan's 'most potent interest group,' spent $4.9M in 2014 elections (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Calley: Fight overdoses with tighter drug monitoring (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Coalition: Lawmakers should target rising health costs (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

DeVos clan outspends UAW in 2014 Michigan election (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Gamrat goes on offensive in bid to win back House seat (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Group: Prevailing wage effort has duplicate signatures (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Senate prepares to vote on road aid bills (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Video: Mich. abortion clinic director recorded covertly (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Editorials

Many reasons to dislike latest road-funding bills (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Legislature, feds should take on Flint water investigation (Flint Journal, 10/27/2015)

Dems learn what's not working for people (Midland Daily News, 10/27/2015)

Michigan prevailing wage supporters challenge 'woeful' petition drive signatures (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Column: Don't blame EM for Flint water disaster (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Our Editorial: Weigh value of tax hikes (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

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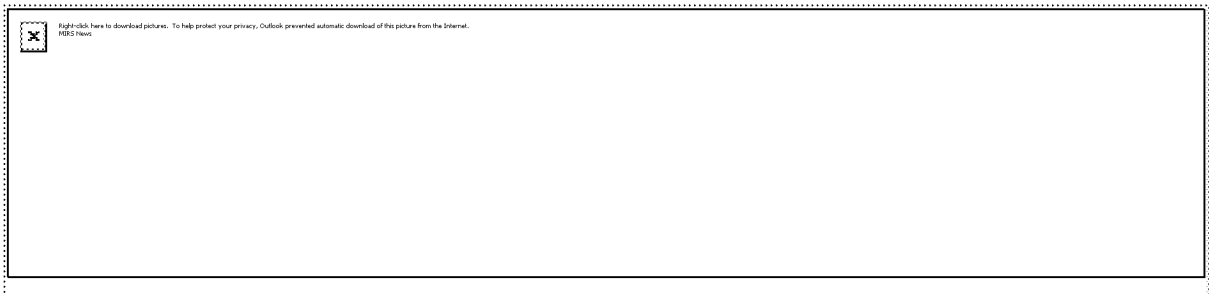

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Same-sex couples in court to force state recognition

*"**DETROIT** — A lawyer urged a judge Thursday to order Michigan to recognize hundreds of same-sex marriages performed during a brief window in March, saying the unions were valid even if a higher court eventually reinstates the state's ban on gay marriage."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/viewart/20140821/NEWS05/308210027/Same-sex-couples-court-force-state-recognition*

Top aide to Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder claiming principal property tax exemptions in 2 states

"LANSING, MI -- A top aide to Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder who ran for a Republican precinct delegate post this month in Bath Township is registered to vote in two states and has reportedly claimed principal property tax exemptions in each."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/08/top_aide_to_michigan_gov_rick.html#incart_river*

Japanese heritage central to activist's political quest

"Wes Nakagiri came to love the same country that detained his mother in a Japanese internment camp during World War II."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140821/NEWS11/308210010/Japanese-heritage-central-*

activist-s-political-quest

Emergency manager says Flint City Council still must show 'the capacity to govern'

"FLINT, MI – State officials have laid out a timeline for the departure of Flint's emergency manager, but Darnell Earley says the City Council still must show "the capacity to govern" before that happens."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/08/emergency_manager_says_flint_c.html#incart_river*

Snyder appointee will have veto power over new regional transit chief's decisions

"

The contract that new Regional Transit Authority CEO Michael Ford signed Wednesday gives him full control over hiring employees and managing the budget along with a $10,000 car allowance."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140820/METRO05/308200082/Snyder-appointee-will-veto-power-over-new-regional-transit-chief-s-decisions*

Detroit's bond offer may not have hit mark

"

Did Detroit's offer to refinance 318 different classes of water and sewer bonds fall short?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140822/METRO01/308220034/Detroit-s-bond-offer-may-not-hit-mark*

Orr increases funds for City Council

"

Detroit— Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr has increased funding this fiscal year for operation of Detroit City Council offices, allowing members to expand the size and pay of their staffs, even as their authority has been limited."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140822/METRO01/308220036/Orr-increases-funds-City-Council*

Bill would keep other states' radioactive fracking waste out of Michigan

"A state senator says he wants to prevent Michigan from further becoming other states' dumping ground for low-level radioactive waste from the oil and gas drilling process known as fracking."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140821/NEWS06/308210176/radioactive-fracking-waste-Michigan

Top Snyder aide claimed tax exemption on 2 homes

*"**LANSING** — A top aide to Gov. Rick Snyder says he'll immediately pay local property taxes that he says were "inadvertently" exempted on his Lansing-area house at the same time he took a similar exemption on a long-time home in the Chicago area."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140821/NEWS06/308210190/snyder-aide-taxes-richard-baird

Attorney: Suspending charter school authorizers is lengthy process

"A drafter of Michigan's original charter school law has some advice for state schools Superintendent Mike Flanagan — slow down a bit, at least when it comes to suspending charter school authorizers from opening new schools."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140821/NEWS06/308210194/charters-Flanagan-authority-suspend

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Snyder's record alternately appeals to moderate Democrats and Republicans; so who'll vote for him?

"You could make the case that Gov. Rick Snyder has led a charmed political life at the ballot box. He's run in only two elections and won them both."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://blog.mlive.com/lansing_33/2014/08/tim_skubick_snyders_record_alt.html#incart_river

Don't politicize education standards

"

The U.S. education system recently received a report card from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a think tank for developed countries. America's grades weren't very good."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140822/OPINION01/308220009/Don-t-politicize-education-standards*

State GOP should try to get it right

"

A voter might wonder what gay marriage, abortion and the Second Amendment have to do with the University of Michigan Board of Regents. The answer, of course, is very little."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140822/OPINION01/308220003/State-GOP-shouldtry-get-right*

Nancy Kaffer: Tea party bad for GOP, worse for Michigan

"It's got all the makings of a tense political thriller: This weekend, the upstart tea party arm of the Michigan GOP will attempt to deliver a stinging public rebuke to Gov. Rick Snyder by replacing his lieutenant governor of choice, Brian Calley, with Livingston County businessman Wes Nakagiri."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140822/COL43/308220046/Nancy-Kaffer-Tea-party-bad-GOP-worse-Michigan*

Coercive Driver Fees Phase-Out Close To Becoming Reality

"Legislation needed to allow a phase-out of one of the most regressive set of laws enacted in recent times is expected to be passed by the state Legislature within a matter of weeks."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20418*

MEA Sends Collections Agency After Another Member Trying To Leave

"Jacqueline O'Neil began her job as an accountant clerk for the Port Huron Area School District in August of 2008. She said she couldn't believe she had to join a union and pay dues as a condition of

employment."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20420

Press Releases

Yet Another Scandal Hits the Snyder Administration

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan released a statement today calling for an investigation into yet another developing scandal from the top levels of the Snyder administration."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408654516_scandal.pdf

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Schauer campaign statement on possible tax, voter fraud by Snyder admin official

"Mark Schauer's campaign for governor issued the following statement following a report that Richard Baird may have participated in tax and voter fraud in two states:"

Source: *Mark Schauer for Governor* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408654463_fraud.pdf

MEDIA - TOMORROW: Democrats to Host Call on Startling Report About Top Snyder Advisor Rich Baird

*"LANSING - **Tomorrow at 9:30 AM**, MDP Executive Director Garrett Arwa will host a press conference by phone to discuss new details about Rick Snyder's right hand man Rich Baird. According to Lansing's MIRS newsletter (subscription-only), Baird has been claiming the Michigan Principal Residence Exemption for his Michigan home on his Michigan taxes, while claiming the homeowner's exemption for his Illinois home on his Illinois taxes. Baird is still registered to vote in Cook County, Illinois, and also registered to vote in Michigan, while running for Republican precinct delegate in Clinton County. "*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653728_dems.pdf

Michigan utility regulators discuss current energy challenges on agribusiness tour

*"LANSING – Representatives of the **Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)** toured a series of agribusinesses across southwest Michigan today, taking the opportunity to hear from leaders in*

Michigan's agriculture sector about challenges and opportunities posed by energy access."

Source: *Michigan Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653643_utility.pdf

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SBM Groups will Present "Best Practices in Michigan Courts: Language Access" in September

"The State Bar of Michigan Equal Access Initiative and Committee on Justice Initiatives will present a panel discussion on "Language Access – Best Practices in Michigan Courts" at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 19 at the SBM Annual Meeting in DeVos Place in Grand Rapids."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653586_sbm.pdf

Michigan Public Radio statewide call-in show with Gary Peters

"Democratic US Senate candidate Gary Peters will take questions from a statewide public radio audience on Friday, Aug. 22. The broadcast is part of the Michigan Public Radio Network's "Michigan Calling" series of 2014 election specials."

Source: *Michigan Public Radio Network* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653388_radio.pdf

I-75 weekend lane closures begin after Labor Day in Bay County

"Overall work includes reconstructing 3.5 miles of I-75 from Pinconning Road north to the Bay/Arenac county line. Work began in early May and is expected to be completed in mid-November. This $14.7 million project is weather-dependent."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653295_75.pdf

Dr. Benishek: Expansion of Veterans Care Center in Traverse City Approved

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI: Today, Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) announced that the Veterans' Affairs Secretary has approved the lease package for the Traverse City Veterans Care Center expansion. Dr. Benishek shared the good news during a tour of the center with local VA leaders, including Peggy Kearns, the Director of the Saginaw VA. "

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653253_care.pdf

Report Urges Action on Statewide E-filing to Improve Customer Service and Increase Efficiency

"LANSING, MI, August 21, 2014 – The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) released a report today from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), recommending that Michigan move ahead with a user-funded statewide e-filing system that would improve service and increase efficiency. This initiative is the next step in technological advancement for Michigan courts and may someday result in an entirely paperless court system – providing Michigan residents with faster and better service."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653214_supreme.pdf

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Michigan Selected for National Arts Pilot Program

"LANSING, Mich. – August 21, 2014 – Michigan was selected to join Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, as part of 10 state teams administering a three-year pilot program to strengthen arts education by advancing state policy."

Source: *ArtServe Michigan* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408653138_art.pdf

What happens when states opt out of the Medicaid expansion?

"As a result of their states not expanding Medicaid, 6.7 million Americans will remain uninsured in 2016. These states are also forgoing $423.6 billion in federal Medicaid funds through 2022."

Source: *URBAN INSTITUTE* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408645292_Medicaid funds on the table.pdf

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Include hunter education as part of your 'back to school' plan

"Michigan parents who have children interested in learning to hunt should consider making enrollment in a hunter education class part of their "back to school" plans. Now is the best time to enroll in a class so that new hunters are ready to hit the woods this fall. "

Source: *Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644894_'back to school' plan.pdf

Independent Experts Raise Concerns Over Land's Taxes, Millions in Self-Funding Land Should Release

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – Independent experts have raised serious concerns about Republican Terri Lynn Land's personal finances, potentially illegal millions in self-funding her campaign, and 2.2 percent tax rate. Land, however, refuses to answer any of growing number of questions about her wealth, business experience, and tax rate. "

Source: *Gary Peters for Senate* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644778_millions in Self-Funding.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Michigan mourns the loss of Cardinal Edmund Szoka

"LANSING, Mich. - Governor Rick Snyder today issued the following statement on the death of retired Detroit Catholic Cardinal Edmund Casimir Szoka."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644594_Cardinal Edmund Szoka.pdf

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State Police Participate in National Effort Focused on Motorcoach Safety

"LANSING. Michigan State Police (MSP) motor carrier officers are joining the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
Administration (FMCSA) for the National Motorcoach Safety Initiative aimed at ensuring passenger bus safety and compliance through inspections."

Source: *MI State Police* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644503_Motorcoach Enforcement 8.2014.pdf

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July Unemployment Rates Increase Seasonally in All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in July increased in all of the state's 17 major labor market regions, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment levels fell in most regions over the month, while workforce levels grew moderately in the majority of the state's local areas."

Source: *DTMB* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644400_Regional Labor Markets.pdf

Congressman Walberg Still Ducking the Issues

"Dexter, MI – Over a week ago, residents of the 7th District delivered rubber decks to Congressman Walberg calling on him to stop "ducking" issues. Congressman Walberg was unavailable to meet with residents."

Source: *Pam Byrnes for Congress* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644298_till Ducking the Issues.pdf

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LANE CLOSURE ALERT: I-75 (Monroe County)

"On Friday, August 22, there will be a single lane and shoulder closure on northbound I-75 at US-24/Telegraph Road. "

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644204_Telegraph in Monroe.pdf

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WEEKEND CONSTRUCTION 08/22-08/25/14:

"The following weekend construction activities are scheduled, in addition to work already in place. As always, some work may be postponed due to weather or other circumstances. Please check Michigan.gov/drive for current construction and traffic information and follow MDOT on Twitter @ MDOT_MetroDet."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408644061_Construction 08-22-08-25-14.pdf

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Dr. Benishek Endorsed by U.S. and Michigan Chambers of Commerce

"On Friday, August 22, 2014, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Michigan Chamber of Commerce will be endorsing Dr. Dan Benishek for Congress. Alex Mowczan, the Owner and Operator of Cambria Suites, Rich Studley, the President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, and Ben Taylor, the Executive Director of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce will all be in attendance."

Source: *Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408643715_Chambers of Commerce.pdf

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Sparrow, McLaren lead local agencies in purchase of LIFENET System

for quicker Patient care

"LANSING, Mich. – Sparrow, McLaren Greater Lansing and 19 mid-Michigan emergency medical services (EMS) agencies and fire departments have implemented a new system that transmits information about cardiac Patients from an ambulance on their way to the hospital. "

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408632223_LIFENET release.pdf

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U.S. Chamber to Make Announcement Regarding Benishek Campaign for Congress

"WASHINGTON, D.C.— The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, hosted by the Cambria Suites Traverse City, will hold an event tomorrow on behalf of Congressman Dan Benishek's re-election campaign in Michigan's first congressional district."

Source: *U. S. Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408632125_MI-1 Advisory.pdf

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Dr. Benishek's Veterans' Listening Tour - August 21-22, 2014

"U. S. Congressman Dan Benishek (MI-01) will be continuing his "Veterans Listening Tour" by meeting with veterans in Traverse City and Cheboygan on August 21st and 22nd. "

Source: *Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408632035_August 21-22, 2014.pdf

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HunterEdCourse.com offers new option for online hunter education in Michigan

"The Department of Natural Resources today announced that a third official Michigan online hunter education course is now available at www.hunteredcourse.com/state/michigan."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408631235_online hunter education.pdf

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Snyder Campaign Opens Detroit Office

"LANSING – On Thursday, Governor Rick Snyder will be opening his Detroit campaign office. Detroit's comeback has been a clear priority for the Governor through his bipartisan coalition for the Grand Bargain as well as many policy initiatives such as Pathways to Potential and Community Ventures. "

Source: *Rick For Michigan Campaign* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408631143_Opens_Detroit_Office.pdf

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More Than 130 Consumers Energy Interns Make Impact Volunteering for Michigan Nonprofits with Annual

"JACKSON, Mich., Aug. 21, 2014 – Some were "superheroes" to a Boys and Girls Club. Others gave their time to Habitat for Humanity and to a community garden in Grand Rapids. One group adopted a beach in Ludington and cleared away 25 pounds of trash."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408629701_08-21-14_NR_Intern_Challenge.pdf

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Port Huron Times Herald: Editorial: Resignation puts Gov. Rick Snyder in poor light

"The best that can be said about Scott Woosley's resignation last week is it was quick and relatively painless. "

Source: *MI Democrats* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408629448_Rick_Snyder_in_poor_light.pdf

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M-28 shoulder work near Seney starts today

"PROJECT: The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will rebuild road shoulders along M-28 approximately 6 miles west of Seney in Schoolcraft County."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408629263_work_starts_today.pdf

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Faith-Based Movie for Millennials Drawing Global, Tech-Savvy Audience

"HOLY GHOST—the #1 most-funded, faith-based Kickstarter film in history—releases results of exclusive Advance Premiere designed to test new consumer-driven distribution model in which a film's success hinges on its fans from start to finish; upcoming World Premiere Experience is September 6th (Chicago, IL"

Source: *Faith Driven Consumer* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408628876_Tech-Savvy_Audience.pdf

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Change Agent Consortium Calls Taxing Teachers Unfair and Says It

Hurts Students

*"**(DETROIT)** – Today Michigan education officials approved a plan by the Detroit Public Schools (DPS) to cut instructional and administrative staff pay by 10 percent. The approved financial plan also calls for the closure of 24 schools or buildings over four years starting with the next academic year. Today's approval is on top of a 10 percent pay reduction that DPS employees had to take imposed by Emergency Manager Roy Roberts in 2011. "*

Source: *Change Agent Consortium* **Date:** *08-22-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1408628702_Says_It_Hurts_Students.pdf

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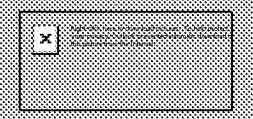
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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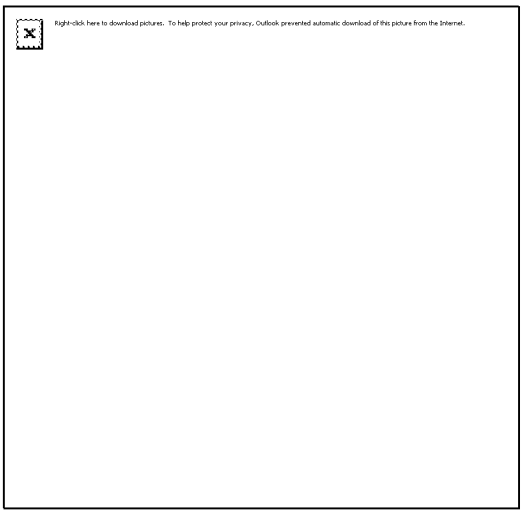
From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2014 8:13 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Friday, September 12, 2014
Attachments: 140912dayplan.htm; Sep15Schedule.htm; Sep12.htm



Michigan Report for Friday, September 12, 2014

Schauer: Snyder 'Lied To People,' Snyder: Schauer 'Distorting Facts'

Redacted Aramark Email Was About Getting Drinks

Creagh Bans Drilling Under Hartwick Pines State Park

Republican Former Governor Milliken Endorses Peters

General Fund, School Aid Revenues Up, SFA Says

Whitmer Makes Pitch For Female Senate Candidates

Moody's: Flint Unlikely To Need Bankruptcy

First Bill Snyder Vetoed Back In House

Flags Lowered To Honor Firefighter

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Calendars

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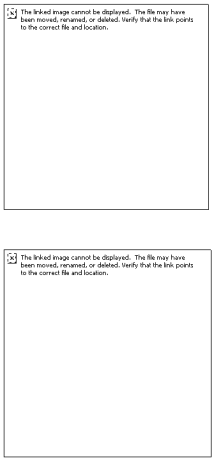
Volume #53, Report #180 -- Friday, September 12, 2014

Schauer: Snyder 'Lied To People,' Snyder: Schauer 'Distorting Facts'

The governor's race began to take on the characteristics of a bare-knuckle fight on Friday when Democrat Mark Schauer charged that Governor Rick Snyder's administration showed "rank corruption," and that Mr. Snyder himself had "lied to the people" over the details of a contract to provide food service to Michigan's prisons.

Mr. Snyder's spokesperson blasted back that Mr. Schauer was "distorting" facts and making things up from bits and pieces of statements.

The focus of the exchange was the revelation late Thursday that the state had "suspended" a $98,000 fine levelled against prison food services company Aramark Corporation earlier in the year.



Governor Rick Snyder (top) and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer

In a teleconference with reporters, Mr. Schauer charged the revelation showed a "pattern of rank corruption in the governor's office that can no longer be ignored or tolerated by the people of Michigan."

Mr. Schauer charged that Dennis Muchmore, Mr. Snyder's chief of staff, "cleared the way" for Aramark to get "special treatment." Mr. Schauer accused the firm of being grossly incompetent and putting the lives of state employees, Department of Corrections officers, "at risk."

And twice during the call Mr. Schauer said Mr. Snyder "lied" by leaving the public with the impression that Aramark had been fined $98,000 for contract violations.

Sara Wurfel, Mr. Snyder's spokesperson, charged that Mr. Schauer was essentially making things up out of pieces and distorting the issue.

The Executive Office was determined to correct problems that had arisen with the Aramark contract, she said, and the fact the administration fined Aramark $200,000 showed it had taken "decisive action" on the contract.

The controversial contract - as the state was dropping food service conducted by state workers in the hopes of saving money - came into fresh controversy early after it went into effect.

On March 11, the Department of Corrections announced the $98,000 fine for "overfamiliarity" between Aramark employees, who replaced state employees in correctional food service last December, as well as unauthorized meal substitutions.

But emails obtained by the liberal group Progress Michigan, released Thursday, showed that two days later, Snyder Chief of Staff Dennis Muchmore and Corrections Director Dan Heyns exchanged emails on the Aramark controversy. The Department of Corrections, which processed Progress Michigan's FOIA request, redacted one of Mr. Muchmore's emails. In response to the redacted email, Mr. Heyns said he would take several actions, including delaying or canceling the fines.

Thursday night, Corrections spokesperson Russ Marlan confirmed the department had in fact canceled the $98,000 fine.

That was the first time the state publicly announced that decision.

Mr. Schauer said Mr. Snyder should immediately cancel the Aramark contract and release Mr. Muchmore's email. Mr. Schauer said he did not know what Mr. Snyder may have ordered Mr. Muchmore to direct Mr. Heyns to do.

He also said Mr. Snyder should apologize to the public for not being straight on the fate of the $98,000 fine, and also reveal whether Aramark or any of its executives contribute to the now closed Nerd Fund. The fund's contributors were closed to the public.

While saying Mr. Snyder lied, Mr. Schauer was careful not to say Mr. Snyder overtly told a falsehood, but lied by leaving an impression with the public that Aramark had been fined.

Asked if he thought Mr. Snyder had directed Mr. Muchmore to make arrangements on the fine, Mr. Schauer said he did not know what Mr. Snyder or his aide Rich Baird ordered Mr. Muchmore to do.

But Ms. Wurfel charged Mr. Muchmore was not discussing the fine with the department, but was dealing with other issues that had come up with the contract.

The Executive Office, she said, made "absolutely no attempt to hide anything at all." Because the contract did deal with the safety of Corrections workers and the public, the administration took the issue seriously and was determined to establish what was happening with the contract.

"This administration works on facts," she said. "There were problems with the contract and everything was designed to fix those problems."

Tom Shields, with Marketing Resource Group, said although the issue is something Mr. Snyder likely doesn't want to deal with right now, it really doesn't directly involve his office. However, he said, if Mr. Schauer uses it, it could affect the election.

"(Mr. Schauer) will have to make more out of it than it really is, but that's what campaigns are really all about," Mr. Shields said. "If it has any effect, it would have be used by Schauer in some way shape or form."

However, T.J. Bucholz of Vanguard Public Affairs, a Democrat, said a pattern has begun to form within Mr. Snyder's administration that is not good for his re-election interests.

"This administration has let several policy style state government brush fires burn unchecked," Mr. Bucholz said. "They've done nothing to either fully address to situations to put them to bed or they have blatantly broken procedure or certainly best practice."

Mr. Bucholz said the administration has ignored various problems and it could hurt Mr. Snyder's re-election chances.

"At this stage in the game you want the waters in state departments across the board to be still, you don't want any kind of problem," he said.

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) issued a statement on Friday saying the governor and his administration need to be held accountable for not holding Aramark accountable.

"Cancelling Aramark's $98,000 fine clearly sent the signal that they didn't need to worry about their contract violations because the situation only got worse after that, putting Department of Correction employees and communities hosting those prisons in danger," Mr. Greimel said. "Emails show that Director Heyns was in contact with people from the governor's office who, at the very least, knew that Aramark was going to get a pass on serious contract violations."

Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), who sits on the House Appropriations Committee, said he and other members were assured corrective action was being taken against Aramark.

"This revelation, five months after the cancellation of the fine, not only makes me feel misled, but suggests this administration has very little respect for the legislative branch," he said in a statement. "The fact that the fines were canceled even after Director Heyns expressed concern about losing control of one of the prisons due to unrest over Aramark's conduct is troubling. The disregard for the safety of corrections officers and for public safety is astonishing. Aramark's performance only worsened over the following months.

"I think it's time Governor Snyder cancel this contract and become fully transparent about his administration's dealings with this company," Mr. Singh said.

Redacted Aramark Email Was About Getting Drinks

The email that the Department of Corrections redacted when releasing an email conversation between Director Dan Heyns and Dennis Muchmore, chief of staff to Governor Rick Snyder, about Corrections food service provider Aramark had to do with drinks. Specifically, it was a question from Mr. Muchmore to Mr. Heyns if he wanted to get together for a drink.

When the liberal group Progress Michigan released the emails it obtained Thursday of the conversation, the department had redacted one from Mr. Muchmore. And that redaction drew a

demand from Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer that the redacted material be released.

In the emails, Mr. Muchmore and Mr. Heyns were discussing the initial wave of reports of problems with Aramark administering the contract for food services in prisons since replacing state employees in December.

What Mr. Muchmore wrote was, "Do we need to get drink?"

Mr. Heyns' response was "I can always use one of those but not necessary. I know where you want to go. I will tone down my attack dogs, delay or cancel any fines and give Aramark time to solve the problems."

The omission of Mr. Muchmore's email had prompted demands from Progress Michigan and then today Mr. Schauer for the state to release that email. The Department of Corrections did so, and spokesperson Russ Marlan said he is trying to determine from the department's staff why it redacted the email. The Freedom of Information Act provides a limited set of reasons public bodies can exempt records from public disclosure.

Mr. Schauer also blasted Mr. Heyns telling Mr. Muchmore he would delay or cancel the $98,000 fine levied on Aramark just two days after disclosing the fines on March 11 for overfamiliarity between Aramark employees and inmates as well as unauthorized food substitutions. He called the move "rank corruption" and accused Mr. Snyder of lying to the people.

Mr. Marlan clarified his comment from Thursday that Mr. Heyns canceled the fine, saying it technically was suspended. He said the department did not announce the $98,000 fine, per se, but answered questions from Gongwer News Service and other media about whether a fine was coming.

"We didn't put out any press release or announcement when we imposed the fine, we didn't put out any press release or announcement when he made the decision to suspend," he said.

Fines are not about punishment, but about bringing a contractor into compliance on a contract, Mr. Marlan said. As soon as Aramark received the letter from the department informing it of the fine, its vice president called Mr. Heyns.

"Their vice president and Director Heyns had a very frank and honest conversation where the Aramark vice president pledged his commitment and high level support to resolve the problems we were experiencing at the time. The director felt he understood the situation, was sincere and had a solid plan to fix the issues," he said. "There wasn't any sort of deception. His goal was to get the problems resolved."

For months, several stories in the news media, including in Gongwer, referenced the $98,000 fine. At no point did anyone contact Gongwer, nor apparently any other outlet, to correct the record. There was at least one point where Gongwer asked the department if Aramark's compliance had improved since the fine.

Asked why the department did not correct the record as the stories about the fine continued, Mr. Marlan said the situation was fluid and the fine was in fact imposed even if suspended. Mr. Marlan said the department handled the rising number of stop-orders of Aramark workers the same as those numbers mounted beyond what initial stories said.

"The fines are a way to get a contractor to resolve the problem," he said. "When you impose them or suspend them, that's at the discretion of the director. There's no deception. There's no manipulation."

Sara Wurfel, Mr. Snyder's spokesperson, blasted Mr. Schauer for distorting facts and figures on the controversial contract. The administration took decisive action to correct the problems with the contract, she said, when it fined Aramark $200,000 and then hired Ed Buss to oversee the operations of the contract.

Ms. Wurfel also said Mr. Muchmore was not discussing the $98,000 fine in the emails exchanged with Mr. Heyns, but instead was discussing "all the other issues that kept popping up" in regards to the contract.

Some of those issues included performance matters on the state's side, such as some monitoring problems, that needed resolution.

But she also acknowledged that the Executive Office did not know that the $98,000 fine had been suspended until some months "after the fact."

The Executive Office, she said, made "absolutely no attempt to hide anything at all." Because the contract did deal with the safety of Corrections workers and the public, the administration took the issue seriously and was determined to establish what was happening with the contract.

Creagh Bans Drilling Under Hartwick Pines State Park

There will be no oil and gas exploration under Hartwick Pines State Park under an order issued by Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh.

Portions of the park had been on the list for non-development leases in the auction coming next month, meaning the winners could have extracted oil and gas from under the park, but not put any drilling equipment on the surface of the park.

But Mr. Creagh announced at Thursday's Natural Resources Commission that he was interpreting the documents granting the land to the state as requiring preservation of the subsurface resources as well as those above ground. That, he said, would prevent any extraction of the oil and gas under the park.

Mr. Creagh said he would be issuing an order declaring the park protected from any oil or gas extraction.

Environmental groups that had objected to the potential leases applauded the decision Friday.

"The Michigan DNR's decision to do right by Hartwick Pines State Park, and protect the largest stand of old-growth pine forest left in the Lower Peninsula, is a win for all Michiganders and the great outdoors," Jack Schmitt, deputy director of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said in a statement. "There are some places in Michigan that should be off-limits to oil and gas activity, and Hartwick Pines State Park is one of those places."

"We appreciate Director Creagh's respect for the Hartwick family's wishes, and thank him for making the right decision to protect this one-of-a-kind park," Chris Kolb, Michigan Environmental Council president, said in a statement. "Personally, I'm thrilled that the experience of standing beneath the park's towering white pines will remain unchanged for visitors to enjoy."

Republican Former Governor Milliken Endorses Peters

U.S. Rep. Gary Peters landed an endorsement from Republican former Governor William Milliken on Friday in his bid for a U.S. Senate seat against Republican candidate Terri Lynn Land.

Mr. Milliken, in his statement, said the stakes for the state and nation in this race are very high, as the successor to U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (D-Detroit) must be able to work effectively across the political aisle on critical issues such as national defense, as well as someone who can overcome partisan politics to "find common ground and deliver" for Michigan.

"I have decided that the candidate who is best prepared to be that voice of moderation is Congressman Gary Peters," Mr. Milliken wrote. "In his public career as a state legislator and as a Congressman he has shown an ability and willingness to rise above partisan bickering and search for a nonpartisan solution to the very real problems we face."

Mr. Milliken is no stranger to pledging his support for non-Republican candidates, though he this week endorsed Governor Rick Snyder for re-election. Among his other endorsements of non-Republicans, Mr. Milliken previously endorsed former Governor Jennifer Granholm in 2006 and then-U.S. Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts over President George W. Bush in the 2004 election.

Mr. Peters (D-Bloomfield Hills) said it was "deeply humbling" to have the support of Mr. Milliken, someone he has always admired and respected for his "leadership, integrity, and commitment to service to better our state."

"Governor Milliken has always put solutions before politics, and that's the approach that will guide me in the U.S. Senate," Mr. Peters said in a statement announcing the endorsement. "As Michigan's next U.S. Senator, I will continue to be an independent voice that Michigan middle class families and small businesses can count on."

General Fund, School Aid Revenues Up, SFA Says

Revenue from the state's General Fund and School Aid Fund earmarked taxes totaled $1.7 billion in August 2014, up 3.4 percent from the prior year's level and about $35.2 million above the level expected in the Senate Fiscal Agency's estimate for the month based on the May consensus revenue estimates, the agency said.

Revenue from the State Education Tax, which is affected by the timing of counties' remitting payments to the state, accounted for almost all of the greater-than-expected revenue. Those collections in August were 3.9 percent below the year-ago level but $34.4 million above the expected level for the month, the report said.

Although collections earmarked to the General Fund were $22.4 million below the expected level for August, School Aid Fund tax collections were $54 million above forecasted levels, the SFA said in its monthly revenue report. Through August, year-to-date General Fund collections are $76 million below and School Aid Fund collections $2 million below consensus revenue estimates.

Net income tax revenue totaled $634.8 million in August, up 3.1 percent from the previous year. Withholding payments were 3.9 percent above year-ago levels as well. The agency noted that while withholding payments for August were slightly above forecast, the increase was offset by greater-than-expected individual income tax refunds and lower-than-expected quarterly and annual payments.

Corporate Income Tax collections totaled $16.1 million, about $12.6 million above forecast, and revenue from the repealed Single Business Tax totaled a negative $12.5 million (a net loss of revenue to the state due to refunds exceeding collections). And revenue from the repealed Michigan Business Tax totaled a negative $57.9 million in August as well.

Year-to-date, CIT collections are $34.2 million above expectations. But combined, SBT, CIT, and MBT revenue totaled a negative $54.2 million in August 2014, and on a year-to-date basis is $23.3 million below the expected level.

Sales tax receipts totaled $629.2 million in August, 4.5 percent above the year-ago level and $26.6 million above forecasts. Through August, sales tax collections are up only 1.5 percent from 2013, but are $35.8 million above expectations. And sales tax collections from new vehicles are up only 0.6 percent from 2013.

Whitmer Makes Pitch For Female Senate Candidates

In a year when most interests are looking at whether the House will flip control to Democrats, Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer has a new idea to introduce supporters, via e-mail, to some Democratic women running for the Senate.

Ms. Whitmer (D-East Lansing) has long said it was a priority of hers to increase the number of women in the Senate when she left office, and the party seems to be working toward that: there are 12 female Democratic candidates, including incumbent Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Warren), who is seeking re-election to her 18th Senate District seat.

Ms. Whitmer, in an e-mail to supporters on Friday, noted that while there may be four women in the Senate currently, "only two of us have consistently voted on behalf of Michigan women" (the other two women are Republicans Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker of Lawton and Sen. Judy Emmons of Sheridan). She said the result has meant "continued opposition to equal pay for equal work; relentless attacks on women's reproductive rights and health care; the appalling rape insurance law; (and) silencing and censoring female legislators."

While there may be 12 Democratic female candidates, only a handful are true contenders for seats: Rep. Dian Slavens of Canton in the 7th Senate District, Rep. Stacy Erwin Oakes of Saginaw in the 32nd District, and obviously Ms. Warren (who should cruise to victory in her heavily Democratic-leaning seat).

Former Clawson School Board member Cyndi Peltonen, running in the 13th Senate District, is a toss-up. She showed enough grit to oust party favorite Ryan Fishman in a heated primary, but she has a different kind of battle on her hands with former Rep. Marty Knollenberg as the Republican candidate in that district. Both are starting off with essentially the same amount of cash on hand, though after Mr. Knollenberg spent big on securing his spot over four other Republican candidates.

Also iffy are Michigan National Organization of Women President Bobbie Walton, seeking to oust incumbent Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc) in the 14th District, and Michigan Education Association member Dawn Levey, who is going against incumbent Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) in the 24th District.

And elected Oceana County Road Commissioner Cathy Forbes, vying for the 34th Senate District seat against incumbent Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart), excites the Democratic Party but becomes questionable in terms of fundraising, considering Mr. Hansen has reported six-figure revenues. Still, the district has a Democratic base that could be tapped.

Ms. Whitmer, in her e-mail, started the introductions with one of the party's perhaps strongest competitors, Ms. Slavens. Highlighted was her six years in the House and two decades as a respiratory therapist in Southeast Michigan.

"Simply put, Dian Slavens will be a senator that will fight for you and the issues you care about. She is facing one of the most conservative and out-of-touch senators in Michigan, and she has been working hard and doing everything she can to unseat him," the e-mail says, referring to incumbent Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township).

Moody's: Flint Unlikely To Need Bankruptcy

While Flint is much like Detroit in its socioeconomics, the smaller city is not in such dire financial straits that it will need to file bankruptcy, at least as long as its proposed retiree health benefit changes are approved, Moody's Investor Service said in a report released late Thursday.

Moody's attributed much of the difference between the two cities to emergency management, though it said Flint had also done much to help itself.

"Flint's EM has substantially improved financial operations with dramatic changes, including restructuring pension benefits, outsourcing services, eliminating 20 percent of the city's workforce and reducing total employee compensation equivalent to 20 percent of wages," the report said.

The report also praised the health benefit changes, but noted those currently face a court challenge.

In addition to the emergency manager, the report said it helped that the state acted more quickly on a manager for Flint - which Moody's does not rate - than it did for Detroit, which the service has rated Caa with a negative outlook.

But the report said the state would also have to do more to help Detroit than it would for Flint in the same condition.

"Detroit has a population seven times larger than Flint, with four times the geographic area and a tax base that is almost 15 times larger. Detroit's size makes it more difficult for outside assistance to be meaningful," the report said.

Flint also has a substantially smaller debt load, at half of its operating revenues compared to 2.17 times its operating revenues for Detroit. The national average, the report said, is 87 percent of revenue.

Flint had also done more to help itself, the report said, noting the 6-mill public safety tax in 2012. The Detroit City Council rejected a 9-mill public safety proposal in 2012.

First Bill Snyder Vetoed Back In House

A bill similar to the first piece of legislation Governor Rick Snyder vetoed has a hearing in the House Regulatory Reform Committee next week, and in some cases would prohibit a state agency from adopting rules more strict than federal guidelines.

HB 5731, introduced by Rep. Joe Haveman (R-Holland) would apply to cases where the federal government has mandated the state to promulgate rules and to cases where there is no federal mandate, an analysis said. But the bill would not apply, generally, to rules an agency finds necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety or welfare, and require the concurrence of the governor in the finding of an emergency.

The bill dictates if a proposed rule is more stringent than the applicable federal standard, the regulatory impact statement must include specific facts that "establish the clear and convincing need to adopt the more stringent rule."

In December of 2011, Mr. Snyder vetoed a similar bill because it was too broad and did not provide flexibility to various departments (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 2, 2011).

The bill Mr. Snyder vetoed would have required state rules to be no more restrictive than federal rules unless specified in statute or done through an emergency rule.

HB 5731 will have a hearing in the Regulatory Reform Committee on Tuesday. Chair Rep. Hugh Crawford (R-Novi) could not be reached about his plans for the bill, but it was on the committee's agenda this week and later removed.

Flags Lowered To Honor Firefighter

Governor Rick Snyder has ordered flags in the state to be flown at half-staff on Monday to honor Russell Wiita, assistant fire chief at Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire and Rescue, who died September 8.

Mr. Wiita died of an apparent heart attack after responding to an emergency call Monday.

"Courageous first responders like William risk their lives daily to protect our communities and state," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "On behalf of all Michiganders, I thank William for his years of dedicated service and extend sincere condolences to his family, friends and community."

Capital Notebook

CLEAN WATER ACTION RATES LEGISLATORS: Clean Water Action released its legislative score cards on Friday and gave 26 legislators a perfect score and gave 62 a score of zero.

The scorecard is based on the group's priorities, which include energy, health, wildlife, water and policy. Those with perfect scores included House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) and Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor). Those who scored zero include House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) and Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge).

"It is ridiculous that in the Great Lakes State our legislators have pursued an anti-environment agenda that has eliminated or weakened critical safeguards that have protected our state and its residents for decades," said Nic Clark, state director of Clean Water Action, in a statement. "These scorecards are meant to be a gut-check for our Legislature and should force them to make a decision, do they value corporate profits or the people of Michigan and their environment?"

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, September 15

Health Endowment Fund Board, Helen Gerace Auditorium, Northwood University, 4000 Whiting Drive, Midland, 9 a.m. (Agenda; Listening session follows at 1 p.m. in the Griswold Communication Center)

Tuesday, September 16

Plumbing Board, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Wednesday, September 17

Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development, ConCon Room, Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Manufactured Housing Commission, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Thursday, September 18

Board of Psychology, Conference Room 3, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

Friday, September 19

Commission on Services to the Aging, Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center, 7501 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda)

Canceled: ~~Barrier Free Design Board, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 9:30 a.m.~~

Board of Audiology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

Historic Preservation Review Board, Board Room, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, 735 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, Dempsey Room, First Floor, Grand Tower Building, 235 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, 2 p.m. (Agenda)

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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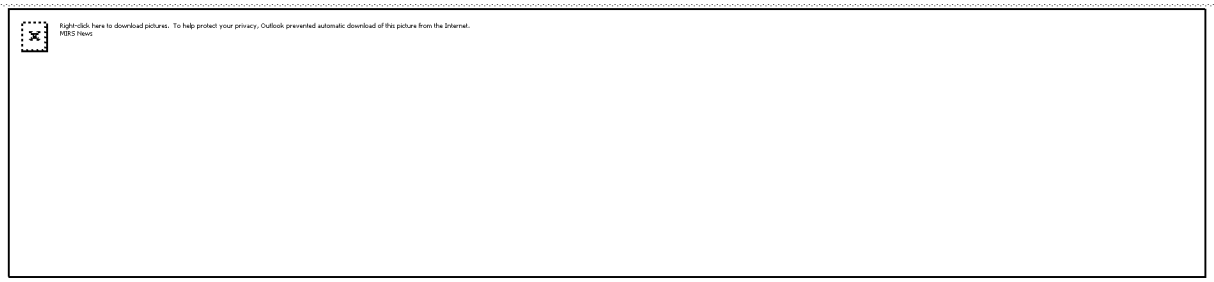

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Michigan veterans have new, one-stop resource for federal, state programs

"LANSING, MI — Michigan veterans and their families have a new way to learn about programs and benefits."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/09/michigan_veterans_have_new_one.html#incart_river*

'One tough nerd,' Michigan Gov. Snyder drops by for ArtPrize 2014 opener

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Seventy-six trombones led the big parade of nerds, past a towering arch of milk crates, over the Grand River, just af a flash mob and a few words from Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/artprize/index.ssf/2014/09/one_tough_nerd_michigan_gov_snyder_drops_by_for_artprize_2014_opener.html#incart_r*

ISIS threat to U.S.? Information 'not there' to make determination, Rep. Justin Amash says

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — As the U.S. and its coalition forces in the Middle East bombard regions within Syria in an offensive against ISIS, loc residents on Wednesday asked their congressman for clarity on the mission."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/09/isis_threat_to_us_information.html#incart_2box*

Divided Flint City Council says no to emergency manager's policy for building rainy day fund

"FLINT, MI – The City Council has rejected advice from emergency manager Darnell Earley for building up the city's rainy day fund – at leas for now."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/09/divided_flint_city_council_rej.html#incart_ri*

NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia says Flint School District 'doing it right'

"FLINT, MI – The president of a national teachers union says she's impressed with the Flint School District involving the community and families in an effort to turn around academically struggling schools."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/09/nea_president_lily_eskelsen_ga.html#incart_m-rpt-2

EPA releases 5-year plan to improve Great Lakes

"Chicago — The Obama administration unveiled an updated five-year plan for restoring the Great Lakes on Wednesday that outlines accelerated efforts to address toxic pollution, invasive species and farm runoff and restore plant and wildlife habitat."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/24/epa-releases-year-pla improve-great-lakes/16146793/*

Election 2014: Mark Schauer keen on 'voter contact'

"Mark Schauer has mounted a stronger-than-expected campaign against Gov. Rick Snyder's re-election bid and turned the Nov. 4 election ir a toss-up even though the Battle Creek Democrat has been unknown around the state for much of the year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/09/24/mark-schauer-campaign/16190659/*

Schuette rolls out student safety tip line

"State officials are banking on a new student safety reporting system — called OK2Say — to help reduce school violence in Michigan schoo

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/24/schuette-student-safety-tip- line/16148477/*

Student loan defaults drop nationally, not in Michigan

"Michigan students continue to struggle with paying their student loan bills, even as the default rate dropped nationally, new federal data sho

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/24/student-loan-default-michigan/16150585/*

Senate passes 3 bills to make drug more accessible

"LANSING – The state Senate gave final passage today to three bills that will make access to drugs like Narcan, which can successfully reverse the deadly effects of a heroin overdose, more readily available and require emergency medical personnel to carry the drug with them

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/24/michigan-senate-bills-heroin-drug-overdose/16160897/*

Dems: Make insurance companies offer abortion rider

"LANSING – Many Democrats would simply like to repeal a law that requires women to purchase an additional rider to their insurance policies they want abortion coverage."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/24/dems-make-insurance-companies-offer-rider/16171859/*

Transportation secretary to speak in Detroit today

"WASHINGTON – U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx will speak to students at Cass Technical High School in Detroit on Thursday morning about his experiences and the Obama administration's efforts to connect low-income communities to jobs, schools and economic opportunities."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2014/09/24/foxx-speaks-cass-tech/16176595/*

GM executive: Supply chain 'stretching the boundaries'

"Torrid U.S. auto sales are "stretching the boundaries" of General Motors' supply chain, the company's top purchasing executive said today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2014/09/25/gm-executive-supply-chain-stretching-boundaries/16170199/*

Aramark prison worker suspected in attempted hired hit

"LANSING – First it was drug smuggling and sex acts with inmates."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/09/25/aramark-worker-investigate murder-hire-plot/16172713/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Will there be a Totten-Schuette debate in the attorney general race? We'll see

"This just plain old weird."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/09/tim_skubick_will_there_be_a_to.html#incart_river*

Political Insider: Little action on Senate debate

"A week ago, Republican Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land's campaign unexpectedly announced the former secretary of state was ready to debate Democrat Gary Peters on WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) in October — after a month of dodging questions about debates."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/09/25/political-insider/16190791*

Council needs to step up, keep Orr on

"Detroit City Council has done some notoriously dumb things in its history, making self-destructive decisions detrimental to the well being of t city, its residents and the body's own reputation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2014/09/24/council-needs-step-keep-orr/16191413/*

Is GOP's dominance of Michigan 11th in danger?

"Back in 2010, when a sweep of all three branches of state government gave it the rare opportunity to control reapportionment outright, the Republican Party's top priority was to seize control of Michigan's congressional delegation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2014/09/24/congress-iro mckenzie/16146437/*

Michigan Senate stalls government transparency bill

"Republican state legislators are forever lamenting that government should be conducted more like a business. But who would want to own a

business whose employees considered it none of management's business how or whether they were doing their jobs?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/09/24/michigan-foia-bill-stalled/16174983/*

FOIA Reform Legislation Languishes in Senate

"A measure aimed at assuring that government entities can't use artificially inflated costs to stifle the public's ability to obtain information is buried in a Senate committee. It is believed that if House Bill 4001 were to be voted on by the full Senate, it would stand a good chance of passing, but with only a few session days remaining in 2014, time is running out."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20536*

Senate panel should pass records law that serves the public

"The Michigan House in a bipartisan vote last March approved changes to tighten and toughen the state's Freedom of Information law in Hou Bill 4001."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/09/senate-panel-should-pass-records-law-that-serves-the-public*

West Michigan furniture giants praise NAFTA, even as they stick close to home.

"While the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement 20 years ago produced seismic, at times painful changes for Michigan aut companies, the commercial furniture industry has flourished in West Michigan since the trade pact."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/09/west-michigan-furniture-giants-praise-nafta-even-as-they-stic close-to-home/*

Press Releases

Rep. Schor Introduces Bill to Aid Year-Round School Program

*"LANSING – State Representative **Andy Schor** (D-Lansing) introduced House Bill 5861 today, which allocates additional funding for year-round school infrastructure and was removed from the 2014-15 budget which starts October 1st. This will continue the program that was begu and funded in the 2013-14 budget."*

Source: *Rep. Andy Schor* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411591903_schor.pdf*

Michigan Chemistry Council Announces Leadership Transition

"(LANSING, MI) The Michigan Chemistry Council's Board of Directors has announced that John Dulmes has been appointed as the association's Executive Director, succeeding Cynthia Schulz, who is retiring after serving the Council for 16 years."

Source: *Michigan Chemistry Council* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411591863_MCC Press Release 9.24.14 - Michigan Chemistry Council Announces Leadership Transition.pdf*

Benishek Statement on Release of New Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan

"Marquette, MI: Today Dr. Dan Benishek issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's release a new Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan that outlines the steps federal agencies will take over the next five years to continue to address issues impacting the Great Lakes."

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411591801_benishek.pdf*

Snyder Administration Sells Access to Chief of Staff

"LANSING — According to a report in the New York Times, Dennis Muchmore, chief of staff to Governor Rick Snyder, was listed in a document detailing a system that allows corporate donors to buy access to senior staff of Republican governors. The documents detail the schedule of a symposium in Carlsbad, CA attended by Muchmore as a senior staffer to Governor Rick Snyder. In return for large donations, corporations were granted access to Muchmore and other staffers."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411591766_snyder.pdf*

Michigan Chamber Endorses Mike Bishop for U.S. House

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Chamber of Commerce today announced its endorsement of Mike Bishop for U.S. House. Bishop is seeki election to represent Michigan's 8th Congressional District, which includes the counties of Ingham, Livingston and portions of Oakland Coun including the cities of Fenton, Rochester, Rochester Hills and the Village of Clarkston."

Source: *Michigan Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411591729_chamber2.pdf*

Schauer's Running Mate Says 'Granholm Years Weren't as Bad as We Think'

"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 24, 2014 – During a radio interview this week, Lisa Brown – a Democratic legislator during former Gov. Jennifer Granholm's administration and the current running mate for Mark Schauer's gubernatorial bid – was asked what she thought about the Granholm years, and her response shocked Michigan listeners."

Source: *MI Republicans* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411586416_as Bad as We Think'.pdf*

Proos' CTE initiative unanimously approved

"Senate Bill 66 allows for the sharing of information between school districts and businesses that have job needs as well as providing studen and their parents with information on what career and technical education (CTE) opportunities are available to them."

Source: *Senator Proos* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411588362_in the classroom.pdf*

Coalition Supports New Great Lakes Action Plan

"ANN ARBOR, MICH. (Sept. 24, 2014) – The Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition supports a new Great Lakes action plan that will gu federal restoration efforts for the next five years. The plan, released today by the U.S. EPA at a meeting of Great Lakes mayors in Chicago, prioritize federal Great Lakes investments to restore fish and wildlife habitat, clean up toxic pollution, combat invasive species like Asian carp and prevent farm and urban runoff that causes algal blooms."

Source: *NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION MI Great Lakes Office* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411584759_Great Lakes Action Plan.pdf*

Dems Intro Bills to Make Women's Health Care More Accessible

*"LANSING – State Senator **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor) and state Representatives **Pam Faris** (D-Clio) and **Sarah Roberts** (D-St. Clair Shores) are introducing legislation to mandate that all health insurance companies that offer group and individual health care coverage must provide the option to purchase abortion service coverage."*

Source: *Sen. Rebekah Warren* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411584645_Care More Accessible.pdf*

Cannon Rallies the Troops and Knocks Doors in Local Neighborhood

"TRAVERSE CITY-Retired General and candidate for congress, Jerry Cannon, rallied volunteers in the Grand Traverse County Democratic Headquarters."

Source: *Jerry Cannon for Congress* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411584402_Cannon Rallies Troops.pdf*

Senate OKs Moolenaar bill to increase protections in continuing care communities

*"**LANSING—**The Michigan Senate on Wednesday unanimously approved legislation sponsored by Sen. John Moolenaar to help modernize, increase protections in and add transparency to the regulation of Continuing Care Retirement Communities."*

Source: *Senate Moolenaar* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411583237_care communities.pdf*

OK-2-SAY school safety hotline in effect; Emmons sponsored law creating confidential tip line

*"**LANSING—**Michigan's OK-2-SAY hotline, a 24-hour confidential tip line designed to help prevent school tragedies, is now operational, said Sen. Judy Emmons, sponsor of the law creating the early warning program."*

Source: *Senator Judy K. Emmons* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411580039_tip.pdf*

Road Managers Association Endorses Martin Howrylak for State Representative

*"**Troy, MI** – The Martin Howrylak for State Representative Campaign is pleased to announce the endorsement by the County Road Associat of Michigan RUSH-PAC."*

Source: *Martin Howrylak for State Representative* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411578480_road.pdf*

Expansion of successful jobs training program approved by Senate committee

*"**LANSING**—A Senate committee passed legislation Wednesday that would expand the Michigan New Jobs Training Program (MNJTP), a successful statewide initiative established in 2008 to promote job growth and provide skilled training to workers through local community colleges."*

Source: *Senators Jansen and Pavlov* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411578031_jobs.pdf*

Call It a Comeback: Economically Competitive

"Rasmussen just released a new poll showing the Governor leading 47-41. It's clear that the Governor's optimistic message of nearly 300,00 new private sector jobs, the lowest unemployment rate in six years, four on-time, balanced budgets in four years, and an increased investme in education is resonating with Michiganders."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411577151_rick2.pdf*

Dems Intro Bills to Make Women's Health Care More Accessible

*"LANSING – State Senator **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor) and state Representatives **Pam Faris** (D-Clio) and **Sarah Roberts** (D-St. Clair Shores) are introducing legislation to mandate that all health insurance companies that offer group and individual health care coverage must provide the option to purchase abortion service coverage. In December 2013, House and Senate Republicans passed a law banning health insurance companies in Michigan from covering abortion services unless a separate health insurance rider is purchased. Currently, only sev of the 42 health insurers in the state offer such a policy, and those that do only offer it as an add-on to an employer-provided plan and not fo individual plans."*

Source: *Senator Rebekah Warren* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411577110_bill.pdf*

Road to Recovery: The Next Four Years - Kalamazoo Town Hall

"On Monday, Governor Rick Snyder will be hosting the first town hall of his "Road to Recovery: The Next Four Years" tour in Kalamazoo."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574912_rick.pdf*

Hunt and win - new Wetland Wonders Challenge starts Oct. 11

"Seven lucky hunters will win over $1,500 in prizes just by hunting at Michigan's seven Managed Waterfowl Hunt Areas this fall and winter. A new Wetland Wonders Challenge, sponsored by Consumers Energy, will begin Oct. 11 and continue through Jan. 31, 2015. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574880_dnr2.pdf*

Peters skips votes to campaign

"Michigan Democrat Gary Peters' quest for the Senate has come at the expense of his duties in the House of Representatives."

Source: *Terri Lynn Land for U.S. Senate* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574825_land.pdf*

MVAA partnership with Michigan 211 centralizes veteran resources

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) Director Jeff Barnes was joined by Gov. Rick Snyder today to formally launch the Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center (MVRSC), a collaborative partnership between the agency and the Michigan 211 system. Th resource service center provides Michigan veterans and their families access to federal benefit programs, state services and local resources 24/7 with MVAA staff available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and MI-211 agents with training on veteran programs answering calls afte hours and during the weekend. Services provided by MVRSC can be accessed by calling the toll free number, 1-800-MICH-VET or 1-800-64 4836."

Source: *Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574788_va.pdf*

Senate stands up for military parents; bill to protect service member rights unanimously approved

*"**LANSING—**The Michigan Senate on Wednesday unanimously approved Sen. Rick Jones' legislation that would ensure active-duty military parents are not punished for not appearing in court over custody disputes while serving overseas and that they would retain custody as long the child is in a safe environment."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574744_jones.pdf*

Canadian and U.S. Groups Applaud Great Lakes Mayors' Water Quality Summit

"Environmental and conservation groups are applauding mayors from around the region for convening a Great Lakes Water Quality Summit held today in Chicago, Illinois. The meeting, organized by the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, comes on the heels of a number of drinking water bans impacting 500,000 Americans and Canadians this summer due to high levels of dangerous toxins from massive algal blooms in Lake Erie. "

Source: *Fresh Water Future* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574662_Media release algae - FINAL_clean.pdf*

Michigan Rises from 39th to 30th in 3rd Annual MI Chamber Fndn Study on Economic Competitiveness

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan's overall economic competitiveness continues to improve, moving up nine spots, according to the results of the third annual public policy study conducted by Northwood University on behalf of the Michigan Chamber Foundation."

Source: *Michigan Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574572_rises.pdf*

Educators invited to environmental/outdoor education conference Oct. 10-12

"Mid-October holds a great opportunity for educators across the state to come together for three days of creative learning and inspiration at t Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education's annual conference. "STREAMing Through Environmental and Outdoor Education" – Oct. 10-12 in Roscommon, Michigan – promises to be a fun, engaging and hands-on professional-development opportunity. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574437_dnr.pdf*

Dr. Dan Stresses Importance of Technical Training

"SAULT STE. MARIE, MI: Dr. Dan Benishek visited the Sault Ste. Marie High School Career Center to talk about the importance of technical training in Northern Michigan. The program in Sault Ste. Marie has grown exponentially over the last few years, with more students becomin interested in technical training."

Source: *Dr. Dan Benishek for Congress* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574343_dan.pdf*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 9/23/2014

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 9/23/2014."

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574293_courts.pdf*

Pro-life group endorses Amash

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – National Right to Life endorsed Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) for re-election to Congress, praising Amash for his "perfect 100% pro-life voting record" in this Congress."

Source: *Justin Amash for Congress* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574254_prolife.pdf*

Michigan Democrats Call for IRS Investigation Into Terri Lynn Land Using Her Charity as Extensio

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party today called for an IRS investigation into Republican Terri Lynn Land using her family charity, World Mission, as an extension of her campaign. Democrats held a press conference outside the World Mission store in Lansing, where new reports show the charity trying to recruit supporters with Land's campaign yard signs. As a tax-exempt organization, the IRS prohibits World Mission from advocating for candidates. MDP also sent the complaint to the Michigan Treasury, per an IRS suggestion."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574218_irs.pdf*

NEA President Eskelsen Garcia, MEA President Cook & Mark Schauer Host Media Roundtable

"EAST LANSING, Mich.—As college costs skyrocket and federal student aid lags, too many students are forced to borrow staggering amoun of money to pay for higher education. Existing student debt now exceeds $1.2 trillion and is higher than credit card debt in this country. The average student owes $29,400, but some report owing ten times as much. At these levels student debt isn't just a burden, it's a barrier to millions of middle-class Americans seeking college degrees and career preparation."

Source: *Byrum Fisk* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574151_nea.pdf*

TOMORROW: Agriculture Chairwoman Stabenow to Participate in Farmers Market at the Capitol

*"**Lansing**– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, will attend Farmers Market at the Capitol on **THURSDAY, September 25.** Sen. Stabenow will tour the market and participate in a press conference to discuss h the sale of more locally grown products boosts the economy and supports Michigan agriculture. Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill expands opportunities for farmers markets, local food hubs, and community gardens, which supports Michigan farmers and helps farmers sell more fr and vegetables directly to families, schools, and restaurants. President Obama signed the 2014 Farm Bill at Michigan State University in February."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574074_ag.pdf*

Godfrey Dillard's Partisan Games

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 24, 2014** – Disgraced ex-Detroit mayor Kwame Kilpatrick embodies the culture of corruption that Michigan saw dur the Democrats' Lost Decade. As Kwame Kilpatrick's legal counsel, now-Secretary of State candidate Godfrey Dillard attempted to prevent hi*

removal from office – despite the public's growing distrust and the multiple felony counts Kilpatrick faced. Dillard also sought to have Kilpatric case heard by a different, more favorable judge."

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411574032_godfrey.pdf*

Michigan Election Coalition Debuts New First-of-its-Kind Website

"MICHIGAN – Today, the Michigan Election Coalition launched a first-of-its-kind website to provide voters around the state with up-to-date, easily navigable information about upcoming elections and voting information. The website debut comes two weeks before Michigan's Octob 6th voter registration deadline."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411573998_election.pdf*

Powerball Jackpot Climbs to $225 Million

*"**LANSING, Sept. 24, 2014** – If your family and friends seem distracted today, it's likely they're daydreaming about what they'd do if they wo the $225 million Powerball jackpot."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411573957_lottery.pdf*

PRESS ADVISORY: Tuesday is Capitol Day in Michigan!

"Lansing, MI- People from across Michigan will converge on the state capitol September 30th for a day of legislative meetings, personal sto and direct actions."

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411570935_capitol.pdf*

Heartland Institute Experts Comment on Obama's Climate Speech at United Nations

""President Obama may be taking the lead on new global warming initiatives, but few world leaders critical to the success of any prominent climate agreement appear willing to follow. The leaders of China, India, Russia, and Germany are all skipping the U.N. climate gathering. Si they are among the largest CO2 emitters, without their agreement, CO2 will continue to rise whatever America and the rest of the world doe

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411570837_heartland.pdf*

REMINDER: Secretary Ruth Johnson's Lansing Event TODAY

"Just a quick reminder that Secretary Ruth Johnson Lunch Reception is today from 11:30-1 at the Michigan Health and Hospital Association.

Source: *Ruth Johnson for Michigan* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411570716_johnson.pdf*

CONSTRUCTION ALERT: Latson Road at I-96 (Livingston County)

"On Monday, September 29, construction is expected to begin on Latson Road over I-96 near Howell. The contractor will be removing and replacing the concrete approaches on each side of the bridge."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411566243_Latson Road over I-96.*

Sparrow launches free Senior Fall Prevention Series

"Lansing, Mich. – Sparrow has launched a free five-week Senior Fall Prevention Series to inform and educate seniors and those who care fo them about simple ways to reduce the risks and safeguard against tragedy."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411566178_Senior Fall Prevention Series release.pdf*

Construction on M-43/Oneida Road in Grand Ledge expected to start Monday, Sept. 29

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will oversee construction on M-43 at Oneida Road starting the week ofSept. 29. Improvements include resurfacing, storm sewer improvements, commercial driveway upgrades, and the installation of a right-turn lane at the intersection."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411566083_Grand Ledge.pdf*

MVU symposium to explore key trends in online and blended learning

"Lansing – The 10th MVU Online Learning Symposium – Online Learning: Making It Work – onNov. 17 will explore key trends in online and blended learning and examine real-world orientation and support strategies for online learners.
"

Source: *Michigan Virtual University* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565934_learning trends.pdf*

Consumers Energy Named One of Top 15 Most Sustainable Energy Providers in Worldwide Survey

"JACKSON, Mich., Sept. 24, 2014 – Consumers Energy announced today that it has been ranked among the top energy providers in the wo for sustainable environmental, social and economic practices."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565819_09-24-14 Most sustainable.pd*

MDOT to close southbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) in Detroit for wall repair

"The southbound M-10 retaining wall between Meyers and McNichols roads requires immediate repair to ensure the safety of motorists on th freeway. This is similar to repair work done on northbound M-10 near Schaefer Highway in 2013."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565587_for weekend work.pdf*

TODAY: MDP Chair to File IRS Complaint on Terri Lynn Land's Charity At World Mission Store in Lansin

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party today will make a major announcement regarding Republican Terri Lynn Land and her family's charity, World Mission, at its Lansing store, where news reports say Land's campaign signs were available for customers. Independent expe are raising serious concerns that Land is skirting the law by using the World Mission store in Lansing to recruitsupporters by handing out campaign yard signs. The IRS prohibits World Mission from advocating for candidates because it is a tax-exempt organization."

Source: *Michigan Democrats* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565475_Store in Lansing.pdf*

Duck Dynasty Family Endorses THE SONG Movie as Faith Driven Consumer Launches TheSongDateNight.com C

"(Raleigh, NC – September 24, 2014) Faith Driven Consumer™ — the group behind the IStandWithPhil.com movement which played a lead role in Phil Robertson's return to Duck Dynasty, the #OpenZilla campaign for workplace tolerance at Mozilla, and the #FlipThisDecision campaign supporting the Benham Twins after their show's cancellation by HGTV – continues to track the commercial viability of major Hollywood films courting faith audiences as part of its self-proclaimed 2014 "Year of the Bible Movie." The organization's Faith-Friendly Film Ratings, which use five specific criteria to measure the faith-compatibility of entertainment products aimed at the more than 40 million Americans who are Faith Driven Consumers and spend $2 trillion annually, continue to serve as a key barometer of the success of these film

Source: *Faith Driven Consumer* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565259_THE SONG Movie.pdf*

House, Senate Dems Unveil Plan to Give Women Access to Health Care

*" LANSING – Senator **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor) and state Representatives **Pam Faris** (D-Clio) and **Sarah Roberts** (D-St. Clair Shores) will introduce a plan to give women affected by the new discriminatory and punitive women's health care rider law greater access to vital health care coverage at a press conference to be held **at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 24 in Room 402-403 of the Michigan Stat Capitol.**"*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *09-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1411565137_*TODAY - 11-45 AM* pdf*

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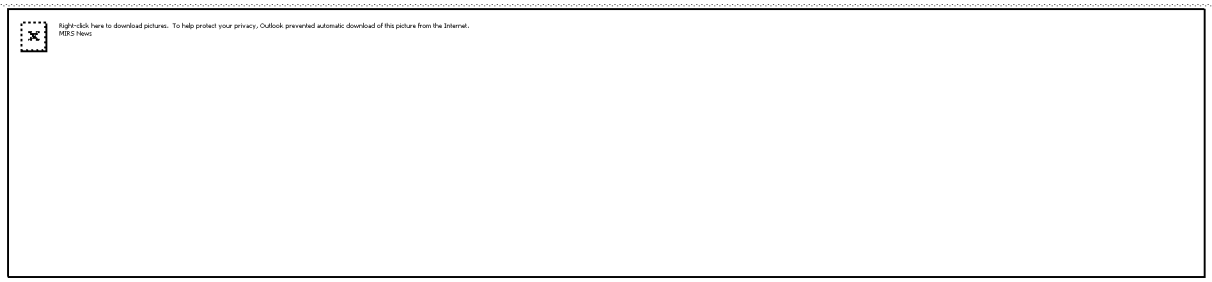

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What Jeb Bush said about running for president, Justin Amash

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Jeb Bush in Grand Rapids on Monday did not commit to running for president in 2016. But he also said nothing to quell suggestions that he will pursue the Republican nomination to the White House."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/what_jeb_bush_said_about_runni.html#incart_river*

With Jeb Bush in town, Terri Lynn Land talks path to legal status for undocumented immigrants

"LANSING, MI — U.S. Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land said Monday that she would consider a path toward legal residency — but not citizenship — for undocumented immigrants as part of a reform plan that would also have to include funding for a border fence."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/with_jeb_bush_in_town_terri_ly.html#incart_river*

Schauer rallies UAW workers in Lansing

"At a campaign stop in Lansing Monday evening, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer told members of the state's largest state employee union that he would value their opinions while Republican Gov. Rick Snyder did not."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**

http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/13/schauer-rallies-uaw-workers-lansing/17228079/

House hopeful Bishop will speak at Republicans' dinner

"The Livingston County Republican Party will host its 2014 Reagan Day Dinner with former Senate Majority Leader and current U.S. House candidate Mike Bishop at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at Crystal Gardens banquet center, 5768 E. Grand River Ave. in Genoa Township. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/14/house-hopeful-bishop-republican-dinner/17236357/

Election 2014: Three candidates competing to represent new 26th District state Senate seat

*"**VAN BUREN COUNTY, MI** — The race for the newly drawn 26th District state Senate seat will see a current state Senator compete against two opponents hoping to win elected office for the first time."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/election_2014_three_candidates_1.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Terri Lynn Land responds to criticism at Jeb Bush event: 'Well, I'm a mom'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Terri Lynn Land is a former Kent County clerk. She's a former Michigan secretary of state."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/terri_lynn_land_responds_to_cr.html#incart_river

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Flint emergency manager's report to state says city still in financial emergency

"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Darnell Earley says progress has been made in the year since he was appointed to help fix the city's finances, but Flint remains in "an ongoing financial emergency.""

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/flint_emergency_managers_repor.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Snyder launches new attack on Schauer

"Warren — One day after a testy televised debate, Gov. Rick Snyder introduced a new line of criticism about his gubernatorial opponent Mark Schauer, criticizing Schauer's vote as a legislator for driver responsibility fees."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/13/snyder-launches-new-attack-schauer/17217809/*

Jeb Bush visits Michigan to back state GOP

"Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said Monday during Michigan campaign stops the election is "huge," Rick Snyder "is a spectacular governor" and U.S. Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land "will be part of a new (GOP U.S. Senate) majority that will get back to getting things done.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/13/jeb-bush-visiting-michigan-support-state-gop/17179563/*

Hillary Clinton plans Oakland Univ. visit

"Hillary Rodham Clinton will arrive in Michigan Thursday to help boost two high-profile Democrats in their election campaign pushes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/13/hillary-clinton-will-visit-oakland-university/17211837/*

Education claims in gov race don't tell full story

"Gov. Rick Snyder's signature more than three years ago on an education funding bill reducing spending $930 million has become an election-year controversy for the Republican incumbent."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/13/snyder-schauer-education/17235649/*

Jeb Bush stumps for Snyder, Land and GOP in Troy

"Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush swept through Michigan on Monday to rally for Republican candidates, saying that the state and the U.S. need Republican leadership to grow the economy and restore optimism across the country."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2014/10/13/jeb-bush-stumps-snyder-land-gop-troy/17226911/*

Flint emergency manager: City's financial crisis ongoing

"A report from Flint's state-appointed emergency manager says the city remains in an ongoing financial emergency."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/10/14/flint-financial-crisis/17237527/*

Schauer regrets not meeting with media after town hall

"A couple dozen members of the media waited five, 10, 15 minutes for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer to come out and talk to reporters after an hour-long town hall forum in Detroit Sunday night."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2014/10/13/mark-schauer-rick-snyder-gubernatorial-town-hall/17213945/*

Bankruptcy trial resumes as creditors make their case

"Detroit's bankruptcy trial starts back up this morning after a week-long break as holdout creditors prepare to make their case against the city's restructuring plan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2014/10/14/bankruptcy-trial-resumes/17217977/*

Michigan redesigns license plate after complaints

"LANSING – Michigan officials recently released a revamped version of a state license plate that was once voted the world's best after police complained it wasn't easy enough to read."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/10/13/michigan-license-plate-redesign/17217055/*

State lawmaker calls on DIA to reconsider pay raises

"A pair of Oakland County politicians are poised to take action against the Detroit Institute of Arts after it was revealed last week that the taxpayer-supported museum handed out double-digit raises to DIA leaders in

2012."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2014/10/13/lawmaker-dia-pay-increases/17201589/*

Schauer or Snyder? — who can juice job growth?

"Rick Snyder, a former accountant, businessman and venture capitalist, has been Michigan's governor now for three years, nine months and two weeks — enough time, presumably, for voters to form some opinion of him as the state's chief executive."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2014/10/14/governors-race-job-creation-legislative-experience-jobs/17224807/*

Beyond politics: State Sen. Mike Green talks faith, family and that bear skin rug

*"**FREMONT TOWNSHIP, MI**— State Sen. Mike Green has a bear skin rug on the top floor of his hunting lodge-style home, a trophy he took home after hunting with his sons. It lies just yards away from a massive elk mount — from Colorado — that silently guards his fireplace and the wooden kitchen furniture Green says he made himself."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/10/mike_green_christian_hunter_an.html#incart_2box*

Advocacy/Opinion

Union wrong to scare DPS parents

"One local union is taking to scare tactics to get back at Detroit Public Schools for contracting out its custodial services, starting in 2011. That change has saved the district an estimated $14 million a year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2014/10/14/editors-note-jacques-dps/17214021/*

Vote411 a tool to inform, assist Michigan voters

"Voting is our civic duty. It is our responsibility to make our voices heard and participate in the democratic process. Voting empowers us to bring about a brighter future for our children, our communities and our country. It is also one of the few times in our society we are all equal, regardless of income, gender, race or occupation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/14/league-women-voters-vote-michigan/17214043/*

Decision 2014: Mark Schauer's Detroit problem

"I have observed politics in Detroit for more than 30 years. And this upcoming election next month appears to be taking its cue from the movie Titanic."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/14/adolph-mongo-mark-schauer-detroit/17214071/*

School spending is up, and on right priorities

"Of all the criticisms that gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer slung against Gov. Rick Snyder at Sunday night's town hall, the claim Snyder slashed education funding irked the governor the most. That's probably because it's not true. Overall K-12 funding has increased each year during Snyder's first term."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/10/14/school-spending-right-priorities/17214093/

Howes: Fiat Chrysler's rise intertwined with Marchionne

"Chrysler just won't die."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2014/10/13/fiat-nyse-listing-vindicates-gambit-control-chrysler/17235147/*

Snyder, Schauer, separated by practicality and belief

"Your hope in any political debate is for a defining moment, that point where difference and distinction become clear enough for voter choice-making."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2014/10/12/henderson-town-hall/17172167/*

National education leader: Business must lead fight in Michigan

"Kati Haycock, founder of the Education Trust, a nonprofit, advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C., said Michigan needs to realize that across the board, Michigan students are ranked low in achievement as well as in progress. Speaking with Bridge, Haycock said Michigan should take cues from

places such as Tennessee and Massachusetts that have leap-frogged ahead with focused reforms."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/10/national-education-leader-business-must-lead-education-fight-in-michigan/*

Smartest kids: Four school advocates raise their hands

"Editor's note: Bridge visited four states for this series, "The smartest kids in the nation," chronicling how four high-performing or fast-improving states are making gains in education while Michigan remains muddled in mediocrity. After profiling Tennessee, Minnesota, Florida and Massachusetts, today we review the reforms that helped improve student achievement in those states, and ask whether these policies would work here in Michigan."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/10/smartest-kids-four-school-advocates-raise-their-hands/*

Smartest kids: What Michigan schools can learn from leading states

"Michigan has a lot to learn about student learning."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/10/smartest-kids-what-michigan-schools-can-learn-from-leading-states/*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Oct. 14

"Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Oct. 14"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413234104_smedia.pdf

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State Senate Candidates to speak at Legislative Forum

"TAYLOR, MI – Candidates for Downriver state senate seats will be the guest speakers at the next Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber (SWCRC) Legislative Forum on Monday, October 20, 2014."

Source: *Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413234048_State Senate Candidates Forum 10-20-14.pdf

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Progress MI FOIA Reveals Gov. Snyder Lied to Public About 'Objective' Financial Emergency Process

"MICHIGAN — Documents released by Progress Michigan today show that Gov. Rick Snyder not only lied about the supposed "objective" process that goes into declaring financial emergencies for local governments and schools, but that his administration ultimately wants to dissolve the Highland Park School District."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233981_progmi.pdf

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October Meeting Info and Other Events!

"The monthly OCDP meeting will be held tomorrow October 14th at 7pm at the Troy Community Center. We will be making endorsement decisions for the nonpartisan portion of the ballot- including circuit court and OCC Trustees. We will also be discussing the upcoming GOTV efforts throughout Oakland County."

Source: *Oakland County Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233908_ocdp.pdf

MDARD Director: 95 percent of Michigan Counties are Now Bovine TB Free

*"**LANSING, MI** – Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Jamie Clover Adams today signed the Michigan Bovine TB Zoning Rule giving Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties Bovine TB Free status. They now are part of 79 counties with TB test-free movement in Michigan."*

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233869_mdard.pdf

Detroit and Lansing Lead the Way in Voting Accessibility

"MICHIGAN – Starting this month, Detroit and Lansing will have satellite locations open for in-person absentee voting ahead of Election Day. While every city clerk in Michigan offers in-person absentee voting at the clerk's office, Detroit and Lansing are offering in-person absentee voting at satellite locations to make it more accessible to busy voters."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233817_detroit.pdf

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"Road to Recovery: The Next Four Years" Haslett Town Hall

*"**LANSING –** This Wednesday, Governor Rick Snyder will be hosting the fourth town hall of his "Road to*

Recovery: The Next Four Years" tour in Haslett."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233783_rick16.pdf

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This Thursday: Information on Hillary Rodham Clinton's Visit to Michigan

"LANSING - Hillary Rodham Clinton will be visiting Michigan to campaign for Gary Peters for U.S. Senate and Mark Schauer for Governor on Thursday, October 16, at Oakland University's O'Rena in Rochester."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413233705_clinton.pdf

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Jeb Bush and Rick Snyder Both Connected to Scandal-Ridden Aramark

"LANSING – Today, Gov. Rick Snyder is campaigning with former Florida Governor Jeb Bush. Snyder and Bush both have a shared history of signing scandal-ridden contracts with Aramark."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413224035_bush2.pdf

The Streak: Fantasy 5 Players Win More Than $8.8 Million in Jackpot Prizes

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2014** – The blazing hot streak that began in early April for Fantasy 5 players has come to an end, but not before making the dreams of many Michigan Lottery players come true!"*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223977_lottery.pdf

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Four Michigan conservation officers honored for lifesaving efforts

"The Department of Natural Resources' Law Enforcement Division recently honored four Department of Natural Resources conservation officers who worked as part of a search and rescue operation and who ultimately found a missing 2 1/2-year-old child in the woods in Newaygo County last year. The officers were honored at last week's meeting of the Natural Resources Commission in Cadillac, Michigan."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223939_dnr2.pdf

Lt Gov. Candidate Lisa Brown, Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence join stop

on the National Tour

*"**Southfield, MI** – The national 'Put the Middle Class First' bus tour highlighting key issues for a strong American middle class made a stop this morning at the Oakland County Community College. During the visit, local leaders including **Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence** and **Lt. Governor Candidate Lisa Brown**emphasized Democrats' commitment to preserving Social Security and Medicare, increasing college affordability, investing in infrastructure and ensuring equal pay for equal work. Speakers emphasized that Democrats up and down the ballot are committed to helping grow the middle class and boost opportunity for Michiganders. At the same time, they criticized Republicans' obsession with rewarding wealthy corporate special interests at the expense of education, seniors' guaranteed benefits, and opportunity for hardworking people across the state."*

Source: *Americans United for Change* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223745_middleclass.pdf

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Endorsements Highlight Peters' Independence in U.S. Senate Race

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – U.S. Senate Candidate Gary Peters continues to gain momentum as the independent voice Michigan middle class families and small businesses can count on. Recently, former Republican-turned-Independent Mayor of New York Michael Bloomberg and the Michigan Milk Producers Association endorsed Peters.
"

Source: *Gary Peters for U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223648_peters4.pdf

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Rick Snyder and Terri Lynn Land Bring Jeb Bush, Auto Rescue Opponent to Michigan

"At last night's gubernatorial debate, Gov. Snyder repeatedly highlighted his out of touch agenda that puts the wealthy and well-connected ahead of seniors and the middle class. Today, Snyder is campaigning with Terri Lynn Land and Jeb Bush, who opposed the auto rescue that saved millions of jobs and brought Michigan's economy back from the brink of total collapse."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223613_dems.pdf

Heartland Policy Brief: Liberating the Poor from the Medicaid Ghetto

"CHICAGO – Medicaid is a massive federal-state entitlement program desperately in need of reform. Its mission is to provide health care to the poorest of the nation's poor ... and thus the poor have the most to gain from positive reform efforts, says Peter Ferrara, a senior fellow for The Heartland Institute and author of a new Heartland Policy Brief, "Liberating the Poor from the Medicaid Ghetto.""

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223573_heartland.pdf

Land Protected Major Contributor from Criminal Prosecution as SOS

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – When Republican Terri Lynn Land was Secretary of State, she let a major contributor off the hook from criminal prosecution for illegally influencing elections. Land's political deal with Meijer for trying to "secretly to overthrow the government" in Acme Township, as reported recently in The New Republic, is the next chapter of Peters for Michigan's "Forgotten Record" campaign to hold Land accountable for her failed record as Secretary of State."

Source: *Gary Peters for U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223408_peters3.pdf

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Debbie Dingell Media Advisory

"

Debbie Dingell, Democratic congressional candidate in Michigan's 12th District, will participate in a series of student-sponsored higher education forums that will focus on a broad range of issues affecting students on campus and in the classroom.
"
Source: *Liz Boyd Public Relations* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413223266_dingell.pdf

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15 Fraser Trebilcock Lawyers Selected for 2014 List of Super Lawyers, Rising Stars in Michigan

*"**Lansing, MI** – Thirteen Fraser Trebilcock attorneys have been selected for inclusion on the 2014 list of Super Lawyers, with two additional attorneys named "2013 Rising Stars in Michigan". In addition, the firm is proud to announce that attorney **Marlaine C. Teahan** has been included as one of the 'Top 50 Female Attorneys in Michigan', one of the 'Top 50 Consumer Law Attorneys in Michigan', and as one of the 'Top 25 Female Consumer Law Attorneys in Michigan'. Here is the complete list of Fraser Trebilcock attorneys selected:"*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock Lawyers* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413215356_Fraser Trebilcock - Super Lawyers 2014.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills to help save lives during narcotic drug overdoses

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation that will help save the lives ofresidents who overdose on narcotic drugs by requiring that EMS responders be trained to administer opioid medications aboard life support vehicles. These medications, known as opioid antagonists, have the ability to reverse the

deadly effects of a narcotic overdose."

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413215269_bill.pdf

Sierra Club Endorses McKenzie in Michigan 11th

*"**Livonia, MI –** Today, Sierra Club's Michigan Chapter announced their endorsement of Bobby McKenzie in the race for the 11th Congressional District. The district includes a large portion of the Detroit metropolitan area including Rochester Hills, Farmington and Livonia. McKenzie is running against David Trott, former partner at Enbridge Energy Partners. Enbridge is responsible for the July 2010 tar sands oil spill that dumped a million gallons of oil along 35 miles of the Kalamazoo River and its tributaries, the largest inland oil spill in American history. "*

Source: *Michigan Sierra Club* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413212398_sierra.pdf

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Peters for Michigan Announces "Women For Gary"

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – Peters For Michigan today announced "Women for Gary," a group of more than 250 women representing all of Michigan's 83 counties. Women for Gary will work tirelessly to elect Gary Peters as Michigan's next U.S. Senator because of his proven record fighting for Michigan women."

Source: *Gary Peters for U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211766_peters2.pdf

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Healthcare Solutions Week: Next, Better, Health Care Reform [10/13-10/17]

"WASHINGTON, DC - Independent Women's Forum announces the launch of Healthcare Solutions Week, a week-long national conversation to pave a better way forward for health care policy beginning Monday, October 13th. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was supposed to cure our nation's healthcare challenges, but today symptoms of dysfunction remain and problems need to be addressed. Healthcare Solutions Week will feature many organizations from across the country sharing their ideas for positive alternative reforms."

Source: *Independent Women's Forum* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211890_hcsolutions.pdf

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#SnyderWon

"One thing was clear last night, the Governor is a true leader who has put Michigan on the Road to Recovery, and he was wasn't going to let sound bites get in the way of the facts."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211615_rick15.pdf

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'Ask The DNR' to air on Lower Peninsula's WCMU Oct. 16

""Ask The DNR" comes to Central Michigan University Public Broadcasting (WCMU) Thursday, Oct. 16, at 7:30 p.m. The show will focus on fisheries, wildlife and law enforcement issues in the state."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211528_dnr.pdf

MIGOP Columbus Day Statement

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2014** – In recognition of Columbus Day, Michigan Republican Party Chairman Bobby Schostak issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211485_columbus.pdf

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Survey Highlights Public Misconception Regarding Gas Taxes

"Okemos – A recent survey regarding the on-going road funding issue showcased the public's support for increased investment and clearly demonstrated the vast misconceptions surrounding Michigan gas taxes."

Source: *Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211447_miita.pdf

Consumers Energy Maximizing Underground Natural Gas Storage to Benefit Michigan Residents

"JACKSON, Mich., Oct. 13, 2014 – Homes and businesses served with natural gas from Consumers Energy saved about $295 million during last winter's polar vortex due to the energy provider's extensive underground storage system."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413211189_consumers.pdf

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Colbeck Receives Legislator of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan

"State Senator Patrick Colbeck (MI-07) has been awarded the prestigious Legislator of the Year Award by

the Police Officers Association of Michigan. "Pat has been an active supporter of the law enforcement community and looks out for the safety of the citizens we protect," writes Ken Grabowski, Legislative Director for the Police Officers Association, "Pat does whats "right" for our community.""

Source: *Colbeck for Michigan Senate* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210888_colbeck.pdf

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Statement from MIAFLCIO President Karla Swift re: Schauer vs. Snyder Town Hall Debate

""Tonight's debate shows why Mark Schauer will be Michigan's next governor. He laid out his vision for a Michigan that works for everyone; not just the wealthy and well-connected. Mark's plan to raise middle-class incomes and reduce middle-class taxes is what working families need so all of us can get Michigan's economy growing again."

Source: *Michigan AFL-CIO* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210835_aficio.pdf

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Schauer Lays Out Plan to Build Michigan That Works for Everyone

"DETROIT - In tonight's gubernatorial debate, Mark Schauer repeatedly showed he is the kind of leader Michigan families need in the governor's office, working every day to build a Michigan that works for everyone, not just the wealthy and the well-connected."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210793_plan.pdf

Michigan Laborers Statement About Gubernatorial Town Hall

*""Tonight's town hall gave voters a clear contrast between two candidates," **said Geno Alessandrini, Business Manager for the Michigan Laborers District Council.** "Governor Snyder's vision of taxing senior pensions, cutting funding for our children's classrooms, and leaving our roads and bridges to crumble is the status quo. Mark Schauer's commitment to Michigan's working families, our children's future, and investments in infrastructure is the way to rebuild Michigan's economy. Congratulations to Mark Schauer for letting Michigan voters see why we can't afford four more years of Rick Snyder.""*

Source: *Michigan Laborers District Council* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210758_ml.pdf

Progress Michigan Statement on Gov. Rick Snyder's Attempt to Whitewash Record at Town Hall

""Gov. Snyder can spin and distort the facts as much as he wants, but the truth is he has continually put the

*interests of corporations over the well-being of families, communities and public safety during his tenure in office," **said Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan.** "From his abysmal handling of the state's Aramark contract, to paying for a $1.8 billion tax giveaway to corporations by raising taxes on families and seniors, Gov. Snyder has shown he has the wrong priorities for Michigan and his hollow defense of those policies showed tonight. The governor's defense of the scandal-ridden Aramark contract was sickening and painted a clear picture: It's corporate profits above all for the Snyder administration." "*

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210699_pm.pdf

Snyder Shows Leadership, Schauer Offers Lies and Sound Bites

"LANSING- This evening, Governor Rick Snyder showed the strength of his leadership against Congressman Mark Schauer at the Michigan Gubernatorial Town Hall Forum at Wayne State University hosted by the Detroit News, Detroit Free Press, and Detroit Public Television."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210652_rick14.pdf

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Schauer's Credibility Problems: Campaign Finance

"Mark Schauer was busted for money laundering and hit with the largest campaign finance fine in state history."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210610_rick13.pdf

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#Road2Recovery Fact Sheet: Environment

"Governor Snyder has been a leader in promoting energy efficiency. New and expanded programs under the governor have saved millions in energy costs for both state government and Michigan families."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210570_rick12.pdf

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Dr. Dan Promotes Agriculture in Frankfurt - October 13, 2014

"Dr. Dan Benishek will be meeting with local farmers in Frankfurt on Monday, October 13, 2014, to discuss the importance of agriculture in Northern Michigan. Dr. Dan will be stopping by Graceland Fruits and Smeltzer Orchards to talk about issues of importance including the economy, job creation, and government overregulation."

Source: *Dr. Dan Benishek for Congress* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210531_dan.pdf

Schauer's Credibility Problems: The Granholm Era

"Michigan lost more than 300,000 jobs and saw its unemployment rate more than doubled under Granholm and Schauer. Under Governor Snyder, Michigan has gained almost 300,000 private sector jobs and seen its unemployment rate cut in half."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210476_rick11.pdf

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Schauer's Credibility Problems: No Plan Schauer

"Mark Schauer went more than a year without offering any plan for the future of Michigan."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210430_rick10.pdf

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#Road2Recovery Fact Sheet: Jobs

"After losing 300,000 jobs during the Granholm-Schauer era, Michigan has created almost 300,000 new private sector jobs under Governor Rick Snyder."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210387_rick9.pdf

Schauer's Credibility Problems: Detroit

"After 40 years of inaction, Governor Snyder stood up and made the tough decisions that needed to be made to put the city on the path to success. What would Mark Schauer have done? We still don't know."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210345_rick8.pdf

#Road2Recovery Fact Sheet: Detroit

"After 60 years of decline, Governor Rick Snyder tackled Detroit's problems making tough decisions for the right reasons."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413210274_rick7.pdf

#Schauer's Credibility Problems: Transportation

"State funding for roads fell during Mark Schauer's two years as the Senate Minority Leader."

Source: *Rick for Michigan</i*

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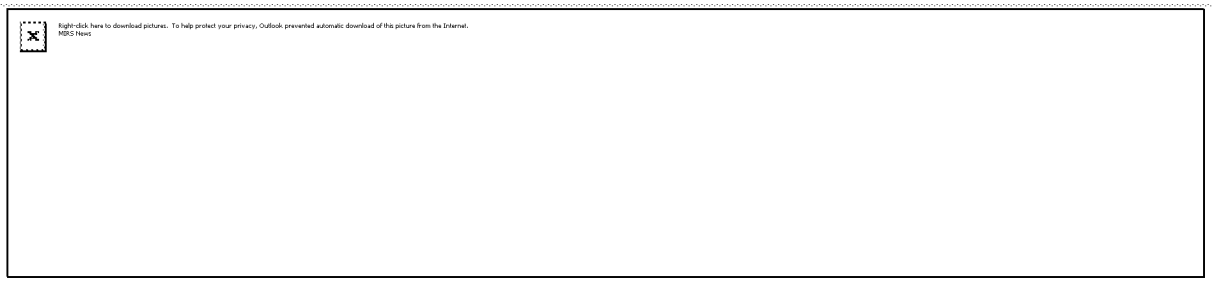

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill in honor of teen killed in crash to increase motorcycle, bicycle education

"SANILAC COUNTY, MI – Tuesday would have been Nathan Bower's 25th birthday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gov_rick_snyder_signs_bill_in.html#incart_river*

Gary Peters, Mark Totten talk guns and world peace at MLive Ballot Bash in Royal Oak

"ROYAL OAK, MI – MLive's final ballot bash concluded in Royal Oak on Tuesday, but not before two democratic candidates talked world peace and gun ownership."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/royal_oak_ballot_bash_includes.html#incart_river*

No show or on the go – site questions Hune

"So, is state Sen. Joe Hune "no-show Joe" or "always-show Joe?""

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/politics/elections/livingston-county/2014/10/14/senate-hune-pollesch/17272865/*

U.S. response to Ebola will be focus of subcommittee hearing with Rep. Fred Upton

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – A House Energy and Commerce Committee's subcommittee will hold a hearing at noon Thursday on the U.S. public health response to the Ebola outbreak."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/us_response_to_ebola_will_be_f.html#incart_river*

Kalamazoo Gazette hosting forum tonight for local state House candidates

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** — The Kalamazoo Gazette is hosting a forum for Kalamazoo County state House candidates tonight to give voters another chance to get a feel for the candidates ahead of the Nov. 4 general election."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/kalamazoo_gazette_hosting_foru.html#incart_river*

Dems court women's vote in Grand Rapids, call Republican contraception policy 'craziness'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – At the same time Gov. Rick Snyder was in town for a "Women Strengthening Michigan" forum this afternoon, Lisa Brown railed against Republican "attacks" on women during a press conference at the YWCA downtown."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/dems_court_womens_vote_in_gran.html#incart_river*

Championing women's work in Michigan 'part of the job,' Gov. Rick Snyder says

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Michigan's economic strides in recent years couldn't have happened without the innovations led by women, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/championing_womens_work_in_mic.html#incart_river*

GM's decision to stop using Flint River water will cost Flint $400,000 per

year

"FLINT, MI – General Motors' decision to stop using Flint River water at its engine plant will cost the city an estimated $400,000 annually."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gms_decision_to_stop_using_fli.html#incart_river*

Detroit, bankruptcy creditor to present deal Thursday

"Detroit — Attorneys for the city say they hope to present on Thursday a settlement in U.S. Bankruptcy Court with Detroit's largest remaining holdout creditor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2014/10/14/detroit-bankruptcy-trial-fgic/17241573/*

Female Dems hit GOP on women's issues

"— Two of Michigan's top elected Democrats are touring Michigan Tuesday highlighting women's issues and harshly criticizing high-profile Republican candidates."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/14/gop-democrats-women-issues/17256583/*

State commission will monitor rape kit testing

"Detroit – — A state commission will oversee a speedier rape kit testing process under legislation signed into law Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/metro-detroit/2014/10/14/commission-monitor-rape-kit-testing/17274123/*

GOP, Democrats hot on trail of Michigan absentee voters

"Lansing — The Michigan Republican and Democratic parties are vigorously courting absentee voters this fall as the Nov. 4 election could be decided by which party gets more partisan loyalists to cast ballots."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/14/michigan-absentee-voters/17285229/*

Deal at hand with last big creditor in Detroit bankruptcy

"Detroit and its last major opposition creditor could have a deal in place by Thursday, lawyers for the city and the holdout bondholder said in court Tuesday morning."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2014/10/14/deal-hand-last-big-creditor-detroit-bankruptcy/17240727/*

Gov. Snyder signs laws to go after drugged driving

"LANSING – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has signed laws to target drivers under the influence of drugs after two young men were killed in a head-on collision by a repeat drugged driver."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/10/14/michigan-drugged-driving-law/17267243/*

Congressman Dan Kildee hosts coffee hour event Oct. 17 in Bay County

*"**BANGOR TOWNSHIP, MI** — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint Township, hosts a coffee hour event from 9-10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at Midland Manor, 4640 Fox Pointe Drive in Bay County's Bangor Township."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/10/congressman_dan_kildee_hosts_c_2.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Could poor results for Terri Lynn Land drag down Gov. Snyder?

"Democrats Mark Schauer and Gary Peters have been best buds on the campaign trail, showing no aversion to appearing together in their bids for governor and the U.S. Senate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/tim_skubick_could_poor_results.html#incart_river*

Tim Skubick: Could poor results for Terri Lynn Land drag down Gov. Snyder?

"Democrats Mark Schauer and Gary Peters have been best buds on the campaign trail, showing no

aversion to appearing together in their bids for governor and the U.S. Senate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/tim_skubick_could_poor_results.html#incart_river*

Energy is key to Michigan's future

"Hydraulic fracturing, the process of blasting rock with high-pressure water to extract natural gas from shale formations deep beneath the earth's surface, has stirred controversy throughout the country. The debate over the safety and environmental risks of "fracking," as it's commonly called, has reached Michigan as well."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/552917/Energy-is-key-to-Michigan-s-future.html?nav=5052*

Editor's Note: Poll gives debate to Snyder

"Who wins a candidate debate is one of the most spun questions in politics. For example, after Sunday night's town hall face-off between Gov. Rick Snyder and challenger Mark Schauer, the Democrat's surrogate, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, declared her man had scored a "knockout." But what did voters think?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2014/10/15/editor-note-poll-debate-snyder/17268581/*

On Michigan taxes, the truth is a stubborn thing

"There's an old aphorism about courtroom battles: If the law is on your side, argue the law. If the facts are on your side, argue the facts. If neither is on your side, pound the table."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/15/snyder-tax-reform-small-business/17268713/*

Schauer, Peters the choice for working families

"With less than three weeks until Election Day, every candidate for public office is your best friend. Vote for me instead of that other scoundrel, they say, and I'll deliver maximum benefits at minimal cost to taxpayers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/15/afl-cio-peters-schauer/17268695/*

Dark money a part of Rick Snyder's legacy as governor

"It was a refreshing moment of candor when Gov. Rick Snyder recently told a Grand Rapids audience that his NERD Fund (New Energy to Reinvent and Diversify) was "a mistake we made early on." The governor said that he had learned something from the experience and he is proud of his administration's record when it comes to transparency."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/10/14/gov-rick-snyder-dark-money/17219099/*

Why Snyder can't tell the truth about same-sex marriage

"Michigan's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage is toast — and no one knows that better than Rick Snyder, who is both a lawyer and a cold-blooded realist when it comes to reckoning his political options."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2014/10/15/gay-marriage-michigan-rick-snyder/17271571/*

School Districts Manipulate Headlee Tax Limits for More Money

"By law, Michigan school districts are allowed to impose a maximum of 18 mills for operating expenses. So when current school millage authorizations are due to expire, how is it that some districts can ask for more?"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20589*

During the 'Lost Decade,' Michigan Shed More Jobs Than U.S. as a Whole

"When the Great Recession hit the U.S. in December of 2007, state economies buckled."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20582*

Press Releases

League of Michigan Bicyclists (LMB) celebrates adoption of Nathan Bower Act

*"**Lansing** (October 14, 2014) – This morning Governor Snyder signed the Nathan Bower Act (HB 5438) into law. The new law adds information about bicycle and motorcycle awareness to Michigan driver's education curriculum, and emphasizes the importance of motorists being aware of their surroundings while driving."*

Source: *League of Michigan Bicyclists* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413317297_bicycle.pdf*

Congresswoman Miller endorses Senator Green re-election

*"**MAYVILLE—**Calling him a hardworking conservative helping lead Michigan's comeback, Congresswoman Candice Miller today announced her endorsement of state Senator Mike Green, R – Mayville. "*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green Re-election Campaign* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413317088_MillerGreen.pdf

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Upcoming lane closures on M-43/Grand River Ave in East Lansing

"LANE CLOSURE ALERT: M-43/Grand River Avenue (Ingham County)"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315332_43laneMDOT.pdf

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Schuette Commends Gov. Snyder's Signature on Bills Strengthening Sexual Assault Victims' Rights

*"**LANSING, Mich.** - Attorney General Bill Schuette today praised Governor Snyder for signing into law vital crime victim rights' legislation that strengthens the rights of sexual assault survivors. The bipartisan package of Senate Bills 998, 1004, 1021, and 1036 sponsored by Senators Rick Jones and Bert Johnson, improves the state's system for sexual assault kit testing."*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315238_schuette.pdf

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Pat Somerville Named to LCV's "Dirty Dozen in the States"

"ANN ARBOR — The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (MLCV) and the national League of Conservation Voters (LCV) announced today that Pat Somerville has been named to LCV's "Dirty Dozen in the States." Modeled after LCV's trademark federal "Dirty Dozen," the state version highlights 12 of the most anti-environment state-level candidates from around the country who state LCVs are working to defeat."

Source: *Michigan League Of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315156_lcv1.pdf

NextGen Climate Michigan Presents: Stone Age Challenge

"KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Today, NextGen Climate Michigan announced that they will be hosting a

screening of Citizen Koch and a new NextGen Climate "Stone Age Challenge" television ad at Western Michigan University on October 16th at 7 p.m.

"

Source: *NextGen* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312270_nexgen.pdf

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Senator Kelly Ayotte to Rally Voters for Terri Lynn Land

"On Wednesday, October 15, U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte (NH) will join Republican Nominee for U.S. Senate Terri Lynn Land to rally voters and denounce the anti-mom rhetoric being thrown by the Left."

Source: *Terri Lynn Land For U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312176_Land2.pdf

Women across Michigan say 'Enough is Enough' to GOP Anti-Women Agenda

"LANSING - Women from across Michigan are joining together today to say 'Enough is Enough' when it comes to Republican policies and actions that offend and economically hurt women and their families."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312049_DemParty.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill to further improve sexual assault kit testing

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation encouraging faster and more organized sexual assault kit testing. "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413311954_Snyder2.pdf

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Michigan Employers to Save $277 Million in Workers' Comp Costs

"LANSING — Michigan manufacturers will see huge gains in competitiveness as the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency (WCA) announced Tuesday that the state's workers' compensation pure premium rate will drop for a third year in a row. Michigan is the only state in the nation with such an improvement in workers' compensation costs and the cumulative effect is a 27.7 percent reduction over the period of 2011 to 2015."

Source: *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413310364_MMA.pdf

Agriculturally Speaking ... Optimism Abounds

"Fall has clearly arrived. Apple harvest is in full swing, the trees are changing colors and corn harvest is right around the corner."

Source: *Jamie Clover Adams, MDA* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413310069_agoptimism.pdf

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Dr. Benishek Highlights the Impact of Tourism in Northern Michigan

"Traverse City, MI: Today Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) participated in a roundtable focused on the "Economic Impact of Travel and Tourism in Northern Michigan" with Brad Van Dommelen, President and CEO, Traverse City Tourism and other local business leaders. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413309266_benishek.pdf

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CLOSURE ALERT: M-52 in Chelsea, Washtenaw County

"Starting Thursday, Oct. 16, at 8 a.m., M-52 will be closed at the railroad tracks, north of Middle Street, in Chelsea. MDOT and Amtrak will reconstruct the M-52 crossing improving safety and the rideability at that location. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413309117_MDOTclosure.pdf

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Total closure: M-50 and I-96, Kent County, October 17-20

"-M-50 (Alden Nash Avenue) will close over I-96 to slide the new bridge into place 8 p.m. this Friday through 5 a.m. the following Monday. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413308895_MDOTBridge.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills emphasizing importance of safety while sharing Michigan's roads

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation focused on keeping drivers safe on Michigan roads. Under the legislation, law enforcement will have additional tools to combat drugged driving, and

sharing the road with alternate vehicles will be emphasized during drivers training."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413308120_snyderbill.pdf

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Governor signs landmark drugged driving measures to better protect state motorists

"Gov. Rick Snyder today signed into law landmark legislation to help keep drugged drivers off Michigan streets by ensuring immediate jail time for repeat offenders and better communication between law enforcement agencies."

Source: *Sen. Pavlov/Rep. Lauwers* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413307875_druggeddrive.pdf

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MLTA welcomes West as V.P. of Travel MI

"Steve Yencich, president and CEO of the Michigan Lodging and Tourism Association, today issued the following statement regarding the selection of David West as vice president of Travel Michigan:"

Source: *MI Lodging And Tourism* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303818_lodging.pdf

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Progress Michigan Releases Hundreds of Pages of MI Dept. of Education Emails

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan released hundreds of emails between Gov. Rick Snyder's chief of staff Dennis Muchmore and State Superintendent Mike Flanagan. The release is part of a larger effort to hold the executive office accountable by making the inner workings of government visible to the public."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303709_PROGRESS.pdf

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Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303708_PROGRESS.pdf

OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT JUDGE JAMES ALEXANDER ELECTED CHAIR OF THE STATE BAR JUDICIAL COUNCIL

*"**Oakland County, MI** (October 14, 2014) – Oakland County Circuit Judge James Alexander has been elected Chair of the State Bar Judicial Council for the 2014-2015 bar year. The Judicial Council consists of representatives of the three Judicial Associations: District Judges Association; Probate Judges Association; and the Michigan Judges Association, which represents Circuit and Court of Appeals Judges."*

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303403_OaklandCourt.pdf

Snyder makes appointment to Wayne County Airport Authority

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Ron Hall Jr., of West Bloomfield, to the Wayne County Airport Authority."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303221_snyderappts.pdf

"Well, I'm a mom" Terri Lynn Land Fires Back

"(GRAND RAPIDS, MI) October 14, 2014 – Former Florida Governor Bush rallied voters across Michigan with Terri Lynn Land yesterday while she fired back at Gary Peters and his allies for criticizing her for talking about how being a mom informs her decision making. "

Source: *Terri Lynn Land For U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303124_Land1.pdf

DNR honors longtime hunter education instructors for volunteer service

"For nearly 70 years, Michigan has conducted hunter education classes, teaching new hunters firearms safety and the regulations behind having a safe and successful hunt. This year, the Department of Natural Resources has honored those longtime instructors who have been with the program more than 40 years with special recognition at a series of Natural Resources Commission meetings, including the Oct. 9 meeting in Cadillac."

Source: *MI Dept. of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413302225_DNRhuntered.pdf

Seasonal lake sturgeon release put more than 5,700 fish into Michigan

waters

"The Department of Natural Resources and several partners released nearly 6,000 juvenile lake sturgeon into various public waters across the state this summer and fall in an effort to rehabilitate this culturally significant fish species.
"

Source: *MI Dept. of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413299679_DNRSturgeon.pdf

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Jerry Cannon will Protect Medicare and Social Security

*"**Kalkaska MI** – Former Sheriff and Major General and congressional candidate, Jerry Cannon, released a new TV ad, ""Promises"" that exposes Congressman Benishek's betrayal to Northern Michigan seniors by supporting a Budget, which raises Medicare costs on Michigan Seniors while cutting taxes for the ultra-wealthy. Benishek has also supported privatizing Social Security."*

Source: *Jerry Cannon For U.S. Representative - CD 1* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413296883_Cannon1.pdf

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Senators Introduce Bills to Help Stop 'Debtors Prisons'

"LANSING - State Senators Jim Ananich (D-Flint), Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) and Bert Johnson (D-Detroit) recently introduced a bipartisan package of bills (SB 1113-1115) that seek to uphold the longstanding constitutional ban on debtors prisons -- where people who cannot afford to pay their court debts are jailed as a result.
"

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413296794_SenateDems.pdf

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Michigan's Work Comp Rate Decreases 28% Since 2011

*"**October 14, 2014** – The Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs (LARA) today announced the pure premium advisory rate for workers' compensation insurance will drop by an average of 6.5 percent in 2015 and will decrease 6.3 percent annually from 2011-15. The pure premium rate will decrease 27.7 percent since 2011, saving Michigan employers an estimated $277 million.[1]"*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413301562_LARAWC.pdf

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Call It a Comeback: Schauer on Defense and Apologizing

"After his "No Show" performance at the Town Hall on Sunday night, Mark Schauer spent Monday on the defensive:"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder Re-election Campaign* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413295592_Snyder1.pdf

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Reinventing Mi Retirement Offers Free Financial Workshops, Advice

"LANSING –Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) and its Reinventing Mi Retirement partners will be at nine locations across the state on Monday, October 20, 2014 offering free workshops and personal financial checkups to consumers. DIFS is hosting events in Detroit, Troy, Alpena, Escanaba, Grand Rapids, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, Three Rivers, and West Branch. Presenters will be delivering workshops such as: "

Source: *DIFS* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413294688_retirement.pdf

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New Totten Ad Asks What Bill Schuette Has Been Doing Instead of Protecting You

"SOUTHFIELD – In a new ad that hits airwaves today, Mark Totten's campaign highlights the record of his opponent Bill Schuette. The ad, named "One Thing", focuses on Bill Schuette's pursuit of ideologically extreme crusades. It details several areas where Schuette's political priorities have come before Michigan families."

Source: *Totten For Attorney General* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413294595_totten.pdf

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Peters' New TV Ad Outlines His Fight for Michigan Jobs & Strong Middle Class

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – U.S. Senate Candidate Gary Peters today unveiled a new TV ad that outlines his proven track record fighting for Michigan jobs and helping to strengthen Michigan middle class. Peters recently helped successfully stop an unfair Chinese tariff on American autos.
"

Source: *Peters For U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293965_Peters2.pdf

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LARA Adds Three New License Types to the MyLicense Online Application System

*"**October 14, 2014 -** Applicants for an initial Architect, Professional Engineer, or Professional Surveyor license now have the option to apply online and pay by credit card. They may access the online system at www.michigan.gov/mylicense. The three new license types were added to the MyLicense online application system by the Licensing Division in the Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293299_lara1.pdf*

Celebration Weekend of Activities at the Museum to Follow Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Induction

*"Lansing, MI—The Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame, 213 W. Malcolm X Street, Lansing, announces a **special three-day weekend of events to celebrate the 31st anniversary and class of inductees of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame**. Activities included in this free weekend of events are storytelling, caricature artists, meeting contemporary inductees of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and much more."*

Source: *Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293198_halloffame.pdf*

What They're Saying: Land's SOS "Bargain of the Century" For Major Contributor

"SOUTHFIELD, MI – The latest "Forgotten Record" chapter of Republican Terri Lynn Land's failed Secretary of State record covers Land's backroom deal that gave Meijer, a major contributor, immunity from criminal prosecution after they admitted to illegally influencing a local election in Acme Township. The New Republic recently reported on Land's suspect deal with Meijer for trying to "secretly to overthrow the government" in Acme Township."

Source: *Peters For U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-15-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413292747_Peters1.pdf*

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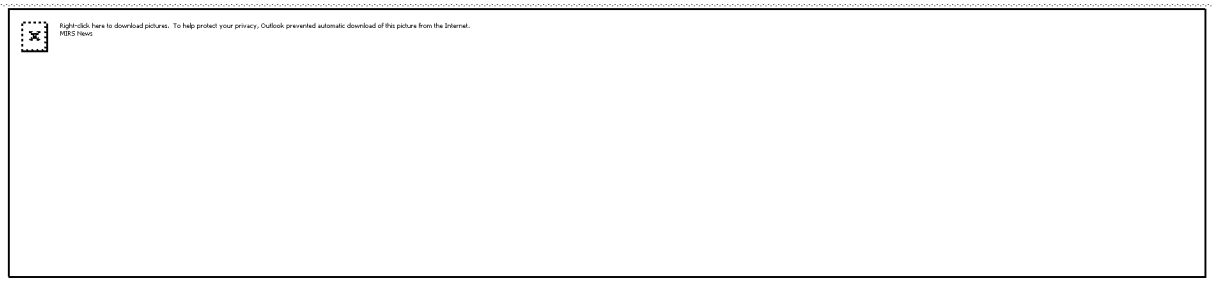

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Republican Jim Stamas defeats Joe Lukasiewicz to win 36th District Senate seat

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — With Republican John Moolenaar leaving his state senate seat for a new seat in the U.S. Congress, fellow Republican Jim Stamas will replace him as the 36th District's state senator."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/11/state_senate_stamas_defeats_lu.html#incart_river

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Saginaw's Pamela Pugh Smith elected to State of Michigan Board of Education

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Saginaw resident Pamela Pugh Smith was one of two people elected to the State of Michigan Board of Education during the Nov. 4 general election."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/11/saginaw_woman_elected_to_state.html#incart_river

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Lauwers wins second term in 81st District

"Incumbent Republican Dan Lauwers appeared to be on his way to his second term representing the 81st Michigan House District on Tuesday."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.thetimesherald.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/04/lauwers-winning-second-term-st-district/18512213/

Blind marathon-running lawyer, a Detroit native, makes history with Michigan Supreme Court win

"DETROIT, MI -- History was made Tuesday night when 39-year-old Richard Bernstein won a spot on Michigan's Supreme Court."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/11/blind_marathon_running_lawyer_1.html#incart_river

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Election night errors lead to counting by hand in Genesee County

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – The Genesee County Board of Canvassers is expecting a lot of work ahead of them before they can certify the Tuesday, Nov. 4 election results."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/11/election_night_errors_lead_to.html#incart_river

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Sean McCann wants 'everyone's vote to count,' still hasn't conceded state Senate election to Margaret O'Brien

"Sean McCann hasn't conceded, despite his opponent Margaret O'Brien declaring victory Wednesday morning in the very tight 20th District Senate race."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/11/sean_mccann_wants_everyones_vo.html#incart_river

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Margaret O'Brien 'so excited' to serve city of Kalamazoo in state Senate 20th District

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** — Going on just three hours sleep Wednesday, a tired but energized Margaret O'Brien gushed at the prospect of serving the city of Kalamazoo in the state Senate."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/11/researching_previous_elections.html#incart_river

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Hillshire Brands hit with fine for May death of worker caught, killed in machine

"OTTAWA COUNTY, MI – Hillshire Brands, a meat processing plant north of Zeeland, has been fined $12,600 after a

worker died in a May accident."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/11/hillshire_brands_hit_with_fine.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

New face, new goals: Sheldon Neeley to focus on job development, city services as new state rep

"FLINT, MI – Sheldon Neeley will soon be the new face of the 34th District state House seat, representing most of the city of Flint."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/11/sheldon_neeley_to_focus_on_cit.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Gary Peters fields calls, looks to get to work

"Rochester — Sen.-elect Gary Peters spent his first day Wednesday fielding phone calls from senators and taking his family out to lunch at a downtown restaurant while starting to think about his new job."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/gary-peters/18545577/

Debbie Dingell: 'Let's find the ways to work together'

"Newly elected Dearborn Democrat Debbie Dingell said she wants to form a Michigan coalition in the U.S. House of Representatives once she gets to Washington."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/debbie-dingell/18524187/

AG Schuette sidesteps questions on his political future

"Hours after winning his bid for re-election as Michigan's Attorney General, Bill Schuette was already answering questions about his political future Wednesday morning."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/michigan-attorney-general-bill-schuette/18524697/

Democrats reign on school boards

"Though early election returns showed Republicans were poised to seize open seats on the governing boards of the state's three largest universities and the State Board of Education, Democrats reigned in all races."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/04/michigan-election-education-board-results/18493029/*

Snyder wants $1B for roads by year's end

"Detroit — Fresh from a re-election victory, Gov. Rick Snyder said Wednesday he will push lawmakers to raise at least $1 billion in new revenues for road repairs through fuel taxes and fees before the end of the year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/michigan-gov-rick-snyder/18574223/*

Experts: Michigan GOP blew chance for Senate

"Michigan Republicans blew a prime opportunity to capture a U.S. Senate seat for the first time in two decades, as the GOP party rode a national wave of victories to take control of the upper chamber, state experts said Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/experts-michigan-gop-blew-chance-senate/18575193/*

New Michigan reps face clout challenges

"Michigan's 16-member congressional delegation is getting five new lawmakers, and will be challenged to have as much the clout as the outgoing members."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/11/05/congressmichigannewmembersdingell/18574911/*

Takeaways from election: A very good night for the GOP

"The 2014 election season has come to a close with some surprises, razor-thin margins in races across the state and a political landscape that has developed a decidedly red tint."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/06/takeaways-michigan-election/18557971/*

Snyder says first priority is fixing Michigan's roads

"Gov. Rick Snyder said today that getting a deal in the Legislature to raise more than $1 billion more a year to fix and maintain the state's roads and bridges is his No. 1 priority after "a very successful election.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/05/snyder-says-roads-top-priority-winning-second-term/18524629/*

EMU to close bottom-performing Inkster charter school

"Eastern Michigan University will close one of its charter schools at the end of the current school year, its charter school office announced today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2014/11/05/emu-charter-school-close-gaudior-academy/18538049/*

Michigan Democrats fall short in voter turnout effort

"LANSING – For months leading up to Tuesday's vote, Michigan Democratic Party Chairman Lon Johnson was telling anyone who would listen that he had a not-so-secret weapon that would reverse his party's miserable track record in midterm elections."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/06/michigan-democrats-absentee-voting/18568041/*

U-M regents election: Mike Behm, Kathy White victorious after race goes down to wire

"At about 4 a.m.Wednesday morning it looked as though Republican candidates Rob Steele and Ron Weiser would win the two open seats for the Board of Regents at the University of Michigan."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/11/behm_beats_weiser_by_4800_vote.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Lennox: Respect Gov. Snyder's mandate

"Move over, tea party. This is now Gov. Rick Snyder's Michigan Republican Party."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/06/lennox-snyder-runs-michigan-gop/18553461/*

Let's give hope to kids in foster care

"Each year, more than 23,000 Michigan children in foster care age out of the system without ever having the chance to know a secure home and loving family."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/06/hope-michigan-foster-children/18553525/*

Give Michigan's disabled a chance to work

"For the past two years, Gov. Rick Snyder has hosted the Michigan Business to Business Summit on Disability Employment, events that foster opportunities for individuals who may otherwise face barriers securing employment for various reasons. The summits were tremendously successful with an estimated 400 Michigan businesses in attendance, and resulting in job opportunities at those participating businesses for more than 1,000 individuals with disabilities."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/06/give-disabled-workers-chance/18553557/*

Finley: For Dems, turnout hype ended in embarrassment

"One of the more intriguing story lines of Tuesday's election was the failure to materialize by the Democratic Party's much-hyped voter turnout drive."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2014/11/06/finley-dems-fail-turnout/18553639/*

Second term agenda on right priorities

"With the election behind him, Gov. Rick Snyder can now concentrate on his second-term agenda. Most of his priorities carry over from his first four years, and it's a list worth pursuing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/11/06/edit-gov-snyder-second-term/18553597/*

Berman: Genial Bernstein — justice delivered with hugs

"Richard Bernstein will likely earn attention as the nation's first blind state Supreme Court justice. But in the raw, gray drizzle of his Election Day campaign, the 40-year-old Bernstein easily distinguished himself as the most huggable."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2014/11/05/berman-bernstein-genial-supreme-court-justice/18573959/*

Michigan's GOP-led Legislature has its own agenda

"Lana Theis of Brighton believes legislators should be prepared to "defend states' rights" if the federal courts strike down Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2014/11/05/gop-legislators-conservative-agenda-snyder/18517269/*

Michigan's governor must understand state's DNA

"It's cliche to say that Michigan is at a crossroads, and yet we are. Newly re-elected Gov. Rick Snyder will preside over a four-year span that will see the state stride further down the path to fundamental change or return to government that represents what I believe are Michigan's core values."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2014/11/05/michigan-governor-snyder-schauer/18553265/*

Can 2 Michigan women build consensus in D.C.?

"Debbie Dingell and Brenda Lawrence are headed to Washington to serve in the U.S. House."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2014/11/04/congress-election-dingell-lawrence/18505505/*

Making Michigan Right-to-Work: Encouraging School Districts to Follow the Law

"

When Michigan's right-to-work law was passed in December 2012, many hoped the law would encourage union responsibility. Under the statute, local unions would no longer be able to take their members' dues for granted, and

would instead have to prove their worth to members."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20665*

School District May Have Crossed Legal Line in Tax Request

"An email blast sent Nov. 3 from the superintendent in Pinckney Community Schools using school mailing lists stated the district was "asking voters to renew" a multi-million millage raises questions whether the district crossed the line and violated state campaign finance law."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20685*

In Great Lakes States, Union Retribution Fizzles

"In December of 2012, in the aftermath of Michigan's Republican Legislature passing a right-to-work law, thousands of union members from around the state participated in a teleconference where their leaders promised "retribution" against the GOP."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20687*

Bills Would Limit Wind Turbine Lawsuits

"Industrial wind turbines are supposed to produce electricity. But they have alsobeen producing lawsuits over issues such as noise and the associated negative health impacts they allegedly have on residents."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20684*

Fewer voted, Snyder wins – here's how he did it.

"Despite claims that voter turnout would be above 2010 levels, perhaps turning the Michigan governor's race into a toss-up, turnout was actually down across Michigan Tuesday and Republican Gov. Rick Snyder won handily."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/11/michigan-governors-race-2014/*

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7 ways Tuesday's election changes Michigan

"With Gov. Rick Snyder's reelection and a Legislature even more heavily dominated by Republicans, the state's political course is becoming clearer, and right-er, if that's a word. Here are seven takeaways from Tuesday's election:"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/11/7-ways-tuesdays-election-changes-*

michigan/

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10 issues to watch in Legislature's "lame-duck" session

"Fixing potholes? Extending civil rights protections to gays and lesbians? How about taking over Detroit schools?"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/11/10-issues-to-watch-in-legislatures-lame-duck-session/*

Is Michigan now officially a red state?

"In the end, the horse race was not a photo finish, but more like Gov. Rick Snyder (and his fellow Republicans) by three lengths. The collapse of Mark Schauer's campaign, said to be in a virtual dead heat with the incumbent in its final days, left not only a chastened Democratic Party but the continued drift rightward for Michigan that might not have been imaginable a generation ago."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/11/is-michigan-now-officially-a-red-state/*

Press Releases

Immigrant Families and Faith Leaders Call for President Obama's Promised Protections

"DETROIT – At a press conference at St. Anne's Church in southwest Detroit, families wrenched apart by the broken immigration called on President Obama to keep his promise to grant administrative relief from deportations. Faith leaders and members of Michigan United, joined the families to remind the President of his promise to use his legal authority to protect immigrant families the same way he granted some temporary protections to people brought to the US as children."

Source: *MI United* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415223403_Immigrant.pdf*

WMU-COOLEY INTEGRITY IN OUR COMMUNITIES SPEAKER TALKS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PRO BONO SERVICE

"On Monday, Nov. 3, Susan Kornfield of Bodman PLC was the keynote speaker at WMU-Cooley Law School Lansing campus' Integrity in Our Communities Speaker Series. Kornfield, the recipient of the 2014 State Bar of Michigan John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award, spoke to students, faculty and those in the legal profession regarding the importance for attorneys to be involved in their communities and provide pro bono services to individuals who are less fortunate. "

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415218868_wmu pro bono.pdf

MEDA's Fall Economic Development Toolbox Conference is 2 Weeks Away! Register Now!

"MEDA's Inside the Economic Development Toolbox is so popular that we decided to hold two this year! Join us to hear the latest on economic development tools like financing programs, incentives and ideas to help your client companies find the workers that they need. "

Source: *MI Economic Development Associaiton* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415218799_MEDC.pdf*

Southwest Michigan Libertarians Make History in 2014

"November 5, 2014, Kalamazoo, Michigan – Southwest Michigan Libertarians are celebrating record-breaking achievements, following the 2014 election results."

Source: *SW Michigan Libertarians* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415218655_SW Michigan.pdf*

Sen. Jones applauds voter approval of expanded BWL representation

*"**LANSING—**Sen. Rick Jones on Wednesday applauded the nearly 2-to-1 approval by Lansing voters to amend the city charter to create three non-voting seats on the Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) to represent the utility's suburban customers."*

Source: *Office of Rick Jones* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415218460_Jones Appaulds.pdf*

DNR to hold public update meeting Nov. 20 on VASA network of pathways

"The Department of Natural Resources' Parks and Recreation Division will host a public update meeting Thursday, Nov. 20, regarding winter use (skiing and fat-tire biking) on the VASA network of pathways located near Traverse City, Michigan. This meeting will take place 6-7 p.m. at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center Meeting Room, 1213 West Civic Center Drive, in Traverse City."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415214886_DNR Public Meeting.pdf*

I-94, Washtenaw County

"On Thursday, November 6, there will be a single lane closure on westbound I-94 between Carpenter Road and US-23 for catch basin cleaning. "

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415214822_I-94.pdf*

US-12, Lenawee County

"On Tuesday, November 6, US-12 will be closed between M-50 and M-52 so crews can clean-up debris from an earlier accident. "

Source: *MI* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415214760_US - 12.pdf*

Lorence Wenke Receives Highest Vote Total of Any Third-Party Candidate in the History of Kalamazoo C

"November 5, 2014, Kalamazoo, Michigan – Former Michigan State Representative and successful businessman Lorence Wenke issued the following statement following yesterday's election results."

Source: *Wenke Campaign* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415214677_Wenke Record.pdf*

Featured Managed Waterfowl Hunt Area: Shiawassee River

"Looking for the biggest and best place to waterfowl hunt or a great place for birding? Shiawassee River, with roughly 10,000 acres of intensively managed waterfowl habitat, is the largest Managed Waterfowl Hunt Area (MWHA) Michigan has to offer!"

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415214487_Managed waterfowl Hunt.pdf*

Schedule of American Red Cross blood drives in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties

*"**Lansing, Mich**. (November 5, 2014)— The American Red Cross asks eligible donors to make an appointment to give blood to help ensure sufficient blood supplies are available for patients this holiday season."*

Source: *Red Cross* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415212229_Red Cross.pdf*

WHAT IS THE FRANCHISE INDUSTRY SAYING ABOUT MIDTERM ELECTION

RESULTS

"WASHINGTON, Nov. 5, 2014 – The results of the 2014 midterm elections have made clear that voters prioritize job creation over government intervention in small business decisions. Franchised businesses in particular have been impacted by constant and incremental meddling from all levels of government. Ranging from discriminatory minimum wage hikes approved at the municipal level to the Obamacare mandate for a 30 hour work week, to a new "joint employer" recommendation from the pro-union, Presidential-appointed National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Decisions from policy makers who are heavily influenced by organized labor have created cost increases that make it more difficult for franchised businesses to expand and create new jobs."

Source: *International Franchise Association* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415211938_What is franchise.pdf*

Lansing Regional Chamber Celebrates Election Success

"The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) celebrated a successful election night as key candidates endorsed by LRCC swept to victory. LRCC congratulated Governor Rick Snyder on his reelection and urged the Governor and state lawmakers to work together on critical issues needed to move Michigan forward."

Source: *Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415207065_Election Night Success.pdf*

Lake Orion Optometrist Summarily Suspended

"The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as an optometrist of Robert E. Deck, O.D., based on his conviction in the 6th Judicial Circuit Court, Pontiac, Michigan."

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415206936_LARA Lake Orion.pdf*

Camp Offers Congratulations to Congressman-Elect John Moolenaar

"Washington, DC – Today, Representative Dave Camp (R-MI) issued the following statement after John Moolenaar was elected as the next U.S. Representative for Michigan's 4th Congressional District. "

Source: *Office of Dave Camp* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415206672_Camp Congrats.pdf*

GLEP-Endorsed Candidates Win Big in Legislative Races

*"**Lansing, MI –** A significant majority of candidates endorsed by the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP) were successful in yesterday's general election for the State Senate and House of Representatives."*

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415206805_GLEP.pdf*

Chairman Bobby Schostak Congratulates Mike Bishop on Victory

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 4, 2014** – Below is a statement from Michigan Republican Party Chairman Bobby Schostak in response to Mike Bishop's victory in Michigan's Eighth Congressional District:"*

Source: *MI Republicans* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415202964_Shostak congrats.pdf*

Now is the time to fix our roads

*"**Lansing, Mich. –** The Local Roads Matter Coalition issued a call to action today for Michigan legislators: Now is the time to fix our roads."*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415202896_Now is time to fix our roads.pdf*

Long-time Association Leader Announces Retirement

"LANSING, MI – After nearly a quarter century leading and advocating on the behalf of the manufacturers and employers making up the Michigan Soft Drink Association (MSDA), President and CEO William Lobenherz announced today his retirement from the leadership role. Lobenherz also announced that Derek Bajema is being named Vice President for Government Affairs for the Association commencingNovember 10, and will succeed Lobenherz as President and CEO on January 1, 2015."

Source: *Michigan Soft Drink Association* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201653_Soft Drink.pdf*

Sparrows rallies pound for pound to fight local hunger

"LANSING, Mich. – Caregivers from the Sparrow Weight Management program have already hit 600 pounds in a rally to donate one pound of food for every one lost by their Patients during Sparrow's Harvest Gathering Food Drive. "

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201588_11.5.14 Harvest Gathering release.pdf*

A little of your time can make a big difference.

"As a Mentors Plus volunteer, only a few hours of your time each month, will help a young person in your community. Be a positive adult role model for someone 5 to 16 years old."

Source: *Oakland County* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201524_newspaper_psa.pdf*

Statement from Rep. Theresa Abed (D-Grand Ledge) on loss after hard-fought campaign for House Distri

" "I am disappointed that I will not be returning to Lansing in January to represent the people of House District 71, but I am not disappointed in the campaign we ran or the great effort that my supporters gave over these last months."

Source: *Theresa Abed* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201387_Abed Statement.pdf*

SBM Law and the Media Committee and Society of Professional Journalists, Detroit, to Present Panel D

"The State Bar of Michigan Law and the Media Committee and the Society of Professional Journalists, Detroit, have collaborated to create "Covering the courts: What Detroit's top legal minds think." The program will consist of two panel discussions moderated by Michigan Radio Political Commentator and Wayne State University Professor Jack Lessenberry that will feature prominent Michigan attorneys and judges."

Source: *State Bar of MI* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201298_SBM Law.pdf*

Natural Resources Commission to meet Thursday in Lansing

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center, 4125 Beaumont Road in Lansing."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415201213_DNR Commission.pdf*

BREAKING NEWS: Sportsmen Prevail in Maine Bear Hunting Ban

"In a ballot initiative with national repercussions, Maine voters once again sent an unmistakable message to animal-rights extremists: stay out of our state."

Source: *U.S. Sportsman Alliance* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415200986_Sportsmen Prevail.pdf*

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/4/2014

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/4/2014.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *MI COURT OF APPEALS* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415200896_MI Appeals Court.pdf*

AARP Recognizes Silent Army of Michiganders; Launches "I Heart Caregivers"

*"**[LANSING, MI]** –November marks National Family Caregivers Month, a time to recognize the 42 million Americans, including 2.1 million in Michigan, who help care for aging parents, spouses and other loved ones so they can remain at home and not in a costly institution. In Michigan alone, family caregivers provide 1.4 billion hours of unpaid care each year valued at a staggering $16 billion annually. "*

Source: *AARP* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415200814_AARP.pdf*

Reaction from SBAM President and CEO Rob Fowler to reelection of Gov. Snyder

""The small business community congratulates Gov. Snyder on his reelection and looks forward to assisting him for the next four years in his ongoing efforts to keep Michigan growing," said SBAM President and CEO Rob Fowler. "

Source: *Small Business Association of MI* **Date:** *11-06-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415200741_Mike Rogers.pdf*

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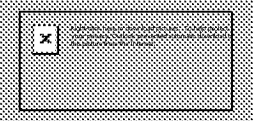

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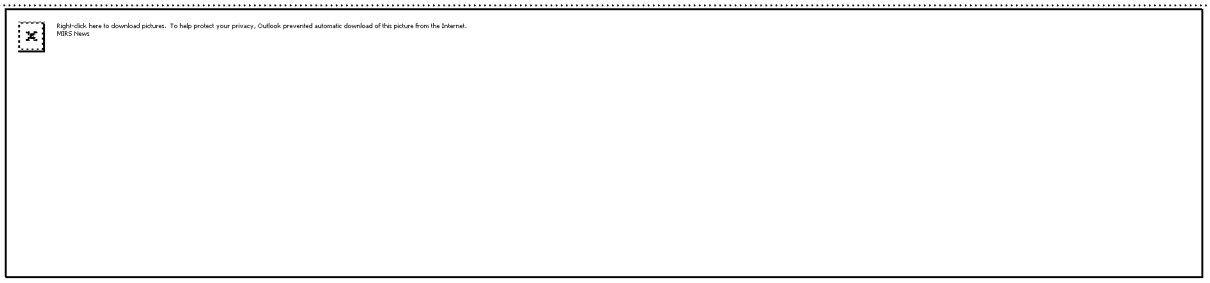
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Meet Michigan's next Senate Majority Leader: Arlan Meekof to take reins of Republican supermajority

"LANSING, MI — Republican Sen. Arlan Meekhof of West Olive is set to become the next Senate Majority Leader in the Michigan Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/meet_michigans_senate_majority.html#incart_river*

Gay marriage ban co-author Gary Glenn praises federal court ruling

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Newly elected state representative Gary Glenn was in the middle of a Michigan House Republicans Caucus meeting Thursday, Nov. 6, when news broke about the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision upholding a state ban on gay marriage."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/11/co-author_of_michigans_same-se.html#incart_river*

Michigan Gov. Snyder says defending gay marriage ban a duty, 'not a matter of personal preference'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's gay marriage ban remains in place after a federal court ruling on Thursday, and Republican Gov. Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette both made clear they will continue to defend it."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/michigan_gov_snyder_says_defen.html#incart_river*

Barb Byrum, 1st county clerk to marry a Michigan gay couple, 'speechless' at court decision – / 6

"LANSING, MI – Eight months ago, Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum was marrying gay couples. Today she gathered with gay advocates and allies in sadness after the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Michigan's right to exclude those couples from marriage."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/status_of_michigans_legally_ma.html#incart_river*

U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers' radio plans become clearer

"U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers' radio career is coming into post-election focus."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/06/us-rep-mike-rogers-radio-plans-become-clearer/18588987/*

Sean McCann, down by 60 votes to Margaret O'Brien, stresses election result is unofficial

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI –** Less than two days after he was defeated by just 60 votes in his run for state Senate, state Rep. Sean McCann issued a statement Thursday saying that a request for a recount, at this point, would be "premature.""*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/11/sean_mccann_down_by_60_votes_t.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

'We got our butts kicked': Jackson County Democrats look to regroup after election losses

"JACKSON COUNTY, MI – Republican lawmakers took back the U.S. Senate, kept control of the U.S. House and won or held governorships in more than 30 states after the dust settled from this week's mid-term elections."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2014/11/we_got_our_butts_kicked_chair.html#incart_river*

Dave Agema, gay-marriage opponents on ruling: 'Things are looking up for conservatives'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Michigan Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema's views on gay marriage are well known - he's not a supporter"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/11/west_michigan_gay-marriage_opp.html#incart_river*

'Eventually, it's going to be decided the right way,' West Michigan legislator says of gay marriage

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- In the eyes of state Rep. Brandon Dillon, it's only a matter of time before Michigan allows same-sex marriage."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/11/eventually_its_going_to_be_dec.html#incart_river*

Prominent gay GOP strategist: Court ruling eventually will bring marriage equality

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Greg McNeilly is disappointed by a federal appeals court's decision Thursday that reversed lower court rulings in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee that struck down same-sex marriage bans."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2014/11/prominent_gay_republican_stret.html#incart_river*

Flint emergency manager says he's reviewing options for replacing departing council members

"FLINT, MI -- Emergency manager Darnell Earley isn't ready to commit to a process for replacing two departing City Council members, but says he wants individuals who will govern like "team players."

"

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/11/flint_emergency_manager_says_h_7.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Meekhof, Cotter elected next legislative leaders

"Lansing — Republican lawmakers chose Rep. Kevin Cotter of Mount Pleasant as the new House speaker and Sen. Arlan Meekhof of West Olive as the Senate majority leader for the 98th Michigan Legislature that

convenes next year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/11/06/meekhof-elected-michigan-senate-leader/18599827/*

Frustration, validation after gay marriage ban upheld

"The reaction to the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals decision to uphold Michigan's ban on gay marriage ranged from vindication to utter disappointment and steely determination as the case heads to the nation's highest court."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/06/gay-marriage-decision-reaction-michigan/18617663/*

Fed appeals court rules for gay marriage ban in Mich.

"The Michigan couple at the center of the same-sex marriage debate vowed Thursday to "continue the fight" after a federal appeals court in Cincinnati upheld the state's gay marriage ban."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/06/gay-marriage-michigan-ohio-kentucky-tennessee/18610951/*

All eyes on Detroit for bankruptcy ruling

"Sixteen months after its historic bankruptcy filing, Detroit will learn today whether its plan to shed $7 billion in debt can proceed, clearing the way for an end to the case and an unprecedented restructuring of Michigan's largest city."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2014/11/06/detroit-bankruptcy-trial-judge-ruling/18627121/*

Gov. Rick Snyder issues statement on same-sex marriage

"Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement regarding the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision on same-sex marriage:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/06/gov-rick-snyder-statement-same-sex-marriage-after-ruling/18614257/*

AG Schuette releases statement on same-sex marriage

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today made the following statement regarding the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision on same-sex marriage:

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/06/michigan-ag-bill-schuette-releases-statement-same-sex-marriage/18614741/*

Appeals court upholds Michigan's gay marriage ban

"In a major blow to the gay-rights movement, a federal appeals court today denied same-sex couples the right to marry in four states -- including Michigan -- concluding that voters should decide whether gay marriage is a good idea or not."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/06/th-circuit-sex-marriage-ruling/18610117/*

DeBoer, Rowse: Let us 'get a decision once and for all'

"After years of fighting for the right to get married, April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse have grown accustomed to legal blows."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/06/april-deboer-jayne-rowse-gay-marriage/18626641/*

Historic ruling: Judge to decide Detroit bankruptcy today

"For Detroit, bankruptcy is near a remarkable conclusion."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2014/11/07/judge-rhodes-detroit-bankruptcy-kevyn-orr-plan-adjustment-ruling/18623203/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Expanding Michigan's civil rights law to include LGBT just got

more dicey

"Jim Murray who is running the campaign to expand the state's civil rights law to include the LGBT community is having a bad week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/tim_skubick_the_move_to_expand.html#incart_river*

Wolfram: Do we need to worry about peak oil?

"With oil at less than $80 per barrel, down from almost $104 per barrel earlier in the year, it might be time to examine the claims that we are going to run out of oil in the near future, or at least that oil production will decline sufficiently relative to demand and that oil prices will soar."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/07/peak-oil-problem/18615463/*

Beckmann: What's wrong with being the party of 'no'?

"To hear President Barack Obama tell it, America really didn't mean to repudiate his administration this week by electing a tidal wave's worth of Republicans to office both nationally and within their respective states."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/frank-beckmann/2014/11/07/beckmann-republicans-party/18616307/*

Jacques: Gay marriage finds odd bedfellow in Jen Gratz

"When Jennifer Gratz recently posted a photo of her family on Facebook, congratulating her parents on their anniversary, she didn't expect the ugly turn comments on the photo would take."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2014/11/06/jacques-gratz-gay-marriage/18616235/*

Will of the majority doesn't trump the Constitution

"There is no "will of the majority" exception to the Constitution. Unfortunately, the opinion by U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Jeffrey Sutton upholding the discriminatory marriage laws of Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee attempted to create one, exalting majority will over the Constitution's promise of liberty and equality."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/11/06/will-majority-trump-constitution/18621261/*

Time for Supreme Court to settle gay marriage debate

"So many bigoted tropes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/11/06/th-circuit-gay-marriage-michigan-ruling-sex-ban/18618465/*

Gay marriage ruling leaves Supreme Court nowhere to hide

"If U.S. Supreme Court justices imagined they could watch from the wings while lower courts completed the hard work of securing justice for the 200,000 American children being raised by same-sex parents, they know better now."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2014/11/06/sex-marriage-michigan-appeals-court-ban-gay/18622213/*

Press Releases

Statement of AFT Michigan President David Hecker Concerning Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Decision

"MICHIGAN — AFT Michigan President David Hecker issued the following statement regarding the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeal's decision to uphold Michigan's marriage equality ban:"

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415317615_aft.pdf*

Rep. McCann statement on election

"Since Tuesday's election, I have received many questions as to the state of my campaign for state senate. "

Source: *Representative Sean McCann* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415317652_mccann.pdf*

MI Catholic Conference Applauds Marriage Amendment Ruling

*"**(Lansing, Mich.)** – Michigan Catholic Conference released the following comments this evening after the*

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit upheld the 2004 Michigan Marriage Amendment as constitutional:"

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415317480_mcc.pdf

STATEMENT: 6th Circuit Court of Appeals Upholds Michigan's Ban on Same-Sex Marriages

"MICHIGAN – The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals today denied the freedom to marry to LGBTQ families in four states, including Michigan, delivering a rare defeat in the courts to the freedom to marry, which has seen 49 victories in the courts since June 2013. The appellate court issued its decision three months after hearing same-sex marriage cases from all four states. In each of those states, federal judges had struck down same-sex marriage bans on constitutional grounds. In February, U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman declared Michigan's ban unconstitutional, but Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette appealed."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415317439_em.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder issues statement following Court of Appeals ruling on same-sex marriage

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement regarding the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision on same-sex marriage:"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415317398_gov.pdf

Ohio I-75 road work-Toledo-1 lane/Bowling Green closed

"The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is reducing southbound I-75 to one lane in downtown Toledo for bridge repair from 7 pm Friday to 6 am Monday. South I-75 from Anthony Wayne Trail (25) to South Ave will have only one lane open. Expect delays."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415312162_75.pdf*

Statement by Attorney General Schuette on 6th Circuit Ruling in DeBoer v. Snyder

*"**LANSING, Mich.** - Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today made the following statement in response to a ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit upholding the constitutionality of Article 1, Section 25 of the Michigan Constitution in the case DeBoer v. Snyder:"*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415312121_ag.pdf

Progress Michigan Statement on Sixth Circuit Court Marriage Equality Ruling

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan issued the following statement in response to a federal appellate court ruling that upheld Michigan's marriage equality ban."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415312065_pm.pdf

Singh Looks to Supreme Court to Settle Marriage Issue

"LANSING - State Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) issued this statement following a ruling by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals overturning the ruling of District Court Judge Bernard Freidman which found Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415312027_singh.pdf

Shameful Sixth Circuit Decision Upholds Discriminatory Marriage Bans in MI, OH, KY, TN

"WASHINGTON – Today the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit overturned lower court rulings that struck down Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee bans on marriage equality. Until today, no state marriage ban had survived a federal circuit court ruling. What's more, the Supreme Court of the United States issued an order last month allowing the pro-marriage equality rulings from the Fourth, Seventh and Tenth Circuits to stand, immediately making marriage for same-sex couples possible in five new states – with many more following soon after. The decision today by the Sixth Circuit creates a circuit court split, which increases the likelihood of the Supreme Court taking up the issue in the near future. In response to today's ruling, Human Rights Campaign (HRC) president Chad Griffin issued the following statement:"

Source: *Human Rights Campaign* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415311997_ban.pdf

House Democratic Caucus Retains Rep. Greimel as Leader

"LANSING – The Michigan House Democratic Caucus chose to keep Rep. ***Tim Greimel*** *(D-Auburn Hills) as the House Democratic Leader for the 2015-2016 session. Rep.* ***Sam Singh*** *(D-East Lansing) will serve as Democratic Floor Leader."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415311959_house.pdf

Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, Nov. 7

"Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, Nov. 7"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415311914_smedia.pdf

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MUCC to host Media Day: Deer Season 2014 - Monday, Nov. 10

"On November 15, Michigan will once again celebrate one of the nation's greatest outdoors traditions with the start of firearms deer season. More than 700,000 hunters in Michigan are expected to participate in the fall deer hunting seasons, ranking the state well within the Top 3 nationally for licensed deer hunters."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415311881_dnr2.pdf

DNR reminds hunters to apply for Pure Michigan Hunt

"With archery deer season under way and firearm season right around the corner, the Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters, when buying their deer licenses, to take a moment to purchase their Pure Michigan Hunt applications."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415306656_dnr.pdf

Freedom Michigan launches unprecedented lame-duck campaign to end discrimination in Michigan

"The Michigan Competitive Workforce Coalition, formed by business organizations and nonprofit groups to win legislative approval of inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in Michigan's landmark Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, today announced expansion of its efforts with the unveiling of the Freedom Michigan campaign and web site."

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415304644_MARTIN WAYMIRE.pdf

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US-12, Lenawee County The closure today of US-12 between M-50 and M-52 has been extended to approxi

"US-12, Lenawee County The closure today of US-12 between M-50 and M-52 has been extended to approximately 6 p.m."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415304582_US 12.pdf

Hunting Access Program and Mi-HUNT application are invaluable tools for hunters

"As hunters prepare for their upcoming deer-hunting trips, the Department of Natural Resources reminds them to consider two helpful tools for finding hunting land in Michigan – the Hunting Access Program, which provides private-land hunting opportunities in southern Michigan; and the Mi-HUNT Web application, which creates custom maps for Michigan's public hunting lands."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415300246_Hunting Access.pdf

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Ananich Elected Next Leader of Michigan's Senate Democratic Caucus

"LANSING – The Michigan Senate Democratic Caucus this morning elected State Senator Jim Ananich (D-Flint) to serve as their next leader and State Senator Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) to serve as Floor Leader. Their leadership terms will begin when the members elected to office earlier this week are sworn in next January."

Source: *Office of Tom Lenard* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415300166_Annanich.pdf

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I-75, Monroe County

"I-75, Monroe County This weekend, there will be a double lane closure on northbound I-75 between Front Street and Nadeau Road for concrete patching. "

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299961_1-75 Lane Closure.pdf

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Who Won What on Proposals 1 and 2?

"Yesterday, the anti-hunters scored an incredible victory against hunting rights in Michigan and protected harmless wolves from bloodthirsty trophy hunters; at least, that's what they'd have you believe. No, yesterday, the anti-hunters' multi-million dollar ad blitz in southern Michigan's urban centers convinced 55% of Michigan's voters to vote against wolf hunting in a meaningless referendum, because hunters, anglers and conservationists already won this battle in August.

"

Source: *MI United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299878_Conservation Insider.pdf

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DNR arrests Chassell man on charges of commercializing bear parts, operating illegal taxidermy and

"A Chassell man was arrested and arraigned Wednesday in 97th District Court, Houghton County, on a six-count warrant after a lengthy undercover investigation by detectives with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division's Special Investigations Unit."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299791_Chassell Man Arrested.pdf

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Michigan's Statewide LGBTQ PAC Responds to 2014 General Election Results

"LANSING – The Equality Michigan Pride Political Action Committee, Michigan's statewide LGBTQ PAC, congratulates all victors in this year's election, and would like to especially acknowledge and congratulate the 37 candidates for office the committee endorsed who have already been elected or re-elected. Two races remain uncertain. The endorsements for this year's election were selected based on the candidates' commitment to issues important to the LGBTQ communities and their allies."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299700_Equality MI.pdf

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As Election Fervor Dies Down, Lame Duck Session Begins

"MICHIGAN – Today is the first day of Michigan's lame duck session. It is widely assumed that transportation infrastructure funding will be a hot topic of debate this year."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299642_Election Fervor.pdf

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Schuette Announces $747,000 in Restitution for Southeast Michigan Victims of Mortgage Fraud

*"**LANSING, Mich.-** Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced the major distribution of $747,094 from the State's Foreclosure Scam Restitution Fund to compensate 36 southeast Michigan victims of mortgage modification fraud who would otherwise never see a dime of restitution. Victims of the Nationwide Consulting, LLC mortgage modification scam will now be fully compensated for money lost."*

Source: *Office of Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299487_Schutte Announces.pdf

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Michigan United Conservation Clubs to Host Media Day: Deer Season 2014

"

On November 15, Michigan will once again celebrate one of the nation's greatest outdoors traditions when the start of firearms deer season. More than 700,000 hunters in Michigan are expected to participate in the fall deer hunting seasons, ranking the state well within the Top 3 nationally for licensed deer hunters.

"

Source: *MI United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299396_MI Conservation Media Day.pdf

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WMU-COOLEY LAW REVIEW SYMPOSIUM TO FEATURE ATTORNEYS DISCUSSING HOW TO SUCCEED IN TODAY'S ECONOMIC

*"**LANSING, Mich.—Nov. 6, 2014—**WMU-Cooley Law School's Annual Law Review Symposium will focus on how attorneys have been able to capitalize on today's economic and business challenges by changing the thinking and dynamics of how law practices are run. The symposium titled, "The Changing Face of Law: What Innovative Attorneys Are Doing Today to Succeed," will take place at WMU-Cooley's Lansing campus beginning at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13. "*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299330_Current Challenges Facing.pdf

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WMU-COOLEY STUDENTS COLLABORATE WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL SCHUETTE TO CREATE MICHIGAN GUIDE TO MILITARY

"Students from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School recently collaborated with Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette to create the Michigan Guide to Military Family Law, a new resource for Michigan judges and attorneys."

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299254_AG Shuette.pdf

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2014 Award Recipients & 120th Annual Dinner

"

Thursday, November 20, 2014
Reception 6:00 p.m.

Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Program 7:30 p.m.
Crowne Plaza Lansing West
925 South Creyts Road

"

Source: *Ingham County Bar Association* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299196_ICBA Awards.pdf

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WMU-COOLEY INTEGRITY IN OUR COMMUNITIES SPEAKER TALKS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PRO BONO SERVICE

"On Monday, Nov. 3, Susan Kornfield of Bodman PLC was the keynote speaker at WMU-Cooley Law School Lansing campus' Integrity in Our Communities Speaker Series. Kornfield, the recipient of the 2014 State Bar of Michigan John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award, spoke to students, faculty and those in the legal profession regarding the importance for attorneys to be involved in their communities and provide pro bono services to individuals who are less fortunate. "

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299124_WMU.pdf

WEEKEND CONSTRUCTION 11/07-11/10/14:

*"The following weekend construction activities are scheduled, in addition to work already in place. As always, some work **may be postponed due to weather** or other circumstances. For the latest information, please follow on Twitter @ MDOT_MetroDet and always check MDOT's website before traveling, Michigan.gov/drive, where you can search by route, county, and date. *** Please use links to see maps and information at Michigan.gov/drive.*

"

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415299057_Weekend Construction.pdf

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President's Executive Actions on Immigration Should Spur Congressional Action

*"**Washington D.C.** – From the perspective of immigration reformers, Tuesday's election is unlikely to change the gridlock that has stymied immigration reform for more than 15 years. Since at least 1998, there has been bipartisan agreement that our current immigration system is broken and that Congress must act to fix it. Since then, regardless of who has controlled Congress or the White House, the country has been waiting for the political stars to align in such a way as to make immigration reform a reality. "*

Source: *American Immigration Council* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415298291_President Executive Immigration.pdf

Advisory: Detroit Veteran Expo Opening Ceremony Friday, Nov. 7

"What: Detroit Veteran Expo Opening Ceremony Who: Gov. Rick Snyder, Michigan Veterans Affairs Director Jeff Barnes, Senator-elect Gary Peters, VA Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits Danny Pummill"

Source: *MI VETERANS AFFAIRS* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415298113_Detroit EXPO.pdf*

$1 Million Winning Powerball Ticket Sold in Wayne

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 6, 2014 –** There's a new millionaire in Michigan thanks to the Michigan Lottery's Powerball game."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415298026_Million dollar ticket.pdf*

State-owned property in seven counties available at auction now through Dec. 2

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is offering 11 state-owned properties in seven counties for sale by sealed-bid auction at www.michigan.gov/landforsale. The auction runs now through Dec. 2, 2014. This auction includes properties that were listed on the DNR calendar for approval in 2014."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415297954_State owned property.pdf*

Salt prices jump nearly 50 percent as road agencies prepare for winter

*"**Fast Facts: - Road salt prices have risen by more than 46 percent, from an average of $44.99 per ton last winter to $65.81 per ton this winter.**"*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415297881_Salt prices jump.pdf*

Public meeting Nov. 13 on US-31 East Bay Township construction in 2015

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will have an open house to discuss current plans for reconstructing US-31/M-72 between 3 Mile and Holiday roads in East Bay Township, and resurfacing US-31

from Holiday Road to the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme Township."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415295744_US 31.pdf

Massive Lake Huron Wind Development Planned for Key Migratory Bird Corridor

"Washington, DC, November 6, 2014) American Bird Conservancy (ABC) has raised serious concerns about a plan by Heritage Sustainable Energy, DTE Energy, Exelon Corporation, and NextEra Energy to construct additional commercial wind turbines in Huron County, Michigan, which could eventually result in up to 900 turbines in the area. This plan is advancing despite the fact that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) radar studies show vast numbers of birds migrating through or wintering in this area."

Source: *ABCBirds.org* **Date:** *11-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415295045_Massive Lake Huron Wind.pdf

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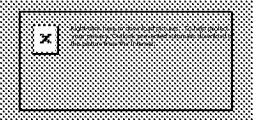
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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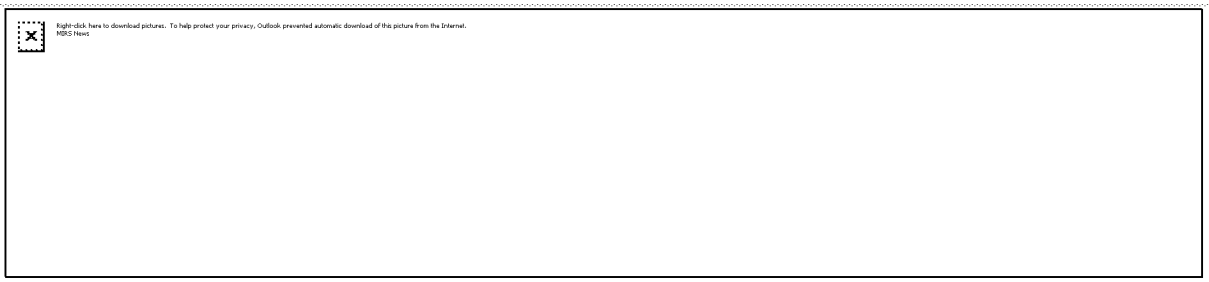

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Michigan Honors: World War II veterans travel from near and far for event at Capitol

"LANSING, MI -- World War II veterans started arriving at the state capitol before 9 a.m. this morning, packing the building's fourth floor with memories from Michigan's members of the greatest generation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/michigan_world_war_ii_veterans.html#incart_river*

How they voted: Fuel tax hike for Michigan road repairs passes state Senate

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved long-discussed legislation that could double fuel taxes to pay for long-term road repairs."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/11/how_they_voted_gas_tax_hike_fo.html#incart_river*

Dr. Ben Carson: 'We're making an attempt to push God out of our nation'

*"**PORTAGE, MI** -- The United States needs to move back to its core values, where people put faith, education and hard work the center of their lives and nobody makes excuses, **famed neurosurgeon and potential presidential candidate** Dr. Ben Carson told a rapt Kalamazoo audience Thursday night."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/11/ben_carson_tells_kalamazoo_aud.html#incart_river*

Dr. Ben Carson has Kalamazoo audience talking about his political future

*"**PORTAGE, MI** -- During an hour-long talk Thursday night in front of more than 1,300 people at Family Valley Church in Portage, Dr. Ben Carson spoke not a word about his political ambitions or a possible run for presidency."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/11/dr_ben_carson_has_kalamazoo_au.html#incart_river

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Flint emergency manager invoking state law to appoint city council replacements

"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Darnell Earley says he will use his power under state law to appoint replacements for two departing City Council members, rather than allowing their colleagues to take on the task."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/11/flint_emergency_manager_says_h_8.html#incart_river

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New bill would split Michigan electoral votes

"Lansing – — A Republican lawmaker Thursday proposed scrapping the way presidential candidates pick up electoral votes Michigan, saying the winner-take-all system should be replaced by one that divides the votes proportionally."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/11/13/bill-split-michigan-electoral-votes/18976467/

Insider: Bentivolio write-in effort drew little support

"Congressman Kerry Bentivolio's write-in candidacy a week ago was a bigger dud than the Michigan Democratic Party's failed effort to get more of its partisans to the polls compared with 2010."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/11/13/political-insider-detroit-news/18952051/

Peters votes for Reid for minority leader

"Washington — Incoming Michigan Sen. Gary Peters said Thursday he voted to keep Sen. Harry Reid as the party's leader in the next Congress."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/11/13/peters-votes-reid-minority-senate-leader/18994013/*

Study: Mich. not best for business, but getting better

"Detroit — When it comes to business development and growth, Michigan is running at the middle of the pack compared to other states. But it's showing signs of improvement, according to a report commissioned by a business advocacy group."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2014/11/13/study-michigan-business-climate-improving/18967741/*

Michigan unveils new standardized test to replace MEAP

"Lansing – — The state Department of Education unveiled an online exam Thursday that will replace the Michigan Educational Assessment Program starting next spring."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/13/michigan-students-new-standardized-test/19001473/*

Michigan Senate approves road tax hike

"Lansing — The state Senate approved a boost of more than $1 billion in state road money Thursday with a change to Michigan's fuel tax that is certain to raise the price at the pump."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/11/13/senate-road-tax-changes-fail/18986819/*

Health plan choices in Michigan double in '15

"Michigan consumers will have more health plan choices as the second open enrollment period for federally required health insurance starts Saturday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/13/health-plan-choices-michigan-double/19003491/*

New state exam requires deeper skills

"Students who hope to pass Michigan's new state exam — which will debut in next spring and exist for just a year — will have to do a much better job showing how well they can think critically and solve problems if they want a passing score."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/13/michigan-exam-smarter-balanced-common-core/18999161/*

Loser wins? Bill would split Michigan electoral votes

"LANSING – A new proposal to allocate Michigan's 16 electoral votes is muddying the waters of this year's lame duck session of the Legislature.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/13/michigan-bill-electoral-votes-president/18970077/*

Michigan Senate OKs sharp gas tax hikes to fix roads

"LANSING – The Michigan Senate voted Thursday to sharply increase gas taxes over the next four years to potentially raise more than $1 billion annually to fix the state's crumbling roads and bridges."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/13/michigan-senate-road-funding-bills-lame-duck-session/18974745/*

Mich. college students' average loan debt up to $29,583

"Todd Janson owes a lot of money — $27,456 to be exact."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/11/14/mich-average-college-loan-debt-rises/19002611/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Give the pink slip to State Board of Ed

"Quick, name the eight members of the State Board of Education."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/14/dennis-lennox-end-state-board/18987965/*

Corrigan: Michigan's foster care system is improving

"I am writing to clarify points in a recent column regarding Michigan's foster care system by Bill Blacquiere of Bethany Christian Services — an important partner to the Michigan Department of Human Services in our efforts to help vulnerable children."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/14/maura-corrigan-michigan-adoptions/18987765/*

Detroit and New York, a tale of two insolvent cities

"The move by General Motors of its Cadillac division from Detroit to New York City is only the latest blow to the Motor City, now concluding a contentious bankruptcy proceeding."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/14/detroit-new-york-study-contrast-bankruptcy/18987911/*

Vernuccio: Bring democracy to Michigan workplaces

"On Nov. 4, Michiganians exercised their right to vote, choosing who will represent them in Lansing and in Washington, D.C."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/11/14/vernuccio-democracy-michigan-workplaces/18987945/*

Business leaders see Michigan's economy gain momentum

"That's the quick takeaway from the third annual Michigan CEO Summit, attended by 400 corporate executives Thursday in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2014/11/14/michigan-economy/19001961/*

How same-sex partners got benefits back in Michigan

"It's still OK for Michigan to reserve marriage for heterosexuals, at least until the U.S. Supreme Court says otherwise."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-*

dickerson/2014/11/14/sex-benefits-michigan-domestic-partner-gay-rights/18993789/

Michigan's bridge to China continues with Snyder's re-election

"Gov. Rick Snyder's re-election will help strengthen the China/Michigan relationship building the "guanxi" necessary to grow jobs and investment in our great state."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2014/11/13/opinion/doc546362a231e38066186781.txt*

Michigan Chamber CEO Blasts Film Subsidies as a 'Boondoggle'

"The House Commerce Committee has approved legislation to extend Michigan's film incentive subsidy program indefinitely. Senate Bill 1103 was advanced Wednesday on a 10-7 vote as four Republican committee members joined six Democrats in support of the measure. The bill now goes to the full House, where a vote is expected soon."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20739*

Modernizing the Open Meetings Act

"The Michigan Law Revision Commission, which evaluates comprehensive changes and updates to state statutes, met Nov. 5 to discuss the need to modernize the state's Open Meetings Act. The OMA requires public bodies (school boards, city councils, etc.) to deliberate, make decisions and take action in a public meeting, with the goal of keeping the public fully informed about the actions of public bodies."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20689*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, Nov. 14

"Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, Nov. 14"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415922279_smedia.pdf*

RSLC's FMP & "Right Women, Right Now" Announce Record Diverse & Women State-Level Representation

*"**(November 13, 2014) Washington, D.C.** – Today Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC) President Matt Walter issued the following statement announcing 2014 successes for the Future Majority Project and "Right Women, Right Now." Read a summary document of the project here."*

Source: *Republican State Leadership Committee* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415922239_fmp.pdf*

MI Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development Honors Its Outstanding Employees For 2014

"LANSING – Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Jamie Clover Adams today honored several department employees for their outstanding commitment to teamwork, leadership, and excellence during its annual employee awards ceremony. Winners were both nominated and selected by their fellow MDARD colleagues."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415922194_deptofag.pdf*

New Capitol Caucus Leadership Announced

*"LANSING — State Representative **Andy Schor** (D-Lansing) and state Senator **Rick Jones** (R-Grand Ledge) today announced that Sen. Jones will lead the bipartisan, bicameral Capitol Caucus beginning in January 2015. Schor has chaired the caucus for the last two years."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415922146_caucus.pdf*

Attorney General Schuette's Statement on Proposed Sentencing Reform Legislation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** - Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today made the following statement on legislation currently pending in the House of Representatives to address sentencing reforms:"*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415922112_ag.pdf*

MICHIGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2015

"LANSING, Mich. – Members of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce have elected new officers to its Executive Committee for 2015. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Michigan Chamber set policy and establish priorities for the statewide business organization on key economic issues that affect job creation and business growth in Michigan. "

Source: *MI Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415913697_CHAMBER ELECTIONS.pdf

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Southfield receives state transportation economic development grant to improve 11 Mile Road

*"**November 13, 2014 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding a state transportation economic development grant that will support 110 new jobs in Oakland County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling $572,253 will leverage $2,000,000 in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 3-to-1."*

Source: *MI Dept of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415908678_Southfield Econ grant.pdf

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Study: Ethanol use in Michigan reduces pollution by reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions

*"EAST LANSING – A new study released today by Michigan State University researchers **Dr. Bruce Dale** and **Dr. Seungdo Kim** shows ethanol use by Michigan drivers and boaters reduces pollution by cutting down on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Use of clean-burning, Michigan-made ethanol has prevented nearly 1.4 Million Metric Tons (MMT) of carbon dioxide (CO2) from entering our atmosphere annually – the equivalent of eliminating emissions from 294,000 cars every year in our state."*

Source: *MI State University* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415908599_Ethanol.pdf

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Shiawassee County receives state transportation economic development grant to improve Wren Road nea

*"**November 13, 2014 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding a state transportation economic development grant that will support 19 new jobs in Shiawassee County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling $177,961 will leverage $1,473,790 in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 8-to-1."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415908525_SHIAWASSEE.pdf

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Economic development grant to support 72 new jobs in Kent County

*"**November 13, 2014 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding a state transportation economic development grant that will support 72 new jobs in Kent County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling $1,211,799 will leverage $40,000,000 in private*

investment, at a private/public investment ratio of 33-to-1."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415907322_Kent County econ grant.pdf

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City of Menominee, Menominee County receive state transportation economic development grants

*"**November 13, 2014**– The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants that will support the creation and retention of 33 jobs in Menominee County. Two Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants totaling $307,738 will leverage $12,750,000 in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of 41-to-1."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415907240_Transpo Econ grants.pdf

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As long harvest season continues, logistics, energy and grain quality key issues for agriculture

*"LANSING – The fall harvest in Michigan this year has turned into a marathon, rather than the usual sprint to the finish, and a late season update from the **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** highlighted several concerns for Michigan agriculture. "*

Source: *Michigan Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415907109_Harvest Season.pdf

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McIntyre elected to chair International Bridge board for 2015

*"**- Veteran Canadian board member James McIntyre was elected as the 2015 chair of the Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority (SSMBA) board of directors.***

"
Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415906995_International Bridge.pdf

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Make your voice heard! Tell the Michigan DNR to say NO to more sulfide mining

*"Alarming news from Michigan's Upper Peninsula! This is Mindy from the **Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve** and Kathleen from **Save the Wild U.P.** and we need the support of Michigan LCV members like you right now!"*

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415906947_Eagle Mine.pdf

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Michigan Election Coalition's Statement on Bill to Rig the Electoral College

"LANSING – The Michigan Election Coalition released the following statement on the news that a bill was introduced that would effectively rig Michigan's Electoral College. "

Source: *MI Election Coalition* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415904897_Big Rig of Electoral College.pdf

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Christian Coalition of Michigan lauds GOP Legislators for introducing clean energy bills

"Moving to Michigan-made energy provides significant benefits to our local communities, state and nation. Clean energy policy like this will help create jobs and improve our economy while strengthening our national security and energy independence," said ***Keith den Hollander****, chairman of the* ***Christian Coalition of Michigan****."*

Source: *Christian Coalition* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415904789_Christian Coalition.pdf

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Michigan Conservative Energy Forum Praises Republican Legislators for Leadership on Clean Energy Bil

"LANSING, MI – The ***Michigan Conservative Energy Forum*** *(MCEF) today praised House Republicans for leading the state closer to adopting an "All of the Above" energy policy by introducing legislation that would provide clean energy solutions, including an increase in Michigan's commitment to renewable energy and energy efficiency."*

Source: *Michigan Conservative Energy Forum* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415904703_MCEF.pdf

Schuette Fights Excessive Electric Rates for Upper Peninsula Residents

*"****LANSING, Mich.*** *- Attorney General Bill Schuette announced today that he has intervened in two cases before the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) in order to challenge requests for electric rate increases by two utility companies serving the Upper Peninsula; Northern States Power Company and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation."*

Source: *Office of Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415903688_AG.pdf

Cabela's® Grandville partnering with DNR to host opening-day deer check station, gift card giveaway

"Customers who bring their deer to be checked by the DNR will receive a free Cabela's cap and be entered to win a $100 Cabela's gift card"

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415899988_Cabela's:DNR Deer Check.pdf*

Dearborn Heights Lottery Club Wins $1 Million Playing $50,000,000 Celebration Instant Game

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 13, 2014 –** The celebration has started for the members of a Dearborn Heights lottery club that won $1 million playing the $50,000,000 Celebration from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415899891_Dearborn Heights Lottery.pdf*

Which Companies' Stocks Are Most Commonly Held By Members Of Congress?

*"**November 13, 2014 --** MapLight is pleased to announce the launch of its Personal Financial Disclosures Database, a new tool that brings to light the fiscal relationships shared between legislators and private companies."*

Source: *Maplight.org* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415899813_Top Company.pdf*

Local Term Limits Win Big with Voters in 2014

"Palm Beach, FL – Voters expressed support for competitive elections and honest government by voting for term limits in (91%) 20 out of 22 municipal referenda across America. The average vote share for enacting new term limits or defending existing ones was 70 percent, indicating strong majority support."

Source: *Term Limits.org* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415899744_LOCAL Term Limits.pdf*

Advocacy Groups Push for Paid Sick Day Legislation in Michigan

"LANSING — Today, a number of advocacy organizations held a press conference at the state Capitol to highlight the positive impacts that paid sick day legislation would have for Michigan's workers, businesses, and the economy. "

Source: Date: *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415897958_Paid Sick Leave.pdf*

WMU-COOLEY LAW REVIEW SYMPOSIUM TO FEATURE ATTORNEYS DISCUSSING HOW TO SUCCEED IN TODAY'S ECONOMIC

*"**LANSING, Mich.—Nov. 6, 2014—**WMU-Cooley Law School's Annual Law Review Symposium will focus on how attorneys have been able to capitalize on today's economic and business challenges by changing the thinking and dynamics of how law practices are run. The symposium titled, "The Changing Face of Law: What Innovative Attorneys Are Doing Today to Succeed," will take place at WMU-Cooley's Lansing campus beginning at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13. "*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415893188_Western MI .pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the MLive "Michigan Honors: Celebrating Living WWII Veterans"

*"**Thursday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m.***
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the MLive "Michigan Honors: Celebrating Living WWII Veterans" recognition ceremony. He will be joined by Jeff Barnes, director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.
Location:
Michigan State Capitol -- Rotunda
101 N. Capitol Ave.
Lansing, MI

"

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892959_Snyder Media Advisory.pdf

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Sparrow achieves elite national recognition for its Electronic Medical Record adoption

"LANSING, Mich. – Sparrow has achieved national recognition that places us among the top 3.4 percent of U.S. hospitals and 4.3 percent of all ambulatory practices in the U.S."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892650_11.13.14 HIMSS Stage 7 release.pdf

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Sen. Jones urges Congress to stop closure of Lansing mail processing center

*"**LANSING—**A resolution sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones formally requests Congress to prohibit the U.S. Postal Service from closing or consolidating the mail processing and distribution center on Collins Road in Lansing."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892785_Jones Senate Resolution.pdf

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The North American International Cyber Summit 2014

"The North American International Cyber Summit 2014 hosted by Gov. Rick Snyder and featuring Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) Director and state CIO David Behen, and other dignitaries and nationally-recognized industry experts. More information, including a full agenda of speakers, is available atwww.michigan.gov/cybersummit."

Source: *DTMB* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892723_DTMB Cyber Summit.pdf*

Michigan EIBC Honors Advanced Energy Companies at Annual Gala

"LANSING –The Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (Michigan EIBC), an advanced energy business association, last night honored Michigan advanced energy companies at the second annual Michigan Energy Innovators Gala."

Source: *MI Energy Innovation Business Council* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892642_MI EIBC.pdf

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WEEKEND CONSTRUCTION 11/14-11/17/14:

"Currently, there is no new construction planned for the weekend on MDOT routes; those beginning with I, M, or US. Please follow MDOT on Twitter @ MDOT_MetroDet and always check MDOT's website before traveling, Michigan.gov/drive, search by route, county, and date."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892567_weekend construction.pdf

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Michigan Veterans Homes to hold Board of Managers meeting in Plymouth

"What: The State of Michigan, through the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA), operates two homes for veterans: the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette."

Source: *MI VETERANS AFFAIRS Agency* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892476_MI Veterans.pdf*

Michigan local governments largely satisfied with privatized services

"ANN ARBOR—Despite some concerns about a lack of cost savings and negative experiences with privatized services, nearly three out of four local officials in Michigan are satisfied with the outcomes, according to a poll by the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy."

Source: *U of M* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415892382_U of M Local Government.pdf*

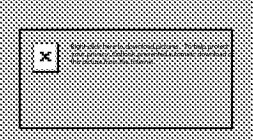
TOMORROW: Agriculture Chairwoman Stabenow to Attend U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Event at MSU

*"**East Lansing** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, will attend MSU's U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree event on **FRIDAY, November 14.** The event, which will be hosted by the MSU Department of Forestry and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, marks one of the tree's stops on its way from The Chippewa National Forest in Minnesota to theU.S. Capitol in Washington, DC."*

Source: *Senator Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *11-14-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1415891975_STABENOW christmas tree.pdf*

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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http://mirsnews.com. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to info@mirsnews.com

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:55 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Research in Michigan: Poisonous mushrooms may save you; infant mortality rises if mother is obese

"LANSING — Welcome to this week's edition of Research in Michigan, the weekly look at what experts at Michigan's public universities are coming up with in the laboratory and the field."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/research_in_michigan_poisonous.html#incart_river*

Michigan House approves Religious Freedom Restoration Act in party-line vote

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's Republican-led House on Thursday approved a proposed "Religious Freedom Restoration Act," which supporters say is intended to limit government laws that may burden an individual's free exercise of religion."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/michigan_house_approves_religi.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Burning tires? House passes bill that would redefine renewable energy

"LANSING, MI – The Michigan House of Representatives on Thursday passed 63-46 legislation that would count fuel from burning solid waste as a renewable energy source, something environmentalists say is "irresponsible.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/burning_tires_house_passes_bil.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Michigan road funding: House votes for Bolger plan to remove sales tax, replace with fuel tax

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's Republican-led House on Thursday narrowly approved a plan that could eventually generate $1.2 billion a year in new road funding without a significant tax hike for motorists."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/michigan_road_funding_house_vo.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Lansing-area legislative contests cost $2M

"LANSING – State Sen. Rick Jones' campaign received a pre-Thanksgiving gift of $20,000 from the Michigan Senate Republican Campaign Committee, which helped him cover a $19,962 bill for a radio ad developed for his successful reelection campaign this fall."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/capitol/2014/12/04/lansing-area-legislative-contests-cost/19914441/*

Free college: Kalamazoo County students can graduate high school with associate's degree in new 5-year program

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** -- Kalamazoo County's nine school districts are launching a new program in which students can earn a degree or certificate from Kalamazoo Valley Community College during a "13th grade" in high school."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/12/free_college_kalamazoo_count_s.html#incart_river*

State lawmaker says sentencing reforms 'gutted' and 'watered down' to pass House, admonishes Bill Schuette

"LANSING — Calling his bills "gutted," the Michigan lawmaker who proposed a package of criminal sentencing reforms expressed disappointment with how the bills passed the Michigan House of Representatives Thursday.

"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/state_lawmaker_says_sentencing.html#incart_river*

Calls for cop bodycams fuel sales, exposure for Michigan-based Pro-Vision Video Systems

"BYRON CENTER, MI – Police departments were sold on the need for body cameras long before the unrest in Ferguson, Mo., and President Barack Obama's call for federal funding of them earlier this week, says Steve Wagasky, sales manager for Pro-Vision Video Systems."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2014/12/bodycams_for_cops_are_fueling.html#incart_river*

Earley tells UM-Flint crowd: Flint is better off because of Michigan emergency manager law

"FLINT, MI – Flint's emergency manager says the city is better off today because of the state law that allows him and others to run financially troubled cities."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/12/post_396.html#incart_river*

Bill in Michigan House targets property speculators

"Lansing — Lawmakers are working on new legislation to crack down on speculators who use tax auctions to amass vacant and blighted land holdings in Detroit while ducking overdue property taxes and fines."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/12/04/michigan-house-bill-targets-property-speculators/19895089/*

McLaren denied again to build Clarkston hospital

"Lansing – — McLaren Health Care Corp. lost another round in its bid to build a hospital in the Clarkston area when the Senate on Thursday rejected a bill that would have changed state rules governing the construction of health care facilities."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/12/04/mclaren-denied-bid-build-clarkston-hospital/19909295/*

Religious protections bill passes Michigan House

"Lansing — Michiganians with deeply held religious beliefs could assert them as a legal defense against government action under legislation that cleared the state House Thursday evening."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2014/12/04/religious-protections-pass-michigan-house-committee/19888669/*

House passes watered-down sentencing bills

"Lansing — The House passed a package of bills Thursday originally designed to reduce the number of people housed in Michigan prisons and supervised on parole and probation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/12/05/michigan-house-prison-sentencing/19935043/*

Departing Rep. Mike Rogers: 'Heck of a good ride'

"Washington — U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers called his 14 years in Congress "a heck of a good ride" and urged Americans to stay engaged in world affairs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/12/04/mike-rogers-departing-congress/19919109/*

Federal centers for flood victim loans closing

"Warren – — The devastating flood in August wiped out the Szymanskis' basement, leaving behind thousands of dollars in damage. And a $2,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency wasn't enough to assist in the clean-up effort."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/macomb-county/2014/12/04/flood-loans-victims/19926013/*

Film incentive extension passes; bill returns to Senate

"Lansing – — Michigan is on the verge of offering tax breaks to lure movie makers and TV productions to Michigan through September 2021 after the House passed a bill that sailed through the Senate in October."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/12/04/michigan-film-credits/19932425/*

Michigan House passes Bolger alternate road plan

"Lansing — The Michigan House voted Thursday to divert $1.2 billion in sales tax revenue generated from fuel sales for schools and cities and dedicate it to road repairs — injecting a new proposal into the Legislature's years-long debate on transportation funding."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/12/04/gas-sales-tax/19928573/*

Detroit pollution case leads to rare arrest of manager

"Detroit – — You don't see mugshots like Henry Kijanka's too often — not that there's anything special about the picture itself."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2014/12/05/plant-official-arrested-air-pollution-dispute/19931301/*

Homeowners, oil industry at odds over drilling

"LANSING – State lawmakers took on the contentious issue of oil and gas drilling in residential neighborhoods Thursday, with industry leaders warning that proposed zoning legislation goes too far, while residents' groups insisted it doesn't go far enough."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/oil-gas-drilling-residential-neighborhoods/19887859/*

Religious freedom bill passes out of Michigan House

"LANSING — A bill providing protections for people with sincerely held religious beliefs was put on a fast track Thursday, passing out of the House Judiciary committee and the full House of Representatives on straight party line votes Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/michigan-religious-freedom-bill-moves-house/19889979/*

Governor's race was second most costly in state history

"LANSING — Republican Gov. Rick Snyder and Democratic challenger Mark Schauer spent a combined total of about $22 million on their campaigns for governor, according to records filed Thursday with the Secretary of State."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/snyder-schauer-governors-campaign-spending/19912859/*

Michigan House OKs film incentives with 7-year sunset

"LANSING – Incentives for the film industry would extend beyond a 2017 expiration date, but only until the end of 2021, according to a bill passed by the state House of Representatives Thursday with bipartisan support.. 73-37"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/michigan-film-incentives-bill-passes-house/19927519/*

'Gutted' sentencing reform bills pass full Michigan House

"LANSING – Wide bipartisan majorities passed a package of bills Thursday night that will create a commission to review sentencing guidelines in the state and tinker with the way parole and probation is handled."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/michigan-sentencing-guidelines-bills/19926175/*

SiriusXM to refund $3.8M in Michigan, 43 other states

"SiriusXM has reached a $3.8-million settlement with Michigan and 43 other states over allegations that the satellite radio company made it hard for customers to cancel their contracts."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2014/12/04/sirius-xm-radio-settlement/19917483/*

Michigan gets $2.8M to help prevent job layoffs

"Michigan is getting more than $2.8 million in federal funding to support implementation and promotion of a program to offer an alternative to layoffs."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/05/michigan-layoff-prevention-funds/19937727/*

Senate approves 4 a.m. closing time for downtown bars

"LANSING — Michigan municipalities would have the option of allowing downtown bars to stay open until 4 a.m. on weekend nights under a bill that passed the Senate Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *Senate approves 4 a.m. closing time for downtown bars*

Michigan House passes Bolger plan to fix roads

"LANSING — The state House late Thursday narrowly approved House Speaker Jase Bolger's plan to remove the sales tax on fuel while hiking the gasoline tax, a move Bolger says will raise an extra $1.2 billion a year for roads without increasing taxes.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/04/bolger-road-funding-plan-schools-cities/19901569/*

State Rep. Charles Brunner wins Excellence in Education Award

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — State Rep. Charles Brunner has been recognized for his legislative work in education by three organizations invested in bringing technology to the classroom."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/12/state_rep_charles_brunner_wins_1.html#incart_river*

State court suspends Washtenaw County Judge Kirk Tabbey for 90 days

"The Michigan Supreme Court last week agreed to a 90-day suspension for 14A-1 District Court Judge Kirk Tabbey, according to the Associated Press."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/12/state_court_suspends_washtenaw.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan says 'take my name off the list' for governor

"With apologies to those are still recovering from the last election, but the speculation machine is in full gear on the next race for governor that is four long years down the road."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/tim_skubick_detroit_mayor_mike.html#incart_river*

How to understand Michigan's 2015 health care premiums

"Michiganians are now knee deep in the Affordable Care Act's second open enrollment period, which began on Nov. 15 and closes on Dec. 15. Many are finding what appears to be a pleasant surprise: Average premiums for the cheap "bronze" plans have increased by 3.9 percent, while premiums for the middle-of-the-road "silver" plans are rising by 4.1 percent. The Affordable Care Act's naysayers predicted "double digit" spikes, or worse."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/12/05/parente-michigan-obamacare/19913061/*

George: Michigan, let nurse practitioners practice

"The time has come to insist that our state representatives truly represent us."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/12/05/pass-michigan-senate-bill-nursing/19913183/*

Calabrese: The less 'power' Detroit holds, the better

"A massive systemwide failure that trapped people in elevators and left hospital rooms dark was probably a good indication that Detroit's electrical power system could use some new capacity, as well as some new management. Neither will be easy to achieve, but the former is essential and the latter is a no-brainer."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/12/05/calabrese-detroit-needs-less-power/19913317/*

Free Uber

"Uber, the hip new ride sharing service, is upending the old way of getting from place to place. Tradition dies hard, so it's no surprise the old school limousine industry wants to squash this innovation like a bug."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/12/04/michigan-must-free-uber/19913381/*

EMU board could cut ties to Michigan's EAA

"Three years after Gov. Rick Snyder invited Eastern Michigan University to be a partner in a statewide school district to to turn around low-performing schools in Michigan, turmoil surrounding the Education Achievement Authority could come to a head Friday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2014/12/04/eastern-michigan-university-education-achievement-authority/19926529/*

Jacques: Gay rights outcome irks business backers

"This time, you can't blame Republicans.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2014/12/04/jacques-gay-rights-outcome-irks-business-backers/19931533/*

Lame duck? More like lame lawmakers

"Michigan, in theory, has a representative government.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/12/04/lame-duck-roads-lgbt/19916707/*

'Uncompromised' Liberal Group Takes Big Money From Teachers Union

"The liberal advocacy group Progress Michigan boasts on its website that it doesn't take corporate money:"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20786*

Press Releases

Attorney General Schuette's Statement on House Passage of Prison Reform Legislation

*"**LANSING, Mich. -** Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today made the following statement about legislation approved by the House of Representatives to address prison sentencing reforms:"*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417740798_AG.pdf*

Historic Day for Religious Liberty in Michigan House of Representatives

*"**(Lansing, Mich.) –** Michigan Catholic Conference (MCC) today is applauding the Michigan House of Representatives for passing several bills that protect religious liberty rights for citizens and faith-based entities across the state. Creation of a Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act, conscience protections for faith-based child placement agencies, and school attendance records that respect religious holidays all passed the House this afternoon and now await consideration from the State Senate."*

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417737707_reps.pdf*

Rep. Tlaib Says Banning Community Benefits Agreements Will Hurt Residents, Workers

*"DETROIT – State Representative **Rashida Tlaib** (D-Detroit) said today that preventing local units of government from negotiating and passing community benefit agreements usurps local power and goes against the concept of democracy."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417737665_tlaib.pdf*

House Dems Slam Bill Giving License to Discriminate

"LANSING – House Democrats are criticizing a bill that would allow individuals to discriminate under the guise of religious beliefs. House Bill 5958, introduced by House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall), would create the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. It passed the House by a vote of 59-50 along party lines."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417737631_dems.pdf*

State Transportation Commission urges legislators to address projected state transportation funding

*"**December 4, 2014** -- The State Transportation Commission (STC) today adopted a resolution encouraging the State Legislature to "immediately take action" to increase state transportation revenue. The resolution was written following the STC meeting in Lansing today where State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle outlined the department's draft 2015-2019 Five-Year Transportation Program and funding challenges. A copy of the resolution is on the MDOT website at: http://1.usa.gov/121DaNE. "*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417737591_mdot.pdf*

House Passage of RFRA All About Politics, Not Good Policy

"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the Michigan House passing the Religious Freedom Restoration Act:"

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417737559_HOUSE.pdf

Schor Bill to Ensure Mobile Home Public Safety Moves to Senate Floor

*"LANSING – A bill introduced by state Representative **Andy Schor** (D-Lansing) was voted unanimously out of the Senate Regulatory Reform Committee and will now head to the full Senate for consideration. House Bill 5513 would address issues that came up earlier this year during a terrible situation at the Life O'Riley Mobile Home Park in Lansing, which was condemned for sanitation and public health issues."*

Source: *Representative Andy Schor* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417729332_Rep Schor.pdf

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Rep. Singh Holds Art Competition for Area High School Students

*"LANSING – State Representative **Sam Singh** (D-East Lansing) held the second annual art competition for students attending high schools in the 69th District. The official winners from the participating high schools are: junior Elena Carter and senior Alex Wheaton from Haslett High School; and junior Erin Wakeland and sophomore Kendra Peffers from Okemos High School. "*

Source: Date: *12-05-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417729256_Rep Singh.pdf*

MDARD Director Jamie Clover Adams' Statement on the Election of the New MI Farm Bureau President

""I want to congratulate Carl Bednarski as the new president of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Carl's passion, enthusiasm and dedication will help keep Farm Bureau on the successful path laid by outgoing president Wayne Wood. "

Source: *MI Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417728305_MI DEPT OF AGRICULTURE.pdf

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Michigan Senate votes against new hospital in Clarkston

"Lansing, Michigan: Today the Michigan Senate voted against Senate bill 1073 (11-26), a bill allowing McLaren"

Source: *Economic Alliance* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417728237_Mich Senate votes against new hospital 12 2014.pdf

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New dates for Michigan's muzzleloader deer season

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the 2014 muzzleloader deer season opens across the state Friday, Dec. 5."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417728141_NEW DATES FOR DEER.pdf

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Governor Media Advisory

*"**Friday, Dec. 5 at 9:45 a.m.***
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and participate in a Q&A session with Grand Valley State University Kirkhof College of Nursing students, faculty and community partners."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417725418_Snyder Friday.pdf

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First phase of renovations begin for Mary Free Bed at Sparrow rehabilitation unit

"Lansing, Mich. – Construction crews have started working on the first phase of renovations for the $7-million Mary Free Bed at Sparrow rehabilitation unit, a joint venture between Sparrow Hospital and Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417725330_Mary Free Bed at Sparrow press release.pdf

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OCDP Officers Election!

"At our next meeting, December 9th we will be holding our officers election. The meeting will be held at the Troy Community Center located at 3179 Livernois. The meeting will start at 7pm. As a reminder, those elected to serve on the Executive Committee will have voting rights but the meeting is open to anyone that would like to attend. We ask that you arrive around 6:30 for the credentialing process."

Source: *Oakland County Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417723378_OCDP_.pdf

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"At our next meeting, December 9th we will be holding our officers election. The meeting will be held at the Troy Community Center located at 3179 Livernois. The meeting will start at 7pm. As a reminder, those elected to serve on the Executive Committee will have voting rights but the meeting is open to anyone that would like to attend. We ask that you arrive around 6:30 for the credentialing process."

Source: *Oakland County Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417723376_OCDP .pdf

New Report: Climate Change Has Extreme Rain Storms in Michigan Trending Way Up

"CHICAGO (December 4, 2014) – The kind of deluges that flooded Detroit this year and Grand Rapids last year are part of a 50-year trend of increasingly frequent extreme storms in Michigan, according to a new study released today by the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization (RMCO) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). Big storms, leading to big floods, are occurring with increasing frequency in the Great Lakes State, with incidences of the most severe downpours nearly doubling over the last half century statewide—and becoming even more acute in southern Michigan, home to most of the state's population, the report finds."

Source: *Rocky Mountain Climate Organization* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417722565_Extreme Storms.pdf

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Schuette Announces $3.8 Million Consumer Protection Settlement with Sirius XM

"

LANSING, Mich.– *Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that his Consumer Protection Division has reached a settlement with Sirius XM Radio Inc. that includes a $3.8 million payment to 44 states and restitution to eligible consumers who file complaints, resolving allegations that Sirius XM engaged in misleading business practices, making it difficult for consumers to cancel contracts. The State of Michigan received $109,454 into the General Fund for its participation in the settlement."*

Source: *Office of Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417722371_SCHUETTE.pdf

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Dianda Proposes More Road Funding for Counties, Cities

"LANSING – Today in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Rep. ***Scott Dianda*** *(D - Calumet) offered an amendment that would dramatically change how road funding is distributed in Michigan, successfully altering Senate Bill 281 to increase the amount of Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) revenues that local governments receive from the state. The amendment was adopted in committee on an 8 to 4 vote."*

Source: *Rep. Scott Dianda* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417720846_Dianda.pdf

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Three trends that signal hard times for renters in 2015

"More than half of households formed in the next six years will be renters, not homeowners. Will there be enough adequate, affordable rental housing to meet the growing demand?"

Source: *URBAN INSTITUTE* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417720757_Urban Institute.pdf

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DNR seeks tips in two wolf poaching cases in Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties; reward offered

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are seeking information on two separate wolf poaching cases that recently occurred in in Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties in the Upper Peninsula. "

Source: *Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417720673_DNR Wolf Tips.pdf

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Martin Waymire Kicks Off 2014 Holiday Gives Project!

"

'Tis the season to be jolly! The Martin Waymire annual Gives Project is back, and this year we're excited to introduce the theme of "new beginnings."
"

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417718362_Martin Waymire Kicks.pdf

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Martin Waymire's 2014 Holiday "Gives Project" Benefits Five Michigan Charities

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Martin Waymire annual Gives Project is back, and this year the Lansing strategic public policy communications firm introduced the theme of "new beginnings." Five charities that help empower women, LGBT youth, families of veterans, animals and the hungry in Mid-Michigan and statewide will benefit from Martin Waymire's 2014 "Gives Project," an annual holiday season fundraiser kicking off today at Gives.MartinWaymire.com."*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417718185_Martin Waymire 2014.pdf

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SBM Launches 2015 Law Day Contest: More Than $3,000 in Prizes Available

"The State Bar of Michigan's fourth annual Law Day creative contest is now open for entries."

Source: *State Bar of MI* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417718120_State Bar of Michigan.pdf

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CONYERS LAUDS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR GRANT TO IMPLEMENT NEW WORK-SHARING PROGRAM IN MICHIGAN

*"**DETROIT-** The U.S. Department of Labor has granted the state of Michigan $2,840,535 in federal funding to support implementation and promotion of the new short-time compensation (STC) program."*

Source: *Congressman Conyers* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417717955_conyers.pdf

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Equality Michigan Responds to Religious Freedom Restoration Act's Passage Out of House Committee

"LANSING – Earlier today, the Michigan House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee voted to send House Speaker Bolger's Religious Freedom Restoration Act for a vote before the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417717697_Equality MI response.pdf

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School Leaders Call on Legislature to OK Roads Funding Plan Proposed by Snyder, Passed in Senate

*"LANSING – Leaders from schools across Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties today called on the Michigan Legislature to approve the transportation plan passed by the Senate in November and supported by **Governor Rick Snyder**."*

Source: *BYRUM FISK* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417716389_school leaders.pdf

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Warm up with a winter workout at Michigan state parks

"It's easy to fall into the habit of staying inside when the weather gets cold, but recreation officials at the Department of Natural Resources know that winter is really a great time to get active in MI Big Green Gym and enjoy the outdoors in a whole new way. Michigan's 102 state parks have plenty of trails, open space and natural obstacles, making them the perfect playground to explore, get some fresh air and enjoy a little exercise. "

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417716340_winter warmup MI state parks.pdf

Michigan businesses, health, faith and environmental groups to Snyder, EPA: We support the Clean Pow

*"LANSING—A wide array of business owners and health, faith and environmental groups this week voiced their support for the Clean Power Plan in letters to **Governor Rick Snyder** and official comments to the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA). The deadline for official public comments was Dec. 1."*

Source: *BYRUM FISK* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417716260_EPA.pdf

Religious Freedom Restoration Act Would Allow Some to Use Religious Beliefs to Harm Others

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — A bill that would put a person's religious beliefs ahead of the common good by excusing any person from abiding by state or local laws they say "burden" their exercise of religion would endanger the rights of others, the legislative director of the ACLU of Michigan said today."*

Source: *American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417716195_Response to religious freedom.pdf

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Senate approves Jones' foster children bills

*"**LANSING—**Legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to help ensure the best care and placement for foster children was approved on Thursday by the Michigan Senate."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-05-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417711686_jones.pdf

<a href='http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1417711379_Josh Linkner to Speak at SWCRC.pdf' style='text-decoration:no

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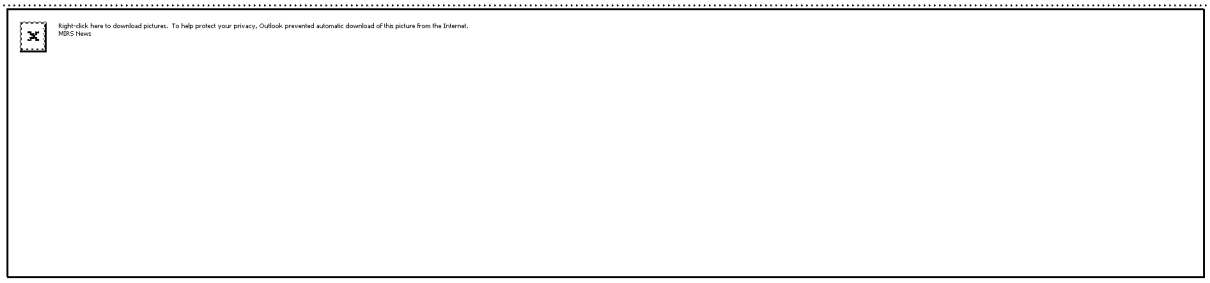

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Former Michigan Congressman Donald Albosta was 'a tenacious public servant'

*"**ST. CHARLES, MI** — Friends of former U.S. Rep. Donald Albosta say he lived to serve his state and the community surrounding him."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/12/former_us_congressman_was_a_fo.html#incart_river*

Number of school districts with deficits grew in 2013-14, state report shows

"LANSING — There are now 55 deficit school districts in Michigan, up from 48, according to the Michigan Department of Education's quarterly report.

"
Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/state_report_shows_number_of_s.html#incart_river*

Governor signs bills on lottery winnings, entrepreneurs-in-residence for Michigan Strategic Fund

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder today took his pen to several bills today, including one that establishes an "Entrepreneur-in-residence" program at the Michigan Strategic Fund, currently under the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/governor_signs_bills_on_lotter.html#incart_river*

Dispute over 'organic' label pits Michigan's largest egg producer against family farm advocates

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Do the "porches" on the giant egg production facilities at Herbruck's Poultry Ranch near Saranac give it the right to claim the "organic" label?"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2014/12/dispute_over_organic_label_pit.html#incart_river*

Michigan road funding fight: Grand Rapids group raising money to oppose sales tax increase

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Within hours of Michigan lawmakers voting to put a sales tax increase on the statewide ballot in May, an opposition movement had formalized in Grand Rapids."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/12/michigan_road_funding_fight_gr.html#incart_river*

'Snaketivity' group says it wants to promote dialogue

"Lansing – — The secularist group that's putting up a "snaketivity" scene each day on the Capitol lawn says it's trying to promote dialogue about beliefs and equality, not ruin Christmas."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2014/12/22/satanist-nativity-display-michigan-capitol/20774451/*

Howes: Best in Mich. powered by can-do vibe, leadership

"And, lo, in the closing days of a year marked by the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history, the call went out to all those not yet gone and making merry:

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2014/12/22/michigan-bankruptcy-leadership/20791867/*

Judge: Michigan can keep $1B in business tax refunds

"A judge has shot down an effort to force Michigan to refund more than $1 billion in taxes to out-of-state companies doing business here."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2014/12/22/judge-legislature-ok-correct-tax-code-mistake/20792129/

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57 Michigan school districts in deficit, state says

"Lansing — The number of school districts and charter schools operating at a deficit increased during the past fiscal year and included Michigan's state-run district for failing schools, according to a report from Michigan education officials."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/22/school-district-deficit-report-michigan/20787361/

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57 Michigan school districts had deficits for year

"LANSING – Michigan education officials say 57 school districts and charter schools had budget deficits at the end of the latest fiscal year, up from 52 at the same time a year earlier."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/22/michigan-schools-budget-deficits/20769807/

State suspends abortion clinic's license

"The site of a Detroit abortion clinic closed by the state because of - among other things, failing to maintain a "sterile facility" - will be the site Tuesday for a news conference by abortion opponents to call for a permanent end to operations there."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/22/abortion-clinic-license-suspended/20776627/

State-appointed emergency boss names Flint manager

"FLINT – Flint's state-appointed emergency manager says he will introduce the new city manager at a ceremony Tuesday."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/22/flint-emergency-manager-michigan/20786269/

Experts say Great Lakes wolves aren't endangered

"MINNEAPOLIS – A group of wolf experts disputed Monday that gray wolves in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan are endangered or that a judge's ruling will help the region's population spread to other states."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/12/22/great-lakes-wolves-hunt/20791007/*

Michigan doesn't gamble on slot machine standards

"Chris Adams and his colleagues don't have a typical state of Michigan office job."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2014/12/23/gaming-lab/20788373/*

Michigan update: See how Ann Arbor-area deficit school districts are doing

"While one Washtenaw County school district came out of deficit and one Livingston County district is making progress on its finances this year, two other districts are sinking further into deficit."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/12/see_how_washtenaw_livingston_c.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Who should front the campaign to sell a sales tax boost to the public?

"Look for this want ad to run soon: Wanted: A credible person to sell the sales tax proposal for the roads. Please apply at executive office, Lansing, Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/12/tim_skubick_who_should_front_t.html#incart_river*

Profs should moderate, not preach

"I remember during one of the presidential campaigns a student asked if I was a Democrat or a Republican."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/12/23/michigan-professor-free-speech/20783811/

Editor's Note: Don't blame 1st Amendment

"When Arizona Congresswoman Gabby Giffords was shot outside a Tucson supermarket, the left was swift in attaching blame to inflammatory conservative rhetoric from the likes of Sarah Palin and Rush Limbaugh."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2014/12/23/editor-note-first-amendment/20783653/

For automakers, 2014 was the year of the recall

"Fiat Chrysler Automobiles U.S. late last week expanded its recall of vehicles with defective and potentially deadly Takata manufactured airbags, which can explode and shoot metal shrapnel at drivers and passengers, to include the entire United States — a much broader geographic area than its original recall directed.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/12/22/edit-year-recall/20783835/

JACK SPENCER: Lawmakers slip coal in Michigan residents' stockings

"

Part of the deal Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leaders put together last week in their effort to increase revenues for road funding includes passage of the Internet sales tax. Wouldn't it be ironic if this overreach played a role in ultimately sinking the entire plan?"

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2014/12/22/jack-spencer-lawmakers-slip-coal-michigan-residents-stockings/

CON We live in the Ground Zero of dark money. Does that bother anyone?

"It was almost five years ago when Justice Anthony Kennedy declared a path to progress, writing in the Citizens United decision that the First Amendment assured corporate citizens' right to apply unlimited money to politics, but transparency would allow voters to understand their messages "in a proper way.""

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** http://bridgemi.com/2014/12/con-we-live-in-the-ground-zero-of-dark-money-does-that-bother-anyone/

PRO 'Dark money' is a euphemism for free speech, like it or not

"In the class I taught at Michigan State University on "issue management," I stressed the need to control the narrative by using the right words, particularly the shorthand term the media uses to label the issue."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/12/pro-dark-money-is-a-euphemism-for-free-speech-like-it-or-not/*

Press Releases

Michigan Supreme Court Opinion Release - Speicher v Columbia Twp. Board of Trustees

"

Michigan Supreme Court Opinion - Kenneth J. Speicher v Columbia Township Board of Trustees - Van Buren Circuit Court
"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419280855_court.pdf

Taylor Physical Therapist Summarily Suspended

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a physical therapist of John Thomas, P.T., based on his conviction in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan."*

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419280294_taylor.pdf

A Pure Michigan last-minute gift idea

"LANSING, Mich. – For those looking for a creative and uniquely Michigan gift this holiday season that the recipient can enjoy year-round, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson suggests buying one of the state's many university or special cause license plates – or a personalized plate with their own configuration."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419280054_sos.pdf

Schuette Statement on Passing of Former Congressman Donald Albosta

*"**MIDLAND, Mich.** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette made the following statement upon learning of the passing of former U.S. Representative Donald Albosta. "*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419279974_ag.pdf

Environmental Protection Agency Releases First-Ever Federal Coal Ash Rule

"MICHIGAN – On Friday, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized the first-ever federal coal ash rule. The rule is a small step forward in protecting public health and Michigan's Great Lakes, rivers, and streams from pollution. However, it does not classify coal ash as hazardous waste and, for the most part, leaves enforcement of the regulations up to individual states."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419279938_epa.pdf

Cindy Gamrat: First bill I will have drafted as State Representative is the Life At Conception Act!

"I am excited to announce that the first bill I will have drafted as State Representative is the Life At Conception Act!"

Source: *Rep. Cindy Gamrat* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419278228_Cindy Gamrat first bill draft.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder wish Michiganders happy holidays

"LANSING, Mich.- Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder today issued a holiday greeting for Michiganders."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419276099_Snyder Christmas Wishes.pdf

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EPIC•MRA STATEWIDE POLL OF ACTIVE AND LIKELY VOTERS – DECEMBER 2014 [FREQUENCY REPORT OF SURVE

"Statewide survey conducted among active/likely 2016 general election voters with live interviewers,

including 20 percent cell phones."

Source: *Epic MRA* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419273353_2014_Dec_Stw_Surv_MEDIA_FREQ_EDUC.doc*

Amended Workers' Compensation Rules will Reduce Opioid Abuse, Lower Medical Costs

*"**December 22, 2014** - The Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency (WCA) today announced that amendments to the Workers' Compensation Health Care Services rules and fee schedule will address the problem of long-term use of opioids by injured workers and help reduce medical costs for the state's job providers. The amendments are effective December 26, 2014 and have the wide-spread support of the state's business and medical communities."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419273160_LARA.pdf*

Snyder makes appointment to Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Thomas Buckingham, of Newberry, to the Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419272970_Snyder Makes appoint.pdf*

Barry County, four other entities join MCWCF

"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation Fund (MCWCF) is closing out 2014 with a growth surge, adding five new members in the last quarter of the year. The new members are:"

Source: *Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419272102_WCF New Members Press Release 12-22-14.pdf*

Federal court order returns wolves to endangered species list

"A federal court judge has ordered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to immediately return wolves in the Great Lakes region to the federal endangered species list, making it illegal for Michigan citizens to kill wolves attacking livestock or dogs."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419267363_Feds put wolves back on endangered list.pdf*

THE EVOLUTION OF THE U.S. AIRCRAFT CARRIER WITH VICE ADMIRAL DAVID ARCHITZEL

"The former program executive officer for Aircraft Carriers and commander of Naval Air Systems Command of United States Navy, retired Vice Admiral David Architzel, will speak about the evolution of the U.S. aircraft carrier during a presentation hosted by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Architzel will speak at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on Jan. 15 at 7 p.m."

Source: *Seyferth PR* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419267290_Evolution of U.S. Aircraft.pdf*

Michigan Lottery Offices Closed in Observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 22, 2014** – In observance of the Christmas Eve and Christmas, the Michigan Lottery headquarters in Lansing and all Lottery regional offices located in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Saginaw and Sterling Heights will be closed on Wednesday and Thursday."*

Source: Date: *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419267214_Lottery offices closed.pdf*

Michigan winners announced in National Corn Growers Association Corn Yield Contest

"LANSING – The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) recently announced the state and national winners in the 50th annual National Corn Yield Contest (NCYC)."

Source: *Corn Marketing Program of Michigan* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419267145_National Corn Growers.pdf*

Michigan Works! Association Adds Directors of Business Solutions, Policy

*"**LANSING, Mich.**– The Michigan Works! Association has announced the addition of two new team members to focus on policy and program development."*

Source: *MI Works* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419267065_MI Works.pdf*

Kent County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 22, 2014** – A Kent County educator known for her dedication to immersion language learning in her classroom and for her efforts to advance the practice in west Michigan has been*

honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery."

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419266984_Kent County Lotto Win.pdf*

Consumers Energy Receives National Recognition for Promoting Crime Prevention Awareness

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 22, 2014 – For the 21st straight year, Consumers Energy has received a National Electric Utility Award from the National Association of Town Watch for its participation in the National Night Out (NNO) crime and drug prevention program."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419266878_12-22-14 NR National Night Out (1).pdf

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Michigan Agri-Business Association emphasizes importance of grain bin safety

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** this week reminded farmers and grain handlers across Michigan to take proactive steps to prevent grain engulfment, a danger that's projected to be especially common this season due to high crop moisture levels and challenges with grain put in bins for storage."*

Source: *MI Agribusiness Association* **Date:** *12-23-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1419266753_MI Agri-business.pdf

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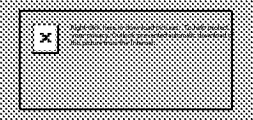

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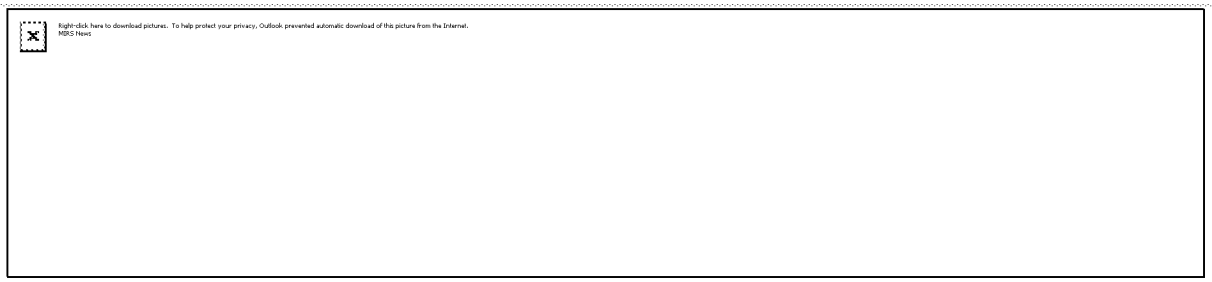
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 6:55 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman has been leaking oil into Lake Michigan

*"**BRIDGMAN, MI** – Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman has leaked an estimated 2,000 gallons of oil into Lake Michigan since Oct. 25, according to an event notification posted on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission website."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/01/cook_nuclear_plant_in_bridgman.html#incart_river

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First steps without state emergency manager won't be the only big Flint story in 2015

"FLINT, MI – There's not much room left on Flint's 2015 to-do list considering it's already loaded with the departure of a state-appointed emergency manager, the start of a city charter review for the first time in four decades and a mayoral election."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/looking_forward_flint_to_take.html#incart_story_package

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Snyder starts second term with looming budget crunch, road funding campaign ahead

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, who characterized his first four years in office as an extended exercise in problem solving, will need to utilize that muscle memory as he begins his second term."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/snyder_starts_second_term_with.html#incart_river*

Rick Haglund: Michigan policymakers need to think of millennials

"Michigan's population is aging at a faster rate than many states. And the state is struggling to retain and attract recent college grads needed for a bright economic future."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/rick_haglund_michigan_policyma.html#incart_river*

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5 things to watch in Ann Arbor-area schools in 2015

"When it comes to education, 2015 is looking like an interesting year in the Ann Arbor area."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/01/5_things_to_watch_in_ann_arbor.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Groups battle over access to insurance fund records

"LANSING — Efforts continue to boost transparency in the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association fund, which assesses Michigan motorists a $186-per-vehicle fee as part of the state's no-fault insurance system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/04/insurance-claims-records-foia-lawsuit/21271307/*

Mayor: NYPD officer 'walked a path of courage'

"NEW YORK — Thousands of police officers and other mourners filled the streets of Brooklyn's Bensonhurst neighborhood under dreary skies Sunday to pay homage to a police officer shot to death while sitting in a patrol car last month."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/funeral-nypd-officer-wenjian-liu/21256381/*

UDM prof worked 'to make everyone around him better'

"Michael Witkowski was the kind of professor who funneled passion into each student he met — an unforgettable storyteller with a vivid personality that drew University of Detroit Mercy students to him and his

classroom."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/04/michael-witkowski-udm-obituary/21270009/*

Ted Duclos works to improve efficiency in engineering

"Ted Duclos has preached the gospel of lean manufacturing for many years, but it wasn't until he rethought the role of machinery that his breakthrough came, and he started championing the use of smaller machines running longer hours in manufacturing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/auto-leadership/2015/01/04/free-press-auto-leadership-awards/21267505/*

Inmate advocates worry about fate of prison-rape law

"When Jan Lastocy was repeatedly raped by a Michigan state prison guard, she felt she'd become invisible. There was no rape crisis center hot line. She had been warned that inmates were never believed over guards."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/prison-rape-law-fate/21267625/*

Small biz enters Detroit's community benefits debate

"Backers of a controversial proposal to impose new rules on developers looking for a Detroit public subsidy are counting on support from the small business community to combat the notion that the rules would be harmful to the city's growth."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/01/04/small-business-community-benefits/20878463/*

Groups battle over access to insurance fund records

"LANSING — Efforts continue to boost transparency in the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association fund, which assesses Michigan motorists a $186-per-vehicle fee as part of the state's no-fault insurance system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/04/insurance-claims-records-foia-lawsuit/21271307/*

NYPD officers show disdain for mayor at funeral

"New York — Thousands of police turned their backs Sunday as Mayor Bill de Blasio eulogized an officer shot dead with his partner, repeating a stinging display of scorn for the mayor despite entreaties to put anger aside."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/family-officers-arrive-nd-nypd-cops-funeral/21256725/*

Schuette issues alert with 'Lose Weight, Not Money'

"Vowing to eat more broccoli and drop 10 pounds this year?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/metro-state/2015/01/04/schuette-issues-alert-lose-weight-money/21274387/*

Cities put freeze on sledding due to liability concerns

"Des Moines, Iowa — As anyone who has grown up around snow knows, part of the fun of sledding is the risk of soaring off a jump or careening around a tree."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/sledding-bans-liability/21273689/*

Pope Francis gives some workplace advice

"International attention buzzed in late December about the "ailments" of the Roman Curia, as enumerated by Pope Francis. It was a surprising rebuke of an organization he felt had taken some wrong turns."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/01/04/pope-francis-gives-workplace-advice/21269951/*

Illinois to allow kids to take medical marijuana

"Chicago — Randy Gross hopes a new law allowing children into Illinois' medical marijuana program will reunite his family, nearly a year after his wife moved to Colorado so their son could receive a controversial treatment to ease his epileptic seizures."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/medical-marijuana-illinois-children/21273657/

Marathon bomb trial set

"Boston — His accusers brandish a confession scribbled inside a boat during an intensive manhunt and a video they say shows him placing a backpack with a bomb a few feet from a little boy who died when it exploded seconds later."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/04/boston-bombing-trial-set/21267493/

Wage stagnation puts the squeeze on ordinary workers

"Laurie Chisum works as a manager for a small office-equipment company in Orange County, California. She puts in about 30 hours a week on the job and spends much of her time at home caring for her mother, who is afflicted with Alzheimer's disease."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/01/04/wage-stagnation-puts-squeeze-ordinary-workers/21269971/

Stabenow steady amid GOP surge

"Washington – — Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who officially becomes Michigan's senior senator this week, faces life in the minority as Republicans take power, but vows to work with the GOP to try to make progress."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/04/stabenow-michigan-senator-gop-surge/21275463/

Obama expected to visit Ford plant in Wayne

"President Barack Obama is expected to visit a Ford Motor Co. plant in Wayne on Wednesday, to herald the auto industry turnaround that's been one of brightest spots in the recovering U.S. economy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/01/04/obama-expected-visit-ford-plant-wayne/21272953/

GM's OnStar teams with Progressive for driver discounts

"General Motors Co.'s OnStar subsidiary will offer motorists a new service this summer that gives feedback on their driving skills and allows some to seek driving-based discounts from Progressive insurance."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/01/04/gms-onstar-teams-progressive-driver-discounts/21268407/*

Advocacy/Opinion

New rule on vaccines unlikely to help with compliance

"The threat posed by vaccine-preventable diseases was vividly illustrated in November in Traverse City, where a school closed for the better part of a weekafter an outbreak of pertussis (whooping cough) in its student body."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/01/02/michigan-vaccines-waiver-schools/21204557/*

What is a 'Green Job'? Advocates Won't Say

"When it comes to jobs and the state economy, claims by promoters of alternative energy stand on some very shaky foundations."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20667*

Will: The senator to watch in 2015

"Standing at the intersection of three foreign policy crises and a perennial constitutional tension, Bob Corker, R-Tenn., incoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, may be the senator who matters most in 2015."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/george-will/2015/01/05/senator-watch-congress/21204713/*

Krauthammer: Will Obama's Cuba strategy work?

"There's an old Cold War joke — pre-pantyhose — that to defeat communism we should empty our B-52 bombers of nuclear weapons and instead drop nylons over the Soviet Union. Flood the Russians with the soft consumer culture of capitalism, seduce them with Western contact and commerce, love bomb them into freedom."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/charles-*

krauthammer/2015/01/05/obama-strategy-cuba/21204819/

A few words about 500 interviews: WJR host hits mark

"You know those questions you hear interviewers ask, the ones that seem to go on for five minutes, repeating themselves and twisting around and stopping and backtracking and finally pretty much answering themselves before the subject of the interview ever has a chance to take a whack at it?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/neal-rubin/2015/01/04/words-interviews-wjr-host-hits-mark/21271463/

Editorial: In Northville, prudent government

"The city of Northville and the Northville Public Schools are exploring the use of a vacant school building for joint offices."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-05-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/05/northville-smart-government/21204987/

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

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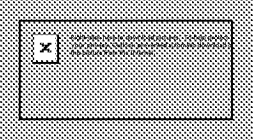

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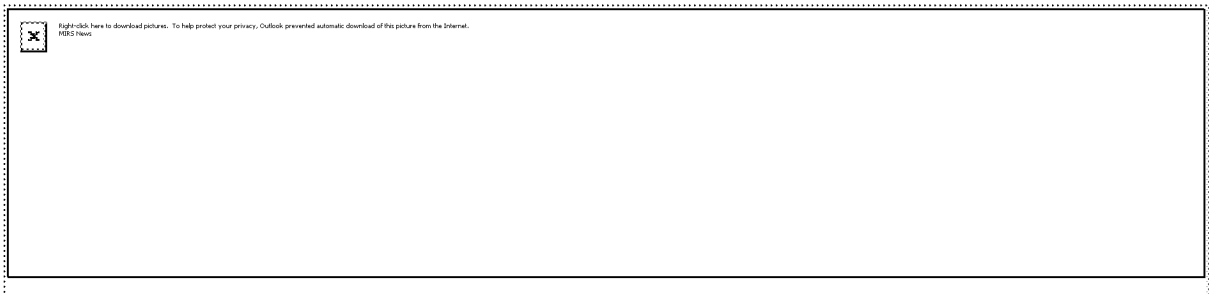
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 10, 2015 12:04 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, January 9, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, January 9, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Legalized Sports Betting In Michigan Is A Long Shot . . . For Now

As the state of New Jersey and a variety of professional sports leagues continue a high-profile fight over sports betting in that state, there are many in Michigan watching -- and watching closely.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41917

COA Upholds Firing Of Shirvell, Anti-Gay Blogger In AG's Office

The Attorney General's firing of Andrew SHIRVELL, who got national attention for publicly criticizing the gay student body president at the University of Michigan, was not a First Amendment violation, the Court of Appeals (COA) has decided.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41923

Agema Not Resigning Post, Goes After 'Political Correctness'

(MT PLEASANT) -- Michigan Republican National Committeeman Dave AGEMA said he would not resign his post after a fresh round of calls for his ouster for reposting an admittedly racist commentary on his Facebook page on New Year's Eve.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41925

State Allows Flint EM To Impose Changes To Firefighters Contract

The state sided with Flint's emergency manager, rather than a competing proposal fronted by the city

council, on proposed changes to the city's firefighters contract.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41919

Proposed District Switch Draws School Choice Advocates' Interest

A property transfer case that could allow a few children to switch to a nearby school district has risen to the state level and piqued the interest of some school choice advocacy groups.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41922

Romney McDaniel Calls In Sick; Yob Sticks 'Establishment'

(MT PLEASANT) -- The frontrunner to succeed Michigan Republican Party (MRP) Chair Bobby SCHOSTAK, Ronna Romney McDANIEL, was not able to make an anticipated appearance at this evening's Michigan Grassroots Powwow program due to a reported sickness, but a surrogate was sent in her stead.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41926

Anti-Tax Head Lays Out No Vote For Prop 1

One of the leaders looking to shoot down the May 5 statewide ballot proposal predicted today it could take upwards of $10 million to spike the Governor's efforts to create a long-term road funding scheme through a penny sales tax bump.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41927

Courser, Gamrat Unveil 'The Contract For Liberty'

Two conservative freshman House members released today what they're calling "The Contract for Liberty," which includes a list of freedoms that they say they're working on legislation to protect.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41920

Snyder Feels Baird Got 'Bum Wrap,' Could Have 'Moderated' His Response

For an advisor who prefers to remain deep in the background, Gov. Rick SNYDER's closest inner circle adviser, Rich Baird, found himself in the news media meat grinder last year when MIRS discovered he was benefiting from homestead exemptions on two properties (See "Top Snyder Aid Sought Delegate Post While Legally Tied To Illinois," 8/21/14).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41916

Conyers Urges Snyder To Veto Gun Boards Bill

U.S. Rep. John CONYERS (D-Detroit) is the latest person to warn Gov. Rick SNYDER against signing a bill that would do away with local concealed weapons licensing boards (See "Latest Test For Snyder On Guns Comes In Bill To Nix Local Gun Boards," 12/30/14).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4497#41918

Snyder Picks New Chair For Natural Resources Commission

Gov. Rick SNYDER tapped John MATONICH to chair the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) today, rather than current chair J.R. RICHARDSON, who was reappointed by Snyder to the NRC recently and had served as chair before that.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41921

Bits And Tidbits

Snyder Lauds $70M Federal Grant For Michigan Site

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41924

On This Day In Michigan History

On Jan. 9, 1901, Gov. Hazen PINGREE, in his final message to the Legislature, wrote that it was the body's "special privilege and duty to bring the so-called 'merchant princes and captains of industry' in this country to a realization of the fact that our laboring men are something more than tools to be used in the senseless chase after wealth."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#41915

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4497#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - 12, 2015
7:30 PM
Shen Yun Performing Arts
Guest Speakers: Guest Speaker(s):
Location: Cobb Great Hall - Wharton Center, 750 East West Shaw Lane, East Lansing, MI East Lansing
Contact: shenyun.com 877-328-7469 1-888-974-3698
info@ticketingbox.com

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015
7:30 AM
Rep. Mike Webber Breakfast Reception(Sponsored by Grassroots Midwest)
Location: Capitol Tower, 110 W. Michigan Ave., , Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Meredith Willey

mwilley@grassrootsmidwest.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2015
8:00 AM
Breakfast Fundraiser(Sponsored by Representative Sherry Gay-Dagnogo)
Guest Speakers: Special Guest(s): Detroit Caucus Chair Representative Brian Banks, Democratic Leaders Tim Greimel, and Former Representation Ellen Cogen Lipton
Location: Breakfast Recpetion, Michigan Helath and Hospital Association, Lansing, MI 48910
Contact: Berton Brown 6157960099
bertonbrown@gmail.com

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015
5:00 PM
Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan Legislative Reception(Sponsored by Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan)
Location: Dykema Law Offices - Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Ste. 900, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Robyn Cline (517) 482-1563
rcline@pcsum.org

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015
6:00 PM
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner 2015(Sponsored by Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce)
Location: Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison , East Lansing, MI 48823
Contact: Travis Richardson (517) 853-6463
trichardson@lansingchamber.org

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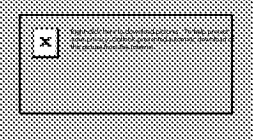

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Volume #54, Report #9 -- Tuesday, January 13, 2015

More Republicans Starting To Call For Agema's Ouster

The possibility of Republicans trying to find a way to oust controversial Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema from his post gained fresh life Tuesday as Senate Republicans circulated a letter urging the RNC to remove him from office, and at least one other state party chair did the same.

The Agemania Meter had fallen in the past year as Mr. Agema seemed to have curbed his need to post on Facebook essays from other authors slandering entire groups of people, but it has risen again in the past 10 days. On December 31, Mr. Agema posted a racist essay from someone purporting to be a current or former public defender that attacks the intelligence and capabilities of African-Americans.

Past targets of essays from other authors Mr. Agema has posted on his Facebook are gays and lesbians as well as Muslims.

Tuesday, the National Journal reported that the chair of the Republican Party of Virginia is circulating a letter among fellow members of the RNC expel Mr. Agema from this week's meeting in San Diego and then permanently remove him.

Then, Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) began circulating a letter urging the RNC to oust him.

The problem is that Republican officials have said for more than a year that the only way to remove an official elected by the party is if he or she commits a felony.

However, in recent days, some Republicans have raised the idea of using Robert's Rules of Order, under which the RNC meets, to expel Mr. Agema, either temporarily or permanently.

Mr. Kowall's letter, co-signed by Sen. James Marleau (R-Lake Orion) and Rep. Jim Tedder (R-Clarkston), urges the RNC "to take all necessary action to end our party's long nightmare involving your fellow RNC member Dave Agema."

The letter states that because Mr. Agema has refused calls for his resignation, the RNC should make him "persona non grata," a Latin term that translates to person not welcome.

"The RNC has the authority to do so either on a temporary basis at each of its meetings or permanently under parliamentary procedure," the three legislators state in the letter. "While we are disappointed it has come down to this, we believe this course of action is the only way to stop Mr. Agema's hateful rhetoric from further tarnishing our party. We urge RNC members, our

colleagues and like-minded Michiganders to join us in stepping up and acknowledging that enough is enough."

A message left with the RNC was not returned, nor was a message left with the Republican Party of Virginia.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) offered one of the most stinging denunciations yet from a Republican elected official of Mr. Agema in demanding he resign.

"When the ignorance and stupidity of one individual overshadows the good work done by so many other Republicans, it is incumbent upon those of us who know better to speak up and demand accountability. Dave Agema clearly has no shame, otherwise he would have already resigned," Mr. Meekhof said in a prepared statement. "With so many more important issues and ideas to address, it is unfortunate that the Senate Republicans, or anyone, would have to take time away from serving the hardworking taxpayers of Michigan to deal with someone as irrelevant and arrogant as this disgraced national committeeman."

Darren Littell, spokesperson for the Michigan Republican Party, said Michigan Republican Party Chair Bobby Schostak stands by his previous calls for Mr. Agema to resign. As to the new calls Tuesday for the RNC to oust Mr. Agema, Mr. Littell said the state party has explored many options on how to deal with the Agema situation.

Mr. Agema did not return a message seeking comment. He did, however, take to Facebook again on Tuesday to defend himself, insisting that he had not agreed with the essay he posted. But when Mr. Agema first posted the item on Facebook, he also did not offer any commentary to suggest what he thought about it other than possibly to describe it as "very enlightening."

As he has previously, Mr. Agema has cited former U.S. Rep. Allen West's posting of the article as a defense. Mr. West, who is black, had circulated the essay under a headline calling the article racist yet in the text of his comments about the essay praising its message.

"I respect the former congressman and fellow military officer highly and regard his opinions since he grew up in the inner city as a black man who has personal experience. I think his observations are noteworthy and he is certainly not a racist nor am I for reposting his opinions," Mr. Agema wrote. "To take a sentence out of an article that Col. West calls a racist article and use it to call myself and Col. West a racist is ridiculous and deceptive reporting."

Supreme Court Tackles State Employee RTW, Pension Cases

The Supreme Court was essentially asked to rule that unions, or at least collective bargaining, are a condition of employment, but pensions are not in two key state employment cases argued Tuesday.

In deciding what is a condition of employment for state civil service workers, the court could also be determining the limits of authority for the Civil Service Commission.

Union attorneys urged the court to overturn the Court of Appeals ruling (*International Union v. Green*, SC docket No. 147700) that the new right-to-work law applies to state employees, but to uphold the appellate court's finding (*Michigan Coalition of State Employee Unions v. Michigan*, SC docket No. 147758) that only the commission can approve the 4 percent surcharge the Legislature added to cover retirement health care costs.

Most of the questioning came from Republican members of the bench, and often they appeared unsatisfied with both sides' definition of conditions of employment.

William Wertheimer, attorney for the state employee unions in both cases, said the Court of Appeals crossed a long-established line in finding right-to-work applied to state employees.

"The commission alone regulates conditions of employment for classified employees," he said. "The Legislature's not allowed to meddle with classified employment."

Unions, he said, are not conditions of employment. But collective bargaining is, making the agency fees the unions charge legitimate.

"The issue is a fee which the parties negotiated," Mr. Wertheimer said. "It pays for collective bargaining that the commission has decided is an appropriate way to deal with the employee-employer relationship."

But justices questioned whether the commission had the sole authority to make that decision.

Justice Stephen Markman noted that the Constitution provides the commission the authority to regulate conditions of employment. "Perhaps the term 'regulate' should be given its ordinary meaning ... Something distinctive from legislative," he said. "The Legislature has the distinctive authority relative to hours and conditions."

But Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. questioned what collective bargaining is if it is, as Assistant Solicitor General Ann Sherman argued, not a condition of employment.

Ms. Sherman agreed with Justice Mary Beth Kelly that it is a process of negotiating conditions of employment.

"It's a relationship with a third party that to some extent impacts many areas of employment, but is not itself a condition of employment," Ms. Sherman said of collective bargaining.

Ms. Sherman said mandatory union dues or agency fees also run afoul of the Constitution's plan for paying for state employment oversight: the 1 percent of payroll provided to the commission.

"The people appear to have intended that the 1 percent wouldn't be passed on to the (employees)," she said. "Who pays for it is important ... Because the 1 percent is in the Constitution."

She said the bargaining process is also outside the bounds of the Constitution because the commission essentially delegates that to the Office of the State Employer in the Executive Office rather than conducting those talks itself

"Collective bargaining is not consistent with the whole idea of a civil service commission," Ms. Sherman said, adding that collective bargaining was not considered when the provisions regarding the commission were added to the Constitution.

If the drafters of the Constitution had wanted to include collective bargaining, "they could have said all conditions of employment and all mechanisms leading to those conditions," Ms. Sherman said.

"And that would have been more clear?" Mr. Markman said.

John Bursch, former solicitor general in this case representing the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said the Constitution provided a hierarchy of powers. "The Legislature has authority to enact laws," he said. "The commission has the lesser power to regulate."

If the commission had the authority to exempt itself from the right-to-work law, Mr. Bursch said, what would stop it from ignoring other laws like the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act or child labor laws.

"The people drafting the Constitution knew how to exempt the Civil Service Commission from legislative authority if they wanted to," he said.

Though the role of appellant and appellee switched, state and union attorneys made essentially the same arguments on the retiree health care charge.

Pension benefits are not a condition of employment, Assistant Attorney General Pat Fitzgerald said, because they were created by the Legislature. And the commission essentially conceded it had no role.

"If that were the case (that the commission has exclusive authority), then the Civil Service Commission has been missing in action for the last 70 years while the Legislature illegally acted," Mr. Fitzgerald said.

He noted that, while constitutional provisions on the commission do not mention pension benefits, provisions regarding State Police troopers do, so arguably pension benefits were not meant to be considered in the former.

Mr. Young and Mr. Markman both noted that the Constitution provides the Legislature with veto power over pay increases, but not over pension benefit changes.

Mr. Wertheimer countered that the commission, not the Legislature, came up with the idea of a pension. "Before it was enacted by the Legislature, the commission was retiring people on its own," he said. "The commission has been involved in the pension fund from the beginning."

And he said there was some thought that the Legislature has the authority to veto pension changes. He noted the Legislature's attempt to overturn providing health care benefits to same sex couples.

Mr. Young countered that, since the Legislature failed in that attempt, its use of that power had not been tested in the courts.

Mr. Wertheimer said pension benefits are also clearly a condition of employment. "If I'm an employee, whether or not I have a pension and I have to pay for it, that's compensation and a condition of employment," he said.

Mr. Young questioned why, then, the commission was merely an amicus to the case and not a party.

"You indicated they didn't have power more than any citizen has: to petition the Legislature for relief," Mr. Young said.

Ms. Kelly questioned what authority the commission would have to overturn the legislative change. "Once you want the form of a pension that's inconsistent with what the Legislature proposes and funds, the CSC doesn't have the resources to fund their proposal," she said.

Mr. Wertheimer said the commission would have to do what the unions have done: challenge the legislation in court.

Meekhof Names Senate Committees

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof on Tuesday released a full list of the members of every Senate committee and Senate Appropriations subcommittee for the next four years.

"Having a large caucus means we have that many more people eager to be leaders in a variety of policy areas. As I have said before, our majority makes it possible for our members to focus their energy and attention on specific issue areas and lend their own experience and knowledge to the committee process," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said in a statement. "Together with our Democratic colleagues, I am confident we will see thoughtful and productive debate on a variety of topics and I expect us to take full advantage of a transparent and participatory committee process."

Mr. Meekhof had previously announced the chairs of the standing committees and Appropriations subcommittees.

Among the more notable changes are that Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) will no longer serve on the Appropriations Committee. Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) also departs the committee, but he is also taking on the No. 2 post in the Democratic Caucus.

The committees will be composed as follows:

AGRICULTURE: Sen. Joe Hune (R-Whitmore Lake) as chair, Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) as vice chair, Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City), Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Evart) and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) as minority vice chair

APPROPRIATIONS: Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell) as chair, Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Cannon Township) as vice chair, Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart), Sen. Jim Stamas (R-Midland), Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), Mr. Booher, Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph), Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek), Mr. Green, Sen. James Marleau (R-Lake Orion), Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-East Lansing) as minority vice chair, Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor), Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing), Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) and Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit)

BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. Booher as chair, Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) as vice chair, Mr. Nofs, Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Ida), Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Hertel as Minority Vice Chair and Mr. Smith

COMMERCE: Mr. Schmidt as chair, Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) as vice chair, Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Nofs and Mr. Hertel as minority vice chair

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT: Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) as chair, Mr. Schmidt as vice chair, Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township), Mr. Stamas, Sen. Judy Emmons (R-Sheridan), Mr. Smith as minority vice chair and Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren)

EDUCATION: Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair) as chair, Mr. Knollenberg as vice chair, Mr. Booher, Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) and Mr. Knezek as minority vice chair

ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENT REFORM: Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc) as chair, Mr. Colbeck as vice chair, Ms. Emmons, Mr. Shirkey and Senate Minority Floor Leader Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) as minority vice chair

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Nofs as chair, Mr. Proos as vice chair, Mr. Horn, Ms. Schuitmaker, Mr. Hune, Mr. Shirkey, Mr. Zorn, Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair, Mr. Knezek and Mr. Smith

FAMILIES, SENIORS AND HUMAN SERVICES: Ms. Emmons as chair, Mr. Pavlov as vice chair, Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) as minority vice chair

FINANCE: Mr. Brandenburg as chair, Mr. Robertson as vice chair, Mr. Knollenberg, Mr. Casperson, Mr. Proos, Mr. Bieda as minority vice chair and Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor)

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: Mr. Meekhof as chair, Mr. Hansen as vice chair, Mr. Kowall, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich as minority vice chair and Mr. Hood

HEALTH POLICY: Mr. Shirkey as chair, Mr. Hune as vice chair, Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Marleau, Mr. Jones, Mr. Stamas, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hertel as minority vice chair and Mr. Hopgood

INSURANCE: Mr. Hune as chair, Mr. Brandenburg as vice chair, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Horn, Mr. Jones, Mr. Smith as minority vice chair, Mr. Bieda and Mr. Young

JCAR: Mr. Stamas as chair, Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) as vice chair, Mr. Kowall, Mr. Hood as minority vice chair and Mr. Hertel

JUDICIARY: Mr. Jones as chair, Ms. Schuitmaker as vice chair, Mr. Rocca, Mr. Colbeck and Mr. Bieda as minority vice chair

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Zorn as chair, Mr. Proos as vice chair, Mr. Brandenburg, Mr. Rocca and Mr. Young as minority vice chair

NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Casperson as chair, Mr. Pavlov as vice chair, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Stamas and Ms. Warren as minority vice chair

MICHIGAN COMPETITIVENESS: Mr. Shirkey as chair, Mr. Stamas as vice chair, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Proos and Ms. Warren as minority vice chair

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND TOURISM: Mr. Hansen as chair, Mr. Zorn as vice chair, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Green and Mr. Johnson as minority vice chair

REGULATORY REFORM: Mr. Rocca as chair, Mr. Jones as vice chair, Mr. Knollenberg, Mr. Kowall, Mr. Marleau, Mr. Hune, Ms. Warren as minority vice chair, Mr. Hertel and Mr. Johnson

TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Casperson as chair, Mr. Horn as vice chair, Mr. Pavlov, Mr. Marleau, and Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair

VETERANS, MILITARY AFFAIRS AND HOMELAND SECURITY: Ms. O'Brien as chair, Ms. Emmons as vice chair, Mr. Zorn, Mr. Colbeck and Mr. Knezek as minority vice chair

Mr. Meekhof also appointed the following members to the Senate Appropriations subcommittees:

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Green as chair, Mr. Stamas as vice chair and Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Mr. Booher as chair, Mr. Nofs as vice chair, Ms. Schuitmaker, Mr. Hansen, Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Gregory as minority vice chair and Mr. Hertel

COMMUNITY COLLEGES: Mr. Booher as chair, Ms. Schuitmaker as vice chair and Mr. Knezek as minority vice chair

COMMUNITY HEALTH: Mr. Marleau as chair, Mr. Shirkey as vice chair, Mr. Hansen, and Mr. Hertel as minority vice chair

CORRECTIONS: Mr. Proos as chair, Mr. Knollenberg as vice chair and Mr. Gregory as minority vice chair

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: Mr. Green as chair, Mr. MacGregor as vice chair and Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair

HUMAN SERVICES: Mr. MacGregor as chair, Mr. Proos as vice chair and Mr. Gregory as minority vice chair

LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS: Mr. Knollenberg as chair, Mr. Marleau as vice chair and Mr. Young as minority vice chair

NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Green as chair, Mr. Booher as vice chair and Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair

TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Hansen as chair, Mr. Knollenberg as vice chair and Mr. Young as minority vice chair

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. Stamas as chair, Mr. Nofs as vice chair, Mr. Booher and Mr. Young as minority vice chair

HIGHER EDUCATION: Ms. Schuitmaker as chair, Mr. MacGregor as vice chair and Mr. Hertel as minority vice chair

JUDICIARY: Mr. Proos as chair, Mr. Schuitmaker as vice chair and Mr. Young as minority vice chair

K-12, SCHOOL AID AND EDUCATION: Mr. Hansen as chair, Mr. Pavlov as vice chair and Mr. Hopgood as minority vice chair

STATE POLICE AND MILITARY AFFAIRS: Mr. Nofs as chair, Mr. Colbeck as vice chair and Mr. Knezek as minority vice chair

New House Members Prepare For Opening Day

On Wednesday a freshman caucus of 43 members with diverse backgrounds will be sworn in to the House of Representatives, where they will officially elect a new speaker who, with the Republican majority, will control much of the agenda for the next two years.

The 2015-16 term will see 43 new House members who are of varying backgrounds: gay, straight, some staunchly conservative, some more liberal, and four being under 30 years old.

On Wednesday, the full House will officially elect Rep. Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) as speaker. He was already chosen by the 63-member Republican caucus to lead this term after four years with former House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall), who was term limited and is not returning to the House.

Other ceremonial functions will take place as well. The House will formally re-elect Gary Randall as the clerk and adopt its rules. The members will select their seats on the floor. And Mr. Cotter will give a speech to set the tone for the term.

While there has been speculation the new Republican caucus will be more conservative than the last, Rep. Eric Leutheuser (R-Hillsdale) said this election cycle was tough for most members, and those representing more competitive districts will want to be sure their constituents are represented.

"I really think it is a sharp bunch," he said. "This is not an election cycle where people coasted in. People ran hard to represent their districts and that will be reflected in the entire caucus."

Rep. Vanessa Guerra (D-Bridgeport), who will also serve as an assistant minority leader, joins Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering), Rep. Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis) and Rep. Jeremy Moss (R-Southfield) in new representatives who are younger than 30 years old.

Ms. Guerra, 25, said she believes the younger members of the caucus will add perspective. She said her colleagues realize they can learn a lot from those serving who are younger, and she can also learn from her older colleagues as well.

"I think everybody has a good sense of humor about it," she said. "It mostly comes into play when they reference old legislators that probably served long before I was born."

Rep. Christine Greig (D-Farmington Hills) praised the diversity of the freshman caucus.

"When you look at everyone's backgrounds, we're going to have a great variety of perspectives coming in," she said. "The more perspectives you have, the less chance there is for unintended consequences."

Rep. Chris Afendoulis (R-Grand Rapids Township) said he is excited for "opening day." Mr. Afendoulis said there is more private sector experience in the freshman caucus than he expected, and he thinks that is a positive.

"(There's a) very wide range of interests and ages," he said. "I am on the higher end of the age scale."

On priorities, Mr. Afendoulis said he told constituents he would use his skills as a certified public accountant to analyze how money is spent in the state.

"I just think there's always ways to save money and I really want to take a hard look at that," he said.

Ms. Greig said public education is a top priority for her, as is looking at the talent and workforce development initiative.

Ms. Guerra also said education is a top priority for her. She said she will be bringing her local superintendent to Governor Rick Snyder's State of the State address next week.

Mr. Leutheuser said it is tough to pin down priorities without committee assignments. But, he said, since he works as a car dealer, he would like to have a strong voice in discussions regarding auto insurance.

He said he has told people back in the district the first few weeks serving as a state representative is a lot like the first year of college.

"The best analogy I have for it is we have been accepted into college ... and now you're in that waiting period, waiting for classes to begin," he said. "You know where your dorm room is, but you don't know much more yet."

Mr. Cotter has said he will release an agenda agreed to by the Republican caucus early in the term, which was done under Mr. Bolger. In a statement released Monday, Mr. Cotter noted 80 percent of the action plan released in the 2013-14 term was completed.

Consumers Gas Customers To See Rate Hike; Utility To Replace Infrastructure

The Public Service Commission on Tuesday approved a settlement agreement authorizing Consumers Energy Company to increase its natural gas rates by $45 million annually, or $1.97 for residential customers using 100 ccf of natural gas per month.

The rate change is effective immediately (Case U-17643).

As part of the settlement, the utility will also fund (at the rate of $75 million per year) and carry out requirements relating to its enhanced infrastructure replacement program. The program represents a 25-year incremental investment intended to upgrade the company's natural gas infrastructure, including about 540 miles of cast iron pipe.

The company will also implement a gas revenue decoupling mechanism.

As far as the rate increase, the utility had originally filed in July 2014 an application requesting an $88.3 million rate increase, so the amount approved in the settlement is 49 percent below the utility's request and represents an increase of 2.4 percent over the rates set in its last natural gas rate case in June 2012 (Case U-16855).

The settlement, the PSC said in a statement, reflects an authorized rate of return on common equity of 10.3 percent and an overall rate of return of 8.99 percent on a pre-tax basis and

authorizes the utility to implement a residential customer charge and, for qualifying principal residence customers, an income assistance credit of $11.50 per customer per month.

The decision on the agreement with Consumers came in a 2-1 vote with Commissioner Greg White dissenting.

SEMCO ENERGY GAS RATES INCREASE: Residential customers using 100 therms of natural gas a month will see an increase of 14 cents on their monthly bill for bills rendered on and after February 1 under a settlement between the PSC and the utility to amend its energy optimization plan and revise its energy optimization surcharges (Case U-17362).

ST. CLAIR SHORES ELECTRIC SUPPLIER ADDED: The PSC also granted a license to Dillon Power, LLC, as an alternative electric supplier (Case U-17723). The company has an established office in St. Clair Shores.

The commission approved the license based on a determination that the company possesses the appropriate managerial and technical capabilities to serve customers in Michigan, as well as complies with other lawful obligations.

Snyder Turns To Earley As DPS's Fourth Emergency Manager

Detroit Public Schools is getting its fourth emergency manager in the six years since it first came under state control with Governor Rick Snyder seizing on an opening in the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act to prevent the elected school board from again running the district.

Mr. Snyder turned to now former Flint Emergency Manager Darnell Earley in a move he said was the best option to maintain progress as a coalition of community leaders evaluates a more fundamental, long-term overhaul of public education in the city.

On January 15, 18 months would have elapsed since Mr. Snyder appointed Jack Martin to run the district, and under the law, PA 436 of 2012, the school board could have voted out Mr. Martin and undergone a neutral evaluation process that could have led to the board regaining control. But by replacing Mr. Martin before 18 months had elapsed, Mr. Snyder avoided that scenario.

"To interject more variables and more change all at once is not a good answer," Mr. Snyder said of why he decided to continue with an emergency management structure.

Mr. Snyder has said many times that having an emergency manager run Detroit Public Schools has not yielded the same success that has occurred in several local governments.

"This isn't my preferred answer in many respects," he said. "But I don't think it would be prudent to leave while we still have financial issues."

DPS's student population has plummeted with students leaving the district for charter schools, other public schools, private schools or because their parents have moved out of the city. With funding tied to each student, the district's finances have remained in severe trouble.

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Earley touted the work he did in Flint, which Mr. Earley said he expected to see leave financial emergency status in about three months.

"Darnell Earley is an outstanding person to take this role," Mr. Snyder said.

Governor, AG Make Progress On UP Energy Solution

Governor Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette have reached several agreements with utility companies in the Upper Peninsula aimed at ensuring long-term, cost-effective energy reliability for customers in the region in the wake of a decision by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding a tariff that would've significantly impacted those customers.

Last October, legislators like Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) spoke out against the FERC accepting the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's proposed System Support Resource (SSR) cost allocation tariff that would allocate about 99.5 percent of costs to utility customers in the U.P. At the time, Mr. Casperson urged the commission to reverse that acceptance.

But on Tuesday, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Schuette announced a series of agreements that lay the groundwork for the elimination of that costly utility rate payment. The proposed solutions meet two key goals for policymakers, a statement by Mr. Snyder's office noted: protecting the U.P. ratepayers from years of costly SSR payments for the Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette and providing replacement electric generation in the U.P. to avoid a likely federal mandate to pay half a billion dollars or more to remain dependent on otherwise out-of-state coal plants.

"This is a critical development for the Upper Peninsula and our entire state. I commend all involved parties for their commitment to finding a solution and thank them for their many efforts in reaching this accord," Mr. Snyder said in the statement. "The solution these agreements advance ensure reliability, rids the U.P. of years of unaffordable charges, improves the environment and most of all gives the UP the power and ability to adapt to the future."

There are four agreements in principle.

The first is between UPPCO and We Energies (doing business as Wisconsin Public Service Corporation). The electric utility businesses now owned by WPSC, including the Presque Isle Power Plant, will be sold to UPPCO and thus a single U.P.-based corporation would provide electricity to a majority of the region. UPPCO, the governor's office said, indicated it would "step into" existing rates.

The second agreement deals with UPPCO and Cliffs Natural Resources. Upon acquisition of the power plant (expected no later than July), the SSR payments would be terminated and UPPCO would not seek an SSR. Cliffs would purchase a significant majority of its power from UPPCO

until the power plant's retirement, which is anticipated in 2020 due to new federal air emission requirements that significantly impact that plant and other coal generators across the state.

Then there is an agreement between Cliffs and Invenergy indicating that Invenergy would build, own, and operate a new, natural, gas-powered, combined heat and power facility located on Cliffs' site. That facility would supply electricity and steam to Cliffs and excess energy to other local utilities (the facility is expected to begin operation in advance of the retirement of the Presque Isle Plant). This should resolve long-term reliability concerns, the governor's office indicated.

And finally, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Schuette, the Public Service Commission, Cliffs and We Energies have agreed to notify both the FERC and the PSC of their position of "no objection" to the merger of Wisconsin Energy and Integrys Energy Group, conditional on the previously mentioned agreements being approved.

While the effect on different electric customers will vary, they will see a reduction on their bills after the SSR payments end, which is likely to be in July, the statement noted. It also noted that without protection from those payments, residents could be asked to pay about $150 more a year, and businesses even more depending on their location and energy usage.

"Our primary goal is to protect UP families from unreasonable rate increases to the greatest extent possible," Mr. Schuette said. "We remain committed to vigorously opposing any short-term rate increases due to the costs of maintaining the Presque Isle Power Plant, but this agreement will help avoid long-term burdens on the UP ratepayers while increasing energy reliability and the opportunity for future growth."

Officials with UPPCO, Cliffs, Invenergy, and We Energies praised the agreements and collaborative work as well.

Fiscal Year Closes With $256M In Lapses

The state finished the 2013-14 fiscal year with $386.2 million in the rainy day fund in part because it spent $255.8 million less than budgeted, the final book closing report issued Tuesday showed.

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report showed the state spent $51.4 billion total for the fiscal year, leaving the state a net $631.6 million in the black. Much of that improvement, the report said, was elimination of the federal debt to the Unemployment Compensation Funds.

The state unrestricted funds were negative $5.9 billion, representing outstanding debt. Long-term debt was $7 billion, a decrease of $326.2 million.

And combined, the General Fund and School Aid Fund had a balance of $2.6 billion, though that was a 22.5 percent decline from the prior fiscal year.

Snyder Signs M-1 Rail, Cyberbullying Bills

Governor Rick Snyder signed 21 bills Tuesday, including legislation passed late during lame duck requiring all of the state's schools to add cyberbullying to their anti-bullying policies.

SB 74 (PA 478) also requires the Department of Education to create procedures to report this information to the state.

"We've already taken great steps to confront the challenges posed by bullying in our schools," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "It's important that we expand our focus to include the growing problem of cyberbullying to bullying policies."

Mr. Snyder also signed SB 695, SB 696 and SB 697 (Public Acts 486, 487 and 488, respectively), which add provisions ensuring the M-1 Rail project in Detroit will receive the same range of powers and legal protections that other railways receive.

Mr. Snyder also signed the following bills:

SB 492, PA 479 — KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENTRY (Caswell) Revise school code to allow eligibility for kindergarten early entry for school of choice students.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

SB 1088, PA 480 — COMMUNITY COLLEGE INVESTMENTS (Booher) Allow investment of funds in certain state and local obligations.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

SB 1142, PA 481 — FIRE DRILL STANDARDS (Jansen) Modify standards for fire drills for colleges and universities.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

HB 5035, PA 482 — COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS (Goike) Requires question to applicants concerning military experience of the applicant and the applicant's parents or spouse.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: April 13, 2015

HB 5036, PA 483 — COMMUNITY COLLEGES (Rendon) Allows acceptance of an American council on education transcript and clarifies transferable credits.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: April 13, 2015

HB 5669, PA 484 — TEACHER CERTIFICATION (VerHeulen) Allows non-public school teachers to use school-provided professional development hours toward certification

requirements.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

HB 5806, PA 485 HIGHER EDUCATION (Pscholka) Extends term of installment contracts for energy conservation improvements allowed under statute.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

SB 1140, PA 489 PIP BENEFITS (Smith) Clarify that an excluded driver is not eligible for personal injury protection benefits and that any occupant who knows that vehicle is unlawfully taken is not eligible.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

HB 4788, PA 490 VETERAN LICENSE PLATE (Stamas) Creates fund-raising registration plate for Michigan veterans.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

HB 5045, PA 491 GOLF CARTS (Cotter) Allows use of golf carts on local streets under certain circumstances.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

HB 5636, PA 492 GOLF CARTS (Cotter) Allows operation of a golf cart on public highway without requirement of no-fault insurance.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

HB 5714, PA 493 TRANSPORTATION (McCready) Modifies procedure for issuance of authority and makes other general revisions to the motor carrier act.

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: April 1, 2015

SB 93, PA 494 FIRST MICHIGAN COLORED INFANTRY REGIMENT MEMORIAL (Young) Designate a portion of I-375 as the "First Michigan Colored Infantry Regiment Memorial Highway".

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

SB 317, PA 495 ERGIN V. OSMAN HIGHWAY (Bieda) Designate a certain portion of M-29 as the "Staff Sergeant Ergin V. Osman Memorial Highway."

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

HB 4411, PA 496 HIGHWAYS (Price) Designates a portion of M-231 as the "Sergeant Henry E. Plant Memorial Highway."

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: March 31, 2015

HB 5447, PA 497 HIGHWAYS (Kivela) Designates a portion of US 41 as the "Earl DeMarse Memorial Highway."

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

HB 5715, PA 498 BRIDGES (Dianda) Renames M-64 bridge over the Ontonagon River in Ontonagon, Michigan the "Ontonagon County Veterans Memorial Bridge."

Signed: January 10, 2015; Effective: January 13, 2015

ACT Appealing Testing Award

ACT is asking the state's chief procurement officer to review the decision to switch to the SAT for the state's high school exams.

In a letter dated Monday, the company said the requests for proposals were changed during the bid process without the bidders being given a chance to revise their entire offers, and ACT had points deducted for offering more than the state requested in its test.

When the RFPs were first issued, the new test was to start in 2014-15, but because of legislative changes to the testing, now would start in 2015-16. While the companies were allowed to adjust their prices accordingly, ACT argued it should have been allowed to adjust its entire bid.

ACT also scored only an 80 (compared to 90 for the SAT) on the technical review because it included a writing portion in its bid.

"However, the RFP does not explicitly state the state was looking only for a base exam," the appeal letter said. "A college entrance assessment with a writing component aligns with Michigan's English Language Arts content standards, which include specific standards for Writing for Grades 6-12. ACT has been delivering this aligned assessment - The ACT with writing - to Michigan students since Spring 2007."

ACT also said the price difference between the two exams - $32.6 million for ACT versus $17.1 million for SAT - was the result of the writing component ACT included.

The Administrative Board had been set to approve the contract Tuesday, but Caleb Buhs, spokesperson for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, said the appeal took the item off the agenda while it is reviewed.

"Now that we have received a timely protest, DTMB Procurement will review the concerns addressed in the ACT appeal letter to determine whether there is any validity," Mr. Buhs said. "The review is done by a unit within the department that was not involved in the RFP process as to provide a fair and impartial ruling. A recommendation is made to the chief procurement officer who will ultimately respond to the protester."

Dingell Urges Veto On Concealed Weapons Bill

Given her own childhood experiences with domestic violence, U.S. Rep. Debbie Dingell urged Governor Rick Snyder to veto legislation that would allow certain people with personal protection orders against them to still carry concealed weapons.

"As someone who lived as a child in an environment that could erupt violently at any point, I recognize provisions in this legislation as a serious threat to protecting Michigan women, children and communities, and quite frankly even men," Ms. Dingell said in a letter Tuesday requesting the veto of SB 789.

Ms. Dingell (D-Dearborn) said the changes provided in the legislation could put current victims of domestic violence at risk.

"Signing legislation that would allow firearms in the hands of domestic abusers is a formula for disaster that would endanger too many people in our communities," she said. "We must demonstrate zero tolerance for bullying or abuse; respect and implement processes that protect individual liberties, but use common sense to eliminate potential violence."

Manufacturers Association Releases Legislative 'Blueprint'

The Michigan Manufacturers Association on Tuesday announced its legislative agenda to keep the state more competitive.

The group released what it calls the MMA Competitiveness Plan for Michigan Manufacturing. It includes securing additional funding for manufacturing training; opposing an expansion to the renewable energy portfolio standard; ensuring competitive manufacturing tax rates; continuing the downward trend in workers' compensation costs; ending health care cost shifts on employers; among other items.

"The MMA competitiveness plan gives policymakers a blueprint for improved competitiveness in Michigan," Chuck Hadden, MMA president and CEO, said in a statement. "Tremendous progress has been made in recent years but now is the time to keep up the momentum and address the challenges that burden employers with higher costs and reduce Michigan's ability to compete in a global economy."

Another agenda item is ensuring company regulations do not exceed federal standards. It would also like to protect employers' rights as medical marijuana regulations continue to evolve.

"MMA will work to protect employer rights and to establish clarity in the application of the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act," the agenda says.

"Michigan's success relies on manufacturers to create jobs, increase investment and strengthen local communities," said Mike Johnston, MMA vice president of government affairs. "We look forward to continuing to work with the Snyder Administration, members of the Legislature, agency representatives and local leaders to build on the success of recent years."

Capital Notebook: Foster Joins PAA Firm

Former Rep. Frank Foster has joined the lobbying firm Public Affairs Associates, the firm announced Tuesday.

Mr. Foster won election to the House in 2010 and 2012, but lost a bid for a third term in 2014 when now-Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) defeated him in the Republican primary.

While in the House, Mr. Foster chaired the Commerce Committee.

PETOSKEY OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN SUSPENDED: The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has suspended the license to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery of Richard Ferguson based on his conviction in an Emmet County court, which follows his guilty plea to one felony count of Criminal Sexual Conduct - Assault with Intent to Commit Sexual Penetration.

He was sentenced in late October to a minimum prison term of 38 months.

CROWDFUNDING FOR YPSILANTI COMMUNITY CENTER: The Michigan Economic Development Corporation and the Friends of Ypsilanti Freighthouse on Tuesday announced a crowdfunding campaign to support the final upgrades needed to restore the historic Ypsilanti Freighthouse for use as a community center.

The building is located in the city's Depot Town neighborhood, which the MEDC said in a statement has seen "a recent surge in new businesses, restaurants and shops." The renovated facility would provide a central gathering place for public and private functions, exhibits, auctions, classes, performances and civic issues, the MEDC noted.

If the campaign attains its goal of $50,000 by March 1, 2015, the MEDC will provide a $50,000 grant. Money raised through the campaign will be used for infrastructure upgrades like a sustainable and cost-effective heating/cooling system, restrooms and new plumbing to meet city code, and a dry/wet fire suppression system for both the internal and external areas of the building.

CASINO REVENUE: All three Detroit casinos saw overall revenues fall in 2014 compared to the year prior, but business appeared to have picked up at the end of the year, with both December and fourth quarter 2014 coming in ahead of their 2013 counterparts, the Gaming Control Board announced Tuesday.

For the year, the $1.33 billion the casinos collected was down 1.2 percent from the prior year. MotorCity Casino saw the largest drop: 2.1 percent to $445 million. MGM Grand Detroit was down 1 percent to $561.1 million, and Greektown Casino was down 0.5 percent to $326.7 million.

But for December, all three were up from 2013. Greektown saw the largest gains, 12 percent to $28.4 million, followed by MGM at 11.5 percent ($50.1 million) and MotorCity at 7.6 percent ($39.6 million).

CASINO CONTRACTORS: The Gaming Control Board also approved changes Tuesday that would allow smaller non-gaming contractors for the casinos, those doing less than $400,000 in business with any one casino over a 12-month period, to be exempt from licensing. The prior threshold was $200,000.

Contractors doing less than $50,000 in business with any one casino would not even have to report to the board under the new rules effective February 1. The current threshold is $15,000.

DEPUTY APPELLATE DEFENDER: Michael Mittlestat has been appointed deputy director of the State Appellate Defender Office, succeeding Jonathan Sacks, who was appointed executive director of the Indigent Defense Commission.

Mr. Mittlestat has been assistant defender since 2005.

Bradley Hall is the new administrator of the Appellate Assigned Counsel System in the office.

CORMORANT CONTROLS: Efforts to reduce the number of double-crested cormorants in the state might be cut in the upcoming budget proposal.

Michigan United Conservation Clubs, in an email to supporters Monday, urged support for the Department of Natural Resources program, which uses a variety of tactics to reduce the number of birds migrating through and breeding in the state. Increasing numbers of the sea birds have been tied to reduced fish populations in some areas.

"The control program has been successful at protecting sportfish populations from predation," MUCC Executive Dan Eichinger said in the email. "It would be disappointing if the department eliminates this whole program, which also protects recently stocked fish from congregating cormorants."

If the department has to cut, the cormorant program could be on the chopping block, DNR spokesperson Ed Golder said. But so could any other programs.

"If we are asked to make budget reductions, we will review that and other programs to determine the most appropriate places to cut based on natural resources priorities," Mr. Golder said. "We will make a judgment about these programs after the next revenue estimating conference."

SIERRA CLUB SCORECARD: For the 2013-14 session, Republicans did not fare well on the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter's scorecard. House GOP members averaged 38 percent, while House Democrats averaged 85 percent. Senate Democrats averaged 93 percent and Republicans 27 percent.

"The 2013-2014 state Legislature was regressive when it comes to environmental protection, rolling back many of the safeguards we've had in place for decades. It's extremely frustrating that the environment has become a partisan political issue," Mike Berkowitz, the legislative director for the group, said in a statement. "Environmental protections are a no-brainer for all Michigan residents. Our members find it hard to believe that so many of our lawmakers are voting against clean air, clean water, and public health."

Rep. Martin Howrylak (R-Troy) took the top score for his caucus at 60 percent. The lowest score was 25 percent for Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama). In the Senate, the top GOP score was 35 percent for Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) and the low score was 23 percent for Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R-Harrison Township).

Among Democrats, the top score in the Senate was 98 percent for Sen. Morris Hood III of Detroit and Sen. Rebekah Warren of Ann Arbor. Four house members - Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright of Muskegon, Rep. Andy Schor of Lansing, Rep. Jon Switalski of Warren and Rep. Jim Townsend of Royal Oak - had perfect scores.

EDUCATION BOARD OFFICERS: John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) will lead the State Board of Education for another two years and again all of the officers are Democrats on the board they lead 6-2. The selection means three terms in leadership for Mr. Austin and Casandra Ulbrich (D-Rochester), re-elected as vice president.

The board this year also granted no leadership spots to Republicans. The treasurer post went instead to new member Pamela Pugh-Smith (D-Saginaw). Rounding out the offices, Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) is secretary and Lupe Ramos-Montigny (D-Grand Rapids) is the delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education.

NURSING HOME TRANSPORTATION: Nursing facilities accepting Medicaid have to provide residents with transportation to medical appointments outside the facility, the Department of Community Health said in a letter issued Tuesday.

"Facilities must not forgo this responsibility, and residents cannot be charged for transportation cost," the letter said.

The letter indicates the requirement to provide non-emergency transportation has been in federal regulations for some time, but that some facilities have been requiring residents to arrange their own non-emergency transportation.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, January 20

Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, Legislative Council Conference Room, Third Floor, Boji Tower, 124 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

Tuesday, January 27

Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m.

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Click the ▫ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 6:41 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Oakland County clerk, treasurer ask to 'chime in' on real estate scam lawsuits

"Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown recently filed a request in circuit court to be involved in cases involving scammers who are paying back taxes on a specific property, then claiming it for themselves."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/government-and-politics/20150112/oakland-county-clerk-treasurer-ask-to-chime-in-on-real-estate-scam-lawsuits*

More than half of Michigan adults are now registered as organ donors

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan reached a milestone by registering more than half of its adult population as organ donors, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/more_than_half_of_michigan_adu.html#incart_river*

Jim Ananich taking long view, talking paid sick leave, as new Michigan Senate Minority Leader

"LANSING, MI — New Michigan Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who will be officially sworn in Wednesday, is taking the long view as he takes the reins of the smallest Democratic caucus since 1954."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/jim_ananich_taking_long_view_a_1.html#incart_river*

Michigan Right To Work law debated in state Supreme Court: Does PA 434 cover state workers?

"LANSING — Michigan's Right To Work law had its day in the Michigan Supreme CourtTuesday as attorneys for the state and state employees made their oral arguments in the case."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/attorneys_argue_in_michigan_su.html#incart_river*

Jerry Ambrose named Flint's fourth emergency manager as Darnell Earley heads to Detroit

"FLINT, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder has named Jerry Ambrose as Flint's fourth emergency manager on Tuesday, Jan. 13, and announced the city's state takeover is still expected to end in three months."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/jerry_ambrose_tapped_as_next_e.html#incart_river*

Michigan GOP lawmakers to RNC: Remove Dave Agema, 'end our party's long nightmare'

"LANSING, MI — A group of Oakland County Republicans in the Michigan Legislature are asking national committee members to "end our party's long nightmare" by ousting Dave Agema, and others are calling on him to resign."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_gop_senators_to_rnc_r.html#incart_river*

Gov. Rick Snyder signs law creating Justice Policy Commission to review criminal sentencing guidelines

"LANSING — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday signed laws creating the Justice Policy Commission, designed to reform criminal sentencing, and enacting minor reforms to the community corrections system.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/gov_snyder_signs_law_creating.html#incart_river*

Cyber bullying added to Michigan anti-bullying law after Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill

"LANSING — Cyber bullying is now an official type of prohibited bullying under Michigan law after Gov. Rick Snyder signed a bill passed by the Michigan Legislature last month.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/cyber_bullying_added_to_michig.html#incart_river*

Day seeks state GOP office

"Political activist Wendy Day has set her sights on a new state office."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/14/wendy-day-livingston-republican/21737465/*

Democratic party chair visits Esky

"

ESCANABA - Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson was in Escanaba Monday as part of his annual Upper Peninsula listening tour.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/556356/Democratic-party-chair-visits-Esky.html?nav=5003*

Major breakthrough in U.P. electric power crisis

"MARQUETTE - After months of discussions, a package of four key agreements announced today - which will involve hundreds of millions of dollars - propose the basis for a comprehensive solution to the Upper Peninsula's electric power crisis."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/556359/Major-breakthrough-in-U-P--electric-power-crisis.html?nav=5003*

Justices drill UAW attorney in right-to-work case

"Lansing — Republican-backed Supreme Court justices drilled a labor union attorney during a hearing Tuesday over whether Michigan's two-year-old right-to-work law applies to state workers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/michigan-supreme-court-hear-major-right-work-case/21680005/*

Snyder says Detroit schools still need EM, names Earley

"Detroit — With speculation swirling about the future of Detroit Public Schools, Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday announced the district's fourth emergency manager in six years."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/01/13/michigan-governor-names-new-detroit-schools-manager/21697125/*

Rep. Dingell urges Snyder to veto gun bill

"U.S. Rep. Debbie Dingell on Tuesday urged Gov. Rick Snyder to veto a bill that would allow some domestic abusers to obtain concealed weapons permits."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/rep-dingell-urges-snyder-veto-gun-bill/21714857/*

Snyder touts auto rebound, pushes road fixes

"Gov. Rick Snyder toured the North American International Auto Show on Tuesday, praising the economic turnaround of the auto industry and vowing to ensure Michigan remains home to industry innovations. He also used the stop at the show to urge voters to support a plan to boost Michigan road repairs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/detroit-auto-show/2015/01/13/snyder-detroit-auto-show/21689565/*

Gay rights issues divide Michigan legislative leaders

"Gay rights-related legislation isn't expected to receive attention in the new Legislature because the two Republican leaders are split on whether to address them."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/gay-rights-issues-divide-michigan-legislative-leaders/21733597/*

Road tax hike plan tests new leaders

"Lansing – — Three new legislative leaders are vowing to push for voter approval of a $1.4 billion road repair plan because there's no politically viable alternative."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/road-tax-hike-plan-tests-new-leaders/21733815/

GOP lawmakers, Va. leader ask RNC to oust Agema

"Lansing — Michigan Republican lawmakers and the head of the Virginia Republican Party stepped up pressure on the Republican National Committee Tuesday to find a way to oust embattled national committeeman Dave Agema at the RNC's winter meeting this week in San Diego."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/01/13/michigan-republicans-letter-agema/21700423/

Snyder signs bill targeting cyberbullying of children

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a bill requiring Michigan school districts to include cyberbullying in their anti-bullying policies and report bullying data to the state."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/13/michigan-cyberbullying-schools/21713383/

Ferndale school board sues former superintendent

"The Board of Education for Ferndale Public Schools has filed a civil lawsuit against Gary Meier, its former superintendent who left the district last spring several months before his planned retirement."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/01/13/ferndale-public-schools-board-education-sues-former-superintendent/21716559/

Michigan Supreme Court presses both sides on right-to-work

"LANSING –Considering if the state's right-to-work law applies to state workers, Michigan Supreme Court justices this morning pressed attorneys for both sides to establish whether collective bargaining is a working condition or merely a process to establish those conditions."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/13/michigan-supreme-court-right-work/21686199/

Agema a thorn again in Republicans' side

"WASHINGTON — The Republican National Committee begins its winter meetings in sunny San Diego on Wednesday still grappling with a problem many of its members probably hoped they'd never have to hear about again — the status of Michigan National Committeeman Dave Agema."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/calls-agemas-ouster/21700479/

ACT appeals loss of Michigan contract

"The ACT has launched an appeal of last week's decision to award the state's high school testing contract to the company that produces the SAT. The ACT college entrance exam has been part of Michigan's testing system since 2007."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/13/act-appeals-loss-michigan-contract/21705739/

Michigan suspends doctor license for sex assault conviction

"PETOSKEY, Mich. – The state has suspended the license of a northern Michigan family care doctor who pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a patient under the pretense of therapy."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/13/michigan-doctor-sex-assualt/21715875/

Study: Diabetes drug found in Lake Michigan impacts fish

"Researchers have found that pharmaceuticals and personal care byproducts persist at low levels even miles from sewage discharge pipes out in Lake Michigan. And a new study from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee finds the most prevalent drug in the lake — the Type 2 diabetes medication Metformin — causes changes in the hormonal system of fish exposed to it."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/13/metformin-diabetes-drug-pollution-lake-michigan/21734507/

4th new leader for DPS; Snyder's move upsets

"Gov. Rick Snyder picked Flint's emergency manager Tuesday to be the next leader of Detroit Public Schools, a move that sparked criticism from people who believe the district should be returned to local control."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/01/13/dps-gets-new-emergency-manager/21697931/*

Lawyer asks court to toss Kwame Kilpatrick's conviction

"Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick has repeatedly argued that he had the wrong lawyer for his public corruption trial and that his conviction should be tossed because of it."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/kilpatrick-trial/2015/01/13/kwame-kilpatrick-lawyers-ask-appeals-court-toss-conviction/21718325/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Gov. Snyder's torn Achilles tendon comes worst time of year

"No good deed goes unpunished. Ask Governor Rick Snyder. The governor has been on a kick to exercise, which is not the easiest thing given his breakneck schedule. Now he's got a torn Achilles tendon to contend with at the worst time of the year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/post_37.html#incart_river*

Mogk: Why Detroit needs eminent domain

"Whatever application Jesse Hathaway's Jan. 8 article, "Re-evaluating eminent domain," has to the rest of the country, it has none to a city, Detroit, that is desperately in need of economic development to alleviate unemployment and increase its tax base."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/01/14/detroit-letter-eminent-domain/21710915/*

Wage structure will shape auto industry's future

"The two-tier wage structure the UAW reluctantly agreed to with Detroit's Big Three automakers in 2007 might be history this year, at least if the CEO of FCA US, the company formerly known as Chrysler, has

his way.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/13/edit-two-tier-wage-structure/21710935/

Hoffa: Obama should bend on Keystone Pipeline

"President Barack Obama came to Michigan last week to shine a light on how the federal government's auto bailout helped secure a brighter economic future for state residents and all Americans. His visit was part of a broader effort by the administration to discuss U.S. growth in the wake of the Great Recession."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/01/14/labor-voices-hoffa-obama-keystone-pipeline/21710881/

Another EM for DPS? That's not a real solution

"It's a good idea to send Darnell Earley to Detroit Public Schools as the system's fourth emergency manager in the past six years — but only if there's a better idea waiting in the wings.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/13/dps-detroit-public-schools-emergency-manager/21707955/

A Fresh Angle: Taking on 'Big Wind' With Competition

"Cal Peters retired from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in 2013 after being employed as an investigator with the Air Quality Division for 33 years. In 2014, when the state of Ohio enacted significant reforms to its "Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)," or renewable energy mandate, Peters observed, and to an extent participated, with a unique perspective."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20897

Destroying Michigan's career tech system to save it

"If Gov. Rick Snyder said it once, he's said it a thousand times – Michigan needs to better nourish young talent for the jobs of tomorrow."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/01/destroying-michigans-career-tech-system-to-save-it/*

Press Releases

DNR reviewing Graymont's revised eastern U.P. land transaction, mineral exchange applications

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has received revisions of a land transaction application and a mineral exchange application from Graymont, Inc. The company is proposing development of a limestone mining operation in northern Mackinac County near the town of Rexton. The land transaction application amends an October 2014 application. The mineral exchange application amends a June 2014 submission."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421185165_dnr.pdf

MDOT Traffic alert: M-26 detoured for Portage Lake Lift Bridge project

*"**January 13, 2015** -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be detouring northbound M-26 traffic in the city of Houghton beginning Wednesday."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421185127_mdot.pdf

Congresswoman Dingell Urges Governor Snyder to Veto Michigan Concealed Carry Bill

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) sent a letter to Michigan Governor Rick Snyder urging him to veto SB 789, a bill approved by the Michigan state legislature that would allow concealed-weapons permits to be issued to individuals with a history of violence and abuse. Dingell has recently become more outspoken on issues related to domestic violence."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421185095_dingell.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill protecting students by adding cyberbullying to anti-bullying policies

"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder today signed 21 bills focusing on various transportation-and education-related issues across Michigan. The bills range from fighting cyberbullying to streamlining regulations for professional development to making sure veterans attending community college have access to benefits. "

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421185051_gov2.pdf

Wendy Day Takes GOP Message to the Streets

"Wendy Day is running for Grassroots Vice-Chair of the Michigan Republican Party. The statewide position will be elected at the MIGOP Convention on February 21st."

Source: *Wendy Day* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421185012_day.pdf

Petoskey Osteopathic Physician Summarily Suspended

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery of Richard D. Ferguson, D.O., based on his conviction in the 57th Judicial Circuit Court, Emmet County, Michigan."*

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421184961_lara.pdf

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) Issues Statement on Darnell Earley Appointment

"LANSING – After Gov. Rick Snyder's appointment of Darnell Earley as the new emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement."

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421184925_ananich.pdf

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Michigan Chamber Defends State's Right-to-Work Law Before MI Supreme Court

"(LANSING, Mich.) – The Michigan Chamber of Commerce today appeared before the Michigan Supreme Court in defense of Michigan's Right-to-Work law, which took effect in March 2013. The Michigan Chamber played a leadership role in the fight to pass Right-to-Work legislation in December 2012, shortly after voters soundly rejected Proposal 2, which would have enshrined collective bargaining into Michigan's constitution and prevented any attempt to make Michigan a Right-to-Work state. "

Source: *Michigan Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421184841_chamber.pdf

Detroit Casino Revenues and Wagering Taxes Reported for 2014

*"**Detroit**–The three Detroit casinos reported 2014 aggregate revenue of $1.33 billion, which was down 1.2 percent compared with 2013 aggregate revenue. Fourth quarter and December revenue rose 4 percent and 10.3 percent respectively compared with 2013."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14211841802_mgcb.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Detroit Public Schools financial emergency continues

"LANSING, Mich. – Detroit Public Schools remains under a financial emergency as community leaders start discussions about a long-term reinvention to build a stable, financially secure system that creates a brighter future for all city students, Gov. Rick Snyder said."

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14211847757_gov.pdf

Manufacturers' Blueprint for a More Competitive Michigan

"As Michigan's largest employers and contributors to the Gross State Product, manufacturers significantly influence the strength of Michigan's economy. To continue the manufacturing-driven economic recovery, MMA released the MMA Competitiveness Plan for Michigan Manufacturing on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015. The plan provides a clear blueprint for fostering a more competitive manufacturing sector and bolstering Michigan's economic recovery."

Source: *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14211847708_mma.pdf

Gov. Snyder to keynote Michigan Conservative Energy Forum Catalyst Conference

"LANSING – The Michigan Conservative Energy Forum will host its first annual Catalyst Conference on Thursday, January 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Speakers include General Ronald E. Keys, United States Air Force (Ret.), Chairman of the Military Advisory Board, and Brigadier General Michael A. Stone, Assistant Adjutant General for Installations of the Michigan Army National Guard. Gov. Rick Snyder will deliver the keynote address."

Source: *Sterling Corporation* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14211752205_Media Advisory - Catalyst Conference.pdf

Manufacturers Release Blueprint for a More Competitive Michigan

"As Michigan's largest employers and contributors to the Gross State Product, manufacturers significantly influence the strength of Michigan's economy. To continue the manufacturing-driven economic recovery, MMA released theMMA Competitiveness Plan for Michigan Manufacturing on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015. The plan provides a clear blueprint for fostering a more competitive manufacturing sector and bolstering Michigan's economic recovery."

Source: *MI Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421175110_MMA Blueprint.pdf

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Equine Trails Subcommittee meeting set for Jan. 21 in Lansing

"The Equine Trails Subcommittee will hold its regularly scheduled meeting Wednesday, Jan. 21, in Room 115 of the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center, 4125 Beaumont Road in Lansing. The public meeting begins at 1:15 p.m."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421175051_Equine Trails Subscommittee.pdf

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Sierra Club: State Lawmakers Get Low Marks

"LANSING - The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter today released its Legislative Scorecard, which tracked environmental voting behavior of state House and Senate members during the 2013-14 legislative session. The Michigan Senate scored an average failing grade of 48 percent, with the House receiving a narrow passing grade of 60 percent. While the Scorecard generally showed that Democrats voted to maintain or strengthen environmental protections- more disturbingly - it showed Republicans generally voted to weaken or eliminate environmental protections."

Source: *Sierra Club of Michigan* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421174984_Sierra Club.pdf

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Michigan Lottery Players Have a Chance to be 'Lucky for Life' with New Game

*"**LANSING, Mich., Jan. 13, 2015** – What would you do with $1,000 a day for life? That is the question facing Michigan Lottery players with the upcoming launch of the Lottery's newest draw game, Lucky for Life."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421174918_Lottery Players.pdf

MABA opens winter conference with focus on sustainability, technology

"LANSING – As interest grows about sustainably-produced food, new partnerships and modern technology are presenting more opportunities for American agriculture to embrace sustainability while maximizing yields. ***Rod Snyder****, president of* ***Field to Market,*** *and* ***Jeff Mize****, Senior Vice President of Business Development at* ***The Climate Corporation*** *focused on these and other key issues at the opening luncheon of the* ***Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)*** *Winter Conference at the Lansing Center. "*

Source: *MI Agribusiness Association* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421174858_MABA Opens Winter Conf.pdf

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Michael L. Mittlestat and Bradley R. Hall Assume Leadership roles at SADO and MAACS

"The State Appellate Defender Office (SADO) is pleased to announce the promotion of Michael L. Mittlestat to the position of SADO Deputy Director and the hiring of Brad Hall as Administrator of the Michigan Appellate Assigned Counsel System (MAACS). Michael L. Mittlestat."

Source: *SADO* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421174781_Mittlestat Hall press release .pdf

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Dr. Benishek Releases Statement on U.P. Energy Agreement -Local Congressman Worked to Protect Const

"WASHINGTON, DC: In response to the release of an agreement addressing a potential increase in Upper Peninsula energy rates, Congressman Benishek said the following:"

Source: *Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421172262_Benishek statement on UP.pdf

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The following statement should be attributed to UAW President Dennis Williams in regards to the Mich

"The following statement should be attributed to UAW President Dennis Williams in regards to the Michigan State Supreme Court hearing oral arguments on whether the state's right-to-work law as apply to state employees:"

Source: *MI State Supreme Court* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421172193_State Supreme Court.pdf

A new year, more great headlines from #MIWorks

"You check the weather even though you won't be going outside all day."

Source: *MI Works* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171814_New Year MI Works.pdf

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Natural Resources Commission to meet Thursday in Lansing

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 15, at the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center, 4125 Beaumont Road, in Lansing. "

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171733_Natural Resources Commission.pdf

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Gov. Snyder, Attorney General Schuette announce that progress has been made on U.P. energy solution

"LANSING, Mich. – A series of agreements that lay the groundwork for elimination of a costly utility rate payment for Upper Peninsula families and job providers, while providing the region with long-term, cost-effective energy reliability and ensuring the U.P.'s energy independence were announced today by Gov. Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, Wisconsin Energy Corp. (We Energies), Upper Peninsula Power Co. (UPPCO), Invenergy, and Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. (Cliffs)."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171669_Snyder Schutte UP Energy.pdf

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Michigan reaches historic milestone: More than half of all adults are now registered organ donors

"LANSING – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson today announced that the number of Michigan adults registered as organ, tissue and eye donors has now surpassed 50 percent and she credited her staff with helping to bring out the record-breaking growth."

Source: *MI Secretary of State* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171580_MI Reaches Historic.pdf

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New experimental duck hunting opportunity in Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin has successful first year

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the states of Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan to implement an early teal duck hunting season on a three-year experimental basis beginning in 2014. Teal (blue-winged and green-winged) are migratory birds managed under the authority of the USFWS in cooperation with state wildlife agencies, so decisions are made at a continental or regional level. As a result, the USFWS required the three state wildlife agencies to conduct and report the monitoring of this experimental season as a group. The first-year report is now available, and results demonstrated that hunters focused their harvest on desired teal ducks."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171512_Experimental Duck Hunting.pdf*

MGCB opens small-business opportunities by easing regulatory requirements for some Detroit casino su

*"**Detroit** – The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) today approved licensing requirement changes effective Feb. 1 for companies that supply $400,000 or less in non-gaming goods or services to a Detroit casino during a rolling 12-month period. Additionally, the board eased regulatory requirements for low-volume, non-gaming suppliers."*

Source: *MI Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171444_MI Gaming Control Board.pdf*

Livingston County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Jan. 13, 2015** – A Livingston County educator known for linking classroom lessons to real life experiences, such as creating a catering service operated by eighth graders and providing packaged meals for hungry children, has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171383_MI Livingston County Lottery.pdf*

Emmons honored with Liberator of the Year Award

*"**LANSING—**Sen. Judy Emmons was honored on National Human Trafficking Awareness Day for her work fighting crime with the Michigan Liberator of the Year Award at a ceremonySaturday evening in Livonia."*

Source: *Senator Judy Emmons* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171318_Emmons Honored.pdf*

MICHIGAN CHAMBER TO DEFEND RIGHT-TO-WORK BEFORE THE

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT ON JAN. 13, 2015

"In March 2013, Michigan became the nation's 24th Right-to-Work state. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce played a leadership role in the fight to pass Right-to-Work legislation in December 2012 after unions and special interest groups failed to garner voter support for Proposal 2, which would have enshrined collective bargaining into Michigan's constitution and prevented any future attempt to make Michigan a Right-to-Work state. "

Source: *MI Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171245_MI Chamber to defend Right to work.pdf

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Happy New Year. Did you miss anything over the holidays? Here's a recap:

"

Happy New Year. Did you miss anything over the holidays? Here's a recap:

TEACHER EVALUATIONS NEAR THE TOP OF THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. Efforts to establish a statewide system of fair, research-based teacher evaluations and support will continue in the new legislative session.
"

Source: *Education Trust Midwest* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171180_Educational Trust.pdf

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UPDATED Snyder Media Advisory for TODAY, Jan. 13

*"**Today, Jan. 13 at 8:50 a.m.***
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) where he will be joined by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. Following the remarks they will tour the auto show floor beginning at the Ford Motor Co. display. Media are welcome to join the tour."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *01-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421171026_Snyder Update.pdf

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GTWoman Girl Talk

"We just finished re-vamping our website. This took place over the course of 2 holidays, 1 school break and 3 snow days. A perfect storm, you might say. There was fighting, hair-pulling and bluffing."

Source: *Grand Traverse Woman Publication* **Date:** *01-14-2015* <b style='p

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 8:41 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For January 23, 2015

News

Gov. Rick Snyder talks about education (Detroit Free Press, 1/22/2015)

Michigan senators propose Keystone bill changes (Detroit Free Press, 1/21/2015)

Snyder: Detroit could be 'template' for education reform (Detroit Free Press, 1/23/2015)

Snyder issues flag order to honor former lawmaker (Grand Haven Tribune, 1/23/2015)

Singh bill would double energy efficiency standards (Lansing State Journal, 1/23/2015)

Governor Snyder's agenda for the year ahead (Michigan Radio, 1/22/2015)

Religious freedom bill returns in Michigan Senate (MLive, 1/22/2015)

State says its already 'working diligently' on Flint's water problems (MLive, 1/22/2015)

New EM: Detroit Public Schools staff layoffs possible (The Detroit News, 1/22/2015)

Snyder's welfare plan needs 'mother of all waivers' (The Detroit News, 1/22/2015)

Editorials

Other voices: Help give Michigan's homeless homes (Battle Creek Enquirer, 1/22/2015)

Grading Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: How did he do on his 2015 State of the State speech? (MLive, 1/21/2015)

Focus on 'people not programs' is welcome indeed (The Daily Mining Gazette, 1/22/2015)

Jacques: Finish work on teacher evaluations (The Detroit News, 1/23/2015)

McNeilly: End the prevailing wage in Michigan (The Detroit News, 1/23/2015)

Gov. Snyder appears ready to stand up more to Mich. GOP lawmakers (Toledo Blade, 1/23/2015)

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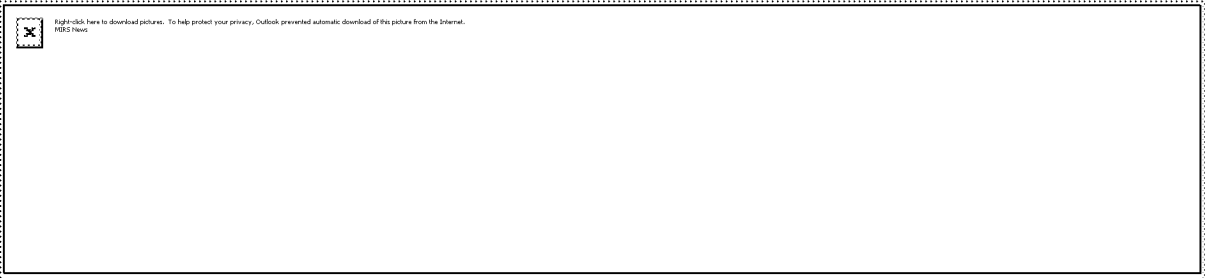
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 8:00 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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5 West Michigan trails to share $232,000 in private funds

"WEST MICHIGAN - Kent County this year plans to extend the Fred Meijer Pioneer Trail nearer to a hookup with the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail, but the public does not own the property needed to complete the connector."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/living/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/5_west_michigan_trails_to_shar.html#incart_river*

U.S. Coast Guard: Stay away from Lake Michigan shoreline after winter storm

"WEST MICHIGAN -- Ice along Lake Michigan beaches can be fascinating during the winter, but the U.S. Coast Guard is reminding outdoor enthusiasts now is not the time for a shoreline visit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/us_coast_guard_stay_away_from.html#incart_river*

FIFA confirms 4 contenders for presidential election race

"GENEVA (AP) — Three men remain in contention to challenge Sepp Blatter for the FIFA presidency."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/soccer/2015/02/02/fifa-confirms-4-contenders-for-presidential-election-race/22730985/*

Japan's prime minister defends terrorism policy

"Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe defended his policy on terrorism Monday, as Japan mourned two of its nationals who were purportedly killed by the Islamic State group."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/02/02/prime-minister-defends-policy/22731253/

Obama: 'You should get your kids vaccinated'

"President Obama says parents should make sure their children are vaccinated, and that the failure to do so is contributing to outbreaks of measles."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/theoval/2015/02/02/obama-vaccination-today-show-savannah-guthrie/22732035/

Analysis: Obama's budget plan dead on arrival?

"WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and his aides will outline a plan today to spend trillions of dollars in taxpayers' money — and no one expects Congress to pass it."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/02/01/us-budget/22702723/

MDOT traffic center keeps trucks, cars moving

"In a gray, two-story building on Fort Street near the Lodge Freeway in Detroit, a 36-foot-wide wall of video traffic scenes and news feeds captures the pulse of metro Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/02/01/mdot-traffic-center-keeps-traffic-moving/22700763/

School is cool: Campaign seeks to persuade kids

"Think school isn't cool? The state's leading educators have a message for you: Nothing is worse than blowing off school."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/01/michigan-school-cool-campaign/22698599/*

Detroiter's daily trek inspires hundreds to donate

"A story about a Detroit man who commutes about 21 miles a day on foot to and from work has spurred reaction from across the nation, including social media fundraisers that have netted more than $31,200."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/02/01/james-roberston-detroiter-commute-fundraiser/22701087/*

Detroit Soup nonprofit marking 5 years with fundraiser

"Detroit Soup, where strangers connect over soup, ideas and a vote, is celebrating its five-year anniversary with a fundraising party at Ford Field on Feb. 15."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/01/detroit-soup-celebrating-fifth-year/22689135/*

Funds reach Mich. to help young black, Hispanic males

"t's been almost a year since President Barack Obama rolled out an initiative aimed at improving outcomes for young black and Hispanic males."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/31/obama-initiative-young-minority-males-michigan/22657997/*

Snyder, lawmakers seek ways to boost 3rd-grade reading

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder and lawmakers are making third-graders' ability to read a significant focus this year, emphasizing still-evolving plans to improve kids' literacy long before they're 8 or 9 years old."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/01/third-grade-reading/22688981/*

Obama to introduce $478B highway bill

"Washington — President Barack Obama on Monday will unveil a $478 billion, six-year highway and transit bill, the latest effort by the White House to boost infrastructure through new taxes on foreign profits of U.S. businesses."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/02/obama-introduce-highway-bill/22731745/

Flint taps options after complaints about water

"Flint — Although residents here have complained about the color, taste, smell and quality of the municipal water for months, state and city officials argue it is improving."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/environment/2015/02/02/flint-taps-options-complaints-water/22726625/

New campaign launched to oppose sales tax initiative

"Lansing — The Saginaw County businessman who spent $3.5 million of his own fortune last year in a failed bid for Congress has launched a new campaign opposing the proposed sales tax increase that Gov. Rick Snyder is championing to boost road funding."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/02/sales-tax/22731837/

Mining company places first F-150 fleet order

"Mike Sena thought something was odd when his magnetized GPS wouldn't stick to the bed of a new work truck he was driving in November 2011."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/02/02/first-fleet-order-placed/22723427/

GM ignition claims surge to 4,180

"Washington — General Motors' ignition switch compensation program got a surge of claims in its final days, adding more than 1,100 claims in the last week to 4,180 submissions, including 455 death claims."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/02/02/gm-ignition-claims/22731555/

Groomed fat-tire bike trails growing more numerous in Michigan

"When fat-tire bikes first made an appearance in Michigan a few years ago, many dedicated riders considered them a fad — a puffed-up version of a mountain bike with big, soft tires that enabled them to be ridden on beaches and by hard-core riders in snowy conditions. Few thought much would come of it."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/02/groomed_fat-tire_bike_trails_g.html#incart_river*

Legislature closes offices Monday due to Lansing snow emergency

"LANSING, MI -- A snowstorm that has blanketed most of the Lower Peninsula will shut down legislative offices and state facilities in areas with snow emergencies."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/legislature_closes_offices_mon.html#incart_river*

Michigan State announces classes suspended until noon Monday due to snow storm

"EAST LANSING -- Michigan State joined a cavalcade of schools and universities across the state by suspending classes due to the massive snowstorm sweeping across Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/michigan_state_announces_class.html#incart_river*

State of Michigan offices in snow emergency areas closed Monday

"LANSING, MI -- State employees who work in facilities in areas with declared snow emergencies should not report to work on Monday, state government officials warned."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/state_of_michigan_offices_in_s.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Do Dems have a women problem? Column

"One might assume that if any political party had a women problem it would be the Republicans. With influential abortion opponents pressing hard for more restrictions on the procedure — most recently favoring an absolute ban after 20 weeks of pregnancy even after rape — the GOP's standing among women has been badly battered."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/02/02/democrats-women-problem-ross-baker/22695409/

District Ties Teachers' Salaries to Financial Health

"Port Huron Area Schools negotiated into its teachers' contract an unusual provision: The compensation of its teachers is tied to the financial health of the district."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20952

Awful transit policy fails everyone in metro Detroit

"When we talk about the stalwart, hard-nosed relentlessness that ignites Detroiters' souls, it's hard to think of a better example than James Robertson."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/02/02/henderson-robertson/22721409/

Editorial: Housing incentive a good step

"Mayor Mike Duggan's plan to discount auctioned homes for Detroit city employees, retirees and immediate family members is a good incentive for more residents to move into the city. It also is a creative step toward the mayor's goal of increasing Detroit's population."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/30/detroit-housing-plan-good-step/22603225/

Tim Skubick: Bad news piling up for Gov. Rick Snyder

"If you were a pessimist, and this governor clearly is not, you could make the case that nothing but bad things have happened to the governor in the last month, commencing with his torn Achilles tendon and going downhill from there."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/tim_skubick_woes_piling_up_for.html#incart_river

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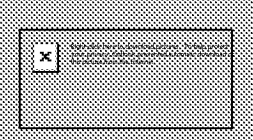

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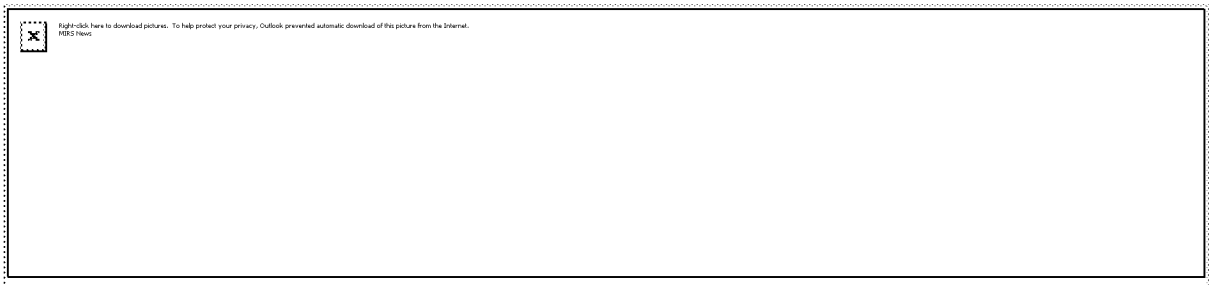
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:51 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, February 3, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, February 3, 2015

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HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/688

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/687

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Santana Says He's Been Expelled From Dem Caucus

Rep. Harvey SANTANA (D-Detroit), the new minority vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee, says he's been kicked out of Democratic caucus meetings.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42154

Lease Increase Approved For MDOT Railcars, Snyder Studying The Issue

A state board today increased the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) lease payments for some commuter railcars that currently aren't being used by the state.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42157

Young Wants Local Judges' Pay Unlinked From Justices' Salaries

Local judicial salaries would be given the same type of pay increase as state government's non-union management as opposed to being a flat percentage like a Supreme Court Justice's salary under

legislation endorsed today Michigan Chief Justice Robert YOUNG, Jr.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42156

Lawmakers Drill Down On MDOT Expenses As Ballot Proposal Looms

Planes. Trains. And government buildings. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) spends money on all of them, and some state lawmakers are examining those expenses closely this month.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42158

Senate OK's Gun Board Elimination In First Vote This Session

Revised versions of Sen. Mike GREEN's (R-Mayville) bills to repeal concealed pistol licensing boards sailed through the Senate today, making them the first bills voted off the floor this session.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42160

Sports Officials Urge Senators To Make Referee Assault A Felony

A screaming coach at a game full of 10-year-olds was all it took to bring Kris BIENIEWICZ back to the moment that altered her family's life forever.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42155

Snyder, Some Lawmakers Won't Commit To Mandatory Vaccinations

Gov. Rick SNYDER and other elected officials today shied away from the idea of mandating the vaccination of children, although the Governor said he "would hope" people get their children vaccinated.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42162

Right To Life Launches Statewide TV Ad Campaign

The Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund is running TV ads across the state this month that tell the stories of two women who oppose abortion and were conceived from rape.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42161

Report: Feds Nearing Deal To Build NITC Plaza

The President might not have included federal funding for a New International Trade Crossing customs plaza in his budget unveiled Monday, but federal officials say they are close to a deal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4513#42159

SOS Johnson Waiting To Take Stand On Prop 1

First Bill SCHUETTE.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42153

Senate Democrats Urge Snyder To Scrap Gay Marriage Appeal

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42152

Flint Given $2M To Fix Water System

The city of Flint, under fire from residents for having too much disinfection byproduct in its water system, received $2 million in grants from Gov. Rick SNYDER today to help detect leaks in its water lines and replace the water control facility's incinerator.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42150

Bits And Tidbits

Number Of Customers Waiting For Electric Choice Still Around 11K

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42161

MIRS Subscribers Please Note

Due to difficulties with the contractor MIRS' uses for SMS or text message delivery of breaking news alerts, an errant alert went out 11:35 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015 about state offices closing Monday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42163

On This Date In Michigan History

On Feb. 3, 1838, the Michigan Central Railroad began service.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42164

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: HAR

Senate Committee Calendar Events

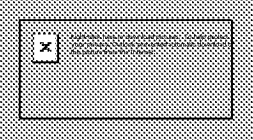
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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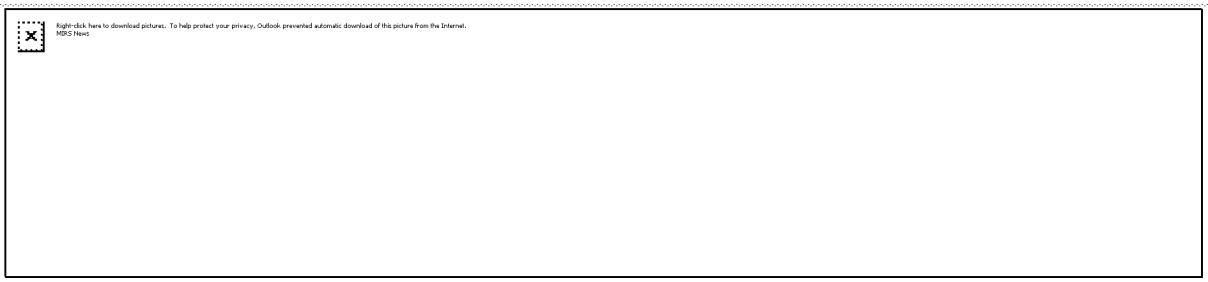
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 8:24 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Calley: Sales tax plan simplifies road, school funding

"Grand Rapids — Lt. Gov. Brian Calley sought Friday to simplify the complicated road funding proposal voters will decide on May 5 as opposition mounts to the sales tax increase plan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/06/calley-sales-tax-plan-simplifies-road-school-funding/23001163/*

U.S.: Pot use doesn't increase crash risk

"Washington — A government study released late Friday found no evidence that marijuana use leads to a higher risk of getting into a traffic crash."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/02/06/us-evidence-marijuana-leads-higher-crash-risk/23004549/*

Gov. Snyder pardons 11, many for decades-old crimes

"John Zubkoff walked to the road to get his mail and ripped open an envelope on the spot. A decades-long burden suddenly was lifted: Gov. Rick Snyder had erased his conviction for breaking into two storage units when he was 22."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/gov-snyder-pardons-michigan/22972283/*

Young parents both battle cancer

"LOWELL, Mich. – A west Michigan community is rallying support tonight for a husband and wife who are both fighting cancer. Ben and Shelby Offrink grew up in Lowell, but their brave battle is touching the hearts of people all over."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/ben-offrink-shelby-offrink-cancer-fund-raisers/22975341/

DNR: Insects, infections threaten Michigan trees

"Most of Michigan's 19.3 million acres of forest are in pretty good shape, with the biggest threats coming from invasive insects, fungal infections or a combination of both, according to the DNR's annual forest health report."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/michigan-trees-dnr-threats-insects-dangers/22980135/

Is shipwreck the Griffon? State to find out

"LANSING – By this summer, we will know for certain if the shipwreck discovered by two Muskegon treasure hunters is in fact the holy grail of all Great Lakes' shipwrecks - Le Griffon - which disappeared 336 years ago."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/shipwreck-lake-michigan-le-griffon-dive-kevin-dykstra-frederick-monroe/22972657/

How metro Detroit transit went from best to worst

"At the turn of the 20th Century, southeast Michigan had the largest and one of the best mass transit systems in the country. Today, we have one of the worst."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/02/06/michigan-detroit-public-transit/22926133/

State of Michigan workers brace for tough contract talks

"LANSING – The Great Recession hit state employees hard, but they climbed out of it quickly and have fared

relatively well since."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/state-workers-contract-talks/22972457/*

Safety study ordered into 193-vehicle crash on I-94

"KALAMAZOO – As investigators complete their reports on a huge January traffic crash, a study of I-94 is underway."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/07/safety-study-january-crash/23030445/*

Finding a plan outside marketplace makes sense for many

"Good deals may await those who sidestepwww.healthcare.gov — Michigan's portal to the Michigan Health Insurance Marketplace."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/02/06/health-coverage-exchange/22983403/*

Q and A: Making sense of health care and taxes

"As if choosing a health insurance plan wasn't tough enough, now you're going to have to deal with it again on your taxes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/02/06/health-insurance-tax-return/22996621/*

SHOP's open, but few small businesses are buying

"There is a fast-approaching Feb. 15 deadline for individuals to buy insurance through Healthcare.gov— the Michigan Health Insurance Marketplace."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/02/06/shop-michigan-businesses-affordable-care-act/23008171/*

Clock's ticking: Have you signed up for health coverage?

"Whether you're without health coverage or you were pleased with the plan you got last year from theMichigan

Health Insurance Marketplace, the clock is running out."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/02/06/deadline-nears-health-insurance-coverage/22992281/*

NBC launches investigation of Brian Williams

"NBC News confirmed Friday that it's investigating chief anchor Brian Williams over his now-retracted statement that he was in a helicopter in Iraq that was hit by enemy fire and forced to land."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/2015/02/06/brian-williams-katrina-coverage-in-question/22980005/*

Free Press wins top honors in statewide news contest

"GRAND RAPIDS – The Detroit Free Press won top honors from the Michigan Press Association today, including the Public Service Award for the paper's coverage of Detroit's historic bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/newspaper-awards-michigan-press-association/23011353/*

Toledo mayor dies after cardiac arrest while driving

"TOLEDO, Ohio — Mayor D. Michael Collins died Friday, five days after suffering cardiac arrest while driving during a snowstorm. He was 70."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/obituary/2015/02/06/toledo-mayor-obituary/22992715/*

Slap, hair comment cost Bloomfield Hills coach his job

"Nearly 11 months ago, Duane Graves was coaching high school basketball on the biggest stage in the state — the Class A state championship game at Michigan State's Breslin Center."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/high-school/2015/02/06/bloomfield-hills-coach-slap-duane-graves/23010727/*

Bernard Kilpatrick facing big restitution tab

"Now that Bernard Kilpatrick has paid his debt to society, he still has another debt to take care of: a $61,776.89 restitution tab."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/02/06/bernard-kilpatrick-free-prison/22986307/*

Feds: Crooked pharmacist, phony doctor scammed millions

"In two separate cases, the U.S. Attorney's Office has ensnared a crooked pharmacist and a phony doctor – both of whom are going to prison for scamming the government out of millions of dollars."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/06/crooked-pharmacist/23012547/*

'Walking man' James Robertson gets new Ford Taurus

"James Robertson's marathon commute to work will be slashed by hours, now that the hard-workin', hard-walkin' hero finally got a car."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/02/06/robertson-car-commuter-detroit/22988565/*

Death penalty for cop killers? Michigan resolution calls for capital punishment

"LANSING, MI -- Cop killers could face the death penalty under a constitutional amendment proposed this week in Michigan, which is believed to be the first government in the English-speaking world to ban capital punishment in 1846."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/death_penalty_for_cop_killers.html#incart_river*

U.S. Air Force announces plan to retire jets based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base

"HARRISON TOWNSHIP, MI -- The U.S. Air Force on Friday announced intentions to retiree its fleet of A-10 jets, 20 of which are based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Macomb County."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/02/us_air_force_announces_plan_to.html#incart_river*

GOP replacement plan for Obamacare unveiled by Congressman Fred Upton, two U.S. senators

"Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, is among the authors of a Republican plan released this week to replace the Affordable Care Act."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/02/gop_replacement_plan_for_obama.html#incart_river*

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder 'in good spirits' but still in hospital with blood clot

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is in "good spirits" but remains hospitalized with a blood clot in his previously injured right leg."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_in_go.html#incart_river_news*

Michigan's only fashion incubator to receive MEDC assistance

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan's only fashion business incubator is in line for some state funding, the Lansing Area Economic Partnership announced Friday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/michigans_only_fashion_incubat.html#incart_river_news*

Michigan State trustees approve construction of $85 million research facility in Grand Rapids

"EAST LANSING -- Michigan State University trustees approved the construction of the Grand Rapids Research Center with a budget of $85 million at its meeting Friday morning."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/michigan_state_trustees_approv.html#incart_river*

Anthem health insurance hack could affect Michiganders, state insurance department monitoring situation

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services Director Annette Flood is keeping

an eye on a hack of national insurance company Anthem that compromised personal data from about 80 million customers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/anthem_health_insurance_hack_c.html#incart_river*

Gov. Rick Snyder to issue executive order creating new state department

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI - The state's departments of community health and human services will consolidate under an executive order to be issued by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/gov_rick_snyder_to_issue_execu.html#incart_river*

Great Lakes ice cover: View from space shows difference from last winter

"The recent cold weather has caused the Great Lakes ice cover to expand. Here is a comparison of how the ice situation stacks up now compared to this time last year. Some of the ice amounts you would suspect, but there are a few interesting details."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/02/great_lakes_ice_cover_view_fro.html#incart_river*

Tour shows Republican lawmakers clean energy efforts at Bell's Brewery, KVCC and WM

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** -- Republican legislators from Southwest Michigan toured facilities at Bell's Eccentric Cafe, Kalamazoo Valley Community College and Western Michigan University on Friday to hear about sustainable, clean-energy efforts credited with saving money and creating jobs."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/02/sen_margaret_obrien_rep_brandt.html#incart_river*

Ken Braun: Michigan Democrats revealed outsized fear over Jeb Bush visit

"Former Florida governor and Republican U.S. Presidential contender Jeb Bush spoke to the Detroit Economic Club on Wednesday. In advance of his arrival, Michigan Democratic Party chair Lon Johnson provided an essay in these pages seeking to portray Bush as out of touch with Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/ken_braun_michigan_democrats_r.html#incart_river*

In Michigan State speech, Rep. John Lewis recalls marching and bleeding for equality

"EAST LANSING -- It was 1961 and John Lewis, before the people of Georgia\'s Fifth District elected him to Congress, was eating Chinese food with some friends."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/in_michigan_state_speech_rep_j.html#incart_2box*

Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Notorious RBG, the power of dissent and breaking gender barriers

"U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg talked about topics ranging from gender equality and campaign financing to family life and her nickname Notorious RBG Friday morning when she headlined the University of Michigan's 2015 Tanner Lecture on Human Values in front of a jam-packed Hill Auditorium."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/02/supreme_court_justice_ruth_bad.html#incart_2box*

New Flint city administrator contract includes $8,100 in yearly allowances

"FLINT, MI – New City Administrator Natasha L. Henderson is in line to collect vehicle and cell phone allowances worth $8,100 annually in addition to her $140,000 salary, according to an employment agreement approved by Flint's emergency manager."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/02/new_flint_city_administrators.html#incart_river

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Advocacy/Opinion

Other writers: On policing for profit, foreign policy

"Feds can't stop 'policing for profit'

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/02/07/writers-measles-forfeiture/22999089/

Feedback: Readers say pay for your own child care

"In the wake of President Barack Obama saying he wants to address the high cost of child care, Nancy Kaffer wrote about her own experience paying $10,128 a year, and why it's so important to make it more affordable for everyone. Free Press readers were having nothing of it."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/02/06/child-care-michigan/23015813/*

No, Fox News, mental disability is not a fad

"He had his first major breakdown when he was 26."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/02/05/mental-illness-health-bipolar-fox-news/22939161/*

Where wealthy donors meet struggling homeowners

"Downstairs at Detroit's Cobo Center this week, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush spoke to a well-heeled crowd of about 600 at a Detroit Economic Club luncheon."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/02/06/jeb-bush-detroit/22950057/*

Guest column: New bills will help college grads with debt, fight brain drain

"When the average student graduates from a university in Michigan, they don't leave with just a degree. New data shows the average graduate walks away from school with an average of $30,000 in student loan debt."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/guest_column_new_bills_to_assi.html#incart_river*

Guest column: Great Lakes need new protections from pollutants that lead to algal blooms

"No drink, no boil. That's the water advisory more than 400,000 people from Monroe to Toledo woke up to this past August. The culprit? Microcystin, a toxin produced by blue-green algae that had contaminated the water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/guest_column_the_great_lakes_d.html#incart_river*

Susan J. Demas: How is Jeb Bush's 'Reform Conservatism' different from George W. Bush's 'Compassionate Conservatism'?

""Reform conservatism" is a thing now, or at least Jeb Bush wants it to be."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/jeb_bush_detroit_reform_conser.html#incart_river_news*

Press Releases

Gov. Rick Snyder: New department to focus on people, promote River of Opportunity

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed an executive order to align family and health related services by creating the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Snyder first announced his plans for the department during his State of the State address on Jan. 20.
"

Source: *Governor Rick Snyder* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423259254_sny.pdf*

Surprise, Surprise: Grand Rapids Man Wins Fantasy 5 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 6, 2015** – A Grand Rapids man got two surprises when he won the Fantasy 5 jackpot."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257407_gr.pdf*

Going Up: Powerball Jackpot Raised to $380 Million for Saturday's Drawing

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 6, 2015** – Strong player interest has pushed up Saturday's Powerball jackpot by $20 million to a whopping $380 million. The cash option for the jackpot is nearly $257 million."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257355_pb.pdf*

MTA sets 2015 legislative priorities

*"**Delta Charter Township, Mich.—**The Michigan Townships Association (MTA) announces its 2015 legislative priorities, following adoption of its policy platform by Association member township officials last week. "*

Source: *MTA* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257317_mta.pdf*

Senator Peters Statement on Air Force's Proposal to Retire A-10 Aircraft Fleet

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today expressed his disappointment following the U.S. Air Force's announcement of its intent to retire the A-10 aircraft from Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Fiscal Year 2017. The A-10 is currently conducting operations against ISIS, and over 20 A-10s are based at Selfridge in Macomb County."*

Source: *Senator Peters* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257261_spe.pdf

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Hunger Doesn't Take a Summer Vacation

"The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is looking for community partners, sponsors, and potential site locations to participate in Michigan's Summer Meet Up and Eat Up™ initiative and run summer food programs to prevent more than a half million children in Michigan from going hungry when school lunchrooms close for the summer.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257221_mded.pdf

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MSL PRESS RELEASE: Kalamazoo County Player Wins $300,000 Playing Magic Number Bingo from the Michiga

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 6, 2015** – A Kalamazoo County man couldn't stop yelling "BINGO!" after winning $300,000 playing Magic Number Bingo from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257174_mlo.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts Comment on FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler's Net Neutrality Plan

"Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Tom Wheeler this week unveiled his plan to

reclassify broadband under Title II of the Communications Act, a section of the law written in 1934 the FCC uses to regulate telephone service. Wheeler says the change is necessary for the government to enforce net neutrality regulations on broadband networks and prevent Internet service providers from favoring some types of data traffic over others."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257138_hland.pdf

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Detroit Casino Revenues and Wagering Taxes Reported for January

"Detroit—The three Detroit casinos' January 2015 aggregate revenue of $111 million was up 15.6 percent compared with January 2014."

Source: *MGCB* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423257076_mgmc.pdf

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M-15 nighttime bridge beam setting scheduled in Tuscola County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is scheduled to begin setting bridge beams on the M-15 bridge over the Cass River. Short, 15-minute road closures will be in effect across the bridge. Nighttime work is scheduled to minimize the inconvenience to motorists."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256994_mdt.pdf

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Powerball Jackpot Hits $360 Million for Saturday's Drawing

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 6, 2015** – The Powerball jackpot has reached an eye-popping $360 million for Saturday's drawing, and Michigan Lottery players would love to get their hands on that cash."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256944_ml.pdf

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State orders audit of I-94 following historic January pileup

"LANSING, Mich. – State Senator Margaret O'Brien announced on Friday that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has commissioned a Road Safety Audit for the stretch of Interstate 94 that runs between the Michigan-Indiana border and the city of Jackson."

Source: *Senator O'Brien* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256901_nar.pdf

Mitchell Appears on Off The Record Against Prop 1

"Lansing, MI – Paul Mitchell, head of the Coalition Against Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals, appeared on 'Off The Record' with Tim Skubick this week to discuss his opposition to the $2 billion tax increase. During his appearance, Mitchell noted his commitment to defeat the proposal on the ballot May 5th, 2015. Mitchell also emphasized the massive special interest deals, over $700 million, which had to be promised in order get the votes to send it to the public.

"

Source: *Coalition Against Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256855_mitche.pdf*

Supreme Court Requests Supplemental Briefs and Argument in Auto No-Fault Transparency Case

*"**Lansing –** The Michigan Supreme Court issued an order Wednesday in the case of Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault v. Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association. The court order requests the parties to submit within 35 days supplemental briefs regarding the constitutionality of the statute that purports to exempt the MCCA from the Freedom of Information Act. Oral arguments will follow."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256754_msss.pdf*

DNR receives updated Graymont proposal for Upper Peninsula land transaction

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has received a revised land transaction application from Graymont, Inc. The company is proposing development of a limestone mining operation in northern Mackinac County near the town of Rexton. The land transaction application amends a January 2015 version of the proposal. "

Source: *MDNR* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423256708_dnr.pdf*

UM Wolverine Caucus Forum (February 25th)

"Whether it is "Startup Weekend" or "Maker Week", student inventors and entrepreneurs in Michigan are developing business start-ups at a rapid rate. At the University of Michigan, Startup Weekend by Google for Entrepreneurs, managed by the U-M student organization, MPowered, launched an amazing "startup-athon" of innovation and creation. U-M students, researchers, and entrepreneurs are collaborating to develop

community focused, real-world solutions that are leading to game-changing economic opportunities in Michigan and beyond."

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423234329_uofm.pdf

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Listen Up: Radio Stations Across Michigan Giving Away Michigan Lottery Online Game Cards

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 6, 2015** – Michigan Lottery players should keep their ears open and fingers ready to dial and win!"*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423234064_lottery.pdf

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Budget Conversations Begin

"Next Week, Governor Snyder is set to give his budget presentation before a joint meeting of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriation. Shortly after, the House and Senate will begin our work prioritizing state resources through the appropriations process. This session, I will continue to be a voice for Ingham County as a member of the House Appropriations Committee. My focus will be on protecting funding for our public schools and institutions of higher learning as well as making sure our local governments have the resources they need to keep our communities vibrant. I will provide you with updates as this process moves forward."

Source: *Rep. Sam Singh* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423233988_singh.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts Comment on Tennessee's Rejection of Medicaid Expansion

"The Health and Welfare Committee of the Tennessee Senate on Thursday voted 7–4 against a bill that would allow Gov. Bill Haslam (R) to expand Medicare, as allowed under the Affordable Care Act. The vote essentially kills the Republican governor's plan to create "Insure Tennessee" for adults in the state who make less than 138 percent of the poverty level."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423233898_heartland.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the reappointments of Norm Shinkle, of Williamston, and Julie Matuzak, of Mount Clemens, to the Board of State Canvassers."

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *02-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423233641_govappt.pdf

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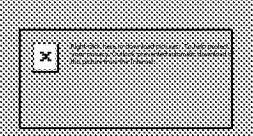
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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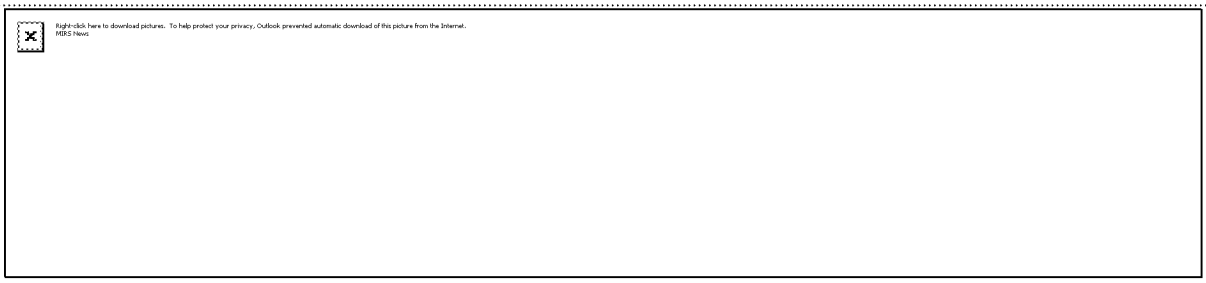

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Senate to consider natural resources grants that include $48K for Groveland Twp. fishing pier

"The Michigan Senate will soon decide whether a public park in Groveland Township will gain a universally accessible fishing pier with grants from the state's Natural Resources Trust Fund."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/government-and-politics/20150209/senate-to-consider-natural-resources-grants-that-include-48k-for-groveland-twp-fishing-pier*

Supreme Court action in Alabama gay marriage may offer clue on upcoming Michigan ruling

"HAZEL PARK, MI -- Same-sex couples in Alabama on Monday were lining up to getmarried in some counties and being turned away in others, after the U.S. Supreme Court declined to stay a court decision striking down that state's gay marriage ban."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/02/supreme_court_action_in_alabam.html#incart_river

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Flint emergency manager's first order: Regular schedule for City Council meetings

"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Jerry Ambrose has issued his first executive order – resetting regular meeting times for the City Council and its committees."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/02/emergency_managers_first_order.html#incart_river

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Gov. Snyder to propose increases to higher education and community college budgets

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder plans to ask the Michigan Legislature to approve a $28 million increase in state spending for university operations when he unveils his 2016 executive budget on Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/gov_snyder_to_propose_increase.html#incart_river

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Capitol offices glimmer with ghosts of executives past

"LANSING – When aides for state Rep. Sam Singh began moving the new minority floor leader into the Capitol early this year, they were surprised by the limits on their interior decorating plans."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/capitol/2015/02/09/capitol-offices-glimmer-ghosts-executives-past/23135081/

Snyder to cut state programs but boost education

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to increase spending to promote third-grade reading, improve skilled trades training and boost Michigan universities in his Wednesday budget presentation. But officials say he will cut state programs and jobs in other areas to eliminate projected shortfalls."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/09/state-budget-rick-snyder/23090885/

Gov. Snyder released from hospital

"LANSING – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder was released from an Ann Arbor area hospital today after spending a fourth night there Sunday as a result of a blood clot in his leg."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/09/governor-snyder-hospital-blood-clot/23108629/

GOP still has hopes to win Michigan in 2016

"WASHINGTON – Jeb Bush had barely concluded his remarks to the Detroit Economic Club on Wednesday

before a spokesman for Sen. Rand Paul shot out a message congratulating the former Florida governor — and, like Paul, a potential 2016 presidential candidate — on visiting Motown."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/07/gop-presidential-michigan/23043565/*

Former Saline mayor to run for Congress

"WASHINGTON — State Rep. Gretchen Driskell, D-Saline, says she'll run in 2016 for the Democratic nomination in Michigan's 7th congressional district, a seat held since 2011 by U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg, R-Tipton."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/09/driskell-announces-run/23132711/*

Officials: End of probe means new day for Wayne County

"The clouds may have parted a bit over the Guardian Building Monday as the federal government wrapped up its three-year corruption probe of Wayne County government."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/02/09/officials-end-probe-means-new-day-wayne-county/23151013/*

Gay rights group calls for signatures to send court

"WASHINGTON — The nation's largest civil rights group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people is launching a signature drive in support of a legal brief calling on the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn same-sex marriage bans in Michigan and three other states."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/09/gay-rights-group-signatures-same-sex-brief-supreme-court/23130727/*

Senators urge currency manipulation crackdown

"Washington – — The battle over a proposed free-trade agreement is heating up as a group of influential senators on Tuesday will unveil legislation seeking to crack down on currency manipulation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/02/09/senators-urge-currency-manipulation-crackdown/23143765/*

Snyder plans 75% hike in funding for career training

"Lansing – — Gov. Rick Snyder will ask Michigan lawmakers for a 75 percent increase in funding for skilled trades training and career technical education in his budget proposal for the new fiscal year."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/09/snyder-plans-hike-funding-career-training/23149167/*

Gov. Rick Snyder released from Ann Arbor hospital

"Gov. Rick Snyder was released from an Ann Arbor hospital just after 8 a.m. Monday after being hospitalized for four nights for treatment of a blood cot in his right leg."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/09/gov-rick-snyder-released-ann-arbor-hospital/23111047/*

Ficano: 'My record and my good name have been cleared'

"The investigation and corruption allegations that dogged former Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano's administration for years, contributing to his re-election loss in the August primary, ended Monday and Ficano found himself facing no charges."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/09/robert-ficano/23115777/*

Ficano not a crook, but not vindicated

"When the federal investigation into Wayne County's tangled finances began, the question was whether former County Executive Robert Ficano was a crook or simply incompetent. Now federal investigators have provided the answer.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/02/09/edit-bob-ficano-vindicated/23141715/*

Feds: Ex-Detroit court officer pocketed debt payments

"Detroit — A former 36th District Court officer was charged Monday in a federal indictment for allegedly taking money meant to pay off individuals' court debts but instead wound up in his pocket, according to a complaint unsealed Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/09/feds-court-officer-pocketed-payments/23144331/*

Lawyer: Let embattled 36th District Judge Sanders quit

"Detroit — Judge Brenda Sanders, recently re-elected to the 36th District Court, should be allowed to retire and not be removed from the court, her attorney said Monday during the jurist's disciplinary hearing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/09/complaint-hearing-today-th-district-judge/23108027/*

Metro Detroit gas drilling rules irk opponents

"Michigan will introduce new rules this week for advance notification and certain precautions that oil and gas companies must adopt when looking to site new wells in Metro Detroit, but fall short of a drilling halt sought by opponents."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/environment/2015/02/09/metro-detroit-drilling-rules/23156435/

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: New House speaker stands firm on GOP caucus's refusal to endorse road tax hike plan

"The speakership of Rep. Kevin Cotter remains a work in progress but he demonstrated some real moxie the other day."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/tim_skubick_new_house_speaker.html#incart_river

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Urban and rural poverty pose different challenges for Michigan schoolchildren

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** -- Anthony Barnes knows about inner-city poverty first-hand from his childhood in Grand Rapids."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/02/comparing_rural_vs_urban_pover.html#incart_river

Howes: Ficano legacy shaped by Wayne's deep fiscal woes

"Leave it to the lawyer to set us all straight: "I told you so three years ago," Steve Fishman said Monday. "Mr. Ficano did nothing wrong."

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/02/09/howes-ficano-legacy-defined-wayne-county-fiscal-troubles/23155431/*

Governor Snyder's 'River of Opportunity' - A good idea

"Gov. Rick Snyder is to be commended for calling on us all to put "people over programs" in his "River of Opportunity" State of the State address. The governor launched his second term, calling for "revolutionizing how government operates" to move all Michiganders into the mainstream "river of opportunity" where he says most residents already swim."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/02/09/opinion/doc54d4c315725a7151996352.txt*

GOP's broad ambitions should be subordinate to one: improving education

"History, they say, is written by the winners. And here's a rock-solid political truth: The folks with the votes write the notes."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/02/gops-broad-ambitions-should-be-subordinate-to-one-improving-education/*

JACK SPENCER: Pick your poison

"

On May 5, Michigan voters will have the chance to either approve or reject the road funding deal Gov. Rick Snyder and the legislature hashed out during the December lame duck session. All told, that deal is a $2.15 billion tax hike, which is considerably more than the $1.2 billion to $1.5 billion the Governor had been saying is needed for roads."

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/02/09/jack-spencer-pick-poison/*

Press Releases

Dingell to Host Tele-townhall to Help Constituents "Get Covered"

*"**Washington, DC –** With the end of open enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace quickly approaching, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) wants to ensure that those who remain uninsured or wish to re-enroll and have not yet done so have the opportunity to discuss issues and ask questions before the February 15th deadline. Dingell will host a tele-townhall on **Thursday, February 12th** with USDHHS Region 5 Director Kathleen Falk to provide information on enrollment, provide important tax information, and answer any questions residents may have regarding how to get enrolled or why signing up matters and helps them."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520683_dingell.pdf

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National Media Problem of Racial Biases Comes to Lansing

"LANSING — Recently, Lansing radio host Tim Barron, who emcees a morning radio program on WLMI 92.9, used his Facebook page to excuse the murder of a young black man, Michael Smith, a 22-year old Lansing area resident that was shot to death last Thursday. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520457_pm.pdf

Rep. Kosowski Forming New Health and Fitness Caucus

*"LANSING — State Representative **Robert Kosowski** (D-Westland) announced today that he is forming a new caucus aimed at improving the lives and well-being of Michigan citizens. The Health and Fitness Caucus will include both parties and both houses of the Legislature, as he is joined in the effort by state Rep. **Klint Kesto** (R-West Bloomfield) and state Sen. **Steve Bieda**(D-Warren). Kosowski will serve as chairman of the new caucus."*

Source: *Rep. Robert Kosowski* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520351_kosowski.pdf

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Upton Committee Releases Legislative Framework for Broad Energy Package

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, chaired by Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released framework for a comprehensive energy package. The committee is releasing a series of discussion drafts that aim to build an "Architecture of Abundance" by addressing four key policy areas: modernizing infrastructure, a 21st century energy workforce, energy diplomacy, and efficiency and accountability. The committee plans to advance the discussion drafts through its legislative process in the coming months with the goal of bringing a solutions-focused energy package to the House

floor later this year.

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520309_upton.pdf*

Free Press reporter who led charter school review named first Michigan Journalist of the Year

"Jennifer Dixon of the Detroit Free Press, lead reporter for an eight-part investigative series on charter schools, was announced today as winner of the first annual Michigan Journalist of the Year Award, sponsored by the Michigan Press Association Foundation."

Source: *PR Media Release* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520255_freep.pdf*

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enishek Applauds USDA Veteran Grant Program

"Washington, D.C.- Following the announcement from the USDA to release $9 million in grant funds to minority and veteran farmers, Congressman Dan Benishek, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, said the following:"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520207_drdan.pdf*

MDOT hosts public meeting Feb. 18 to discuss construction at I-96/US-23 near Brighton

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will host a public meeting to provide information about upcoming construction at the I-96/US-23 interchange in 2015 and 2016. There will be no formal presentation made. Interested stakeholders can stop by at any time to discuss the project with MDOT staff."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520174_mdot.pdf*

First Lady Sue Snyder partners with Shades of Pink Breast Cancer Foundation

"LANSING, Mich — Eleven-year breast cancer survivor and First Lady Sue Snyder will support Southeast Michigan women battling cancer and serve as honorary chair of the Shades of Pink Foundation 8th Annual Zoo Walk in honor of the foundation's 10th anniversary.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520139_gov.pdf

Bullseye Automotive Products Inc. Fined $700k for Violating State's Weights and Measures Act

"

Lansing - The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) today announced Bullseye Automotive Products Inc. of Illinois has been fined $711,415 in a default judgment issued by the Honorable Clinton Canady III in Ingham County 30th Circuit Court."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423520084_ag2.pdf

Northern Lower Peninsula wolf survey starts Feb. 16

"Feb. 16 through March 13 marks the next wolf track survey to detect the presence of gray wolves in the northern Lower Peninsula."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519478_dnr3.pdf

CRC Hosting Budget and Revenue Sharing Webinars in February

"The Citizens Research Council of Michigan is hosting two webinars in the month of February: an analysis of Governor Snyder's Budget Message and a review of the soon to be released report suggesting reform ideas for statutory state revenue sharing. Registration is available with the links below or on CRC's home page at www.crcmich.org."

Source: *Citizens Research Council* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519328_crc.pdf

2015-16 Advocacy Principles Released by MI Catholic Conference

*"(**Lansing, Mich**.) – Legislative efforts to defend human life and dignity, religious liberty and policies that assist the poor and vulnerable are at the forefront of Michigan Catholic Conference's advocacy principles for the 2015-2016 legislative session. Titled A Blueprint for the Common Good, the Conference's advocacy framework for the 98th Michigan Legislature also calls for greater educational choice, defending the traditional definition of the family, restorative justice policies, and comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level of government."*

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519285_mcc.pdf

Natural Resources Commission to meet Thursday in Lansing

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Feb. 12, at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan in Lansing."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519231_dnr2.pdf

Scofes & Associates Consulting, Inc., names Greg Faremouth as new Senior Operating Officer

*"**Lansing, MI --** Greg Faremouth joins Scofes & Associates Consulting, Inc. as its Senior Operating Officer for Government Procurement and Business Development Services."*

Source: *Scofes & Associates* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519191_Greg's Press Release 02092015.pdf

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Alpena County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 9, 2015** – An Alpena County educator known for bringing real-life experiences into the classroom, including a program that creates a student-run economy in her school, has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.*

"
Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423519103_lottery.pdf

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Department of State offices to be closed for Presidents Day

"LANSING, Mich. -- Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, Feb. 16."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423494744_closed.pdf

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Income tax cuts won't grow the economy

"LANSING, Mich. --Rolling back Michigan's income tax would jeopardize jobs and the economy, and it's fiscally irresponsible at a time the state has major budget shortfalls."

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492956_mipp.pdf

Enjoy Free Fishing Weekend Feb. 14-15 with events across Michigan

"On Saturday, Feb. 14, and Sunday, Feb. 15, everyone in Michigan – including residents and non-residents – can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492909_dnr.pdf

Potential High Risk Areas around TB Positive Deer Established

"LANSING – Today, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), established two "Potential High Risk Areas" for bovine Tuberculosis (TB) after the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) confirmed two bovine TB positive free-ranging white-tailed deer in Presque Isle County. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492665_ag.pdf

Zemke Appointed to Michigan Youth in Government Board

""The YMCA's Michigan Youth in Government is a wonderful program that teaches our future leaders about the workings of state government. These young Michiganders get to hone skills in communication and collaboration while developing a much deeper understanding about the legislative process. I am immensely proud to join the program on the board of directors and help educate more young people about how laws are made in their state. I am excited to see these young scholars grow into the future public servants of Michigan's bright tomorrow.""

Source: *Rep. Adam Zemke* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492810_zemke.pdf

Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, February 9, 2015

"Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, February 9, 2015"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492712_smedia.pdf

The President's Budget in Charts

"February 9, 2015 – National Priorities Project (NPP) has released a suite of chartsillustrating President Obama's 2016 budget proposal as well as spending trends over time."

Source: *National Priority Project* **Date:** *02-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423492663_npp.pdf

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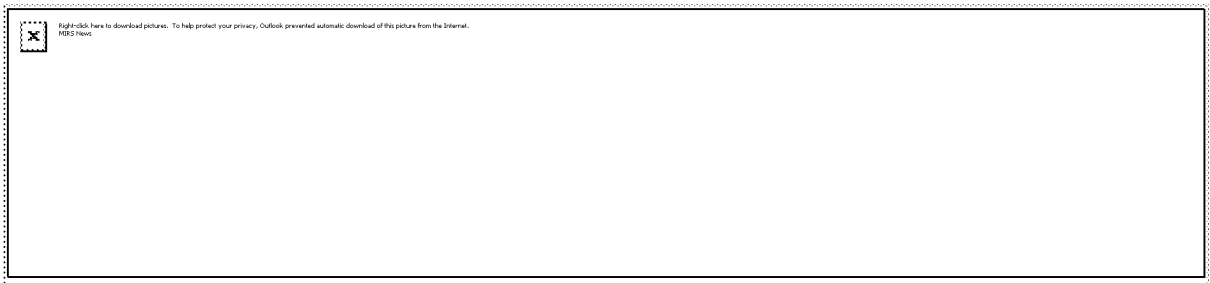
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2015 9:15 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Oakland County prosecutor calls probe request a 'rant'

"Pontiac – — A shadowy citizens group asked the Michigan attorney general on Friday to investigate what it alleges is gross neglect of duty and malfeasance in office by Oakland County Prosecutor Jessica Cooper in her handling of concerns at the Novi's 52-1 District Court."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/02/13/oakland-county-prosecutor-probe-requested/23373607/*

Panel: Taylor teachers not required to pay union dues

"The Michigan Employment Relations Commission ruled Friday that teachers in the Taylor Public School District are not bound by their contract to pay union dues for the next 10 years, saying the provision violates the state's right-to-work law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/13/teachers-right-work-michigan-ruling/23384091/*

WSU calls in exterminators after bedbug sighting

"Officials at Wayne State University called in exterminators this week after bedbugs were found in a dormitory, which followed a possible sighting in a cubicle at the the school's medical library."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/02/14/bedbug-sighting-wayne-state/23387929/*

Rouge plant's retooled tour is wild ride

"Dearborn — In the span of four months, the newly renovated Ford Rouge Factory Tour, a popular visitor attraction at The Henry Ford, has been transformed into a high-tech multisensory experience."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/02/13/rouge-plants-retooled-tour-wild-ride/23400877/*

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan names new planning director

"Mayor Mike Duggan has appointed Maurice Cox, an associate dean at the Tulane University School of Architecture in New Orleans, as his new director of the Planning and Development department."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/02/13/new-detroit-planning-director/23383539/*

GM returns to bankruptcy court seeking legal protection

"The same judge who oversaw General Motors' 2009 bankruptcy will hear arguments Tuesday over how much of a shield the company still has against lawsuits involving vehicles and crashes from before the automaker exited bankruptcy in July 2009, most notably those vehicles with defective ignition switches."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/02/13/gm-heading-back-bankruptcy-court/23394985/*

White House: Detroit Schools lose big under House bill

"Detroit Public Schools would stand to lose a big chunk of the federal dollars it receives for low-income students under a bill that cleared a House committee in Congress Thursday, according to an analysis by the White House."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/02/13/white-house-analysis-title-detroit-public-schools/23364511/*

Official's criminal past roils Michigan GOP

"LANSING — The revelation that a state party committee member has a criminal past that includes prison time for one of the largest financial frauds in Michigan history is the latest controversy to shake the Michigan Republican Party as it heads into its state convention next weekend in Lansing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/02/13/michigan-gop-committeeman-criminal-past/23346015/*

Justice Ginsburg: Not '100% sober' at State of the Union

"WASHINGTON – For Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, falling asleep at the State of the Union address is nothing new. All it takes is a good glass of wine."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/02/13/supreme-court-ginsburg-state-of-the-union/23360117/*

Get ready for the Apple Car, reports say

"SAN FRANCISCO – What's next, the Apple House?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/tech/2015/02/13/apple-reported-to-be-working-on-building-an-automobile/23383625/*

Valentine 'best' list puts Detroit last: Really?

"Oh, to spend a romantic Valentine's Day in the Dallas suburb of Plano, Texas."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/life/2015/02/13/detroit-last-valentines-city-list/23378845/*

Dearborn woman: I saw Muslim man attacked at Kroger

"Dearborn Police said today they are investigating an alleged bias assault by two white men against an Arab-American Muslim man who was shopping Thursday at a Kroger grocery store in the city."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/02/13/dearborn-muslim-attack/23388379/*

Panel: Radioactive fracking waste-dumping is safe

"Disposal of low-level radioactive fracking waste does not harm Michigan's environment under current rules, a panel appointed by Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder determined, and a Van Buren Township landfill could even handle higher radioactivity levels without risk."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/02/14/tenorm-deq-radioactive-fracking-waste-landfill-oil-gas/23390161/*

West Michigan school districts seeking voter support on tax proposals in May

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI - Eight West Michigan school districts have tax proposals requesting voter support for bonds, operating cash and sinking fund renewals on the Tuesday, May 5, ballot."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/post_562.html*

GVSU seeks to accredit its charter schools office to offset scrutiny over academic performance

"ALLENDALE, MI - Facing state scrutiny, Grand Valley State University's charter school's office is set to be evaluated by an outside education group, a step that administrators say demonstrates the university's dedication to quality and independent oversight."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/gvsu_seeks_to_accredit_its_cha.html*

Parents at Kalamazoo's El Sol Elementary lobby for Spanish immersion for middle-schoolers

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** -- As a fifth-grader at Kalamazoo's El Sol Elementary School, Luna Drumm Walsh has studied Spanish since kindergarten and is now fluent enough to spend half of her school day in instruction where Spanish is the only language spoken."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/02/parents_at_kalamazoos_el_sol_e.html*

GOP strategist John Yob assaulted by wife twice in 24 days, police say

"CHARLEVOIX COUNTY, MI -- The domestic violence arrest of Erica Yob, the wife of national GOP political consultant John Yob, on Jan. 27 was her second alleged assault on her husband in a 24-day

span, court records in Charlevoix County show."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/02/police_say_gop_political_strat.html#incart_river*

Michigan roads proposal: May election could cost state $10 million to conduct

"LANSING, MI -- A road funding proposal sent to the May 5 ballot by Michigan lawmakerswill cost the state millions in election expenses, but legislation moving quickly in Lansing could lower the total price tag."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/michigan_roads_proposal_may_el.html#incart_river*

Dangerous travel weekend in Michigan: Whiteouts, record cold, and wind chills to -40

"It's going to be a dangerous weekend to travel in Michigan, but not necessarily because of heavy snow everywhere."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/02/dangerous_travel_weekend_in_mi.html#incart_river

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Ken Braun: Opposing mandatory childhood vaccinations isn't a conservative, pro-life position

"Last June, The Daily Show on Comedy Central presented "An Outbreak of Liberal Idiocy." The satirical segment drove home a real point about the rise of easily preventable yet very serious childhood illnesses in "Left leaning" communities loaded with parents who refuse to vaccinate kids."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/ken_braun_opposing_mandatory_c.html#incart_river*

10% of Michigan's energy will come from renewable sources by end of year

"LANSING, MI -- The state is on track to have 10 percent of its energy come from renewable sources by the end of 2015, according to a report issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/10_of_michigans_energy_will_co.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

When it comes to transit, metro Detroit can do better

"I appreciated reading Brian Dickerson's columnabout the ways our region is held back by our patchwork bus transportation system. As an elected Bloomfield Hills city commissioner and former mayor, I have always been disappointed that we are among the opt-out cities."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/02/14/detroit-transit-james-robertson/23389503/*

Regionalism too tough to swallow? Try Flint's water

"So it turns out that building your own regional water system is costly, time-consuming and difficult. Who knew?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/02/14/lessons-flint-water-crisis/23390073/*

We lost a fighter, but fight for racial justice continues

"The embers of the 1967 civil unrest were still hot when a young Methodist minister, fresh from Union Theological Seminary in New York, drove into Detroit to serve as pastor at Detroit's Westlawn United Methodist Church. Many then — and today — would see that coincidence as the work of providence."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/02/14/dan-krichbaum/23390257/*

Susan J. Demas: Michigan could see a bipartisan effort to legalize marijuana

"Four states have legalized marijuana. Could Michigan be next?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/02/marijuana_michigan_taxes_legal.html#incart_river*

Andrew Heller: Brian Williams lied, how about you?

""You know what Brian Williams' biggest mistake was?" my back home pal Moon Dimple asked."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://blog.mlive.com/flintjournal/aheller/2015/02/andrew_heller_brian_williams_l.html#comments

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Guest column: Lake Erie column diminishes agriculture industry\'s commitment to water quality

"The algal bloom issues facing Lake Erie are serious and complex. They call for new thinking, a new paradigm and new partnerships to create solutions."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/guest_column_lake_erie_comment.html#incart_river

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Press Releases

2015 Evans - Graham Preservation Grant Available

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Detroit - February 13, 2015 - The Michigan Architectural Foundation is once again accepting applications for the Evans - Graham Memorial Preservation Award for Historic Preservation. Thanks to a partnership with the Clannad Foundation, a five year commitment from Quinn Evans Architects of Ann Arbor and an anonymous endowment, a grant of $7,500 will be awarded to a not-for-profit (501(c)(3) organization that can demonstrate a creative solution to a preservation problem. An application form and further information is available on line at the link below. The deadline is April 3, 2015. Applicants may call the Foundation at 313-965-4100 with specific questions.
"

Source: *Michigan Architectural Foundation* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423863311_grant.pdf

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Speaker Cotter announces new legislative director

"House Speaker Kevin Cotter today announced the hire of Lindsay Vogelsberg as his new legislative director. Vogelsberg will replace Jeremy Hendges, who is joining the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to work on coordinating new initiatives into the Department of Talent and Economic Development (TED). The new roles are effective on March 2, 2015."

Source: *Rep. Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423863118_cotter.pdf

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Several state park events canceled due to unsafe cold weather

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that, due to the dangerously cold weather, it has canceled several outdoor programs and events scheduled for this weekend, particularly in the Upper Peninsula where temperatures are forecasted to be below zero (Fahrenheit) with wind chill. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423863039_dnr2.pdf

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MDOT seeks comment on US-23 proposal; public hearing scheduled for Feb. 26

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking public comments on a recently completed Environmental Assessment (EA) for proposed improvements to US-23 between the west US-23/M-14 interchange and Silver Lake Road in Washtenaw and Livingston counties. In addition, a formal hearing is set for Thursday, Feb. 26, where MDOT will present an overview of the EA, including the alternatives considered and potential impacts and measures needed to minimize those impacts. A formal presentation will occur at 4:30 and 6 p.m. at the hearing."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862988_mdot3.pdf

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Conservatives: New report on renewable energy highlights industry success, opportunities for growth

"LANSING – Larry Ward, executive director of the Michigan Conservative Energy Forum (MCEF), issued the following statement regarding a report issued today by the Michigan Public Service Commission."

Source: *Michigan Conservation Energy Forum* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862954_energy.pdf

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MPSC report highlights Michigan's renewable energy success story

*"LANSING –Michiganders applauded the state's highly successful renewable energy standard, which was highlighted in a report issued today by the**Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)**. They called on the Legislature to increase Michigan's use of renewable energy to spark investment, create jobs and protect the health of Michigan kids, families and seniors."*

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862663_mpsc.pdf

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AFT Michigan Statement on MERC Ruling Against Taylor Federation of

Teachers

"TAYLOR, Mich. — The Taylor Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of Teachers Michigan are speaking out against a ruling today by the Michigan Employment Relations Commission that nullifies the Taylor teachers' 10-year contract."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862623_pm.pdf

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Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, Feb. 14 and Monday, Feb. 16

"Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, Feb. 14 and Monday, Feb. 16"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862755_smedia.pdf

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With Cold Weather Hitting Michigan, Consumers Energy Shares Six Tips to Stay Warm

" JACKSON, Mich., Feb. 13, 2015 – With extremely cold temperatures blanketing the state, Consumers Energy is sharing six key tips that can help Michigan residents stay safe and warm during extreme weather."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862720_cold.pdf

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Shirkey and Yonker introduce legislation increasing access to health care

*"**LANSING, Mich.—**State Sen. Mike Shirkey and state Rep. Ken Yonker have introduced legislation to define the scope of practice for specially trained nurses in an effort to increase access to health care throughout the state."*

Source: *Senator Mike Shirkey* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862672_shirkey.pdf

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Roberts Resolutions Asks Congress to Reauthorize Older Americans Act

*" LANSING – State Representative **Sarah Roberts** (D-St. Clair Shores) has introduced, with bipartisan support, a House Resolution and House Concurrent Resolution encouraging Congress to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. The act was last reauthorized in 2011, although some programs under the act have continued each year since then. Reauthorizing the act now would send a clear*

signal that serving this population is a high priority."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862636_roberts.pdf

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TW&N: Governor Presents FY '16 Budget; U.S. House Committee passes ESEA/NCLB rewrite; and more

"The big news this past week was Wednesday's presentation by Governor Rick Snyder; Lt. Governor Brian Calley and John Roberts, State Budget Director; of the proposed $54 billion state budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16. This the first step in the annual legislative budget process, which will likely conclude by June 1."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862605_glpp.pdf

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Package of Bipartisan Bills Aim to Remove Offensive Term

*"LANSING – State Representative **Andy Schor** (D-Lansing) and state Senator **Curtis Hertel, Jr.** (D-East Lansing) – along with Reps. Mike Callton (R-Nashville) and Joseph Graves (R-Argentine Township), and Sens. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion) and Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) – introduced a package of bills today in both chambers of the Legislature to remove the term "crippled children" everywhere it appears in current law."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862533_bills.pdf

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Charlotte Man Wins Cadillac Riches Second Chance Drawing

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 13, 2015** – Entering a second chance drawing paid off for a Charlotte man who won a Cadillac CTS from the Michigan Lottery in the Cadillac Riches game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862494_lottery3.pdf

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This Weekend: Dingell to Deliver Thousands of Valentines from Local Students to Veterans at VA Hospi

*"**Washington, DC –** Thanks to local students and community members who pitched in to help with the "Valentines for Veterans" project, thousands of local veterans will know how much they are appreciated this Valentine's Day weekend."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862244_dingell.pdf

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Peters, Stabenow Cosponsor Great Lakes Protection Bill

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Michigan's U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow, Co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, and Gary Peters, member of the Great Lakes Task Force, today announced they are cosponsoring the bipartisan Great Lakes Ecological and Economic Protection Act (GLEEPA), a bill which would bolster ongoing efforts to protect and restore one of Michigan's most important ecological treasures by equipping communities with the tools they need to combat invasive species, protect wildlife habitats and improve water quality in the Great Lakes. The legislation, led by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Mark Kirk (R-IL), will also enhance the coordination of federal efforts to restore the Great Lakes to ensure they continue to serve as an economic driver for the State of Michigan."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862191_peters2.pdf

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MUCC Supports Federal Legislation to De-List Great Lakes Wolves

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LANSING—Legislation was introduced yesterday to remove federal Endangered Species List protections for gray wolves in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Wyoming where they have long surpassed recovery goals. After Great Lakes wolves were de-listed in 2011, they were returned to the list by a federal judge based on a technicality in the rule-making process. Michigan United Conservation Clubs, supported by a member-adopted resolution, announced its support for the legislation today as wolves in Michigan have exceeded their recovery goals for over a decade, and the most recent minimum winter population counts were more than triple the 200-wolf recovery goal in Michigan. "

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862153_mucc.pdf

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Become a hero by giving blood during Red Cross Month

"(Feb. 13, 2015) — During Red Cross Month in March, the American Red Cross reminds eligible blood donors that it doesn't take a cape or superpowers to be a hero. By donating blood, donors can become a hero for patients in need."

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862114_clintoneatoningham.pdf

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Let's Play Giveaway Gives Michigan Lottery Players a Chance at Technology Shopping Spree

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 13, 2015** – The Michigan Lottery is giving players a chance to win a technology shopping spree with the Let's Play Giveaway."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423862022_lottery2.pdf

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Moolenaar Votes for Small Business Tax Relief Act

"Today, Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland) voted for America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2015. This bill received bipartisan support and it reduces the tax burden for America's farms and small businesses."

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Moolenaar* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861968_jm.pdf

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Panel affirms DEQ disposal standard for low-activity radioactive waste

"A panel of radiation and health experts today confirmed the DEQ's disposal guidelines for low-activity radioactive materials."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861935_deq.pdf

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Huizenga Supports Bipartisan Legislation To Improve Access To Care For West Michigan Families

*"**Washington, DC** – On Wednesday, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) joined more than 100 of his colleagues in supporting H.R. 842, The Huntington's Disease Parity Act. Currently, thousands of Americans are facing unwarranted and unjust delays due to the medically inaccurate disability guidelines used by Social Security and the two year waiting period for Medicare. This bipartisan legislation improves access to Social Security and Medicare for Americans battling Huntington's disease (HD). "*

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861886_bill.pdf

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Pure Michigan Hunt winners take home their prizes

"Mike DiLorenzo of Rochester, Michael Sikkenga of Whitehall and Jason Eurich of Saginaw, the most recent winners of the Pure Michigan Hunt drawing, all came to yesterday's Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing to take home their winnings."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861849_dnr.pdf

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Get Ready for the Double Tax

"Lansing, MI – As reported in today in the Michigan Capitol Confidential, analysis of the language in Proposal 1 shows that Michigan residents could be subject to a double tax if Proposal 1 is passed May 5th. Between the additional $100 million in tax increases found by the Anderson Economic Group and now this additional tax increase not recognized by the Senate Fiscal Agency before passage, the price tag for new taxes with Proposal 1 is likely to go well over $2 billion.

"

Source: *Coalition Against Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861815_tax.pdf

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Tri-County Alliance for Public Education praises Livonia Public Schools Board of Education

*"LANSING – **Mark A. Burton**, Executive Director of the **Tri-County Alliance for Public Education**, today praised the **Livonia Public Schools** Board of Education for adopting a resolution supporting Proposal 1 on the May 5 ballot that would fix Michigan's roads and bridges and guarantee funding for classrooms. The resolution is available here. "*

Source: *Tri-County Alliance for Public Education* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861745_tca.pdf

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Congressman Dan Kildee Cosponsors Bill to Keep U.S. Department of Homeland Security Open

"WASHINGTON—Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) has cosponsored legislation to fully fund the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through the end of the fiscal year and avert a looming shutdown. Unless Congress acts by February 28th, DHS, which is tasked with preventing and responding to acts of terrorism on American soil, will shut down."

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Kildee* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861691_kildee.pdf

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Peters Announces Michigan Economic Listening Tour

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, U.S. Senator Gary Peters announced that he will launch a Michigan*

Economic Listening Tour next week, meeting with Michigan businesses, educators and workers to hear from different segments of the state's economy about how he can best represent them in Washington."

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861649_peters.pdf

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Construction begins next week to install temporary supports on bridges along I-96

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will install temporary supports at the following overpasses along I-96 in Ingham County: Elm Road, Williamston Road, Zimmer Road, Meridian Road and Hagadorn Road. The contractor plans to move east to west, with approximately one week of construction needed at each bridge."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861601_mdot.pdf

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Harrietta Trout Farm Hooks TC Chamber Revolving Loan

"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. -- A Wexford County trout farm will expand with the help of a business loan through the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861525_Harrietta Hills RRLF.pdf

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ADVISORY: Join Michigan LCV for the Release of the 2014 Lame Duck Legislative Scorecard

"ANN ARBOR – The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (Michigan LCV) will discuss the results of their 2014 Lame Duck Legislative Scorecard on Tuesday, February 17th at 9:30 A.M. The 2014 Lame Duck Legislative Scorecard offers a non-partisan window into the voting records of Michigan's State Representatives and State Senators on conservation and environmental issues during the busy last few weeks of the 2013 - 2014 legislative session.

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Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861463_lcv.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 2/12/2015

"Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 2/12/2015"

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861413_courts.pdf

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Lottery Offices Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day

*"**LANSING, Mich., Feb. 13, 2015** – In observance of Presidents' Day, the Michigan Lottery headquarters in Lansing and all Lottery regional offices located in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Saginaw and Sterling Heights will be closed on Monday."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *02-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1423861340_lottery.pdf

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Volume #54, Report #41 -- Thursday, February 26, 2015

Lyon Grilled On Specifics Of DCH-DHS Merger

Legislators from four different committees between the House and Senate seemed less than impressed Thursday with a presentation on the planned merger of the Department of Community Health and Department of Human Services given by Director Nick Lyon, currently heading both departments.

"Bigger is not always better when it comes to government," Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), who sits on the Senate Appropriations DCH Subcommittee, told Mr. Lyon. "I can see the pathway, but ... right now I'm not an advocate. I'm not opposed, but I'm not an advocate."

He was joined in that sentiment by a handful of other legislators, including Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph), who sits on the Senate Appropriations DHS Subcommittee.

"I'm still on the bench on the river myself in finding a way to be supportive," Mr. Proos said, playing off Mr. Snyder and Mr. Lyon's theme of the "river of opportunity."

The Legislature could reject the merger with majority votes in both the House and Senate although that seems highly unlikely.

Mr. Lyon assured, "consolidating is not getting bigger," and reiterated the ultimate goal of the to-be department is consolidating services in a way that helps individuals on the path to helping themselves.

Among those priorities, Mr. Lyon said in his presentation, is to interrupt generational poverty and support families and individuals on their road to self-sufficiency; ensure the safety, well-being and permanency of the children, adults and elderly in state care; and improve the health of Michiganders in a cost-effective manner.

"The overarching goal is to be effective, efficient and accountable," Mr. Lyon said. "If we're able to align these services, then (individuals) will be much more able to succeed."

Specifically, Mr. Lyon told the Senate and House DCH and DHS subcommittees that those goals would essentially break down into a focus on children through the new Michigan Children's Agency and a focus on aging adults through the Aging Adult Services Agency.

He told the panel that he expects to measure customer service through, at least, measurements that currently exist: how people feel leaving an office, the amount of time it takes for a person to navigate the system and whether an individual felt he or she got the services necessary to be whatever it is he or she sought to become.

And he said he hopes to take a closer look at collaboration among the various food assistance programs.

"This is about ... prevention. If we can get ahead of situations, especially on the health side, this is where we can drive down health care costs," he said.

Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Cannon Township), chair of the Senate DHS Subcommittee, gave a bit more leeway in that he agreed with the vision, goals and strategic priorities Mr. Lyon laid out, but he said he remains concerned about the process of getting there and coordinating the two departments.

"This is day 16 and I think we all need to step back and recognize that," Mr. Lyon responded to Mr. MacGregor's question about how Mr. Lyon envisioned the process. "That said, we'll have many subcommittee meetings on the budget. Hopefully we'll be able to caucus with each of you and walk through questions."

Mr. Lyon said that the reductions in the 2016 budget proposal were thought of before the executive order was made, that "the executive order cannot take credit for those savings." But concepts in the executive order make those savings possible and potentially, in the future, able to be duplicated.

On the issue of appropriations, Mr. Lyon said he expected to come back with a revised executive recommendation after April 10, when the new department is expected to be in operation. But Rep. Earl Poleski (R-Jackson), chair of the House DHS Subcommittee, reminded Mr. Lyon that April 10 falls during the legislative spring break, so, "If there's an urgency on our part, that's it."

Mr. Lyon said the biggest change he anticipated requesting in the budget is, where there are common themes, especially on administrative operations, he will be likely to consolidate those line items.

But lawmakers were apprehensive about that approach. Mr. MacGregor suggested Mr. Lyon "unroll every line possible," and Mr. Shirkey also asked for more specifics.

"I believe the initial budget proposal should include very clear line item expenses of all one-time consolidation and transition expenses," Mr. Shirkey said. "That will become a baseline for potential savings."

And Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights), added, "I share the same concerns my colleagues expressed about the cost and cost-savings. The idea of merging as an efficiency tool is ideal, but I have to be honest that your presentation has left me a little wanting. It seems to me the success of this merger is a lot of hopes and wishes and wants."

GOING FORWARD: Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker), chair of the House DCH Subcommittee, gave Mr. Lyon a laundry list of questions to answer, but recognizing it was still early in the process, asked for an answer in due time.

"I too want to be an advocate and supporter," he said. "If we do nothing, it's like we're whole-heartedly supporting (the executive order), but we don't have the data to do that."

Mr. Lyon, speaking to reporters after the meeting, said he remained optimistic about the process and earning the support of lawmakers.

"I'm going to keep informing the legislators. I'm going to keep talking to employees about where we are on our progress, and I'm going to reach out to the stakeholders to see what they have to say. There's many groups that represent the individuals we're serving in these programs who also need to have a voice, and that's what we're looking to do," he said. "I think we're going to be successful."

Asked why he and the administration of Governor Rick Snyder hadn't planned out more specifics, Mr. Lyon responded, "We talked about some of it before the executive order, but this is something that came about over the past few months. It's something the governor and I thought was the right thing to do, and we didn't wait to do it.

"Certainly we could've been more deliberate, but we believe it's the right thing to do and we believe in taking positive action forward quickly and decisively," he said.

Negative Supplemental Bills Head To Snyder

The Senate on Thursday sent a pair of bills balancing the state's current year budget to Governor Rick Snyder for his signature and passed a bill that would, despite some objection, use $3 million from the Autism Coverage Fund for a one-time appropriation for the current fiscal year's budget.

Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) again offered his amendment to HB 4110 preventing the shift of some $167 million in School Aid Fund money to fund community colleges, criticizing the Legislature and Mr. Snyder for their continual "raid" of the fund Mr. Hopgood said is to pay for K-12 operations.

"Though you can try to put your spin on it, this negative supplemental is essentially another cut to schools by Governor Snyder," Mr. Hopgood said.

The amendment was defeated even with support from Republicans Sen. Patrick Colbeck of Canton Township, Sen. Rick Jones of Grand Ledge, Sen. Tory Rocca of Sterling Heights and Sen. Dale Zorn of Ida.

Ultimately, HB 4110 passed on a 23-14 vote, with Mr. Colbeck, Mr. Jones, Mr. Rocca and Mr. Zorn joining Democrats in opposition. Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) was absent from session.

On General Orders for HB 4112, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) tried to create a $1 million emergency water fund for distressed local governments. "Flint's water supply has tested positive for contaminants numerous times, and there's been water boil advisories numerous times," Mr. Ananich explained.

But that amendment, as well as one from Sen. Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) on Third Reading that would have restored the $5 million cut to the Graduate Medical Education program in the executive order adopted earlier this month, were defeated. Mr. Gregory's proposal did see Republican support from Mr. Colbeck, Sen. Ken Horn of Frankenmuth, Sen. Margaret O'Brien of Portage, Mr. Rocca, and Mr. Zorn, though.

And Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) again tried to appropriate $1 million for a statewide study to determine the cost of educating a child from kindergarten to 12th grade - an agreement made during the transportation funding talks of lame duck last term - but that also failed to win approval from the Republican-majority Senate.

Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) joined Republicans to support the final passage of HB 4112, while Mr. Jones and Mr. Rocca joined Democrats in opposition, leaving a final margin of 26-11.

The bills now head to Governor Rick Snyder for his signature.

AUTISM FUND: A bill (SB 137) that would allow for the one-time appropriation of an additional $3 million from the Autism Coverage Fund in fiscal year 2014-15 passed the Senate on a vote of 26-11, though not without some debate first.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) spoke in staunch opposition to the bill, noting that, since the inception of the fund, the state has pulled a total of $8.5 million out of it for other priorities.

"If you support this change, that will bring $8.5 million that will instead go to building the pipeline of providers instead of to these families," she told the chamber. "We need to preserve this funding."

The fund began with a $26 million appropriation, and so far $5.9 million has been spent to pay for coverage of certain autistic programs or services, and another $1 million is expected to be used.

But Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), the bill sponsor, said, "There is sufficient money in the fund," and reiterated that the bill seeks a one-time, $3 million appropriation "to shore up the budget."

Mr. Colbeck and Mr. Rocca joined all Democrats except for Mr. Knezek and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) in opposition to the bill's final passage.

Small Change Made To Proposal 1 Wording

The ballot language voters will see May 5 on the question of raising the sales tax saw one minor change Thursday prior to approval by the Board of State Canvassers.

The caption, or lead-in, to the ballot language now will say, "A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace **and supplement** reduced

revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees."

The addition is the "and supplement," which this story places in bold for emphasis.

Some critics of the language had pointed out the proposal would do much more than replace the $800 million in revenue lost as a result of removing the sales tax from gasoline. It would actually raise another $650 million in new revenue, money that would go toward schools, local governments, tax relief for the working poor and public transit.

Elections Director Chris Thomas, who has primary authority for drafting the ballot language, suggested the change.

Another difference from the original February 20 draft is that the proposal will not put the caption in capital letters. It instead will use a typical sentence case, but place the words in bold. Officials said it will be easier to read than in all capitals.

The vote was 3-1. One of the board's two Republican appointees, Norm Shinkle, voted no.

Board member Colleen Pero, a Republican, praised Mr. Thomas for a process that accepted suggestions before his first publicly released draft and then additional suggestions before his final released draft.

"A number of them have been integrated into this proposal," she said.

And board member Julie Matuzak, a Democrat, advised those in attendance requesting changes that the board has no power to write the proposal. That duty falls to Mr. Thomas as elections director.

"In my tenure on the board, I have learned we have very little power to do anything," she said.

And the board unanimously approved, as expected, designating the proposal as Proposal 15-1.

Safe Roads Yes, the group supporting the proposal, said it supports the language the board adopted.

"Regardless of the language, voters are going to clearly understand that under Proposal 1 every penny we pay in state gas taxes, under the Constitution, will have to go to transportation and taxpayers will get new road warranties and guarantees," said Roger Martin, spokesperson for Safe Roads Yes. "Those are the most important points."

The lead group opposing the proposal, the Coalition Against Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals, will weigh its options on whether to challenge the language in court, said Scott Hagerstrom of the organization.

Mr. Hagerstrom told the board the language should say in the first bullet point that the sales tax would increase from 6 percent to 7 percent. Instead, as one of the sub-bullet points, it says the proposal would increase the sales tax to 7 percent as authorized by constitutional amendment.

He also called for the language to say the fuel tax would increase to replace the revenue lost from removing the sales tax on gasoline as well as clearly explain that nearly 40 percent of the new revenue would go for non-road purposes.

"We believe these three elements are necessary so as not to mislead voters," he said.

Former Rep. Tom McMillin, chair of another opposition group, Concerned Taxpayers of Michigan, said the language is deceptive.

"Michigan voters will not be told important aspects about what they are voting on, by looking at the ballot language for the huge sales tax hike on May 5th," he said in a statement. "No mention of the affirmative action mandate for road contracts. No mention of the boon to the big empty buses, known as mass transit. No mention that a large portion of the tax increase will go toward doubling the current welfare subsidy for low-income workers. No mention that the effect of the tax hike will mean an extra $2 billion coming out of Michigan citizens' pockets every year or $800 per year for an average Michigan family."

However, Adam DeAngeli, also of the group, said he did not anticipate it would file a legal challenge against the language.

Some activists who spoke during public comment urged the board not to act on the language Mr. Thomas recommended, saying it was impossible to describe all the effects of the proposal in the legal limit of 100 words.

Mr. Shinkle expressed interest in making some changes, but acknowledged his role on the board only was to vote yes or no on Mr. Thomas' proposal.

Mr. Thomas, speaking to reporters after the meeting, said he and his staff spent many hours on what was one of the most complex proposals for which the office has had to develop ballot language.

He said the language adopted a two-step process on the sales tax to illustrate that the Constitution sets a maximum sales tax rate of 7 percent and that a statutory change would then take effect to actually raise the rate to 7 percent.

The Constitution raises maximum sales tax, it takes legislation to actually increase it.

"The yes vote by the voter does both," he said.

Of the idea of using the caption to get into greater detail about the other 10 laws that would take effect, Mr. Thomas said, "I think that is not appropriate because the caption shouldn't really be saying things that the hundred words don't encompass."

The proposal will appear on the ballot as follows:

- Eliminate sales / use taxes on gasoline / diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.
- Increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund (SAF).
- Expand use of SAF to community colleges and career / technical education, and prohibit use for 4-year colleges / universities.
- Give effect to laws, including those that:
    - Increase sales / use tax to 7%, as authorized by constitutional amendment.
    - Increase gasoline / diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.
    - Expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects.
    - Increase earned income tax credit.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Should this proposal be adopted?

Bentivolio Files For Bankruptcy

Former U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio has filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy less than two months after leaving office, and his filing with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court suggests a major reason why is the $120,000 he still owes fired former campaign consultant Robert Dindoffer.

Mr. Bentivolio, a Republican from Milford best known as the Accidental Congressman, listed $269,246 in assets, $294,178 in liabilities and $8,206 in combined monthly current income with his wife. Mr. Bentivolio won his seat in a fluke, having happened to file a longshot challenge to then-U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter in the Republican primary only to have the seat handed to him when Mr. McCotter got thrown off the ballot due to a petition fraud scandal.

Among the creditors are the law firm Dickinson Wright with a claim of $43,950, Mr. Bentivolio's wife with a claim of $10,000, and the Shifman and Carlson law firm with a claim of $11,000.

But the biggest claim, listed as unsecured, is to Mr. Dindoffer in the amount of $120,000. That dates to $140,000 Mr. Dindoffer said Mr. Bentivolio's campaign owed him. The Bentivolio campaign had fired Mr. Dindoffer and refused to pay him, but he took Mr. Bentivolio to court seeking payment. The two reached a settlement.

The filing indicates Mr. Bentivolio paid Mr. Dindoffer $20,000, and it shows Mr. Dindoffer attempted to have whatever assets were in Mr. Bentivolio's bank accounts garnished with little success due to lack of funds.

Mr. Dindoffer did not return a message seeking comment. He has not spoken publicly about his falling out with Mr. Bentivolio.

Mr. Bentivolio lost his bid for renomination in August to now-U.S. Rep. David Trott (R-Birmingham).

The former teacher, at one time, had a reindeer farm. Another one-time venture was hiring himself out to play Santa Claus. That business, however, appears completely defunct. In listing his assets, Mr. Bentivolio valued his Old Fashion Santa LLC at $1 with the notion that it was "believed worthless."

Mr. Bentivolio receives $1,222 a month in disability payments and another $1,448 a month from his U.S. Army pension. He indicates in his bankruptcy that he has filed for unemployment benefits.

While a member of the U.S. House, Mr. Bentivolio said he would only support continuing long-term emergency unemployment benefits if those benefits were reduced.

Mr. Bentivolio's wife has $5,535 in monthly take-home income, the filing says.

The filing says the couple's monthly expenses are $7,908, leaving them with a net monthly income of $298.

Corrections Could Consider New Drug Formulary

Based on suggestions at Thursday's House Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee meeting, the Department of Corrections could consider changes to its pharmaceutical formulary to provide more continuity for inmates being released.

In a presentation on corrections health care, department officials said they had found some savings by adopting a formulary and making some changes in the way medications are purchased.

"The majority of the conditions can be treated with our formulary medications," Gary Kerstein, chief medical officer for the department, said.

And he said keeping medication costs down is important to the department's budget. "About half our prisoners are on some sort of prescription medication," Mr. Kerstein said.

For instance, the department is now purchasing larger containers of insulin and sharing those among inmates rather than purchasing a separate vial for each who needs it.

The department is also working to have every inmate, on release, enrolled in Medicaid, Joanne Sheldon, health services administrator for the department, said. That ensures they continue to have access to health care once they leave prison, she said.

Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing) agreed that would provide some continuity but, particularly for those on psychotropic drugs, could mean medication changes if what they were taking is not on the formulary for the Medicaid HMO with which they enroll.

"It would seem to make sense to me if we went to a single formulary statewide," he said.

Mr. Kerstein said it was a "fantastic idea" and would look into it.

Another area where the department has cut costs is in regular dental treatment, Ms. Sheldon said. Following the lead of a number of other states, the prisons are only providing regular dental care to those who are incarcerated at least 24 consecutive months, she said.

The move has cut costs and waiting time for those needing services, she said.

Inmates are still given dental exams when they first arrive and every year, and are treated for any emergency needs, like cavities.

But Ms. Sheldon said she is trying to move the department's efforts on overall health care from treatment to preventative care.

"Our delivery system is a little bit too reactive," she said.

She is also working to better join mental and physical health.

"The healthier we can have them, both physically and mental health wise, when they leave, the healthier our communities are," she said.

The department has also been working on ways to address elderly inmates (those older than age 50), Ms. Sheldon said. For most, the goal is to consolidate them based on health care and other needs, she said. "It's better for them and better for us cost wise to have them more centralized," she said.

Kyle Kaminski, legislative liaison for the department, said a request for information on a hospice service attracted 16 providers to discuss options. The block right now, he said, is truth in sentencing.

"The challenge is, how do you legally move somebody who, under truth in sentencing, is supposed to be kept in a secure setting to something that is not that?" he said.

Several members also questioned whether diet could be affecting inmate health.

"The amount of money we spend on food is relatively small," Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) said. "If we were to spend a little bit more, could we save over here where the costs are substantial?"

And Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) questioned how many of the chronic illnesses like cardiovascular disease are pre-existing when inmates come to prison and how many are partly a result of diet.

Ms. Sheldon acknowledged the department needed to continue improving inmate health education, including on nutrition. But she said nutritionists in the department ensure that inmates are receiving balanced meals with proper calorie counts given their activity levels.

"There's been a concerted effort to manage the caloric intake of the inmates," Mr. Kerstein said.

And he said habits from the outside, particularly tobacco and illegal drug use, play a larger role in inmate health.

House Drops BB, Air Guns From Firearm Definition

Pellet and BB guns would no longer be considered firearms under legislation that passed the House on bipartisan votes Thursday.

Despite arguments that some of the pellet air rifles can be deadly and the bills would open the door for some felons to use a weapon and not be charged with it, the package (HB 4151, HB 4152, HB 4153, HB 4154, HB 4155 and HB 4156) moved with fairly broad support.

The closest vote, 80-29, was for HB 4151, which eliminates the prohibition on children possessing air rifles and BB guns, as well as the misdemeanor penalty attached.

Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) said the bills, by changing the definition of firearm, essentially open air rifles and BB guns to be used in crimes without further penalty.

"With casual observation, this bill seems to make sense," he said. "We didn't do anything to clean up all the problems this creates."

Under current law, he said, someone committing a robbery with a BB gun would face felony firearm charges. If the package is enacted, he said, those charges would not be available.

But Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona), sponsor of HB 4155, said the change was necessary, as "Michigan has an overly broad definition of firearm," he said on the House floor.

"Pneumatic guns are not lethal weapons being used for hunting or self-protection," Rep. Jason Sheppard (R-Temperance), sponsor of HB 4152, said in a statement. "There's no reason that we should categorize them as such."

"Michigan has a patchwork of bills that define firearms in different ways, and that caused confusion and, at times, arrests of people who did not think they possessed a firearm," Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville), sponsor of HB 4156, said in a statement. "Because of this lack of clarity, some inexpensive, non-lethal, air-powered devices qualify as firearms under current Michigan statute. Words have specific meaning, and we need to align our laws with a common-sense understanding of what a firearm means."

There was more support for HB 4155, passed 88-21, and HB 4156, passed 89-20, both of which would prohibit use of air rifles, BB guns and paint guns as weapons used against a person. They would still not be considered firearms under the bills.

Only HB 4154 would add the guns back into the definition of firearm. While the bill would insert the new definition of firearm under the wildlife conservation and hunting license sections, but it would consider a pneumatic gun a firearm. The bill also eliminates the prohibition on discharging a firearm within 150 years of a dwelling, instead prohibiting only hunting that close.

'Choose Life' License Bill Gets Hearing

The Department of State would be required to develop and issue a fund-raising license plate benefitting the Choose Life Michigan Fund under legislation discussed by the Senate Transportation Committee on Thursday.

According to a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis, the bill, SB 84, would require the Department of State to pay the $15,000 start-up fee from the Choose Life Fund proposed in the bill. The revenue generated from the fund-raising license plate would be deposited into the fund, after which the state treasurer would disburse payments from the fund yearly to the Choose Life Michigan Fund.

Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba), chair of the committee, said the issue of abortion intensely divides the public and pressed Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township), the bill sponsor, on the logistics of who exactly would get the money.

"It's done on a grant basis," Mr. Colbeck responded, noting that Treasury would make disbursements from the fund.

The bill specifies that money would go to eligible nonprofit organizations for projects that promote alternatives to abortion. "Eligible nonprofit organizations" include, but are not limited to, crisis pregnancy centers, homes for pregnant women and other organization that provide practical support to pregnant women, practical outreach to at-risk populations and promote life-saving programs and projects as an alternative to abortion.

"We believe that's very important to help those women who are in adverse circumstances," Mr. Colbeck said.

"Projects that promote alternatives to abortion" include, but are not limited to, media campaigns; specialty outreaches to at-risk populations, including minorities, teenagers, college-aged women and post-abortive women; and campaigns to promote adoptions.

Mr. Casperson questioned whether a group that both supported the right to an abortion but provided services to women who do not have an abortion would be among those that could seek money from the fund. "There was no one there opposing (the bill). I thought in fairness, we should have that discussion," he later told Gongwer News Service.

To that question, Mr. Colbeck later explained that there must be context to the grant application in question. "How you frame that application for those funds will be evaluated against the requirements in the bill," he said.

The Department of State testified as neutral on the bill, seeking some technical changes first. Mr. Colbeck said those are largely centered around timing issues.

"They want to try to do the license plates at the same time every year so they only have one person doing the data entry," he said, "Which we're fine with."

Among the organizations that could stand to benefit from the bill is Right to Life of Michigan, officials from which testified in support of the legislation.

"We support 95 pro-life centers that provide services to women," said Ed Rivet, legislative director for the group. "We look forward to our membership and pro-life citizens across the state who would be happy and willing to provide that generosity and support (to buy a plate)."

Mr. Casperson said he expects to vote the bill out next week.

DNR Issues First Invasive Species Grants

The Department of Natural Resources announced $4 million in grants for 20 projects to defend against or control invasive species through the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program, part of Governor Rick Snyder's efforts to combat invasive species.

The largest of the grants, $393,900, went to the Ottawa Conservation District and West Michigan Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, for planning efforts in Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa and Allegan counties. Central Michigan University received $391,700 for efforts in Kalamazoo, Barry, Allegan, Ionia, Alpena, Livingston, Wayne, Bay, Cass and Van Buren counties.

"These grants will fund crucial work in battling invasive species, which pose a significant threat to Michigan's world-class natural resources," DNR Director Keith Creagh said in a statement. "State agencies can't undertake this effort alone. Partnerships are vital to keeping our waters, woods and coasts thriving as healthy ecosystems, while at the same time providing the economic and recreational benefits that citizens expect from their outdoor experiences."

Capital Notebook

ENVIRONMENTAL SCORECARD: The Michigan League of Conservation Voters released the scores for the Michigan congressional delegation on the national association's annual scorecard. As has been typical in recent years, there was a broad gap between Republicans and Democrats.

The top score, 97, was shared by U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint) and U.S. Rep. Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak). Former U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (D-Detroit) and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing) both scored 80.

At the other end, U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Tipton) scored a 0, followed closely by former U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio (R-Milford) and U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-Zeeland), who each scored a 3.

"Despite a year marred by extreme weather events and harmful algal blooms in our Great Lakes, much of Michigan's House delegation failed to respond to the impacts of climate change earning an average score of just 37 percent," Michigan LCV Executive Director Lisa Wozniak said. "With conservation leaders like Congressman Dingell and Senator Levin no longer serving us in Washington, it is critical that land, air and water issues remain a priority among our representatives in Congress."

FOIA EXPANSION: The Legislature and the Executive Office would be covered by the Freedom of Information Act under legislation proposed by Rep. Brandon Dillon (D-Grand Rapids).

Current law allows the governor and legislators to choose what documents they will release. The Constitution does require them to release financial information.

"It's unreasonable and unethical that lawmakers and the governor are allowed to exempt themselves from the very same Freedom of Information Act law that they expect every other government worker to comply with," Mr. Dillon said. "It's a matter of basic fairness and accountability that as legislators and leaders, we hold ourselves to the same standard we expect of others. The people of Michigan deserve a fair and transparent government that works for them."

He said Massachusetts is the only other state to exempt those two entities from FOIA.

LIFE AT CONCEPTION: Rep. Cindy Gamrat (R-Plainwell) will be introducing legislation Tuesday to designate conception as the point at which a person is legally a person.

The goal of the legislation, introduced at least once during each of the past several sessions, is to ban abortion by granting legal rights to the fetus.

"Our nation was founded on the precepts of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; life is inherently precious and at the core of all liberty," Ms. Gamrat said in a statement. "Our state

should lead the way in declaring that each person has inherent value and worth and that we will protect the lives of the most innocent and vulnerable among us."

The bill, expected to be HB 4279, would provide exceptions where the mother's life is threatened by the pregnancy.

UNIVERSITY PERFORMANCE: Michigan's 15 public universities are among the best in the nation in graduating students and controlling costs, Business Leaders for Michigan said on releasing a study of metrics.

Among the highlights of the study, 12 institutions bettered the national average and eight were in the top 20 percent for critical skills degrees. Ten were above average (seven in the top 20 percent) for total degrees conferred.

The state ranked 6th overall for number of degrees and 5th for critical skill degrees, the report said.

At the same time, all 15 universities increased the number of students receiving federal Pell grants and nine reduced administrative costs as a percentage of their budgets.

"These outcomes are crucial to the state's future prosperity," Doug Rothwell, BLM president and CEO, said. "We know the jobs of tomorrow are going to require workers with more education. It's also true that people with knowledge and training beyond high school are more likely to be employed, and stand to earn up to twice as much as those without it. These earnings differences are too significant to be ignored-Michigan needs high-quality, high-value institutions of higher learning if we're going to stay on track to economic growth."

Appointments By The Governor

GAMING CONTROL BOARD: Bob Anthony of Northville is reappointed for a term expiring December 31, 2018. The appointment is subject to Senate advice and consent.

Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Wednesday Michigan Report contained the incorrect figure for what the Detroit Land Bank initially requested for fill dirt for blighted home demolition. It requested $1.4 million.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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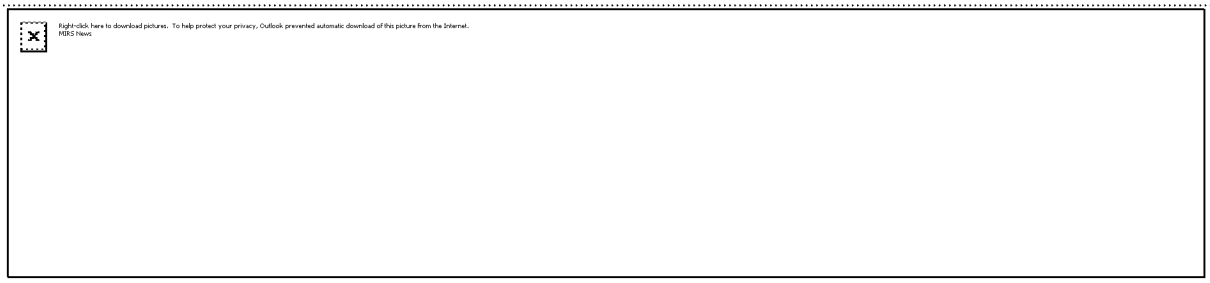

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Gary Glenn apologizes for 'agenda alert' about Midland newspaper's gay editor

*"**MIDLAND, MI** -- State Rep. Gary Glenn, R-Larkin Township, has responded to the outcry over recent posts on social media with a public apology."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/04/gary_glenn_apologizes_for_agen_1.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Great Lakes shippers showing signs of life after another tough winter

"SAULT STE. MARIE, MI -- Shipping on the Great Lakes has groaned back to life afteranother rough winter, but lingering ice is still hampering traffic in some areas."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2015/04/great_lakes_shippers_showing_s.html#incart_river

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Flint councilman equates water troubles to 'genocide' by governor

"FLINT, MI – A city councilman says Gov. Rick Snyder and Flint emergency manager Jerry Ambrose are attempting to carry out a genocide on Flint residents with "contaminated, unhealthy water.""

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/flint_councilman_claims_govern.html#incart_river

Peters to give commencement address at Alma College

"U.S. Sen. Gary Peters this month will deliver the commencement address to the graduating class at Alma College, his alma mater, the school said Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/peters-give-commencement-address-alma-college/25353405/

Monday is last day to register for May 5 vote

"Monday is the deadline for Michigan residents 18 years or older to register to vote in the May 5 special statewide election."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/michigan-voter-registration-deadline/25369053/

Rep. Dingell named senior whip to House Democrats

"Washington — Democratic leaders in the U.S. House have appointed Rep. Debbie Dingell to a team responsible for counting votes and persuading members to side with positions of the party caucus."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/debbie-dingell-senior-whip-us-house/25368527/

Blue Cross incentives save $50M in health care costs

"A Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan program that rewards hospitals for keeping patients healthier lowered health care costs by $50 million in 2013, according to the state's largest health insurer."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/04/06/blue-cross-incentives/25392361/

Canada to sell 4.6% stake in GM to Goldman Sachs & Co.

"The Canadian federal government said Monday it will sell its 73.4 million shares of General Motors Co. stock to Goldman, Sachs & Co., ending nearly six years of government ownership into the Detroit

automaker."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/04/06/canada-sell-stake-gm-goldman-sachs-co/25384301/*

Michigan: Limit dredging to help protect sturgeon

"SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP — The state wants to limit the times of year when dredging is allowed in part of southwestern Michigan to protect lake sturgeon, officials announced Monday."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/06/michigan-dredging-sturgeon/25365459/*

Judge: Parts of state's sex offender law unconstitutional

"Michigan's Sex Offender Registry law is so vague that parts of it are unconstitutional, including the requirement that offenders stay at least 1,000 feet from schools, a federal judge has ruled."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/06/michigan-sex-offender-registry-judge-robert-cleland-state-police-governor-snyder/25385625/*

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7 Michigan colleges get extra federal financial scrutiny

"Seven Michigan colleges and universities are among about 500 nationwide undergoing extra scrutiny from the federal Department of Education of their financial practices."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/story/news/local/2015/04/06/michigan-colleges-get-extra-federal-financial-scrutiny/25394223/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan's film incentive program should end once and for all

"The state House recently voted to end Michigan's film incentive program. The bill now heads to the Senate where it is facing some resistance."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/michigans_film_incentive_shoul.html#incart_river*

Editorial: Clarify medical marijuana

"Bills to legalize marijuana dispensaries and products that serve the state's medical marijuana patients have been lingering in the Legislature. They should be a priority for lawmakers this year.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/04/07/edit-hash-pot-policy/25372249/*

Climate change deniers are selling — and we're buying

"Saturday night, I wanted to see a Michigan-made horror film I missed at the Free Press Film Festival. My companion favored "Merchants of Doubt," a documentary about climate change deniers. Dinner ran long, and the question was settled: Off to "Merchants of Doubt."

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/04/07/climate-change/25374417/*

Could a public boarding school model work in Detroit?

"So here we go again."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/could-a-public-boarding-school-model-work-in-detroit/*

Let's rebuild Michigan through its greatest asset: the Great Lakes

"So begins a beautiful, inspiring and true story about the Michigan Blue Economy."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/lets-rebuild-michigan-through-its-greatest-asset-the-great-lakes/*

Press Releases

MDE Helping Schools Prepare for M-STEP

"LANSING – Preliminary testing of the online assessment system, and technology readiness monitoring of school districts by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) are helping assure that the new M-STEP statewide assessment system will operate smoothly when the eight-week testing window opens April 13.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428353104_mi dept.pdf*

Crash barrier installation to affect ramps on M-10 (Lodge Freeway) and I-75 service drive in Wayne C

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Crash barrier installation to affect ramps on M-10 (Lodge Freeway) and I-75 service drive in Wayne County

COUNTY: *Wayne* ***HIGHWAY:*** *Northbound M-10 ramp to westbound M-8 Northbound I-75 ramp to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road)* ***CLOSEST CITIES:*** *Highland Park and Detroit* ***START DATE:*** *Wednesday, April 8, 2015* ***ESTIMATED END DATE:*** *Late Spring 2015* ***PROJECT DETAILS:*** *The Michigan Department of Transportation is investing nearly $200,000 to install crash attenuators, which are a type of cushion barriers, in two locations. The barriers are used to protect drivers and reduce damage to vehicles involved in a crash. The current barriers have reached the end of their service life and need to be replaced. The new type of barriers will reduce the need for frequent maintenance and replacement. The first barrier installation will be on the northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) ramp to westbound M-8 (Davison Avenue), which will require closing the ramp for approximately three weeks.*

The second barrier installation will be on the northbound I-75 service drive to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road) and is expected to begin in late April or early May. ***TRAFFIC IMPACT:*** *Beginning Tuesday, April 7, the northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) ramp to westbound M-8 (Davison Avenue) will be closed. The posted detour includes northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) to eastbound M-8 (Davison Avenue), then the turnaround east of M-1 (Woodward Avenue) and back to westbound M-8.*

During work on the northbound I-75 service drive to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road), traffic will be detoured via the northbound I-75 service drive to eastbound M-102 (8 Mile Road), then left onto the westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road).

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428353045_cb.pdf*

Spring asset management conference set for April 30 in Grand Rapids

*"**April 6, 2015** -- The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) will sponsor the 2015 TAMC Spring Conference on Thursday, April 30, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Grand Rapids Airport, in Grand Rapids. The conference will once again provide a forum for state and local officials to examine the relationship between asset management, pavement management, and road funding."*

Source: *TAMC* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428347193_spring.pdf

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Time to Celebrate: Michigan Lottery's KENO! Game Turns 25

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015** – It's time to roll out the cake and fill the balloons as the Michigan Lottery's KENO! game celebrates 25 years of fun and prizes for players!"*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428347124_msl.pdf

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Misses Major Deadline to Cut Air Pollution

"LANSING – Officials from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) have missed the April 6 deadline to submit a plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that reduces sulfur dioxide emissions in Wayne County, where pollution is above levels safe for human health. The DTE Trenton Channel and River Rouge coal plants are responsible for 80 percent of all sulfur dioxide emissions in the county."

Source: *Michigan Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428347066_mi dept.pdf

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Rep. Dave Trott to Hold Town Hall Meeting in White Lake on April 9th

"WHITE LAKE, MI: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) will be holding a public town hall meeting at the White Lake Township Hall in White Lake on Thursday, April 9th from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM."

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346998_davetr.pdf

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I-75 bridge repair begins over 12 Mile Road in Oakland County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is repairing the I-75 overpass at 12 Mile Road in Madison Heights, which was damaged last fall when it was hit by a truck. The damage from the hit has kept the westbound 12 Mile Road entrance ramp to southbound I-75 closed.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346928_mdot.pdf

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Lakeport Nurse Practitioner Summarily Suspended

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a registered nurse and specialty certification to practice as a nurse practitioner of Robin Michelle Cash-Larsen, R.N., C.N.P., based on her conviction in the 31st Circuit Court, St. Clair County, Michigan."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346844_lara.pdf*

MAJ Endorses Proposal 1

"LANSING — Last week, the Michigan Association for Justice Executive Board voted to support Proposal 1, a sales tax and road funding measure set to appear on the May 5th ballot. The Michigan Association for Justice (MAJ) has been calling for a solution to Michigan's crumbling roads since March 2013 when they launched fixyourride.org. The website provides information on how drivers can receive compensation from state and local governments for damage done to their cars by potholes. "

Source: *Michigan Association of Justice* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428340969_maoj.pdf

Schuette Charges Macomb County Man with Multiple Felonies for Child Pornography

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that his Criminal Division has filed criminal charges against Anthony Modrzejewski, 39, of St. Clair Shores, for allegedly possessing and distributing child pornography as well as videotaping an unclothed person. Schuette charged Modrzejewski with ten counts of possessing child sexually abusive material, a felony punishable by up to four years in prison and/or a $10,000 fine; and, ten counts of distributing or promoting child sexually abusive material, a felony punishable by up to seven years in prison and/or a $50,000 fine; and, one count of Using a Computer to Commit a Crime, a felony punishable by up to seven years in prison and/or a $5,000 fine; and, one count of Videotaping an Unclothed Person, a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a $5,000 fine. Charges resulted from a Michigan Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) investigation.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428340917_schuu.pdf

Dingell Named Senior Whip by House Democratic Leadership

*"**Washington, DC –** As House Leadership finalized the Whip team for the 114th Congress, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) was appointed to serve as a Senior Whip by Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (MD-05)."*

Source: *Congresswoman Dingell* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428340826_dingelllll.pdf

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M-231 archeology earns Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

*"**April 6, 2015** -- Archeological discoveries associated with the M-231 project in Ottawa County have earned the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) a Governor's Award for Historic Preservation. The award will be presented at a public ceremony in the Michigan State Capitol rotunda at 9 a.m. on May 6.*

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337451_mdot2.pdf

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US-24 pavement repair in Oakland County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is investing approximately $1.6 million to perform concrete pavement repairs on:"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337326_mdot.pdf

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Made In Michigan: A Bipartisan Plan To Create Jobs, Reform Government, and Save Taxpayer Dollars

"A joint op-ed from Senator Peters and Congressman Huizenga, published by the Grand Rapids Press, which demonstrates one way Democrats and Republicans can work together to eliminate wasteful spending and promote job creation.

"

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337279_peters.pdf

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Michigan Historical Center launches new membership program

"The Michigan Historical Center recently introduced a new membership program, administered by the Michigan History Foundation. Membership levels start at $45 for an annual individual membership that includes an annual pass and two single guest passes, a 10-percent discount at Michigan Historical Center stores and on www.michiganology.com, a quarterly newsletter and Time Traveler benefits at participating museums."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337187_mhc.pdf

DIFS Office to Move to Mason Building Downtown

"LANSING – The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) will start moving from the Ottawa Building to the Mason Building on Allegan Street in downtown Lansing, Friday, May 8, 2015 and will finish June 1, 2015. The move will take place over three weekends in May.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Insurance and Financial Services* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337041_difs.pdf*

Mega Millions Ticket Worth $5 Million Sold in Farmington Hills

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015** – A Michigan Lottery player became a multi-millionaire Friday night after winning $5 million in the Mega Millions game."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428332490_milott.pdf*

Oakland County Sheriff's Office Recognizes 195th Anniversary

"April 2, 2015 (Oakland County, MI) - The Oakland County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) is proud to recognize its 195th Anniversary protecting and serving the residents and businesses of Oakland County. Since 1820, when the first Sheriff of Oakland County was sworn in, the agency has grown significantly."

Source: *Oakland County Sheriff's Office* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330575_oaklan cty.pdf*

Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc Announces Candidacy for Westland City Clerk Position

"WESTLAND - Richard LeBlanc, a Wayne County Commissioner from Westland, announced today he will be a candidate for the position of Westland City Clerk. LeBlanc filed the required forms with the City Clerk's office, making him the first official candidate for the position. Current City Clerk, Eileen DeHart-Schoof, has confirmed publicly she will not be a candidate for re-election and has endorsed LeBlanc to succeed her."

Source: *Wayne County Commissioner* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330505_waynecty.pdf*

Application deadline for the 2015 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 31

"

Lansing, MI - Since 2000, the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund (MYLSF) has awarded more than $360,000 in scholarships and educational awards to outstanding youth who have exhibited at the premier livestock events in the state of Michigan. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330404_applica.pdf*

Adopt-A-Highway's 25th year in Michigan begins with first litter pickup April 11

*"**April 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) program will begin its 25th year when volunteers head out to pick up litter from April 11 to 19.*

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330349_adopta.pdf*

CORRECTION: US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20

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CORRECTION: US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20

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Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329147_correction.pdf*

Oakland County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015** – An Oakland County educator known for using competitions and real-life challenges to inspire her students and for encouraging females to enter the engineering design field has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.*

"

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329116_milot.pdf

US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20

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US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20

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Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329072_mdotus41.pdf

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Seven Ways to Enjoy Spring at Consumers Energy River Hydros

"JACKSON, Mich., April 6, 2015 – Consumers Energy's hydroelectric properties offer year-round recreational opportunities in some of Michigan's most scenic areas along the Muskegon, Au Sable, Kalamazoo, and Manistee rivers."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329030_consener.pdf

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MDOT lifts more weight restrictions in Lower Peninsula

*"**April 6, 2015 --** Effective today, April 6, weight restrictions have been lifted on all state trunkline highways from the southern Michigan border north to and including I-96 from US-31 in Muskegon to I-69 in Lansing, then I-69 from Lansing to the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron. State routes typically carry M, I, or US designations."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428328958_mdotlp.pdf

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M-24 (Lapeer Rd) construction resumes

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M-24 (Lapeer Road) reconstruction resumes April 13

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428328865_mdot.pdf

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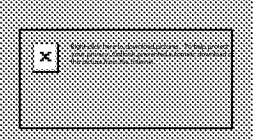

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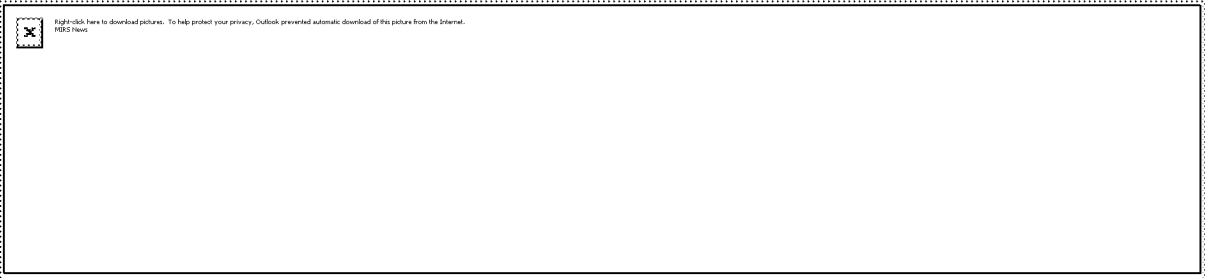

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Michigan Rep preps marijuana legalization bill as multiple groups eye petition drives, 2016 ballot

"LANSING, MI -- State Rep. Jeff Irwin, arguing that an ineffective war on marijuana is costing Michigan taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars a year, this weekend confirmed plans to introduce legalization legislation in Lansing."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/michigan_rep_preps_marijuana_l.html#incart_river*

Michigan wolf hunt foes file suit to overturn law as debate over federal protections continues

"LANSING, MI -- Wolf hunting remains on indefinite hold in Michigan, but an opposition group is seeking to overturn a new law that could pave the way for future hunts if federal protections are lifted."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/michigan_lawsuit_seeks_to_over.html#incart_river*

13,500 Michigan veterans wait for care during VA system overhaul

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- More than 13,500 Michigan veterans had healthcare appointments delayed at least 31 days at Veterans Affairs hospitals and clinics over the last six months, violating the agency's goal for timely treatment, new federal data shows."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/04/delayed_care_367_vets_had_appo.html#incart_river*

News of polio's conquering came 60 years ago at the University of Michigan

"When Hal Morgenstern was getting settled into his office after being hired as the University of Michigan's Thomas Francis Jr. Chair of the Department of Epidemiology in 2003, he noticed a card near one of the boxes he was unpacking."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/04/u-ms_clinical_trial_for_polio.html#incart_river*

Flint emergency manager recommends borrowing $7 million to pay off city deficit

"FLINT, MI – The city would borrow $7 million to wipe out its deficit under a plan proposed by emergency manager Jerry Ambrose."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/flint_emergency_manager_recomm.html#incart_river*

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Mich. delegation backs cyber squadron in Battle Creek

"Washington — Michigan's congressional delegation on Wednesday wrote the Pentagon in support of locating a cyber operations squadron at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, saying it would represent "significant cost savings" over other locations."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/08/michigan-delegation-backs-cyber-squadron-battle-creek/25489869/*

Rep says $14K campaign error an 'oversight'

"U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga recently signed an affidavit under penalty of perjury attesting that his dormant state leadership committee made an "oversight" when it did not report $14,000 in contributions from four donors in 2004 and 2008."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/08/rep-says-campaign-error-oversight/25500667/*

New law encourages foster kid 'normalcy'

"Not so long ago, if foster children in Florida wanted to spend the night at a friend's house, the parents hosting the sleepover faced a criminal background check. Taking the kids on an out-of-state vacation required official permission from a state agency."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/law-foster-kid-normalcy/25500223/*

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3 Michigan groups seek legal recreational pot use

"Lansing — The race is on to get legalization of recreational marijuana use in Michigan on the November 2016 ballot — or through the Legislature before then."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/08/michigan-groups-seek-legal-recreational-pot-use/25498577/*

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Michigan veterans clinics cut waits

"The chronically long waits for care that have frustrated patients at Veterans Affairs hospitals and clinics in some parts of the country are relatively rare in Michigan."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/08/michigan-veterans-clinics-cut-waits/25500947/*

Democrats question Benishek's 4th term

"WASHINGTON – Democrats are hitting U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek, R-Crystal Falls, in a new radio ad for his recent announcement that he intends to run for a fourth term in Congress."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/08/benishek-radio-ad/25468859/*

Special AG could make $50K for same-sex marriage case

"WASHINGTON – The former Michigan solicitor general who is returning to argue for the state's ban on same-sex marriages before the U.S. Supreme Court will receive up to $50,000 for his services."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/04/08/same-sex-marriage-case-lawyer/25493395/*

Mich. Supreme Court upholds law on teacher pensions

"LANSING – The Michigan Supreme Court, rejecting arguments from unions, has upheld a 2012 state law requiring teachers and other school employees to put more of their pay toward their pension plans

or face cuts to benefits such as post-retirement health care."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/08/michigan-supreme-court-teachers-pension-law/25482791/

Advocacy/Opinion

Column: Prop 1 is bad public policy

"Gov. Rick Snyder can promote Prop 1 ballot proposal all he wants, but a majority of well-informed members of the electorate ain't going to have none of it."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/opinion/20150406/column-prop-1-is-bad-public-policy

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It's time to bring long-overdue LGBT equality to Michigan

"Michigan's gay rights record is an embarrassment."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/its_time_to_bring_long-overdue.html#incart_river

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Disabled workers an untapped resource in state

"

Employers who are having trouble finding qualified workers for their businesses should consider tapping into an overlooked resource: disabled people.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/559485/Disabled-workers-an-untapped-resource-in-state.html?nav=5052

Proos, Pavlov: Mich. could lead in STEM certification

"Michigan has one of the nation's most comprehensive sets of high school graduation requirements, designed to set high goals for our students and to help them reach those goals."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/08/sens-pavlov-proos-stem/25419401/

Michaels: FEMA asks Michigan to do the impossible

"Last fall, the Federal Emergency Management Agency issued a draft proposal that will require Michiganians to do the impossible or face the loss of disaster relief funds. Specifically, state governments will be required to assess the risk of future disasters in a changing climate."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/michaels-fema-michigan-risk-assessment/25478791/*

Milojevic, Wells: Open Michigan electric market

"As a leader of a major industrial manufacturer and employer, and a CEO of North America's largest gas-fired energy producer, our companies have a major stake in the outcome of the current energy debate in Lansing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/milojevic-wells-michigan-electric-market-competition/25478771/*

Education savings accounts could help Detroit kids

"The future is always bright for any family, any neighborhood, any city and any nation when older generations can turn to its youth. Young people have energy and innovative ideas that transform the old into the new."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/scafidi-ed-savings-accounts-detroit/25478849/*

Benishek: Veterans issues trump term limit pledge

"Imagine the Washington agency tasked with helping our veterans telling someone to "go away and never come back.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/benishek-retiring-congress/25478881/*

Levin: Effort to restore the Great Lakes paying off

"We are so fortunate to be surrounded by the Great Lakes. They are a natural treasure that holds 95

percent of our nation's supply of fresh drinking water. Jobs, recreation and tourism all depend upon a healthy and flourishing Great Lakes ecosystem."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/09/sandy-levin-great-lakes/25478891/*

Editorial: Extend reach of Detroit's comeback

"A new progress report on the greater downtown Detroit area confirms what city leaders and activists have been discussing for some time: Downtown and Midtown are booming by almost every measure, and other neighborhoods need to catch up.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/04/09/editorial-detroit-comeback-extend/25478909/*

Killings by police display man's inhumanity to man

""Like a dog in the street" is the cliché assigned to cold-blooded killings.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/04/08/walter-scott-police-shooting/25475611/*

Snyder wants all public schools to meet higher standards

"Gov. Rick Snyder said he would announce "within weeks" an education plan that will hold all public schools, including charters, to higher, uniform standards — but cautioned that there would be no grand bargain to help rid the Detroit Public Schools of its massive debt.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/04/08/snyder-detroit-education/25494201/*

Law that Made School Employees Pay More for Health Insurance Saved $1.3 Billion

"Statewide caps on government employee health insurance have saved Michigan public school districts a total of $1.3 billion since the 2010-11 school year, according to an analysis done by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. The caps were implemented by a 2011 law."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21183*

Michigan Plummets in Economic Outlook Rankings Among States

"There is troubling news for Michigan's economy, according to the American Legislative Exchange Council's annual "Rich States, Poor States" state competitiveness index. The index ranks states on both economic performance in the past and the outlook for the future."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21190*

Press Releases

MI Delegation to National Defense Officials: Choose Michigan Air National Guard

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Michigan Congressional Delegation today united in their support for the 110th Attack Wing of the Michigan Air National Guard in Battle Creek, Michigan, to be named the location of a Cyber Operations Squadron.

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428527592_defense.pdf*

TOMORROW: Congresswoman Dingell to Host Roundtable on College Affordability in Ann Arbor

*"**Dearborn, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will host a roundtable with administrators and students from area colleges and universities tomorrow to hear about the challenges facing undergraduates and graduates as they attempt to finance their educations, and discuss efforts at the federal level to lighten the burden of student debt."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428524415_dd2.pdf*

MDOT, Amtrak, and Operation Lifesaver of Michigan warn of

trespassing on railroad property

*"**April 8, 2015 --** After a long winter, temperatures are finally starting to warm up, signaling the start of spring. With that, folks will be outside enjoying outdoor activities like walking, jogging, bicycling, and canoeing. In the Ann Arbor area, there are recreational trails, the Huron River, fishing spots, and parks located along railroad tracks owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and operated by Amtrak. To access some of these popular recreational locations, people may take shortcuts and cross the tracks at unsafe locations.*

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523560_mdot4.pdf

ADVISORY: Benishek to Visit Traverse City

"

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Dr. Dan Benishek will be visiting Traverse City on Thursday in order to visit the Munson Healthcare facility and to learn more about Experience Works, a program helping Seniors find work in Northern Michigan.
"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523483_drdan.pdf

Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) Praises MSU Decision to End Use of Coal

*"House Democratic Floor Leader **Sam Singh** (D-East Lansing) released the following statement after Michigan State University President Lou Anna K. Simon announced that the university would end the use of coal power on campus by 2016:"*

Source: *Rep. Sam Singh* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523452_ss.pdf

After Aramark Failures, Progress Michigan Questions Move to Privatize Prison Stores

"LANSING — The decision to outsource more state prison service jobs to an out-of-state corporation shows that policymakers in Lansing have not learned from the failed privatization experiment that has been the state's contract with Aramark."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523403_pm.pdf

Michigan Office of Services to the Aging awards grants to prevent elder abuse, neglect, exploitation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – Organizations across the state working on strategies to prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation will get a boost from eight grants awarded today by the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)."*

Source: *Michigan Office of Services to the Aging* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523298_oh.pdf*

ACLU, Detroit Agree On Interim Rules To Protect Free Speech In Public Parks

"DETROIT – In an effort to settle an ACLU of Michigan lawsuit that accuses the private groups that manage and secure Detroit's Campus Martius Park of illegally banning activists, the City of Detroit agreed on Thursday to immediately implement a series of interim rules designed to safeguard free-speech rights at all of its public parks. "

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523204_aclu.pdf*

U.S. Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence Announces Department of Justice Sexual Assault Kit Processing Report

"Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence of Michigan's 14th Congressional District welcomed the announcement of a report released by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). The report examines sexual assault kits (SAKs) that had not been submitted to Detroit's crime lab for DNA testing. This report is the result of an NIJ competitive grant awarded to Wayne County, Michigan in 2011. The grant was awarded under the NIJ's Strategic Approaches to Sexual Assault Kit Evidence: An Action Research Project solicitation. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428523158_4-08-15 CBL DOJ Sexual Assault Kit Processing Report Press Release.pdf*

Clean Water Action Holds Annual Great Lakes Award Celebration

"LANSING – Today, Michigan's largest grassroots environmental organization, Clean Water Action, is hosting their annual Great Lakes Award Celebration, honoring several of Michigan's outstanding environmental leaders for their commitment to protecting Michigan's Great Lakes and other natural treasures.

"

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428522987_cwa.pdf

TC Chamber, Alliance Host 'Hidden Talent Tour' with Lt. Gov. Calley

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Members of the area business community will join top state officials for a local event to promote hiring workers with disabilities."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517942_2015 Hidden Talent event.pdf

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Metropolitan Affairs Coalition Supports Proposal 1

"The Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) supports the May 5th ballot proposal to enhance transportation funding. This decision is based on the significant role transportation infrastructure plays in economic development and quality of life.

"

Source: *Metropolitan Affairs Coalition* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517875_mac.pdf

Bring a Young Dem to the April Saturday Meeting!!!

"Our next generation is depending on you! Let's get them engaged, inspired, involved, and active!"

Source: *14th District Democrats* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517804_dems.pdf

Dingell Hosts Roundtable on College Affordability in Dearborn

*"**Dearborn, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today hosted a roundtable discussion with students and administrators from University of Michigan-Dearborn and Henry Ford College on student loans and college affordability. Dingell heard from undergraduate and graduate students about the challenges they face financing their educations, and discussed efforts at the federal level to ease the student loan burden and make college more affordable."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517727_dd.pdf

Dune-ready vouchers no longer required at Silver Lake State Park ORV Area

"The Department of Natural Resources has been working with a volunteer task force over the last several months to develop an improved access plan for the Silver Lake ORV Area (SLORVA) that will include a more efficient check-in process.
"

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517690_dnr4.pdf

FRIDAY: Agriculture Ranking Member Stabenow to Deliver Opening Remarks at Inaugural Conference

*"**WASHINGTON D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, will deliver opening remarks during the Inaugural Great Lakes Hop & Barley Conference **FRIDAY, April 10**. The conference, which will be hosted by the Michigan Brewers Guild, MSU Extension and MSU AgBio Research, will feature sessions designed to help growers, processors and brewers learn how to better grow and market their products in Michigan."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517572_ds.pdf

$3.65 Million Lotto 47 Jackpot Up for Grabs is Largest in 2015

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 8, 2015** – The largest Lotto 47 jackpot of 2015 is up for grabs in tonight's drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517368_lottery2.pdf

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DIFS Expands Consumer Website

"LANSING – The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) announces today an improved website aimed at providing better service to consumers. Among the many features of the website, DIFS has developed a new section to equip Michiganders with tools and resources to prepare for and deal with disasters.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Insurance and Financial Services* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517316_difs.pdf

Beyond Nuclear press statement re: NRC/Entergy Palisades mtg., Thurs., April 9 in South Haven, MI

"South Haven Twp., MI--Beyond Nuclear, joined by environmental allies and concerned local residents, will speak out against risks to workers and the public at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) annual performance review of Louisiana-based Entergy Nuclear's problem-plagued Palisades atomic reactor in Covert, just south of South Haven, on the Lake Michigan shoreline."

Source: *Beyond Nuclear* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517283_bn.pdf

Animal Welfare Fund Provides $155,500 to Local Animal Shelters

"

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) State Veterinarian Dr. James Averill announced the Michigan Companion Animal Welfare Fund check-off will fund projects totaling over $155,500 for 26 registered shelters in 2015. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517250_mdard.pdf

M-13 bridge and road work begins April 13

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is scheduled to begin road and bridge work on M-13 next week. This two-year project will take place in stages and includes the following work in 2015:"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517206_mdot3.pdf

MSU To Stop Burning Coal

"EAST LANSING – Today, officials at Michigan State University (MSU) announced that they would take steps to stop burning coal by the end of 2016 and transition to burning natural gas."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517167_em.pdf

Starting Thurs, April 9, MDOT will make signal timing adjustments along

near the Frandor area

"Starting Thursday, April 9, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will revise the signal timing along M-43 (Saginaw Street and Grand River Avenue) near the Frandor area in Lansing. Over the next week, MDOT will make signal timing adjustments at various locations along the two routes. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517090_mdot2.pdf

Michigan College Access Network to Host Fifth Annual Network Conference

*"**April 8, 2015- Lansing, Mich.-** The Michigan College Access Network is excited to announce an expansion of our conference this year to include a pre-conference and an awards dinner on Sunday, April 12, in addition to our typical day-long professional development experience on Monday, April 13.*

"
Source: *Michigan College Access Network* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428517033_mcan.pdf

DNR says fish kills may be common during spring thaw

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that after the heavy ice and snow cover melt on Michigan's lakes this early spring, it may be common to discover dead fish or other aquatic creatures. This year's winter with heavy snow, extreme cold temperatures and thick ice cover will create conditions that cause fish and other creatures such as turtles, frogs, toads and crayfish to die. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428516808_dnr3.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Marie Waalkes to lead Office of State Employer

"LANSING, Mich. – The state will continue its focus on strong and inclusive employee relations with the selection of Marie Waalkes, of Lansing, to replace Jan Winters as Michigan's director of the Office of the State Employer (OSE), Gov. Rick Snyder said. Winters was selected by the Civil Service Commission as the state's new personnel director on Friday, March 27.

"
Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428516755_gov.pdf

Peters, Rounds, Carper and Isakson Announce New Senate Payments Innovation Caucus

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.—**U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI), Mike Rounds (R-SD), Tom Carper (D-DE) and Johnny Isakson (R-GA) today announced the formation of the bipartisan Senate Payments Innovation Caucus. The Senate Payments Innovation Caucus will explore new and innovative technologies in the payments industry and address issues concerning data security, consumer protection and electronic payments."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428516723_peters.pdf

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Remember to leave wildlife in the wild

"With the arrival of spring, wild animals are giving birth and hatching the next generation of Michigan's wildlife. Baby red foxes appeared in dens during the last days of March and the first days of April. Young great-horned owls have already hatched and are growing up in stick nests high above the ground. Mourning doves have made nests, and some have already laid eggs. The first litters of cottontails will appear soon.

"
Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428505069_dnr2.pdf

Oakland County Woman Wins $500,000 in Michigan Lottery's $500,000 Cashword Game

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 8, 2015** – An Oakland County woman is in shock after winning $500,000 in the Michigan Lottery's $500,000 Cashword instant game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428502257_lottery.pdf

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Lake Erie daily possession limit for walleyes will remain at six

"The Department of Natural Resources announced today that the daily possession limit for walleyes in Michigan's waters of Lake Erie will remain at six through April 30, 2016. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428501514_dnr.pdf

Statement from Ed Trust on "Every Child Achieves Act"

"

WASHINGTON (April 7, 2015) – Kati Haycock, president of The Education Trust, issued the following statement today on the "Every Child Achieves Act."
"

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428501447_et.pdf

Grand Rapids Licensed Practical Nurse Summarily Suspended

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a licensed practical nurse of Michele Ann Shedd, L.P.N., based on her conviction in the United States District Court, Western District of Michigan."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428501390_lara.pdf

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 4/7/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 4/7/2015."

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500920_courts.pdf

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Eagle Mine – Humboldt Mill surface water discharge permit renewed

"The DEQ today announced it has approved revisions to the surface water discharge permit for the Humboldt Mill near Marquette. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500724_deq.pdf

TODAY: Congresswoman Dingell to Host Roundtable on College Affordability in Dearborn

*"**Dearborn, MI** – Today, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will host a roundtable of administrators and students from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Henry Ford College on*

student loans and college affordability. Participants will discuss the challenges facing undergraduates and graduates as they attempt to finance their educations, as well as ongoing efforts at the federal level to lighten the burden of student debt."

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500684_dingell.pdf

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US-31 resurfacing in Bay View starts April 20

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be resurfacing US-31 in Bay View from Rosedale Avenue to Division Road. The project will include upgrading sidewalk ramps to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Pavement milling and resurfacing will take place on weeknights from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Thursday nights.

"
Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500647_mdot.pdf

U of M Cancels American Sniper Screening: Statement from YAF

"

ANN ARBOR, MI - On Tuesday, the University of Michigan Center for Campus Involvement canceled a screening of American Sniper set for this Friday after petitions from the Muslim Student Association (MSA) on campus (http://www.thecollegefix.com/post/21937/). Today, Derek Draplin, Editor in Chief of the Michigan Review, who broke this story and Grant Strobl, Chairman of Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) at the University of Michigan, are issuing a statement regarding this decision."

Source: *Young Americans for Freedom - U of M* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500612_uofm.pdf

Rev. Sues MI Over Religious Freedom With Libertarian Support

"

Lansing MI – The Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Michigan has issued the following statement:

"
Source: *Libertarian Party of Michigan* **Date:** *04-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428500489_lp.pdf

Rep. Trott Hears From Local Veterans a

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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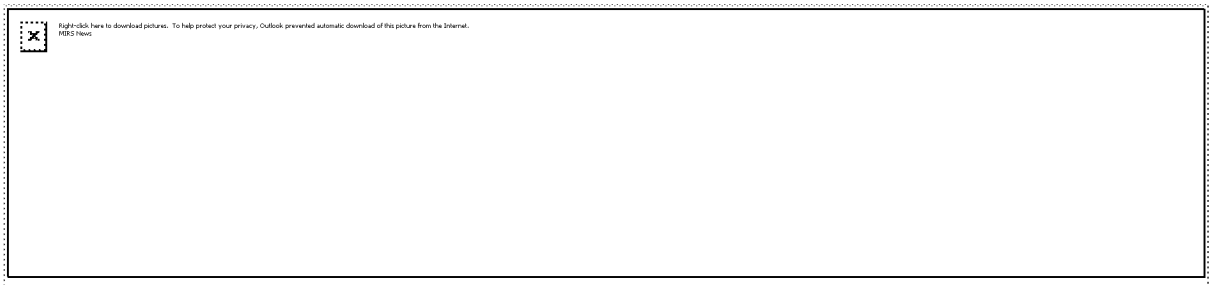
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 6:30 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Stabenow: Hillary Clinton 'all about the future' in second bid for presidency

"LANSING, MI -- Hillary Clinton has the experience to be president, but her campaign will be about the future, according to U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/stabenow_hillary_clinton_all_a.html#incart_river*

Working poor may see modest tax break under Michigan roads Proposal 1

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Proposal 1 will ask state residents to pay more to fix the state's crumbling roads, but some working poor may eventually see a modest tax break."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/some_working_poor_could_see_ta.html#incart_river*

Obama backs ban on gay 'conversion therapy' as Michigan lawmaker continues push

"LANSING, MI -- President Barack Obama last week joined calls for a ban on gay "conversion therapy," promoting state-level efforts to prohibit mental health professionals from attempting to change a person's sexual orientation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/04/obama_backs_ban_on_gay_convers.html#incart_river

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Why public schools are wading into a debate about energy

"LANSING, MI -- Kalamazoo Public Schools has saved more than $1 million by purchasing energy from an alternative energy supplier instead of its regular utility, Superintendent Michael Rice told the House Energy Policy Committee on Monday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/why_public_schools_are_wading.html#incart_river

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Flint emergency manager restores full salaries for mayor, city council

"FLINT, MI – The salaries of Mayor Dayne Walling and the City Council are headed back to the levels they were before the state found a financial emergency here four years ago."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/7-million_loan_could_signal.html#incart_river

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Pipeline firm sues Mich. landowners for survey rights

"Ann Arbor — A company behind a proposed natural gas pipeline that could run through parts of Michigan has sued several landowners to gain access to their property for surveys."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** vhttp://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/13/gas-pipeline-survey-rights-lawsuits-michigan/25723805/

Michigan traffic deaths fall 8% in '14

"Washington — Traffic deaths in Michigan fell 8 percent in 2014, even as overall crashes rose 3 percent and injuries rose slightly, state officials said Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/13/michigan-traffic-crashes/25703153/

Mich. utility giants, firms clash on energy policy

"Lansing — DTE and Consumers Energy clashed Monday with schools and such major firms as Dow Chemical Co. and Amway Corp. over state House legislation that would return Michigan to a full, state-

regulated electrical monopoly."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/13/michigan-utilities-firms-clash-energy-policy/25737697/

Roads toward U.S. presidency run by Detroit

"Detroit — Michigan's standing in the 2016 Republican race for president developed a heightened focus Monday as Ohio Gov. John Kasich tested his message with local business leaders and famed neurosurgeon Ben Carson scheduled a White House campaign decision next month in his native Detroit.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/04/14/kasich-presidential-bid-timetable/25722467/

State Capitol may open on Saturdays as attendance falls

"LANSING — Efforts are taking place in Lansing to bring more visitors to the state Capitol building and the Michigan Library & Historical Museum."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/13/michigan-lansing-capitol/25703355/

Michigan criticized for child welfare system

"A new computer system that is crucial to measuring improvements in Michigan's child welfare programs remains a problem, frustrating state employees as well as families and agencies caring for troubled kids, court-appointed monitors reported Monday."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/13/child-welfare-reforms-michigan/25720545/

Ben Carson to make announcement in Detroit next month

"WASHINGTON – Dr. Ben Carson, a renowned neurosurgeon who grew up in poverty in Detroit and a possible candidate for president in 2016, will return to the city early next month to make an announcement, his campaign office confirmed today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/13/carson-makes-announcement/25714985/

Ohio's governor talks politics, stops short of announcing

"As several Republican and Democratic politicians jumped into the presidential race this month, Ohio Gov. John Kasich wasn't about to announce his aspirations in Detroit on Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/13/john-kasich-white-house/25712113/

Advocacy/Opinion

Clarify medical marijuana laws

"

Bills to legalize marijuana dispensaries and products that serve the state's medical marijuana patients have been lingering in the Legislature. They should be a priority for lawmakers this year.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/559665/Clarify-medical-marijuana-laws.html?nav=5052

Spencer: Union marketing behind Detroit protests

"If you've ever received a phone call or email enticing you with a "free" vacation if you respond today, and you haven't responded because you think it's a scam, you're familiar with the idea that things that sound too good to be true probably are."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/14/spencer-union-marketing-detroit-protests/25731291/

Editorial: Lift ban on energy exports

"Now that U.S. oil and gas production is booming, there's little justification for maintaining the ban on liquefied natural gas exports. Removing the 1970s ban would stimulate domestic energy production, keep the fracking-induced job boom going and increase national economic output.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/04/14/editorial-ban-energy-exports/25731335/

Howes: Kasich's radical idea for presidency — a record

"Ohio Gov. John Kasich says he's not ready to declare his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/04/13/howes-ohios-kasich-offers-radical-idea-presidency/25744121/*

Press Releases

IPPSR Forum Mental Health and Crime This Wednesday

"No charge to attend, light lunch provided first come-first served. Registration is required. Please right click and open the following hyperlink IPPSR Forums"

Source: *Institute for Public Policy and Social Research* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959778_ippsr.pdf*

Thomas Blohm Appointed Macomb County Friend of the Court

"Effective today, April 13, 2015, Chief Judge John Foster appointed Thomas Blohm as the new Macomb County Friend of the Court Administrator. The position was open due to the retirement of former Administrator, Lynn Davidson, who served in the role for fourteen years out of her forty-five years of service with the Court."

Source: *Macomb County Probate Court* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959701_CourtPressRelease-ThomasBlohmAppointedFriendoftheCourt.pdf*

Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, April 14

"Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, April 14"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959614_gov.pdf*

I-69 at M-54 (Dort Hwy)

"Pavement repairs are being done on I-69 between M-54 (Dort Hwy) and Center on the eastbound lanes. Once those are completed, in the next day or so, then temporary concrete barriers will be placed on eastbound I-69. Those will separate eastbound and westbound I-69 traffic allowing for two lanes in

each direction. This traffic shift of westbound traffic onto the east side of I-69 is expected late Thursday/early Friday."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959576_mdot5.pdf

Media advisory: Township Legislative Advocacy Day

"MTA Township Legislative Advocacy Day: The Michigan Townships Association (MTA) is hosting an event to inform township officials of legislative issues that could affect their communities. MTA has also scheduled appointments between township officials and their legislators, providing them with the opportunity to share their township's story, successes and concerns."

Source: *Michigan Townships Association* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959445_mta.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus to Introduce Pay Equity Legislation

*" LANSING – The Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus will be introducing a package of legislation aimed at bringing pay equity to Michigan at a press conference to be held **in Room 402-403 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, April 14 at 12:30 p.m.** The bills will address the current pay gap in Michigan that has women earning, on average, 77.1 cents to every dollar earned by a man. Speaking at the event will be Sen. **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor), Rep. **Marcia Hovey-Wright** (D-Muskegon), Rep. **Winnie Brinks** (D-Grand Rapids), Rep. **Leslie Love** (D-Detroit) and Rep. **Gretchen Driskell** (D-Saline)."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959408_dems2.pdf

TOMORROW: On Equal Pay Day, Dingell to Discuss Efforts to Ensure Women Earn Equal Pay for Equal Work

*"**Washington, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will host a conference call **TOMORROW at 11 a.m.** to mark Equal Pay Day, the day when, more than three months into the year, women's wages finally catch up to what men were paid the previous year. Dingell will be joined on the call by Karla Swift, president of the Michigan AFL-CIO; Anne Gautreu, president of the American Association of University Women-Dearborn; and Diane Keller, executive director of the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber to discuss the impact of the pay gap on Michigan families and the economy, and efforts to ensure women earn equal pay for equal work."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959222_dd.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Severe Weather Awareness Week Recognition Ceremony

"To recognize Severe Weather Awareness Week and honor the winners of this year's Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest, the MSP/EMHSD and other members of the MCSWA will hold a special ceremony in the glass floor rotunda of the Michigan State Capitol. More than 300 poster entries were received from fourth and fifth graders statewide."

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959190_msp2.pdf

Michigan's Progress Under Its Child Welfare Settlement Discussed in Federal Court Today

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) appeared today before Judge Nancy G. Edmunds in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan to discuss the latest report under its Modified Settlement Agreement with Children's Rights, Inc. Governor Snyder created the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services through Executive Order by combining the former departments of Community Health and Human Services."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428959009_mdhhs.pdf

Iowa Becomes 36th State to Enact Families Afield

"Last week, Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad signed into law SF 392, creating an apprentice hunting license for adults and making Iowa the 36th state to enact Families Afield legislation. The measure was sponsored by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Environment under the leadership of Chairman Dick L. Dearden (D-Des Moines).

"

Source: *U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958954_sa.pdf

DNR advises caution to prevent spread of oak wilt disease

"For most people, April 15 is the annual tax-filing deadline. For people like Roger Mech – and other forest health professionals – April 15 also marks the beginning of the yearly window when oak wilt can be transmitted from diseased to healthy red oak trees.

"

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958871_dnr.pdf

MMA Supports 10% Electric Choice

"

LANSING — The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) was proud to testify today, 4/13/15, on legislation modifying Michigan's existing energy policy. Mike Johnston, MMA vice president of government affairs, testified alongside three MMA members in the Michigan House Energy Committee specifically on House Bill 4298 (Representative Aric Nesbitt, R-Lawton)."

Source: *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958790_release_energytestimony041315.pdf

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School leaders: Put kids before utility company profits

"LANSING – Superintendents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties today called on the Michigan Legislature to put kids before utility company profits by encouraging competition in the electricity sector. In 2014, public schools saved nearly $40 million through electric competition."

Source: *Tri-County Alliance for Public Education* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958570_tca.pdf

Kasich economics – what you really need to know

"Today Ohio Governor John Kasich heads to Detroit to talk economics. The only problem is, John Kasich economics look no different than the economic policies of every other Republican: stifle opportunity for middle class Americans, and give tax breaks to the wealthy and special interests."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428956528_dems.pdf

Data Reveals Alarming Trends for Roads Not Part of Highway System

*"**Lansing, Mich.** – New data released today by the state-run Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) reveals nearly half of local roads (non-federal aid) are in "poor" condition, and only 10 percent in "good" condition.*

"

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958475_mw.pdf

MI Economic Developers Association Releases Paper Supporting Public Econ. Dev. Incentives

*"**Lansing, MI** - Today, the Michigan Economic Developers Association announced the release of a paper on the use of public economic development incentives."*

Source: *Michigan Economic Developers Association* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958394_meda.pdf*

Megaplier Boosts $1 Million Mega Millions Prize to $5 Million for a Lucky Oakland County Man

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 13, 2015** – Adding the $1 Megaplier option to a Mega Millions play turned a $1 million prize into a $5 million prize for a lucky Oakland County man."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958348_lottery2.pdf*

Statement from Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future on EPIC MRA Poll

""The EPIC MRA polling results are designed to inflame and not inform Michigan legislators and voters," said Kelly Rossman-McKinney, spokesperson for Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future."

Source: *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958240_EPIC MRA CMEF RESPONSE FINAL.pdf*

SBM to Present "Tips and Tools" For a Successful Practice Seminar on Tuesday, May 5, in Lansing

"The State Bar of Michigan will present "Tips and Tools for a Successful Practice" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, at the State Bar's Michael Franck Building in downtown Lansing."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428958174_sbm.pdf*

Michigan sees nation's best year-over-year improvement in construction employment

"Lansing, Mich. – Michigan's construction industry saw the largest year-over-year drop in unemployment of any state in the U.S. with a 5.7-point unemployment rate decrease, according to data

for February released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and analyzed by Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC). "

Source: *Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428956033_abc.pdf*

Grand Rapids distributor named to chair U.S. wines, spirits trade group

"GRAND RAPIDS – Brien Fox, president and CEO of Grand Rapids-based Henry A. Fox Sales Co., is being named the new chair of Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America, the national trade association for wine and spirits distributors. Fox is to be formally installed to his one-year chairmanship at the WSWA national convention in Orlando, Fla., on Tuesday, April 14.

"

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428957971_bf.pdf*

LARA Offers Tips on Intrastate Equity Crowdfunding

*"**April 13, 2015 -** Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau (CSCL) provides tips regarding intrastate equity crowdfunding. "*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428957936_lara.pdf*

More spring weight restrictions lifted on state roads in Lower Peninsula

*"**April 13, 2015 --** Effective April 14, weight restrictions will be lifted on all state trunkline highways from the southern Michigan border north to and including M-20 at US-31 west of New Era, east to US-131 near Stanwood, south to M-46, and east to M-25 in Port Sanilac. State trunkline highways typically carry M, I, or US designations."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428957868_mdot4.pdf*

Kids Count in Michigan wins grant from Skillman

"LANSING – The Detroit-based Skillman Foundation has awarded $85,000 to the Michigan League for Public Policy for the 2015 activities of the Kids Count in Michigan project. "

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428956686_mlpp.pdf*

Red Cross blood donation opportunities May 1-15

"In honor of World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood in May. By reminding the public of the constant need for blood, you can help ensure blood is available for patients in about 2,600 hospitals served nationwide by the Red Cross."

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428956607_rc.pdf

Sparrow named mid-Michigan's only Baby-Friendly Hospital

"

LANSING, Mich. – Sparrow has achieved a national benchmark in quality care for mothers and babies, as mid-Michigan's only Baby-Friendly® Hospital. The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a global program of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). "

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428937902_2015-4-baby friendly press release.pdf

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Equality Michigan Announces Executive Leadership Transition

"DETROIT – Equality Michigan announced, today, that after five years of service, Emily Dievendorf is stepping down from her position as Executive Director. During her tenure, Emily served to further Equality Michigan's mission through her work to form coalitions with other Michigan LGBTQ organizations and allies, advocating for amendments to the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and second parent adoption, and fighting anti-LGBTQ legislation in Michigan. Equality Michigan's Board of Trustees thanks Emily for her contributions to the movement."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428937799_em.pdf

HFA Publication - Fiscal Focus: State Transportation Borrowing and Debt Service

"The House Fiscal Agency's publication, ***Fiscal Focus: State Transportation Borrowing and Debt Service*** *is available on the HFA website at http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/Alpha/Fiscal_Focus_Transportation_Bonds_Debt.pdf. This publication reviews the constitutional and statutory authority for the Michigan Department of Transportation's bond program, as well as the recent history of bonds issued by the department and related debt service."*

Source: *House Fiscal Agency* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428937368_hfc.pdf

M-59 construction continues between I-94 and Elizabeth.

"Both directions of M-59 between Elizabeth and I-94 will have only one lane open, Wednesday and Thursday, April 15th and 16th, 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. for road work.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428936073_mdot3.pdf

Michigan College Access Network Hosts Fifth Annual Conference, Announces Impact Awards

*"**LANSING, MICH. –** The Michigan College Access Network held the fifth annual conference in Lansing and announced six outstanding college advocates from across the state on Sunday and Monday. The theme of this year's conference was "Goal 2025: A Decade to Deliver" and focused on showcasing high-impact strategies and bold commitments toward increasing college attainment in Michigan."*

Source: *Michigan College Access Network* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428935995_macn.pdf

I-75 construction between M-15 and Clintonville Rd

"The Michigan Department of Transportation is investing $4.6 million to repair I-75 between Clintonville Road and M-15 in Oakland County. Work is scheduled to occur only during the overnight hours.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428935952_mdot2.pdf

LCRP Passes Resolution Supporting No Vote on Proposal 1

"Livingston County, Michigan - The Livingston County Republican Party has formally passed a resolution supporting a "No" vote on the upcoming Proposal 1 in the May 5, 2015 elections. "

Source: *Livingston County Republican Party* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428935911_Press Release Proposal 1.pdf

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Join Community Bankers as They Hear from Sen. Shelby, Rep.

Neugebauer and Fed Governor Tarullo

*"**WHAT:** The nation's community bankers will be in town for the Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA)'s annual Washington Policy Summit, where they will meet with their representatives in Congress, examine issues of public policy and hear from some of the nation's top policymakers. Join community bankers as they hear from keynote speakers including Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-Texas) and Federal Reserve Governor Daniel Tarullo.*

"

Source: *Independent Community Bankers of America* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428935838_bankers.pdf*

Construction at I-96 and US-23 near Brighton to start Wednesday, April 15

"Construction is now expected to start on Wednesday, April 15, at the I-96/US-23 interchange near Brighton. There will be daytime single lane closures on I-96 and US-23, and nighttime double lane closures on I-96 during construction. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930303_mdot.pdf*

STATE POLICE MARKS 98th BIRTHDAY

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Next week the Michigan State Police (MSP) is celebrating its 98th birthday and to honor this milestone Gov. Rick Snyder has declared April 19 - 25, 2015, as Michigan State Police History Week.*

"

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930275_msp.pdf*

Macomb County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., April 13, 2015** – A Macomb County educator known for the individualized attention that she provides each student and her focus on helping them to succeed both in and out of school has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.*

"

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930231_lottery.pdf*

Reminder: Cheney's to Commemorate Betty Ford's 97th Birthday

"The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation will host Dr. Lynne Cheney as she visits Grand Rapids on April 14 to participate in a luncheon program, America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy, commemorating former first lady Betty Ford's 97th birthday. Former Vice President Dick Cheney will join his wife during the conversation honoring the first lady's birthday."

Source: *Seyferth PR* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930189_cheney.pdf

ADVISORY: Michigan Attorney General Senior Brigade to Teach Seniors about Phone & Mail Scams in Troy

"At 11:30 AM on Saturday, May 9, 2015, Troy area Oakland County Commissioners Wade Fleming, Robert Gosselin & Gary McGillivray will host the Michigan Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division's Senior Brigade for a one hour presentation on phone & mail scams. The program is free of charge to the public and will be held at the Troy Public Library, Main Meeting Room, located at 510 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, Michigan.

"

Source: *Oakland County Commissioners* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930081_oc.pdf

Schuette Recovers More Than $95,000 in Back Child Support for Michigan Family

*"**LANSING** – Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced his Child Support Division has recovered approximately $95,625.78 in arrearages from Jesse Pace, 41, of Wasilla, Alaska for felony non-support. Pace is a former resident of Clare, Michigan.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *04-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428930014_ag.pdf

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 6:46 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
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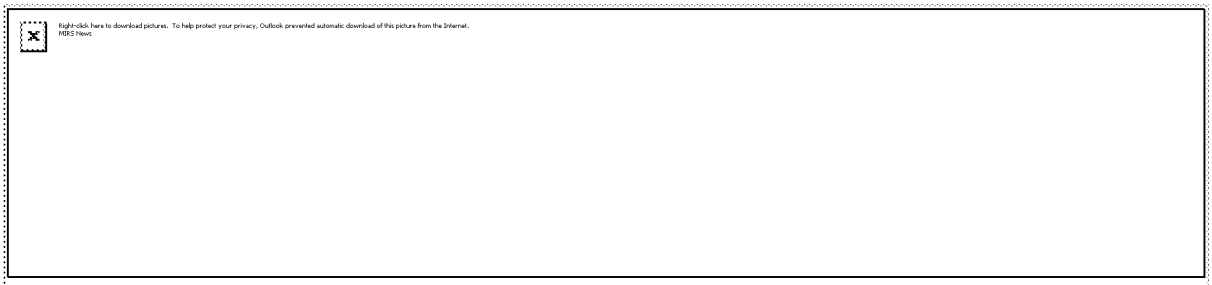

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5 things to watch for as Michigan legislature considers no-fault reform

"LANSING, MI -- Some fast-moving legislation would make broad changes to Michigan's no-fault auto insurance system, but legislators are still grappling with some pretty big pieces of the overall policy."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/5_things_to_watch_for_as_michi.html#incart_river*

Tea party feud heats up in Michigan House as freshman rep calls GOP leader a 'bully'

"LANSING, MI — Freshman state Rep. Todd Courser turned heads Monday with a strongly worded newsletter criticizing Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter for expelling fellow tea party Rep. Cindy Gamrat from the Republican caucus."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/tea_party_feud_heats_up_in_mic.html#incart_river*

Religious Freedom Restoration Act bad for business, Michigan companies tell lawmakers

"LANSING, MI — A handful of leading Michigan businesses on Tuesday urged state lawmakers to hold off on a proposed Religious Freedom Restoration Act, saying the measure could have negative economic consequences."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/religious_freedom_restoration.html#incart_river*

Sen. Gary Peters calls for comprehensive review of the country's criminal justice system

"With recent police-related killings leading to protests and civil unrest, U.S. Sen. Gary Peters is calling for a comprehensive review of the country's criminal justice system."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/sen_gary_peters_calls_for_comp.html#incart_river*

Doctors, Sheriffs unite against powdered alcohol in Michigan

"LANSING, MI -- A powdered alcohol known as "palcohol" has been approved by the federal government, but members of Michigan's medical and police communities said today it could spell trouble."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/doctors_sheriffs_unite_against.html#incart_river*

Importance of student growth in new teacher evaluation bill continues to drop

"LANSING — The role of student growth in teacher evaluations would decrease under a new plan approved Tuesday by a panel of Michigan lawmakers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/importance_of_student_growth_i.html#incart_river*

Michigan House passes $37.9 billion budget banning state funding for Planned Parenthood

"LANSING — Organizations like Planned Parenthood wouldn't be able to contract with the state of Michigan under a $37.86 billion budget passed by the House of Representatives Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/michigan_house_passes_379_bill.html#incart_river*

Senator makes case for Religious Freedom Act, disputes 'license to

discriminate' label

"LANSING, MI — State Sen. Mike Shirkey made his case Tuesday for why Michigan should adopt aproposed Religious Freedom Restoration Act, telling colleagues that his bill would clear up legal ambiguity and clarify First Amendment rights."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/senator_makes_case_for_religio.html#incart_river*

Michigan's 'confusing' diverging diamond interchanges broken down by traffic flow

"GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP, MI — Videos and aerial views of a new type of highway junction are difficult to grasp on their surface, though officials contend driving through one in practice should be "pretty easy.""

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/04/michigans_confusing_diverging.html#incart_river*

Great Lakes water levels: One lake to be almost 1 foot higher this summer

"The Great Lakes water levels forecasts show mixed expectations for this summer. One lake is expected to be much higher than last summer, while the other Great Lakes should be lower than last summer."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/04/great_lakes_water_levels_one_l.html#incart_river*

Flint's request to borrow $7 million heads to state loan board

"FLINT, MI – The state Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board will consider Flint's request for a $7 million loan at its meeting Wednesday, April 29, in Lansing."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/flints_request_to_borrow_7_mil.html#incart_river*

Detroit teachers rally against Snyder's school plans

"Detroit — In advance of Gov. Rick Snyder's announcement this week of his plan to overhaul Detroit schools, the Detroit Federation of Teachers rallied late Tuesday afternoon in front of the state of Michigan offices in Cadillac Place."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/04/28/detroit-teachers-union-protest-school-overhaul/26508107/*

Lawmakers hear testimony on religious objections bill

"Lansing — State Sen. Mike Shirkey made an impassioned case for a proposed state religious protection law Tuesday at a committee hearing, then had to defend it against arguments from two fellow senators and other opponents who said it could open the door to discrimination."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/04/28/michigan-lawmakers-religious-objections-bill/26543525/*

Mich. Democrats' reception heralds Hazel Park couple

"Washington — Members of Michigan's Democratic congressional delegation and supporters of April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse greeted the Hazel Park nurses with thunderous applause Tuesday afternoon at a reception on Capitol Hill following oral arguments in their historic Supreme Court gay-marriage case."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/28/mich-democrats-reception-heralds-hazel-park-couple/26553173/*

Both sides clash in festive atmosphere outside court

"Washington — The scene outside the Supreme Court on Tuesday was colorful and boisterous, as supporters on both sides of the gay marriage issue made their voices heard."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/28/gay-marriage-supreme-court/26503289/*

Foes beat pavement, fight Snyder on Prop 1

"Paul Wilk says he doesn't get passionate about much, but higher taxes and Proposal 1 rev him up."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/29/foes-beat-pavement-fight-snyder-prop/26553637/*

Pivotal justice asks tough questions on gay marriage

"Washington — Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy — who could cast the deciding vote in a landmark gay marriage case — raised questions about whether the high court should reshape the definition of marriage but also questioned whether creating a constitutional right for gays to marry would harm traditional unions.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/28/scotus-gay-marriage/26507457/*

Lawsuit challenges Ann Arbor schools' gun ban

"A statewide gun-rights group and a father with children in the Ann Arbor schools are suing the school district over its new policies that ban firearms on school grounds."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/28/second-amendmend-lawsuit-schools/26528953/*

Michigan police, doctors urge ban on powdered alcohol

"LANSING – Michigan may join at least six other states and ban a powder product that makes vodka, rum and cocktail drinks when mixed with water."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/28/michigan-urge-ban-powdered-alcohol/26543355/*

Duggan may detail plans for lower auto insurance

"Mayor Mike Duggan is expected to reveal more details tonight of one of his major campaign promises: finding a way to lower auto insurance rates for residents who pay among the highest premiums in the nation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/04/29/duggan-lower-auto-insurance-detroit/26540901/*

Court case raises concerns on both sides of marriage ban

"Tuesday was an upsetting day for Heather McBride."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/life/2015/04/29/two-sides-marriage-ban/26540699/*

Advocacy/Opinion

State politicians can easily find role models

"Gerald Ford, Robert P. Griffin and William Milliken were Michigan's Big Three. They represented the apex of the state's political clout on the national stage and, much to Michigan's credit, were also known and respected for the way they did the public's business. They had integrity and principles and stuck to them."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/560288/State-politicians-can-easily-find-role-models.html?nav=5052*

Editor's Note: Obama a poor auto analyst

"In the same week Ford Motor Co. suspended a shift at its Wayne Assembly Plant that makes small, fuel-efficient vehicles, President Barack Obama was advising automakers they should make more small, fuel-efficient vehicles."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/04/29/finley-editor-note-obama-poor-auto-analyst/26529537/*

Cook: Pass Prop 1, fix Michigan's roads

"'Michigan's road quality is among the worst in the nation," according to a study done by the East Lansing-based Anderson Economic Group."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/29/labor-voices-cook-prop-roads/26530141/*

Court could rule for more than just marriage equality

"There's something really anticlimactic about argument days for big cases at the U.S. Supreme Court."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/04/28/gay-equality-henderson/26509323/*

For same-sex skeptics, a scary new world

"WASHINGTON — One man bellowed like a wounded beast, issuing dire forecasts of God's wrath as federal marshals dragged him bodily from the highest court in the land."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/04/29/dickerson-oral-arguments/26544481/*

Poor economic recovery bigger problem than gender wage gap

"I like Debbie Dingell, but I don't like her insinuation that women do not receive the same pay as a man with the same seniority and doing the exact same work. She may actually believe this difference still exists and is widespread. If it does, it is illegal."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/04/28/opinion/doc553e31fe47847028970372.txt*

Bills Put Obsolete Laws on the Chopping Block

"There are laws in Michigan pertaining to reproaching someone for not accepting a duel, the playing of the national anthem and using indecent, immoral, obscene, vulgar, or insulting language in the presence of women and children. Now there's a package of bills that would put some of these kinds of obsolete and largely unenforced statutes out to pasture."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21238*

Todd Courser hits Lansing like a cannonball

"Whatever else you can say about Todd Courser, the first-term, very conservative state representative from Lapeer, you can't say he didn't hit the ground running."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/todd-courser-hits-lansing-like-a-cannonball/*

Leaving elections in the hands of plutocrats

"Some straws in the wind as the political world begins the long grind toward the 2016 election …"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/leaving-elections-in-the-hands-of-plutocrats/*

Press Releases

Rep. Winnie Brinks on amendment to the state budget that would eliminate family planning funding

" "This afternoon, just minutes before the House budget was presented for a vote on the House floor, an amendment was introduced to block funding for family planning. This was a tradeoff to appease a handful of ultraconservative representatives in order to secure their votes on the budget. Cutting this funding is an unacceptable affront to women's ability to decide if, when and under what circumstances to have a family.""

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430262021_dems6.pdf*

House Democrats Vote Against Disappointing State Budget

"LANSING – The Michigan House Democrats voted against a misguided General Fund omnibus budget Tuesday because it isn't balanced and short-changes Michigan's families, students and communities while spending lavishly on new offices for Legislators."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261981_dems5.pdf*

You may now be able to get the cash, food or child care benefits you were denied or cut off of

"You may now be able to get the cash, food or child care benefits you were denied or cut off of if you received a notice from DHS that said you could not get benefits because of a "criminal justice disqualification.""

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261939_DHS - Criminal Justice Disqualification.pdf*

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ouse Budget Hurts Michiganders

"LANSING – Today, the representatives in the Michigan House passed a FY' 15-16 omnibus budget. The budget includes cuts to human services programs, environmental protection programs, and public

safety.

"

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261864_em3.pdf

Rep. Pscholka proud of responsible, transparent budget approved by the House

"State Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville, today issued the following statement on the House approved departmental budget:"

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261834_ap.pdf

Dingell, Equality Caucus Honor Michigan Couple Following Supreme Court Arguments

*"**Washington, DC** – After the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments today in the landmark marriage equality case, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus hosted a reception honoring Michigan couple April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse. April and Jayne are plaintiffs in DeBoer vs. Snyder, part of the consolidated marriage case heard before the Supreme Court."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261787_dd2.pdf

REPS. CONYERS AND LAWRENCE ON POLICE-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN DETROIT

"WASHINGTON - Today, Reps. John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13) and Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) issued the following statement after an officer in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, serving as part of the Detroit Fugitive Apprehension Team (associated with the U.S. Marshals Service) was involved in the fatal shooting of a suspect while serving a warrant at a west side Detroit home on Monday, April 27:"

Source: *U.S. Rep. John Conyers, Jr.* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261681_jc.pdf

THUD House Appropriations Bill Deeply Underfunds Housing Programs, Defunds National Housing Trust

"WASHINGTON, D.C. — The proposed FY16 appropriations bill for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies released today by the House Appropriations Committee would do serious damage to federal housing programs that aid some of the poorest and most vulnerable families in the nation and would zero out the only new funding targeted to expand rental housing that is affordable for these families."

Source: *National Low Income Housing Coalition* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261604_nlihc.pdf*

REPS. CONYERS AND LAWRENCE ON POLICE-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN DETROIT

"WASHINGTON - Today, Reps. John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13) and Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) issued the following statement after an officer in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, serving as part of the Detroit Fugitive Apprehension Team (associated with the U.S. Marshals Service) was involved in the fatal shooting of a suspect while serving a warrant at a west side Detroit home on Monday, April 27: "

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261538_Joint_Statement_-_Conyers_and_Lawrence_on_ICE_related_shooting_4.28.15.pdf*

Michigan's So-Called Religious Freedom Restoration Act Gets Senate Committee Hearing

"LANSING – Earlier today, the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the so-called "Religious Freedom Restoration Act". Equality Michigan's director of political advocacy, Sommer Foster, delivered testimony."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430261491_EM2.pdf*

Rep. Dillon Amendment Would Strip Funding for New Senate Offices

*"LANSING – State Representative **Brandon Dillon** (D-Grand Rapids) introduced an amendment Tuesday to the Michigan House of Representatives' proposed omnibus budget that would prevent state funds from being used to pay for the state Senate's move to new offices. The Senate is attempting to move forward with a $134 million move to the Capitol View building, located just a block away from their current building."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430254582_DEMS4.pdf*

ACLU of Michigan Executive Director calls for federal investigation into shooting of Detroit man

"Kary Moss, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, gave the following statement in reaction to the shooting death of 20-year-old Terrance Kellom by a federal immigration agent in Detroit yesterday: "The death of Terrance Kellom is tragic and should be immediately investigated by federal authorities. The use of excessive force by police—and the resulting tragedies that citizens experience, especially in communities of color, as a result of their interactions with law enforcement—are endemic across this country and must stop. The first step in interrupting this cycle must be urgent reforms in how police and communities interact and the de-militarization of police departments across the state. Federal authorities also need to begin questioning the role of ICE in routine criminal investigations and whether these agents are properly trained to fill this role without unnecessarily endangering the public.""

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430253660_Kellomshootingquickquote042815.pdf

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Chamber Applauds Senate for Not Holding Vote Today on Religious Freedom Legislation

*"**DETROIT, April 28, 2015:** Today, the Detroit Regional Chamber's Vice President of Government Relations **Brad Williams** released the following statement as the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act:"*

Source: *Detroit Regional Chamber* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430253609_drc.pdf

Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, April 29

"Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, April 29"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430253529_smedia.pdf

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Michigan Democratic Party Approves 2016 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan

"

LANSING - The Michigan Democratic Party announces today the approval of the Michigan Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan that lays out the process for selecting delegates to the 2016 Democratic National Convention, as well as nominating the next Democratic candidate for President in 2016.
"

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430251323_dems3.pdf

"Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court"

*"**Oakland County, MI** (April 28, 2015) – On Thursday, May 14, 2015, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" in conjunction with the City of Novi Older Adult Services at the Novi Civic Center, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This program is designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens and their families so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process. The Novi Civic Center is located at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road in Novi. "*

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430251295_Press Release - Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court - Novi - 5-14-15.pdf

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National PrepareAthon! Day: Take Action and Be Disaster Ready

*"**CHICAGO –**Take a few minutes to commit to being ready for disasters that may threaten your community. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region V office in Chicago, Ill., is encouraging everyone to take part in America's PrepareAthon! National Day of Action on April 30 and consider doing at least one activity to improve your resilience to potential disasters.*

"
Source: *FEMA* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430249754_FEMA.pdf

Peters, Graham, Cornyn Introduce Bipartisan Bill Establishing a National Criminal Justice Commission

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today introduced the bipartisan National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2015, legislation that would create a National Criminal Justice Commission to review the criminal justice system from top to bottom and propose reforms to address the most pressing issues facing the nation's criminal justice system. Recent incidents, like the traffic stop of Floyd Dent in Inkster, MI, and civil unrest in areas like Baltimore, MD and Ferguson, MO have highlighted the need for a top-to-bottom evaluation of our criminal justice system. Peters introduced the legislation with Republican Senators Lindsey Graham (SC) and John Cornyn (TX)."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430248691_gp2.pdf

Do you have the information you need to vote on Proposal 1?

"A driving force for the supporters and staff of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan (CRC) is the firm belief that better information leads to better decision making. Public policy is a better product when the decision making bodies (city councils, the state legislature, school boards, etc.) have the best information they need to make informed decisions; information that is devoid of spin, hyperbole, and sound bites."

Source: *Citizens Research Council* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430248660_crc.pdf

Coordinator named to oversee WMU's Lansing-area location

" KALAMAZOO, Mich.–Western Michigan University has selected a new regional coordinator for its regional location in the tri-county Lansing area."

Source: *WMU* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430248623_wmu.pdf

Legislative Democrats Push For Civil Rights Expansion

*"LANSING – State Representative **Jon Hoadley** (D-Kalamazoo) and state Senator **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor) will call for an expansion of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to extend legal protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens on **Wednesday, April 29, at 11:30 a.m. in room 402-403 of the Michigan State Capitol building.**Also participating will be East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett, Washtenaw County Commissioner Andy LaBarre, transgender advocate Roz Keith and Detroit resident Bré Campbell, who will speak to the need to make Michigan fair and welcoming to all of its citizens."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430248589_dems2.pdf

Media Advisory: Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board to Meet April 29, 2015

"

The Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board (Emergency Loan Board) is scheduled to meet at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29th in the State Treasurers' Board Room in the Richard H. Austin Building, located at 430 W. Allegan in Lansing."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Treasury* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430247244_tcom.pdf

Big Business Supports Regulations that Increase Profits, But Kill Jobs

"Chicago, IL / Washington, DC - Challenged over its support of proposed Obama Administration regulations that could cause the price of power to skyrocket and put hundreds of thousands of Americans out of work, the president and CEO of the energy giant Exelon reiterated the company's support for this flawed regulatory policy when challenged by a free-market shareholder activist with the National Center for Public Policy Research.
"

Source: *The National Center for Public Policy Research* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430246881_ppr2.pdf

MDOT hosts public meeting May 12 to discuss 2016 bridge repairs on M-14/US-23 BR over the Huron Rive

"Public information meeting to discuss bridge construction currently scheduled for 2016 on M-14/US-23 Business Route over the Huron River, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)/Amtrak railroad and Barton Drive in Ann Arbor and Ann Arbor Township. The public is invited to stop by any time during the two-hour time period to learn more about the project and provide comments."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430246366_mdot5.pdf

STATEMENT: Supreme Court of the United States Holds Oral Arguments on Marriage Equality Cases

"MICHIGAN – The Supreme Court of the United States has concluded oral arguments on a series of cases challenging bans on the freedom to marry, including the case challenging Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage. With the hearing concluded, the Supreme Court is expected to release their ruling by the end of June."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430243036_em.pdf

State Boundary Commission - Meeting Cancellation

*"The State Boundary Commission Meeting previously scheduled for **May 13, 2015**, has been **cancelled**."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430242713_sbc.pdf

Law enforcement, health advocates, businesses call on MI Legislature to ban powdered alcohol

"LANSING – Law enforcement leaders, health care professionals and businesses today joined forces with legislators to support proposals banning powdered alcohol in Michigan and called on the entire state Legislature to act without delay."

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430242564_bf3.pdf

MIOSHA Observes Workers' Memorial Day, Honors Michigan Workers

*"**April 28, 2015 –** In observance of Workers' Memorial Day, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) today pays tribute to those who have died on the job and acknowledges the families, friends and communities who have suffered from these losses. The MIOSHA program is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). "*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430242169_lara2.pdf

Benishek Honored by American Motorcyclists

"Washington, D.C. - Today, Dr. Dan Benishek received the Champion of the AMA award from the American Motorcyclists Association. The award recognizes Dr. Benishek's commitment to preserving the ability of young riders to enjoy off-highway vehicles, fighting to end motorcycle-only checkpoints, maintaining access to public lands for riders, and preventing federal agencies from arbitrarily imposing regulations.
"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430242132_db.pdf

Superintendents: Pavlov bill preserves local control, helps kids learn

*"LANSING – School leaders today praised **Sen. Phil Pavlov** for partnering with education experts in crafting educator evaluation legislation that lays out a framework for common-sense, fair and critical evaluations for educators while preserving local control."*

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240701_bf2.pdf

Traffic changes coming to US-31 East Bay Township project

"Work continues on the US-31 reconstruction project from Three Mile Road to Holiday Road in East Bay Township, with work beginning on the left-turn lanes at Three Mile and Four Mile roads on Wednesday. That work is expected to be complete by Sunday.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240671_mdot4.pdf

Media Adv.: Michigan Court of Appeals Celebrates 50 Years of Service with Special Session & Panel

"The Michigan Court of Appeals is commemorating 50 years of service this year with a Special Session of Court and Historic Panel. Emmy Award-winning Detroit news anchor and reporter Christy McDonald will moderate the panel comprised of former MSC Justice Michael F. Cavanagh; former COA Judge William C. Whitbeck; Norman Otto Stockmeyer, former COA Research Director; Denise Devine, COA Information Systems Director; and Julie Isola Ruecke, COA Research Director. For more information, click here."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240644_courts.pdf

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Future Leaders Nominated for Rosenthal Internship Award

"Nine state capital interns – praised for their surefootedness in working with Michigan decisionmakers – are in the running for top state awards for their resourcefulness and initiative."

Source: *Institute for Public Policy and Social Research* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240583_ippsr.pdf

I-94BusLoop/Military closing over Black River in Port Huron

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has invested $2.8 million in repairs and upgrades, including electrical and hydraulics, on the I-94 BL (Military Street) bridge over the Black River in Port Huron and on the I-94 bridge over the Pine River in St. Clair. The bridges reopened at the end of March after being closed for a few months.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240524_mdot3.pdf

L Drive North bridge repairs over I-69 start Monday

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repairing the L Drive North bridge over I-69 in Marshall and Convis townships. Repairs include concrete repaving, beam repairs, pin and hanger replacement, painting, and new guardrails."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430240483_mdot2.pdf

LARA Offers Tips on Understanding Broker-Dealer Fees

*"**April 28, 2015 -** In recognition of Financial Literacy Month, the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau (CSCL) today offers tips to better inform investors about fees charged by broker-dealer firms for services and maintenance of investm*

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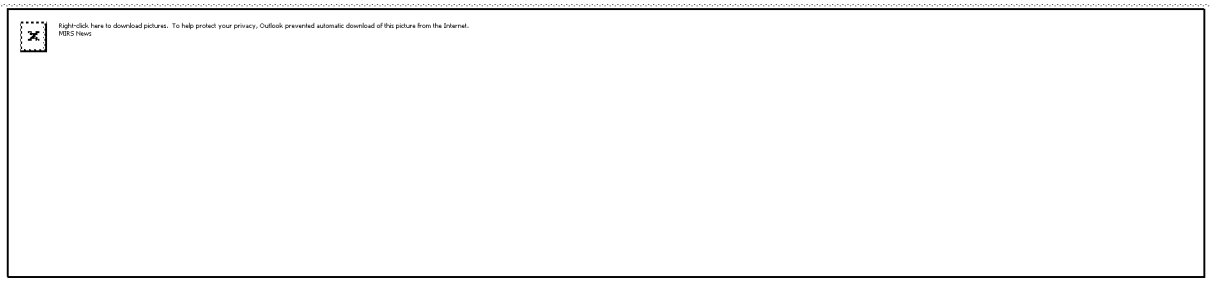
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 6:40 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Saginaw bus system endorses statewide road funding proposal

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Saginaw's mass transit system has formally endorsed the statewide road and sales tax increase proposal coming to Michigan ballots on Tuesday, May 5."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/04/saginaw_mass_transit_system_en.html#incart_river*

Michigan State, U-M and Wayne State have $16.8 billion impact on Michigan's economy, study says

"LANSING — Michigan State University, University of Michigan and Wayne State University drive $16.8 billion to the state's economy, according to a report released by the Anderson Economic Group.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/michigan_state_u-m_and_wayne_s.html#incart_river*

As gun advocates rally outside Michigan Capitol, lawmakers debate guns inside schools

"LANSING, MI — Gun owners and advocates rallied outside the Michigan Capitol on Wednesday, openly carrying firearms and celebrating their 2nd Amendment rights."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/04/as_open_carry_advocates_rally.html#incart_river

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Michigan Democrats seek 'citizen co-sponsors' on new LGBT non-discrimination bill

"LANSING, MI - Michigan Democrats are seeking "citizen co-sponsors" on new legislation that would extend statewide non-discrimination protections to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender residents."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/democrats_seek_citizen_cospons.html#incart_river*

Michigan House passes 'record' schools budget, but Dems bemoan hikes for charter and cyber schools

"LANSING — The Michigan House of Representatives passed a budget to fund public education in Michigan. Republicans say it is a record amount of money for schools while Democrats criticize the bill as picking winners and losers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/04/michigan_house_passes_record_s.html#incart_river*

Debate over no-fault reform roils Lansing

"A Livingston County-based advocacy group for disabled individuals is joining those calling on state Legislators to put the brakes on auto insurance reform."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/local/2015/04/29/auto-insurance-injuries-hune/26591767/*

U.S. Sen. Rand Paul to visit Grand Rapids on Monday

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Republican presidential candidate Sen. Rand Paul will visit Grand Rapids on Monday, May 4."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/04/sen_rand_paul_to_visit_grand_r.html#incart_river*

'A heavy burden' lifted from Flint as Gov. Rick Snyder declares end of financial emergency

"FLINT, MI – When he wakes up Thursday, April 30, Mayor Dayne Walling will still be mayor of Flint, but it's going to mean something more than it has since Dec. 1, 2011."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/a_heavy_burden_lifted_from_fli.html#incart_river*

GOP presidential wannabes descend on Michigan again

"Michigan is going to be a hot bed of 2016 Republican presidential politics on Monday as three potential contenders plan to visit the state."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/30/gop-presidential-wannabes-descend-michigan/26616945/*

Flint's financial emergency over, Snyder declares

"Flint — Gov. Rick Snyder has declared an end to Flint's financial emergency."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/29/flint-financial-emergency-ends/26588571/*

Evans warns of Wayne Co.'s dire finances

"Detroit — It's inevitable that an emergency manager will step in to take charge of Wayne County finances if the county doesn't step up and make drastic cuts to its ever growing deficit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/04/29/evans-warns-wayne-cos-dire-finances/26574535/*

Oakland County cities, schools seek millage approvals

"While voters statewide will be asked to vote on a new road funding plan, Ferndale is asking its residents to decide whether the city should borrow up to $45 million for fix local streets and parks."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/04/29/oakland-county-election-preview/26591425/*

Duggan touts medical cap key to cut car insurance rates

"Detroit — Mayor Mike Duggan on Wednesday unveiled a plan to allow auto insurance companies to sell Detroiters lower-cost policies with a maximum of $275,000 in medical coverage for auto-related injuries."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/04/29/duggan-seeks-lower-cost-detroit-auto-insurance-plans/26594181/*

Proposal 1's complexity generates controversy

"Lansing — Tuesday's ballot measure seeking to increase road funding and the sales tax would trigger 10 new or amended laws — half dealing with road issues and the other half covering non-highway issues such as local government aid and tax relief for the working poor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/29/proposal-complexity-generates-controversy/26617123/*

U.S. Sen. Rand Paul visiting Grand Rapids on Monday

"WASHINGTON — For several Republican presidential hopefuls, Monday is turning out to be a Pure Michigan kind of day."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/29/rand-paul-visit/26595641/*

14,000 in Michigan can reapply for public assistance

"LANSING – Thousands of Michiganders who were denied public assistance under a program deemed unlawful by a federal judge can now reapply for cash, food or child care benefits."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/29/michigan-public-assistance-ruling-aclu/26603989/*

Feds: Maybe next year for Blue Water Bridge project

"WASHINGTON – An Obama administration official told a U.S. Senate committee today that he wants to "prioritize" an expansion of the customs plaza at the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron but said lack of funding remains a problem."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/29/port-huron-project/26599135/*

State House approves $15.8B spending plan for schools

"LANSING — Michigan's Republican-led House approved its plan today outlining $15.8 billion in spending for K-12 schools, community colleges and universities."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/29/michigan-house-approves-spending-plan-schools/26607999/*

State Dems renew their efforts for LGBT

"LANSING — Democrats in the Legislature are hoping to capitalize on the attention being given to marriage rights for same-sex partners by reintroducing a bill to extend even more rights to the LGBT community in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/29/expansion-state-civil-rights-lgbt-community-introduced-democrats/26582655/*

UAW members get information on how to leave union

"About three dozen UAW workers gathered today in Sterling Heights to get advice on how leave the union or stop paying dues after Michigan's right-to-work law starts applying to the Detroit-based union."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/2015/04/29/right-to-work-ford-sterling-plant/26570353/*

Snyder to release sweeping plan for Detroit schools

"Gov. Rick Snyder will announce Thursday his plans for a sweeping overhaul of Detroit's public education system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/04/29/snyder-release-dps-plan/26603725/*

Medical marijuana bills get fresh look in Lansing

"Medical marijuana is back on agendas in Lansing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/30/medical-marijuana-dispensaries-pot-cannabis-michigan-medibles-chiropractor/26611239/*

Duggan lays out cheap insurance plan for Detroiters

"Mayor Mike Duggan will ask lawmakers to approve cheaper insurance plans for Detroiters that would offer lower benefit levels as a way to cut down on highest-in-the-nation premiums residents pay just for living in the city."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/04/29/duggan-details-cheaper-insurance-plan/26598545/*

What's with all the Snyder White House talk?

"LANSING — Talk of a Rick Snyder for president campaign has surfaced sporadically among pundits for the last two years. But it's the Michigan governor himself who is now fueling the speculation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/30/snyder-fuels-speculation-gop-presidential-bid/26611771/*

Opposition to Proposal 1 dominates Battle Creek town hall

"Battle Creek-area residents agree that Michigan's roads are in need of repairs, but if a town hall Wednesday night is any indication, they're not convinced Proposal 1 is the solution."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/story/news/local/2015/04/29/opposition-proposal-dominates-battle-creek-town-hall/26611819/*

Advocacy/Opinion

DTE: Regulated electric market best for Michigan

"In regards to The Detroit News' April 17 editorial, "Don't flip switch on electric choice," The News correctly points out that the generation and distribution of electricity carries a unique set of needs. We believe that fully regulating Michigan's electric market is the best way to address those needs and to ensure a reliable and affordable energy future for our state."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/30/steve-kurmas-dte-electric-choice/26595383/*

Editor's Note: Student teachers face EAA backlash

"The Education Achievement Authority has had no shortage of criticism since its inception four years ago. The state school reform district currently runs the 15 lowest-performing schools in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/04/30/ingrid-eaa-emu-teacher-training/26595519/*

In Michigan, asset forfeiture reform must be done right

"In the fight against crime, police use a very effective tool called asset forfeiture, which involves seizing property — cars, houses, cash and more — belonging to individuals who are using the assets in connection with criminal activity."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/04/30/rep-kesto-asset-forfeiture-reform/26595587/*

Editorial: Wayne County recovery plan tough, but needed

"Wayne County Executive Warren Evans is right that the recovery plan he's offering is "a big bottle of tough medicine." But the county is on its financial death bed, and only the strongest prescription will bring it back to health.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/04/29/edit-wayne-county-recovery-plan/26595757/*

Finley: Can Snyder squeeze onto GOP track?

"As Gov. Rick Snyder contemplates merging into a jammed GOP presidential race, it's tough to see what lane he'd fill that isn't already occupied.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/04/30/finley-snyder/26595779/*

Nancy Kaffer: How many more must die before we act?

"How long?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/04/29/baltimore-police-violence/26601161/*

Why our legislators can't fix the roads

"As we near the vote to raise the sales tax to fund our abysmal roads, we've heard this question come up quite a bit these last few months: Why couldn't the Legislature just do the job they were elected to do instead of passing responsibility off to the voters?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/04/30/legislators-fix-michigan-roads/26598993/*

Second MEA President Used $200,000+ Union Salary to 'Spike' Public Pension

"The former head of Michigan's largest teachers union was able to spike her pension by basing it on a union executive salary rather than her past earnings as a teacher. This special deal means taxpayers are on the hook for part of the extra $100,000 in annual pension benefits."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21241*

Michigan Supreme Court: Pension Reforms were Constitutional

"On April 8, 2015, the Michigan Supreme Court handed down an important decision upholding reforms to healthcare benefits for Michigan's retired public school employees. Although it was specific to just healthcare, it bodes well for any future reforms to public pensions in Michigan."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21222*

Press Releases

Democratic Legislators Call for Legal Protections for LGBT Michiganders

"LANSING – Calling for a Michigan that is welcoming and fair to all of its citizens, members of the House and Senate Democratic caucuses today urged an update of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) that will protect Michiganders from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Placing LGBT Michiganders under the protections of the ELCRA will give them the same protections that already exist for Michiganders on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight

or marital status."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430343420_dems5.pdf

National Small Business Week

"LANSING, MICHIGAN: National Small Business Week, scheduled May 4-8, 2015, is an annual, week-long celebration designed to recognize small businesses and the contributions they make to the economy. In Lansing's Capital Region, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Lansing Community College is celebrating the week by spotlighting eight local small businesses. The following businesses will be recognized through a social media photo and video campaign:

"

Source: *Small Business Development Center* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430342438_sbdc.pdf

Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, April 30

"Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, April 30"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430342383_gov4.pdf

Rep. Pscholka applauds largest school aid budget in Michigan history

"State Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville, today issued the following statement on the House approved school aid budget:"

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430342345_ap.pdf

House Dems: Schoolbus Takes Wrong Turn

"LANSING – House Democrats today unanimously rejected an omnibus education budget that favors charter and cyber school students over kids attending traditional public schools while stripping funding from at-risk students who live in poverty."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430342304_dems3.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430338254_gov3.pdf

Moolenaar Statement on the Budget Conference Committee Agreement

"Today, Representative John Moolenaar (R-Midland), a member of the House and Senate Budget Conference Committee, made the following statement on the budget resolution reported by the committee."

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Moolenaar* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337952_jm3.pdf

Cancer Patients, Survivors Urge Lawmakers to Make Cancer a Priority

*"**LANSING, Mich. – April 29, 2015 –** Cancer patients, survivors and caregivers from across the state traveled to the Michigan State Capitol today and called on the Legislature to prioritize the 57,420 Michiganders who will be diagnosed with cancer in 2015."*

Source: *American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337803_can2.pdf

Media Advisory - Alliance Speaker Series

"The Traverse City Area Chamber's media outlets are invited to attend the premiere of a new Speaker Series debuting this Friday, May 1, sponsored by the Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337749_Media Advisory Alliance Speaker Series.pdf

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Dingell Statement on Joint Address by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

*"**Washington, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today after Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's address before a joint session of Congress.*

"

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337658_dd.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills to help Michigan residents secure property from federal government

"Lansing, Mich. – Nearly 900 acres of land in Calhoun County will be conveyed by the federal government to the state of Michigan so that the state can certify it to the rightful landowners, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337602_gov2.pdf

Family and community react to shooting by ICE, Detroit police

"Detroit - The day after his son was gunned down by an Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer, Kevin Kellom spoke publicly about the shooting in front of his home on Detroit's Northwest side. "They brought my son down the stairs and executed him in my face. My son died with a clenched fist, no hammer. My son reached for me and was shot twice in the chest. (After that), eight more shots rang out."

"

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337529_mu.pdf

Democratic Legislators Call for Legal Protections for LGBT Michiganders

"LANSING – Calling for a Michigan that is welcoming and fair to all of its citizens, members of the House and Senate Democratic caucuses today urged an update of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) that will protect Michiganders from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Placing LGBT Michiganders under the protections of the ELCRA will give them the same protections that already exist for Michiganders on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight or marital status."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337417_hd.pdf

Law Enforcement Agencies Conduct Sex Offender Sweep in Detroit

*"**DETROIT, MICH.** The city of Detroit saw an increase in police presence this week as a result of a multijurisdictional sex offender sweep. Troopers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) Metro Post and Sex Offender Registry Unit joined forces with the United States Marshals Service, Detroit Police Department and Sterling Heights Police Department for a three-day sex offender sweep aimed at ensuring registered offenders are in compliance with the Michigan Sex Offender Registration Act requirements.*

"

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337372_msp.pdf

Update: Northbound I-75 ramp closure begins Monday for US-10 bridge replacements over I-75

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is replacing both the eastbound and westbound US-10 bridges over I-75. The westbound bridge will be replaced between May and July, and the eastbound bridge between July and September.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337260_mdot8.pdf

Michigan utilities have saved customers more than $1.3 billion since 2009

*"**LANSING —** Michigan's hometown utilities – DTE Energy and Consumers Energy – continue to exceed annual efficiency standards laid out in the 2008 energy law, resulting in more than $1.3 billion in savings for Michigan consumers since 2009."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337228_tr.pdf

House Dems: No Fault Overhaul Fails Drivers, Accident Victims

*" LANSING – House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills), Detroit Caucus Chair **Brian Banks** (D-Detroit) and Rep. **Tom Cochran** (D-Mason) said today House Democrats cannot support Senate Bills 248 and 249 because they erode medical care for certain victims by limiting their ability to pay for their care, they do not guarantee rate reductions, and they create more bureaucracy and continue secrecy while prohibiting voters from expressing their opinions of the so-called reforms at the ballot box. A recent poll conducted by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association found that a wide majority of respondents do not support these changes to no-fault."*

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337195_dems2.pdf

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan Statement on House Budget

"MICHIGAN — Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan opposes amendment 1WW to HB4102 (H-1). This amendment would preemptively prohibit Planned Parenthood and similar organizations from contracting with the state on future state-funded family planning services. Representative Tom Hooker and his colleagues are taking a swipe at Planned Parenthood, but in reality, their efforts will only reduce access to family planning services, hurting women and families in Michigan."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337162_pp.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: City of Flint ready to move forward as financial emergency resolved

"LANSING, Mich. –The financial emergency in the city of Flint has been resolved and a Receivership Transition Advisory Board has been appointed to ensure a smooth transition to local control and continued financial stability for the city, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430337105_gov.pdf

Students hit the pavement for Bike to School Day and ACES Day 2015

*"**April 29, 2015 --** More than 150 schools in Michigan will join students around the country in observing the 3rd annual Bike to School Day in coordination with All Children Exercise Simultaneously (ACES) Day on Wednesday, May 6. Thousands of Michigan students, along with their parents, teachers and community leaders, are expected to participate."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336961_mdot7.pdf

Concrete patching along US-23 just north of US-223 set to begin May 3

"Starting this week, the Michigan Department of Transportation will oversee a concrete pavement repair project in southern Monroe County."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336924_mdot5.pdf

M-35 resurfacing near Menominee starts May 4

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will resurface 5.9 miles and pave shoulders on M-35 from 48th Avenue in Menominee to north of Birch Creek Road.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336846_mdot4.pdf

Media Advisory: Congressional Art Competition Reception on May 4 in Midland

"On Monday, May 4 at 4:30 PM, Representative John Moolenaar (R-Midland) will hold a reception for the Fourth District Congressional Art Competition at the Midland Center for the Arts at 1801 Saint Andrews Street, Midland, MI 48640."

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Moolenaar* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336815_jm2.pdf

Volunteer for Tree Planting May 9th!

"

On Saturday, May 9, 2015 we will join Michigan DNR wildlife biologists to plant mast-bearing trees for white-tailed deer on public land in the Escanaba State Forest, providing food where U.P. deer need it most!

"

Source: *AmeriCorps* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336770_dnr.pdf

MCFN comment on Yulee

"Today's decision by the Supreme Court of the United States in Williams-Yulee v. Florida Bar, which upheld Florida's Canons of Judicial Conduct in prohibiting judges from directly soliciting contributions for their election campaigns, is a victory for states, including Michigan, that elect judges and employ the same judicial canon. The court's decision recognized that states do have a compelling interest in seeking to protect public trust and confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, and that public trust and confidence is undermined if a judicial candidate directly solicits favors from lawyers or litigants. John Q. Public gets a measure of reassurance in knowing that he won't find himself in a courtroom before a judge

who directly solicited, and received, a check from the opposing party in his court case."

Source: *Michigan Campaign Finance Network* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336875_cfn.pdf

Student Digital Privacy and Parental Rights Act an Important Step Forward

*"**WASHINGTON (April 29, 2015)—** Rep. Luke Messer (R-Ind.) and Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) today released the Student Digital Privacy and Parental Rights Act, a bill aimed at safeguarding student privacy. Following are the remarks of Aimee Rogstad Guidera, President and CEO of the Data Quality Campaign, a national nonprofit that advocates for the safe, effective use of education data to improve student achievement:*

"

Source: *Data Quality Campaign* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336609_dqc.pdf

STATEMENT: Rep. Cox budget statement

"State Rep. Lara Cox, chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, issued the following statement on the House-approved departmental budget:

"

Source: *Rep. Laura Cox* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336546_lc.pdf

Michigan Legislators Introduce Bills to Modernize Anti-Discrimination Law

"LANSING – Earlier today, legislators in the Michigan's Senate and House of Representatives introduced an update to the 1976 Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) that will protect Michiganders from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Polls show that voters in Michigan overwhelmingly support the effort, and numerous business and religious leaders have called for the updates. If signed into law, the update would place LGBTQ Michiganders under the same protections of the ELCRA that already exist for Michiganders on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight or marital status. "

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430336455_EM.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee, Family of Amir Hekmati, Montel Williams to Hold Press Conference Thursday

"WASHINGTON – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), along with family members of Amir Hekmati and TV personality Montel Williams, will hold a press conference ***tomorrow, Thursday, April 30, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. ET on Capitol Hill*** *to discuss Amir's continued imprisonment in Iran. At the press conference, Kildee, the Hekmati family and Williams will also discuss new legislative efforts being introduced on Capitol Hill to push for Iran to release Amir."*

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Kildee* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430328748_dk.pdf

M-89 repaving in Battle Creek starts Monday

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repaving more than 5 miles of M-89 in Battle Creek: Michigan Avenue from Custer Drive to Washington Avenue, and Washington Avenue from Michigan Avenue to I-94 Business Loop/Dickman Road."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430320778_mdot3.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Earvin Johnson News Conference Details/Thursday, April 30

"

(Lansing, MI) – Earvin "Magic" Johnson will have a brief media availability prior to his appearance at the Lansing Economic Club fundraiser for Lansing promise scholarship program. Details are as follows:"

Source: *Kolt Communications* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430319000_Media Advisory_Earvin Johnson News Conference.pdf

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Speaker Cotter appoints Rep. Cole to serve on Council of State Governments

"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, was recently appointed by Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, to serve on The Council of State Governments as a member of The Midwestern Legislative Conference Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for the 2015-2016 biennium."

Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430318875_tc.pdf

Moolenaar Announces May Office Hours

"Today, Representative John Moolenaar (R-Midland) announced office hours to be held by constituent

relations representatives at locations throughout the Fourth District. Residents in need of assistance with a federal agency are welcome to attend and no appointment is necessary. A complete list of office hours is online at: Moolenaar.House.Gov/OfficeHours"

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Moolenaar* **Date:** *04-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1430318542_jm.pdf*

ACS President Caroline Fredrickson Statement on Williams-Yulee v. Florida Bar Decision

"Washington, D.C. – The U.S. Supreme Court today handed down a ruling in Williams-Yulee v. The Florida Bar. The case concerns the balance between the right to free speech and the compelling state interest in preserving public confidence in the courts. Today's ruling determined candidates for judicial office do not possess a constitutional right to directly solicit campaign contributions from potential donors. ACS President Caroline Fredrickson issued the following statement:"

Source: *American Constitution Society for Law and Policy* **Date:** *04-30-2015* <b style='padding-left

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2015 6:35 AM
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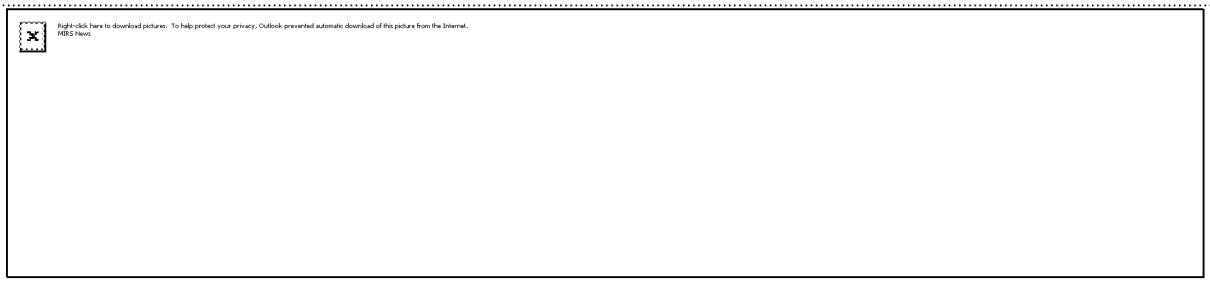
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Regional sheriffs suggest changes in law enforcement policy due to recent strained relationship with public, police

"Three regional sheriffs went public Tuesday with a plan to create better relationships between law enforcement and the public following several instances across the country that imply that relationship is deteriorating."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20150512/regional-sheriffs-suggest-changes-in-law-enforcement-policy-due-to-recent-strained-relationship-with-public-police*

Proposed changes to Michigan's no-fault insurance "a terrible public policy", say opponents

"Auto accident victims, care provider and legislators are ramping up their campaign to oppose the recent proposed changes to the state's no-fault insurance policy."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20150512/proposed-changes-to-michigans-no-fault-insurance-a-terrible-public-policy-say-opponents*

School Reform Office to review Education Achievement Authority's role in Detroit education

"LANSING — The Education Achievement Authority's performance and role in education reform in Detroit will be under review by a state office now under the control of Gov. Rick Snyder.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/05/school_reform_office_to_review.html#incart_river*

Attorney for Sen. Virgil Smith calls his ex-wife the obvious aggressor

"DETROIT, MI -- The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office charged state Sen. Virgil Smith, D-Detroit, with four crimes in connection with a shooting incident about 1 a.m. Sunday at the 35-year-old's Detroit home."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/05/sen_virgil_smith_charged_with.html#incart_river*

Sen. Virgil Smith kicked from committees, leadership post following criminal charges

"LANSING, MI — State Sen. Virgil Smith, a Detroit Demorat facing multiple felony charges after allegedly assaulting his ex-wife and firing a shotgun at her car, has been stripped of key duties in the Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/05/sen_virgil_smith_kicked_from_c.html#incart_river*

Michigan Senate to skip summer break as lawmakers search for road funding solution

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate has canceled its traditional "in-district work period" this summer as lawmakers attempt to craft a long-term road funding in the wake of Proposal 1's historic failure."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/05/michigan_senate_to_skip_summer.html#incart_river*

Presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina uses medieval history degree to knock Obama in Michigan

"LANSING, MI — Long before she was a powerful businesswoman or Republican presidential candidate, Carly Fiorina was a medieval history major at Stanford University."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/05/presidential_hopeful_carly_fio.html#incart_river*

Flint council must decide what to do with budget signed by departed emergency manager

"FLINT, MI – If they want to change former emergency manager Jerry Ambrose's two-year financial plan for Flint, members of the City Council will have to work in reverse."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/05/departed_flint_emergency_manag_1.html#incart_river

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Senate colleagues have doubts about Virgil Smith in office

"LANSING – After Sen. Virgil Smith, D-Detroit, was charged with four felonies in the wake of a shooting at his house, the drumbeat for his resignation or removal from office grew louder Tuesday. Other legislators, meanwhile, cautioned against jumping to judgment against the longtime legislator.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/12/sen-virgil-smith-absent-senate-waiting-word-possible-charges/27179301/

Snyder to review future of state's school reform district

"Gov. Rick Snyder has launched a review of Michigan's troubled reform school district as questions continue to swirl about its future."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/05/12/snyder-review-eaa/27205949/

Carly Fiorina talks leadership, innovation in Lansing

"LANSING — California businesswoman Carly Fiorina came to Michigan on Tuesday to talk about leadership with a crowd of more than 400 people at a Michigan Chamber of Commerce annual dinner."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/05/12/carly-fiorina-speaks-michigan-chamber-commerce/27209539/

State Sen. Virgil Smith free on bond in shooting case

"State Sen. Virgil Smith, suspected of firing shots at his ex-wife's Mercedes-Benz early Sunday, was arraigned today on felonious assault, domestic violence and other charges in Detroit's 36th District Court."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/05/12/state-sen-virgil-smith-case/27176461/*

Oakland Sheriff Bouchard: Policing in U.S. isn't broken

"Expressing growing frustration, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard this afternoon called for state and federal legislators to stop "peppering" law enforcement with poorly drafted legislation, and instead consult police chiefs and sheriffs across the country for better ideas to ease tensions in the communities."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/05/12/oakland-sheriff-stop-knee-jerk-legislation/27175581/*

Michigan near top in residents with credit file

"Michigan ranks second in the United States when it comes to the percentage of adults with a credit file and a credit score, a new report by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York finds."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/05/12/fed-reserve-credit-report/28979129/*

Mich. Senate panel to debate repeal of prevailing wage laws

"LANSING – The contentious issue of repealing Michigan's prevailing wage laws will get a hearing Wednesday morning at the state Capitol."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/05/13/prevailing-wage-repeal-debated-senate-committee-hearing/27212355/*

No summer break for Senate GOP due to rocky roads

"LANSING — The state Senate has announced plans to stay in session most of the summer to work on a road funding plan after the voter defeat of Proposal 1, but it isn't clear the state House will follow suit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/05/12/senate-summer-session-tackles-road-funding/27205885/*

Michigan lawmakers vote to allow email eviction notices

"Lansing — Michigan landlords could email eviction notices to tenants or notify them via social media under legislation headed to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/12/michigan-lawmakers-allow-email-eviction-notices/27184787/*

Senate cancels summer recess to tackle road funding

"Lansing — Voters' rejection last week of a $1.3-billion ballot proposal for road repair funding is a big factor in the Michigan Senate leadership's decision Tuesday to hold a rare summer-long schedule of sessions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/12/senate-cancels-recess-road-funding/27197811/*

Snyder orders 'performance and structure' review of EAA

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday ordered a "performance and structure" review of the Education Achievement Authority and how the school reform district might fit into his proposed overhaul of Detroit's fractured system of public schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/12/snyder-education-achievement-authority-detroit-school-reform/27182913/*

State Sen. Virgil Smith released on bond

"Detroit — As state Sen. Virgil Smith Jr. sat in a holding cell Tuesday awaiting word on charges in a shooting incident involving his ex-wife, his colleagues in Lansing stripped him of committee and caucus duties."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/05/12/virgil-smith/27173735/*

Enbridge settles cleanup of Michigan oil spill for $75M

"State officials are announcing Wednesday a $75 million settlement with Enbridge Energy to finalize cleanup terms with the Canadian pipeline owner responsible for 2010's massive Kalamazoo River oil spill."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/12/enbridge-settles-cleanup-michigan-oil-spill/27216339/*

Ann Arbor mayor floats idea of new local road tax after Proposal 1's defeat

"While a statewide road funding proposal was overwhelmingly defeated across Michiganlast week, it passed in Ann Arbor."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/05/ann_arbor_mayor_floats_idea_of.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Advocacy/Opinion

Finish work on grading teachers

"

Michigan continues to lag the nation in the performance of its students. And since teachers play the biggest role in determining how well their students do, one of the tools to boost these results is a strong teacher evaluation program. The Legislature has worked on evaluations for four years, and now it should finish the task.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/560774/Finish-work-on-grading-teachers.html?nav=5052*

Column: Don't weaken clean car standards

"At the Detroit Auto Show in January, Chevy unveiled the all-electric Bolt and the new, improved Volt 2.0. Both represent major accomplishments. Equally notable is Toyota's recent unveiling of the fuel cell electric Mirai. And the announcement by Ford CEO Mark Fields that his company's fleet is on track to meet the national clean car standards adopted in 2011 that will require fleet averages of 54.5 mpg by 2025 is in some ways the most significant of all."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/05/13/column-clean-car-standards/27196711/*

Benishek: Country of origin labels threaten Mich. jobs

"When you walk into your local grocery store, and you look into the meat case, you will see labels about where your steak was born, raised and even processed. It is interesting information, but did you know that one label results in higher food prices and could end up costing northern Michigan jobs due to millions of dollars in retaliatory tariffs from Canada?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/05/13/benishek-country-origin-labels-michigan-jobs/27197637/*

Hoffa: What America needs from its trade pacts

"The U.S. Senate has decided, for now, not to put the Trans-Pacific Partnership on the fast track. That's a good thing. This issue deserves a full debate.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/05/13/hoffa-fast-track/27197695/*

Editor's Note: Is Sen. Smith a gun hypocrite?

"For a guy who likes to get naked and shoot off rifles (who doesn't?) State Sen. Virgil Smith has been consistently hostile to the rights of gun owners."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/05/13/finley-virgil-smith-gun-hypocrite/27197769/*

Here's How Much Michigan 'Prevailing Wage' Law Costs Your School District

"Michigan's "prevailing wage" law costs residents more than $224 million each year, according to the Anderson Economic Group. Now there's a website that brings the impact of that even closer to home."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21284*

Fossil Fuel Investments Yield Big Returns for State Pension Funds

"The oil and gas industry has been one of the better investments made by Michigan's two largest government employee pension funds, according to a recent report by Sonecon LLC, a Washington D.C. economic advisory firm."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21287*

Michigan's jobs rebound also brings a lower paycheck

"The news that Michigan's unemployment rate fell below 6 percent in February rose like a beacon across the state. It was the lowest it had been in 14 years and signaled that Michigan is no longer among states with the worst unemployment; a burden the state carried for much of the past decade."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/05/michigans-jobs-rebound-also-brings-a-lower-paycheck/*

State struggles to boost lives of the working poor

"Today's Michigan is home to a vast population of people who have a job, yet are still struggling to survive."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/05/state-struggles-to-boost-lives-of-the-working-poor/*

Proposal 1 crash shows lawmakers out of touch

"Well, as you undoubtedly know, Proposal 1, the complicated ballot proposal that was supposed to provide money to fix our roads (and for a lot of other things besides) got absolutely crushed May 5."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/05/proposal-1-crash-shows-lawmakers-out-of-touch/*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, May 13

"Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, May 13"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431465131_smedia.pdf*

Statement from the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus on withholding judgment of its chair, state Sen

""Recent events publicized in the news media have brought the character of state Senator Virgil Smith under scrutiny. The membership of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus opposes violence and understands the seriousness of these allegations. However, we would like to urge due process and equal protection in this matter as outlined in our 14th Amendment."

Source: *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431465094_house.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills to clarify definition of firearms, bring state in line with federal sta

"LANSING, Mich. – Airsoft guns, such as paintball, BB or pellet guns, will no longer qualify as firearms under state law, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder that brings Michigan in line with federal firearms statutes.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431465042_*

Rep. Lauwers' bill brings flexibility to farm truck drivers

"State Rep. Dan Lauwers today introduced a bill with bipartisan support that gives agricultural truck drivers more flexibility in obtaining their commercial driver's licenses so they don't miss work time."

Source: *Rep. Dan Lauwers* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463648_dl.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Road Plan Press Conference

"Press conference to announce a new solution to fund road and bridge repairs."

Source: *Rep. Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463602_kc.pdf

Kowall: Senate will be in session this summer

*"**LANSING** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, on Tuesday announced significant additions to the Senate session calendar."*

Source: *Michigan Senate* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463539_senate.pdf

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Lotto 47 Jackpot Tops $6 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., May 12, 2015** – The Lotto 47 jackpot has grown to $6.1 million for Wednesday night's drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463475_lottery.pdf

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Hospital CEO, Surgeons Testify on Legislation Increasing Anesthesia Access for Michigan Patients

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Hospital executives and surgeons told a state Senate committee today that creating a new anesthesia delivery model in Michigan more like one in place in 40 other states will improve access to essential healthcare services for patients and help keep costs in check while protecting patient safety."*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463446_mw.pdf

No fuel available at Presque Isle State Harbor

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that fuel currently is unavailable at Presque Isle State Harbor due to a fuel line problem. Staff is working to repair the fuel line and hopes to have it in working order next week. Boaters who plan to fuel up at the harbor should call in advance to ensure that fuel lines are working. The main harbor phone number is 989-595-3069."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463413_dnr3.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes initial appointments to new Talent Investment Board

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the first

appointments to the new Talent Investment Board."

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463150_gov2.pdf

During National Women's Health Week, MDHHS Emphasizes Preconception Health

"LANSING, Mich. – As part of National Women's Health Week, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is raising awareness about manageable steps women can take to improve their health. This year, awareness efforts highlight the importance of preconception health and empowering women to make their health a priority.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431463100_dhs2.pdf

NWF Honors Sen. Debbie Stabenow with 2015 Conservation Achievement Award

"RESTON, Va (May 12, 2015) – The National Wildlife Federation is honoring U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan with a 2015 National Conservation Achievement Legislative Award, given to members of Congress with a proven legislative track record of environmental responsibility. Stabenow will receive the award on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at NWF's Conservation Achievement Awards Gala."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431458291_nwf.pdf

Rep. Graves appoints workgroup to improve port traffic for exports

"State Rep. Joseph Graves today appointed a bipartisan workgroup of three lawmakers to identify ways Michigan can improve its port traffic for exports."

Source: *Rep. Joseph Graves* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431458249_jg.pdf

Benishek Introduces Veterans Information Modernization Act

"WASHINGTON, D.C.- Dr. Dan Benishek, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Veterans Health, introduced a bill today that would give Congress and the public access to key data from Veterans Affairs hospitals across the country. The Veterans Information Modernization Act would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit an annual report on the Veterans Health Administration's efforts to provide

hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care."

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431457914_db.pdf

Parking vouchers needed at Silver Lake ORV Area; new park Facebook page launched

"Access at the Silver Lake State Park ORV Area (SLORVA) in Oceana County, Michigan, has changed to speed up the entry process. Dune-ready vouchers will no longer be required; however, those requiring parking must obtain a voucher to secure a spot.
"

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431457874_dnr4.pdf

STATEMENT: M-1 RAIL SUPPORTIVE OF REGIONAL TRANSIT FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

"The Regional Transit Authority is an important initiative to the long-term vision of an improved transit network for Southeast Michigan. M-1 RAIL has been a strong supporter of connecting the region's various transit entities into a single system and will continue to work with the RTA and the other providers to help create a more efficient, effective transportation network for everyone."

Source: *Lovio George* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431457339_lg.pdf

Enjoy Michigan's Summer Free Fishing Weekend June 13-14

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that the annual Summer Free Fishing Weekend is set for Saturday, June 13, and Sunday, June 14. That weekend, residents and nonresidents can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431457287_dnr2.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Michigan today accelerates work to improve its most-struggling schools

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan today starts accelerating its efforts to improve the state's most-struggling schools, with intensifying its focus on helping students in challenging academic environments get the

best education possible.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431456051_gov.pdf

CRC Updates the Outline of the Michigan Tax System

"On May 5, Michigan voters rejected Proposal 15-1, a ballot initiative that would have altered the state's tax landscape by increasing the state's sales tax and motor fuel tax rates in an effort to address road infrastructure needs. The public debate on the ballot measure highlighted the often complex structure of Michigan's tax system and the need for a good information source for citizens who want to learn more about it."

Source: *Citizens Research Council* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431455507_crc2.pdf

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ichigan House Committee to Hold Hearing on Voiding Dozens of Local Human Rights Ordinances

"LANSING – Today the Michigan House Committee on Commerce and Trade will hold a hearing on House Bill 4052 (Poleski - R), which if signed into law could void dozens of local human rights ordinances and other measures to help protect citizens. Equality Michigan's director of political advocacy, Sommer Foster, offered testimony opposing the bill to the committee, and the organization is calling on its members to voice their opposition to this harmful legislation."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431455100_em2.pdf

Detroit Casino Revenues and Wagering Taxes Reported for April

"Detroit - The three Detroit casinos' April aggregate revenue was 7.4 percent higher than April 2014 results, and year-to-date revenue rose 5.9 percent compared with the first four months of 2014."

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431454758_gcb.pdf

Michigan Physicians Defend Patients at Senate Health Policy Committee

*"**LANSING**—Physicians with the Michigan Society of Anesthesiologists today testified before the Michigan Senate Health Policy Committee about the importance of putting patients first by opposing dangerous legislation that would end physician supervision of high risk medical procedures in operating*

rooms across the state.

"

Source: *Resch Strategies* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431452407_rs.pdf

Michigan Senior Olympics Calls for Registrants

*"**OAKLAND COUNTY** – Calling all athletes, registration is now OPEN for the Michigan Senior Olympics (MSO) Summer Games. The games will take place August 7-14 & 23, 2015 at various locations throughout Oakland County. Registration deadline is July 17th. The Michigan Senior Olympics is a non-profit organization that promotes healthy lifestyles by organizing state games, sports competitions, and health, fitness, nutrition and wellness programs for active people age 50 and over."*

Source: *Michigan Senior Olympics* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431450422_mso.pdf

Schuette Announces $158 Million National Settlement with Sprint and Verizon for Cellphone 'Cramming'

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that his Consumer Protection Team – along with attorneys general of the other 49 States and the District of Columbia, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Federal Communications Commission – reached settlements with Sprint Corporation and Verizon Wireless that include $158 million in payments, and that resolve allegations that Sprint and Verizon placed charges for third-party services (PSMS charges) on consumers' cellphone bills that were not authorized by the consumers, a practice known as "mobile cramming."*"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431449754_ag.pdf

Raising Student Achievement in West Michigan

"The Steelcase Foundation and The Education Trust-Midwest are working together alongside educators in Kent County to close achievement gaps through a new initiative. The Kent Learning and Innovation Network will develop a network of peer support and collaboration among principals and teachers to raise student achievement in high-poverty schools in Grand Rapids and suburban districts near the city."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431449810_etmw.pdf

May 21 meeting on proposed special hunt area at Sharonville State Game Area

"The public is invited to join the Department of Natural Resources at the Norvell Township Hall Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m. for a meeting regarding a proposal to designate portions of the Sharonville State Game Area for special hunts in Jackson County, as part of the Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors efforts to provide improved outdoor recreation opportunities for people with disabilities."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431448748_dnr.pdf

ACLU of Michigan, Other Groups Make Joint Call for Moratorium on Mass Tax Foreclosures in Wayne Co.

"

DETROIT – Fearing "an unprecedented human rights catastrophe," the ACLU of Michigan along with the Moratorium NOW! Coalition, the Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice and 12 other community, legal and activist organizations today delivered a letter to the Wayne County Treasurer urging him to immediately halt plans for mass tax foreclosures that could displace tens of thousands of area residents, most of them black Detroiters. "

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431444724_foreclosureletterrelease.final.051215.pdf

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Consumers Energy Names Brandon Hofmeister Executive Director

"JACKSON, Mich., May 12, 2015 – Brandon Hofmeister has been named executive director of policy, research and public affairs for Consumers Energy, a newly created position. The announcement was made by David Mengebier, senior vice president, governmental and public affairs and chief compliance officer for Michigan's largest energy provider."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431444633_05-07-15 NR PR&PA.pdf

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Motor City Pride, Michigan's Largest LGBTQ Gathering, Announces Entertainment Lineup and Festival Sc

"DETROIT - The Motor City Pride Festival and Parade celebrates the advancements that Michigan's LGBTQ community has made, while bringing together the community to work for full equality for all Michiganders. Held in Detroit's beautiful Hart Plaza, the annual event's live music, DJs, vendors, and

food attracts tens of thousands of attendees, making it the largest LGBTQ celebration in Michigan."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431444544_em.pdf

Truscott Rossman's 2015-16 Lobby Guide: The Legislators' Guide to Lobbyists & Media released

*"**LANSING, Mich. –** If good things come to those who wait, great things must be in store for those who wait just a little while longer."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431444497_tr.pdf

Dow Calls for Comprehensive Policy to Strengthen Advanced Manufacturing

"

***MIDLAND, Mich. – May 12, 2015 –** The Dow Chemical Company (NYSE:DOW) today released its Michigan Advanced Manufacturing Plan (AMP), outlining policy recommendations aimed at improving the state's advanced manufacturing sector, creating new jobs and attracting top workforce talent. The plan provides a framework from which policymakers and industry can strengthen Michigan's economy and create a stronger manufacturing future for the state. "*

Source: *The Dow Chemical Company* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431441220_Dow Michigan AMP May 2015 Release (1).pdf

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Foundation for Michigan Freedom Launches Prevailing Wage Ad, Website Urging Lawmakers to Put Student

*"**LANSING, MI, May 12, 2015** –The Foundation for Michigan Freedom today began airing a new online advertisement urging lawmakers to repeal the state's costly prevailing wage regulation, empowering public schools and universities to save $224 million annually.*

"

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431440939_mff.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Michigan to Recognize Schools Prepared for a Cardiac Emergency

"On Wednesday, May 13, the Michigan Departments of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and Education (MDE); Michigan Alliance for Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death of the Young (MAP-SCDY); Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA); and the American Heart Association (AHA) will award 122 schools in Michigan with the new MI HEARTSafe School designation which recognizes schools that are prepared to respond to cardiac emergencies.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *05-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1431440694_dhs.pdf*

Michigan Virtual University offers online learning guide for parents

"Lansing – More and more students are taking courses online – enrollments in virtual courses jumped more than 60 perce

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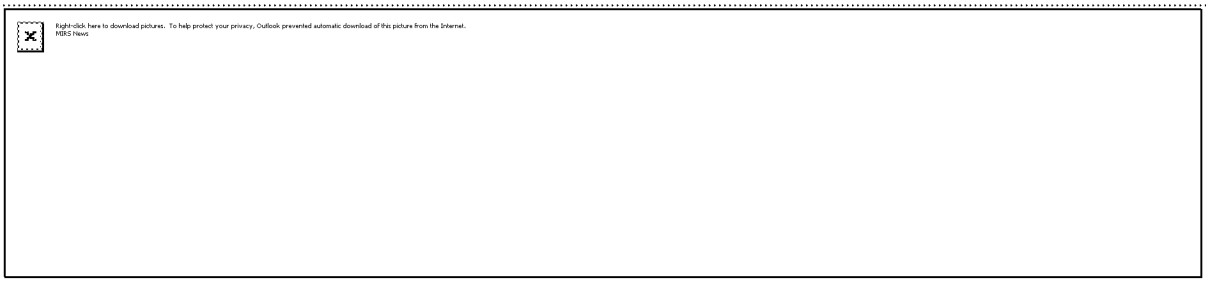

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Ex-wife of state Sen. Virgil Smith says he was abusive

"Detroit — The ex-wife of state Sen. Virgil Smith Jr., who is accused of shooting at her in a late-night tirade outside his home, says she is a "survivor of domestic violence.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/06/12/virgil-smith/71114472/*

Mich. poised to get funds to process untested rape kits

"Washington — A key U.S. Senate committee's approval this week could mean additional federal aid for Detroit and other jurisdictions struggling to investigate and prosecute a backlog of untested rape kits."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/12/mich-poised-get-funds-process-untested-rape-kits/71141654/*

Michigan, Ohio to cut pollutants behind Lake Erie algae

"Toledo — Michigan and Ohio have agreed to sharply reduce phosphorus runoff blamed for a rash of harmful algae blooms on Lake Erie that have contaminated drinking water supplies and contributed to oxygen-deprived dead zones where fish can't survive."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/06/12/michigan-ohio-pollutants-lake-erie-algae/71140862/*

Water customers to see higher rates

"Friday's historic vote to lease Detroit's water and sewer system to a regional authority gives the city's suburban neighbors a long-sought voice in their service, but the new entity's 4 million customers face continued rate hikes, officials say."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/metro-detroit/2015/06/12/water-customers-see-higher-rates/71161606/*

Lake State students start salmon on their journey

"Sault Ste. Marie — Shortly before midnight inside a chilly fish hatchery in the Upper Peninsula, Jonathan Edwards gathered around a giant tub filled with Atlantic salmon that he helped raise while attending Lake Superior State University."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/06/12/lake-state-students-salmon/71161098/*

Howell road rage shooter faces sentencing

"A 69-year-old man who insists he shot another driver in self-defense is returning to court for his sentence for second-degree murder."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/06/12/road-rage-killing-sentencing/71110832/*

New state schools chief says he opposes dissolving DPS

"Incoming state schools Superintendent Brian Whiston says he opposes dissolving Detroit Public Schools and he believes the conversations surrounding how to fix the district should include discussions about restoring power to the school board and a school superintendent."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/06/12/brian-whiston-dissolving-dps/71152998/*

Spruce budworm attacks northern Michigan evergreens

"LANSING, Mich. — State officials say an infestation of spruce budworm could cause widespread damage

to evergreen trees in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/06/13/spruce-budworm-attacks-northern-michigan-evergreen-trees/71166804/*

Michigan-based Olga's Kitchen files for bankruptcy

"Olga's Kitchen has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection but a company executive promises the restaurant chain famous for its Mediterranean-inspired wrapped sandwiches has a bright future."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/06/12/dfp-olga-bankruptcy/71130380/*

How to prevent West Nile virus amid Michigan case

"LANSING — The discovery of West Nile virus in Ingham County crows should serve as a reminder that it's time to think about mosquitoes and take a few precautions, officials say."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/06/13/west-nile-michigan-prevention/71166820/*

How a sticky note helps Holly woman fight marijuana rap

"All that stood between a mother of two young children and a felony drug record after an Oakland County narcotics team raided their home was a sticky note."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/06/13/medical-marijuana-pot-cannabis-michigan-arrest/71154020/*

How Detroit's water talks could wipe another Michigan city off the map

"HIGHLAND PARK, MI – Detroit went through bankruptcy. Flint saw six emergency managers. Pontiac lost its police department."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/06/how_detroits_water_talks_could.html#incart_river*

ACLU of Michigan vows lawsuit against 'discriminatory' religious

objection adoption law

"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Sndyer took less than 24 hours to sign controversial religious objection adoption legislation this week, and the ACLU of Michigan took even less time to vow a legal challenge to the new law."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/06/aclu_vows_lawsuit_against_disc.html#incart_river*

$50 million lease of Detroit's suburban water assets approved

"DETROIT, MI -- After months of closed-door negotiations, Detroit and suburban representatives have approved a lease of 300 miles of pipe and five water treatment facilities around the region."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/06/50_million_lease_of_detroits_s.html#incart_river*

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47 comments Supporters say reducing prison population won't hurt public safety; Michigan AG focuses on victims

"LANSING — The road map to reducing Michigan's prison population and saving the state a quarter-billion dollars annually is a common sense solution that wouldn't jeopardize public safety, a former state representative said Friday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/06/supporters_say_reducing_prison.html#incart_story_package*

Snyder, Legislature putting Michigan on path of intolerance and regression

"It was a banner week in the Legislature's apparent crusade to turn Michigan into a backwater, intolerant, anti-economic development state."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/06/snyder_legislature_putting_mic.html#incart_story_package*

Ken Braun: Tomorrow's alternative energy may be a big solution you haven't heard about today

"The phrase 'alternative energy' is often deployed as a euphemism for options that don't seem to provide enough power to be worth the trouble. Yet almost all the big energy sources we use were once the alternative to what was being used before. There are many energy options in the works today that promise to power much more of our world tomorrow than what we often call 'alternatives.' These potentially huge

solutions rarely receive the same attention."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/06/ken_braun_tomorrows_alternativ.html#incart_story_package*

Michigan Political Points: With road funding ball in Senate court, House plans summer recess

"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Republicans passed their own road funding plan this week, but with the legislative process still far from complete, they're taking heat for going ahead with plans for an annual summer recess."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/06/michigan_political_points_with.html#incart_river*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editorial: House plan falls short, but offers some hope

"The Michigan House produced a road funding plan that falls well short of what's needed to repair and maintain Michigan's bridges and highways. But don't dismiss the entire proposal."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/06/11/house-road-plan-falls-short/71081562/*

Hamilton: Why run for office?

"I spend a fair amount of time talking to students and other young people about Congress and politics in general, and I've noticed something. It used to be that I'd regularly get asked how one runs for office. Nowadays, I rarely do."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/06/13/hamilton-run-office/71136862/*

Paul W: Garden Fresh is a local success story

"In the spirit of Christopher Ilitch recently calling my morning show Relentless Positive Radio (with a nod to Gov. Rick Snyder), I want to extend that effort to this column."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/paul-w-smith/2015/06/13/paul-garden-fresh/71136998/*

Saturday Shorts: Crack down on civil forfeitures

"The state House has approved a package of bills aimed at setting stricter rules for police when they seize property believed involved in criminal activity, even if charges never are filed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/06/12/sat-shorts-civil-forfeitures-roads/71137072/*

Nation must help those with serious mental illness

"U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow has been a champion for mental health care throughout her career. Her efforts paid off for the 1 in 4 Americans impacted by a serious mental illness with the passage of the Excellence in Mental Health Act."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/06/13/mental-illness/71162448/*

How Michigan can improve land management

"Consider the following: ■ A disabled elderly hunter who wants to hunt on state land but is blocked by an unnecessary gate. ■ Private landowners seeking to buy state property next to their own to improve their tourism operations, but have been put off for years or had to put up with countless roadblocks."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/06/13/michigan-land-use/71163354/*

Michigan: the rest of America is laughing at you

"Michigan is going backward when it comes to social issues like gay adoption."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/mike-thompson/2015/06/13/michigan-adoption-religious-freedom/71166854/*

Susan J. Demas: Heartland Monitor Poll shows people believe Detroit's rebirth is real

"DETROIT – I've been hearing about the imminent rebirth of the state's largest city ever since I moved to Michigan nearly 11 years ago."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/06/detroit_comeback_national_jour.html#incart_river*

Press Releases

Peters Applauds Funding for NASA Science Programs

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), Ranking Member of the Science, Space and Competitiveness Subcommittee, today applauded the Senate Appropriations Committee's approval of $5.3 billion for National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s science research programs for fiscal year (FY) 2016. Earlier this month, Peters sent a letter to Senator Barbara Mikulski, Vice Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, urging a strong allocation of funding for NASA's science mission."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434143324_gp2.pdf

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Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, June 13

"Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, June 13"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434143296_smedia.pdf

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BREAKING: New Commitment to Fight Harmful Algal Blooms in Lake Erie

"Ohio, Michigan and Ontario leaders are committing to reduce phosphorus by 40 percent into western Lake Erie to curb harmful algal blooms. I've included, below, an on-the-record statement from Mike Shriberg, regional executive director of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes office."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434143270_nwf.pdf

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Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-MI) votes no on TAA, TPA, opposes TPP.

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C. –** Congresswoman Brenda L. Lawrence (MI-14) on Friday lodged an emphatic no vote today against the TAA and TPA. She also addressed her colleagues on the U.S. House Floor to express her concerns about the many unacceptable aspects of the resolutions."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434143228_bl2.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder leading Great Lakes summit in Quebec City

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QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC — As part of efforts to strengthen connections within our region, Gov. Rick Snyder, the organization's chair, today is participating in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers 2015 Leadership Summit in historic Québec City.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434143150_gov3.pdf

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Moolenaar Congratulates Alma College on National Science Foundation Award

"Today, the National Science Foundation announced an award to Alma College for its research on soil and Michigan's forests."

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Moolenaar* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138488_jm.pdf

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Showcasing the DNR: Scouts help inaugurate Iron Belle Trail

"What began as a mandate from Gov. Rick Snyder in 2012 – create a trail that traverses the entire state – is becoming a reality. Michigan's Iron Belle Trail currently is under development, crossing the state twice, with a hiking route and a bicycling route. The trail "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138458_dnr2.pdf

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Dingell Applauds House Vote to Slow Down Fast Track

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today released the following statement after the House voted against a flawed trade package that would have granted President Obama Fast Track Trade Authority, but failed to protect American workers. "*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138419_dd.pdf

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Overnight lane closure this weekend on EB I-96 near Latson Road

"On Saturday, June 13, there will be an overnight, double lane closure on eastbound I-96, east of Latson Road."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138385_mdot5.pdf

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Rep. Trott Supports Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Legislation

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after voting in support of bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation:"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dave Trott* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138356_dt.pdf

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Conyers: No More NAFTA-Style Trade Deals

*"**WASHINGTON**—Today, Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13) released the following statement after voting against Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation to "fast-track" consideration of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP):"*

Source: *U.S. Congressman John Conyers, Jr.* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434138311_jc.pdf

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June Meeting this Saturday

"Please join us for our June meeting this Saturday. Meetings are always the second Saturday of every month. Executive Board meets at 10:00 a.m. and Membership meets at11:00 a.m. Important information to be discussed about the future of our district. "

Source: *14th District Democrats* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434137749_14dd.pdf

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Senate adopts Proos' resolution proclaiming June 15-21 as 'Men's Health Week'

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved a resolution sponsored by Sen. John Proos designating June 15-21 as "Men's Health Week.""*

Source: *Senator John Proos* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434130479_jp.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced initial appointments to the Middle Eastern American Affairs Commission.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434130275_gov2.pdf

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Improved ride and safety ahead for M-44 (Belding Road)

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will resurface 10 miles of M-44 between Myers Lake Avenue and the Kent/Ionia county line. Other work includes geometric upgrades and drainage improvements.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434130221_mdot4.pdf

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TW&N: Bolger on GLEP Board; Media on DPS; Steve Cook bills pass; New Supt in Lansing; and more

"GLEP is pleased to announce that Jase Bolger, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, has joined our Board of Directors. Joining Betsy DeVos, Jim Barrett and Greg McNeilly on the board, Bolger will participate in leading the organization as we continue to impact policy, legislation, communications and political campaigns in Michigan. GLEP's priorities remain to expand choice, improve quality and enhance accountability in education. Click here for our full press release."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434128624_glep.pdf

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Peters, Ayotte Introduce the Pet and Women Safety Act

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.—**U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI) and Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) today introduced the Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act, to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts or threats of violence against their pets. Multiple studies have shown that domestic abusers often seek to manipulate or intimidate their victims by threatening or harming their pets."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434127500_gp.pdf

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Statement from Former Rep. Joe Haveman on New Report from CAPPS

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*LANSING - Today former **Rep. Joe Haveman (R - Holland)** released the following statement on a new report from the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending, 10,000 fewer Michigan prisoners: Strategies to reach the goal.*

"
Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434127468_jh.pdf

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Smoother ride for M-82 between Fremont and Newaygo

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will resurface 10 miles of M-82 from Fremont to Newaygo.

"
Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434127427_mdot3.pdf

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M-53 & M-59 weekend construction changes

"M-59 east and west will have ONE LANE OPEN between I-94 and Elizabeth Rd from 9 pm Fri-5 am Mon.

"
Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434127377_mdot2.pdf

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Expanded Use of 'Virtual' Courtrooms Generates Savings, Enhances Security

"LANSING, MI, June 12, 2015 – In remarks today to the Rotary Club of Lansing, Michigan Supreme Court Justice David F. Viviano will report that the expanded use of videoconferencing technology to create "virtual" courtrooms has saved the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) nearly $5 million over the past two years. Because of this technology initiative, prisoners can participate in court hearings without the security risks and traditional costs involved in transporting them to court.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434123268_courts.pdf

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Lotto 47 Jackpot Grows to $8.8 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., June 12, 2015** – If you notice co-workers, friends and family members having trouble focusing, it could be they're day dreaming about winning the $8.8 million Lotto 47 jackpot up for grabs Saturday."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434122682_lottery.pdf

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M-53 in Marlette, Sanilac Cty, closing for road work

"M-53 in Marlette will be closing Monday, June 15, to begin the replacement of two Eastern Michigan Railroad crossings.

"
Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434119197_mdot.pdf

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First West Nile virus activity of 2015 detected in Michigan; Agencies remind residents to "fight the

"LANSING, Mich. – With the first West Nile virus activity for Michigan in 2015 identified in crows collected in Ingham County, Michiganders should take the precautionary steps of applying repellents during peak mosquito biting periods such as dusk and dawn and to drain standing water around their homes to remove mosquito breeding sites.

"
Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434119132_dhs.pdf

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Michigan to Provide Universal Access to PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 to Support College Readiness for Studen

"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the College Board continue to work closely to ensure a seamless transition to the 2016 statewide administration of the SAT® as part of the Michigan Merit Examination. In addition to preparing for the statewide SAT administration, starting next

spring, the state will provide free access to the PSAT™ 8/9 to ninth-grade students and the PSAT™ 10 to 10th-grade students. The skills and knowledge measured by these assessments are the same as those measured by the SAT, so students and educators can monitor progress and identify areas in need of improvement. In addition, PSAT-related assessment results are the best predictor of a student's likelihood to succeed in certain AP® courses. Students who take the PSAT 10 will have access to more than $180 million in expanded scholarship opportunities."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434119088_mde.pdf

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UPDATE: NRC approves 2015 U.P. antlerless deer hunting restrictions

"UPDATE: The Michigan DNR would like to update a phone number that was given yesterday in a news release regarding just-approved antlerless deer hunting restrictions in the U.P. Hunters who choose to return already-purchased deer hunting licenses and have questions about the process for returning those licenses are directed to call 517-284-6057. The full, updated release follows. We apologize for any inconvenience."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434119040_dnr.pdf

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Senator Jim Stamas Legislative Update

"The Michigan Legislature finalized the Fiscal Year 2016 budget plan that increases support for education and roads and strengthens the state's finances."

Source: *Senator Jim Stamas* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434118910_js.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 6/11/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 6/11/2015."

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434118787_ac.pdf

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DATA: Defense Contractors Top List of 2015 Corp. PAC Contributors

*"**June 12, 2015 --** This week, the Senate is debating the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which sets the annual spending limit for the Department of Defense. The $612 billion bill, H.R. 1735, contains reforms of the acquisition process, affecting Pentagon defense contractors."*

Source: *Maplight* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434117350_ml.pdf

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Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, June 12

"Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, June 12"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *06-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1434117174_gov.pdf

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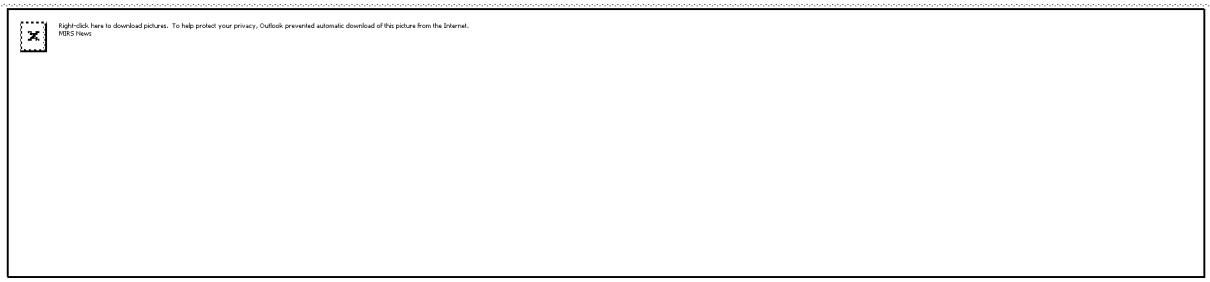

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Progress Michigan: AG should oppose Midland judge halting marriages

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — A liberal advocacy group is calling on Michigan's top law enforcement official to take a stand against a Midland County judge who decided to stop performing marriages this week."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/07/progress_michigan_ag_should_op.html#incart_river

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Michigan judge explains why he will no longer perform marriages

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — A Midland County judge may be one of the first in Michigan to decide to stop performing marriages in aftermath of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on same-sex marriage."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/07/midland_judge_explains_why_he.html#incart_river

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Michigan lawmaker decries 'white privilege' as Juneteenth resolution stalls in state Senate

"LANSING, MI — A Michigan Senator is decrying "white privilege" this week after his Juneteenth resolution to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States was indefinitely tabled in the upper chamber."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/michigan_lawmaker_blasts_white.html#incart_river*

$1.5B road funding plan approved by Michigan Senate as Calley breaks tie on fuel tax hike

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's crumbling roads could see up to $1.5 billion a year in additional investments by 2018 under a plan approved by the narrowest of margins Wednesday in the Republican-led state Senate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/15b_road_funding_plan_approved.html#incart_river*

Michigan foster care 'a persistent and dire problem'

"LANSING – A girl was injured during an unsupervised visit with the parents she'd been taken away from. Kids with a history of inappropriate sexual behavior were placed in homes with younger children. A child ran away and police weren't notified for days."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/watchdog/2015/07/01/michigan-foster-care-persistent-dire-problem/29564431/*

Society can balance religious and gay rights, Rep. Justin Amash says

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — U.S. Rep. Justin Amash wants government out of the marriage business, though it could do more to protect members of the LGBT community."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/07/society_can_balance_religious.html#incart_river*

Paddle down Flint River impresses Congressman Dan Kildee

"FLINT, MI – About two miles into our trip down the Flint River, I told Congressman Dan Kildee that I had finally for the first time watched "Apocalypse Now" and that my story would be infinitely better if he could slowly go crazy and start muttering "The horror, the horror," by the time we reached Mott Lake. "

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/flint/index.ssf/2015/07/flint_river_paddle.html#incart_river*

Jeb Bush made paid speech to GM before auto rescue

"Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, one of the leading Republican presidential candidates, made a paid speech to General Motors in 2007, the year before his brother George W. initiated a federal taxpayer rescue of the Detroit automaker."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/07/02/jeb-bush-made-paid-speech-gm-auto-rescue/29601289/*

Wayne County on fast track to state financial review

"Lansing — State officials decided Wednesday there is probable financial distress in Wayne County, putting it on a fast track to have experts scrutinize its finances."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/07/01/wayne-county-probable-financial-distress/29573039/*

U.S. car sales on best pace in decade

"Halfway through the year, automakers remain on pace to sell the most cars, trucks and crossovers in the United States in at least a decade."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/07/02/auto-sales/29552015/*

Midland Co. judge stops performing marriages

"Midland — Just days after the historic decision by the nation's High Court legalizing same-sex marriage, a Midland County district judge is refusing to perform any marriages."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/midland-county-judge-perform-sex-marriages/29581417/*

High Court orders judge's removal, cites mental illness

"The Michigan Supreme Court has ordered that 36th District Judge Brenda Sanders be removed from office, agreeing with a judicial oversight panel that she has a mental illness preventing her from performing her job."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/07/01/high-court-orders-judges-removal-cites-mental-illness/29603013/*

Gas tax hike squeaks through Senate

"Lansing — The Michigan Senate needed the help of Lt. Gov. Brian Calley to narrowly pass a 15-cent gas tax increase Wednesday that could make Michigan's fuel taxes the second highest in the country by 2017."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/07/01/senate-roads/29566199/*

Detroit braces for a flood of tax foreclosures

"A fresh wave of foreclosures could destabilize neighborhoods in Detroit, just as they are beginning to recover from the mortgage meltdown."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/longform/news/special-reports/2015/07/01/detroit-braces-flood-tax-foreclosures/29589915/*

Midland County judge halts wedding ceremonies, others step in

"When a Midland County district court judge announced that he would stop performing weddings at the courthouse near Saginaw, other judges responded by declaring that marriages would indeed go on."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/midland-county-marriage-licenses-judge-michael-carpenter/29577639/*

Michigan senators spar over Juneteenth proposal

"LANSING – A proposed Michigan legislative resolution recognizing a holiday that celebrates the end of slavery is on hold because Republican leaders are uncomfortable with the language, spurring criticism from the measure's black sponsor that attempting to change the wording is a form of "white privilege.""

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/michigan-senators-spar-juneteenth-resolution-bert-johnson/29593213/*

Same-sex marriage draws big support in Michigan

"WASHINGTON — Same-sex marriage not only has the support of the U.S. Supreme Court, it also appears to have the backing of the majority of Michigan voters, according to the results of a new statewide

poll."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/sex-marriage-poll/29572725/

Michigan Senate passes increase in gas tax

"LANSING – It took a tie-breaking vote by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, but the Senate passed a 15-cent hike in the state's gas tax to help raise $1.4 billion to $1.5 billion a year to fix Michigan's roads."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/legislature-will-negotiate-differences-house-senate-roads-plans/29563761/

Senate approves $1.5B road plan with gas tax hike

"LANSING – The Republican-led Senate on Wednesday approved a $1.5 billion plan to improve deteriorating Michigan roads by raising fuel taxes and redirecting money from elsewhere in the budget."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/07/01/senate-approves-road-plan-gas-tax-hike/29589981/

Advocacy/Opinion

Spreitzer: Let's have a dialogue on gay marriage

"Friday's Supreme Court ruling making same-sex marriage a national right is merely a legal, not a religious decision."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/07/02/spreitzer-gay-marriage-dialogue/29569679/

Internet taxation bill bad for business, consumers

"In a 1789 letter to a French scientist, Benjamin Franklin summed up the direction American government had taken in a single phrase: "nothing is certain except death and taxes.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/07/02/internet-taxes-bad-business/29569977/

Editor's Note: High Court could deal blow to unions

"Next term the U.S. Supreme Court will take on a case that could extend right to work to all public employees. That's a huge deal, and you can bet it has union proponents nervous."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/07/02/editor-note-jacques-high-court-unions/29572223/*

Editorial: Find a compromise on teacher evaluations

"When Michigan passed major changes to its teacher tenure law four years ago, that was an integral step to ensure only the best teachers are in the state's classrooms. And when lawmakers at that time called for the creation of a statewide teacher evaluation, it didn't seem like a controversial request.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/07/01/edit-find-compromise-teacher-evals/29575613/*

The news is good and bad on Senate roads plan

"So there's good news, and there's bad news. On Wednesday, the state Senate approved a roads funding package that didn't include the elimination of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a modest tax credit that benefits the working poor. That's the good news."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/07/01/michigan-roads-bill/29590581/*

U.S. Supreme Court Accepts Case to Give 'Right-to-Work' to All Public Employees

"On the final day of its most recent session, the U.S. Supreme Court announced it will consider a labor law case that experts say could dramatically limit the power of government employee unions."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21499*

Michigan House Wise to Shift Corporate Welfare Spending to Roads

"The state House of Representatives recently cut funding for the Michigan Economic Development

Corporation with the goal of freeing up money for roads. This reprioritization of spending is prudent, but it faces opposition in the state Senate."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21498*

Press Releases

DNR reports state park camping and lodging filling up for holiday weekend

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today reported an increase over 2014 in all occupancy projected at state parks for the July 4 holiday weekend. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435784190_State Parks.pdf*

Proposed changes to overtime pay by Department of Labor has Michigan employers revisiting exemptions

*"**Livonia, Mich.** —July 1, 2015 — Overtime pay. It's an issue the American Society of Employers (ASE), a centennial organization and one of the nation's oldest and largest employer associations, has been following since the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed in 1938."*

Source: *EA Focus Inc.* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435784086_Michigan employee.pdf*

Lapeer Man Wins $363,212 Fantasy 5 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., July 1, 2015** – Dreams do come true. Just ask a Lapeer man who won a $363,212 Fantasy 5 jackpot from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435783987_Lapeer Man.pdf*

Rep. Jacobsen's early warning bill heads to governor

" State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, recently sponsored legislation to ensure greater access to loan options for struggling school districts looking to improve their financial situation."

Source: *Rep Jacobs office* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435783881_Jacobs Early.pdf*

Benishek Releases Statement on VA IG Resignation

"Washington, D.C. - Following the resignation of acting VA Inspector General, Richard Griffin, Dr. Dan Benishek has released the statement below:"

Source: *Office of Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435783798_Benishek.pdf

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Bill Schuette Should Speak Out about Midland County District Court; Defend Law of the Land

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan is calling on Attorney General Bill Schuette to use his influence as Michigan's top law enforcement official to speak out in opposition to Judge Michael Carpenter's decision to halt all marriages in light of the Supreme Court's marriage equality decision."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435781362_Bill Schutte.pdf

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MUCC Applauds U.S. Fish and Wildlife Decision Not to Downlist Wolves

"LANSING—Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) praised the decision by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to reject a petition seeking to list gray wolves in the United States as "threatened," under the Endangered Species Act. The USFWS announced its findings yesterday."

Source: *MI United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435781266_MUCC.pdf

Michigan Trails Advisory Council meeting rescheduled for July 20

"The Department of Natural Resources today announced that the Michigan Trails Advisory Council meeting, originally planned for Monday, July 6, has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts. The meeting has been rescheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, July 20, at the Doherty Hotel, 604 North McEwan St. in Clare, Michigan."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435781164_DNR Trails.pdf

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Michigan voters overwhelmingly oppose cutting EITC to pay for roads

"A survey released today of Michigan voters shows two-thirds support the state's Earned Income Tax Credit, and are opposed to plans to eliminate it to provide $115 million for transportation funding. The telephone survey, conducted for a coalition of interests supporting the EITC, was conducted by EPIC-MRA of 600 voters from June 27 to June 30."

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435781082_Waymire.pdf

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Red Cross urges blood and platelet donations to make up for expected shortfall due to Fourth of July

*"**LANSING**, Mich. — The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to make an appointment now to give blood or platelets and help prevent a summer shortage."*

Source: *Red Cross of Michigan* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435778760_Blood Donation.pdf

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ELB finds 'probable financial stress' in Wayne County

"

"Probable financial stress" currently exists in Wayne County, the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board determined today."

Source: *MI Department of Treasury* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435778106_Treasury elb.pdf

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MTA supports elements of Senate roads plan

"The Michigan Townships Association (MTA) has long-supported finding a fix to Michigan's crumbling roads and believes that this plan positively moves that critical conversation forward. The Association supports several elements of the plan—including a gas tax increase, diesel fuel tax parity and allowing townships to require competitive bidding for projects in which they contribute half the cost or more. "

Source: *MI Townships Association* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435778028_MTA.pdf

Peters Cosponsors Bill to Improve Public Safety and Reduce Recidivism

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced he is cosponsoring the Second Chance Reauthorization Act, which provides grants to state and local programs working to address recidivism and prisoner reentry in their communities."*

Source: *U.S. Senate* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435775463_Peters Public Safety.pdf

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Infant Mortality Disparity Resource Released for Public Health Professionals

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has released the Practices to Reduce Infant Mortality through Equity (PRIME): Guide for Public Health Professionals. This is an informational resource for transforming public health through equity education and action. "

Source: *MI Dept of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435775382_Infant mortality.pdf

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House of Meekhof:Senate Majority Leader Eyes Gubernatorial Run

"MIRS asks Tuesday night, "Can Meekhof Get 20 GOP Votes For Gas Tax Hike?" "

Source: *WestMichigan* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435774014_House of Meekoff.pdf

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Avoid Burns at the Barbeque State Fire Marshal Offers Fire Safety Tips

*"**July 1, 2015 -** With our favorite grilling holiday the Fourth of July, and with three out of five of us owning a gas grill, think fire safety first to enjoy the great tastes of summer."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435771479_Avoid burns.pdf*

DNR launches new online tool to help trout anglers plan trips

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources recently launched a new tool on its website that showcases quality trout streams and lakes accessible to anglers. Trout Trails is a comprehensive map featuring fisheries biologist-verified trout waters that often are lesser known, but considered outstanding destination points. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769738_DNR Launches.pdf

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Smooth travels across the Mackinac Bridge for Fourth of July weekend

*"**July 1, 2015 --** The Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) reports that all construction and maintenance activities on the Mackinac Bridge will be suspended for the Fourth of July holiday weekend, and the new bridge toll software is running smoothly."*

Source: *Mackinac Bridge Authority* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769666_Mackinac Bridge.pdf*

Progress Michigan to New Corrections Director: Cancel the Aramark Contract

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan is calling on Heidi Washington, the new director of the Department of Corrections, to take action and cancel the failed Aramark contract. This new call for action follows a lack of leadership by Governor Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette and Republican legislators to hold Aramark accountable for poor performance. "

Source: *MI Progress* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769572_MI Progress.pdf*

Putting Pet Safety First Over the 4th of July

"Lansing – Every year Michigan families look forward to celebrating the Fourth of July with picnics, time on the Great Lakes and the traditional fireworks. However, the furry members of your family might not look forward to the holiday as much as you do."

Source: *MI Department of Agriculture* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769510_AG Pet Safety.pdf*

I-94 BL repaving in Albion starts Monday

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repaving almost 2 miles of I-94 Business Loop/M-99 from Clark Street in Albion, Calhoun County, to I-94 in Jackson County. Construction includes shoulder widening, drainage improvements, new signs, pavement markings, and guardrails."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769436_I-94.pdf*

US-23 at I-96, Livingston County

"Next week, there will be overnight closures on northbound US-23 and at several ramps so crews can place beams for the new I-96 bridge over northbound US-23. "

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769362_US 23.pdf*

Peters Cosponsors Bill Reforming Campaign Finance System

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced he has cosponsored legislation to reform our campaign finance system by reducing the influence of special interests, corporations and mega-donors in Congressional elections. The Fair Elections Now Act would establish voluntary citizen-funded elections for Congressional campaigns and empower small-dollar donors and voters."*

Source: *U.S. Senate* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769298_Peters.pdf*

Lottery Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day

*"**LANSING, Mich., July 1, 2015** – In observance of Independence Day, the Michigan Lottery headquarters in Lansing and all Lottery regional offices located in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Saginaw and Sterling Heights will be closed on Friday."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435769229_Lottery closed.pdf*

Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence to host Reps. Sandy Levin and Debbie Dingell

*"**DETROIT** – Rep. Lawrence (MI-14) hosted a joint press conference in Detroit Wednesday morning with Reps. Levin (MI-09), and Dingell (MI-12) and several business leaders from throughout Michigan to demand that House Republicans call an immediate vote to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank charter before irreparable harm is done to hundreds of Michigan companies and hundreds of thousands of hard-working Americans."*

Source: *Congresswoman Brenda Lawerence* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765922_Ex-Im Press Release_FINAL.pdf*

Senator Ted Cruz to Speak at 31st Biennial Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference

*"**LANSING, Mich., July 1, 2015 –** Texas Senator Ted Cruz is confirmed to attend and speak at the 31st Biennial Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference, Sept. 18-20, 2015, at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island."*

Source: *MI GOP* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765806_Ted Cruz.pdf*

Democrats Blast Senate GOP Roads Plan

"LANSING - Today the Michigan Democratic Party blasted the Senate Republican Roads Plan for hitting ordinary Michigan families hard while letting corporations off the hook. The package relies on higher gas taxes, up to $700 million in cuts to vital programs and a tax hike on low income working families.

"

Source: *MI Democrats* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765704_Dems Blast.pdf

Schedule of American Red Cross blood drives in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties

"(July 1, 2015) — The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to help offset a seasonal decline in donations and prevent a shortage this summer by giving blood."

Source: *Red Cross of Michigan* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765470_clintoneatoningham.pdf

Sparrow Carson Hospital features new approach to hip replacement

"CARSON CITY, Mich. – Sparrow Carson Hospital Orthopedic Surgeon Adam Cote, D.O., now provides Patients with an alternative to traditional hip replacement surgery, featuring a smaller incision and quicker recovery time."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765206_Anterior hip replacement release.pdf

Blue Water Bridge will reopen all lanes July 8

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Blue Water Bridge Canada (BWBC) are wrapping up the resurfacing project on the original span of the Blue Water Bridge, now the westbound span. The contractor faced some paving issues that have since been resolved, allowing the bridge to reopen in one week."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435765023_Blue Water.pdf

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on

6/30/2015

"For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx

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319347 PEOPLE OF MI V LEONARD LAMONT WARE
Panel: AK WBM DAS
Lower Court: WASHTENAW CIRCUIT COURT, No. 12-001444-FC
Opinion - Per Curiam - Unpublished
20150630_C319347_61_319347.OPN.PDF*

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320623 PEOPLE OF MI V MARCUS KERMIT HINES
Panel: PMM MJC KTW
Lower Court: MACOMB CIRCUIT COURT, No. 2013-001631-FH
Opinion - Per Curiam - Unpublished
20150630_C320623_47_320623.OPN.PDF*

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321261 VICTORIA WILLIAMS V GRAND LEDGE HIGH SCHOOL
Panel: MJR PMD JMB
Lower Court: EATON CIRCUIT COURT, No. 13-000163-NO
Opinion - Per Curiam - Unpublished
20150630_C321261_35_321261.OPN.PDF"*

Source: *MI Appellate Court* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435764926_Apellate_Court.pdf

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Humanities Grants -Draft proposal period: July 8-Aug 14

*"Humanities Grants emphasize **collaboration among cultural, educational and community-based organizations and institutions** in order to serve Michigan's people with public humanities programming. Talk to us and we will help you with your draft proposal! "*

Source: *MI Humanities Council* **Date:** *07-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1435764781_MI_HUMANITIES.pdf

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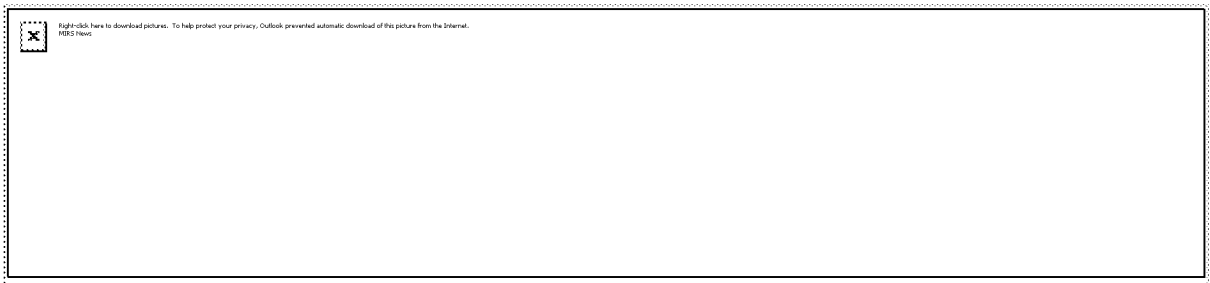

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Slain Ferguson teen's father seeks police reforms

"Michael Brown Sr., the father of the unarmed black teen whose slaying last year in Ferguson, Missouri, sparked national protests and debates about police practices, called for policy changes in Detroit and overhauling law enforcement to help prevent problems with youth."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/07/10/slain-ferguson-teens-father-seeks-police-reforms/30000979/*

Advocates slam GOP auto safety approach

"Washington — Auto safety advocates criticized a Republican Senate auto safety reform measure, and praised a more wide-ranging Democratic proposal."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/07/10/advocates-slam-gop-auto-safety-approach/29998239/*

First electric planes fly over English Channel

"Calais, France — Airbus flew its electric plane across the English Channel for the first time Friday — hours after an independent French pilot made a similar voyage, beating the aeronautics giant in this symbolically important step toward making electronic flight viable in the long term."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/tech/2015/07/10/first-electric-planes-fly-english-channel/29951781/*

FBI: Church gunman shouldn't have been able to get gun

"Washington — The gunman charged in the Charleston, South Carolina, church massacre should not have been allowed to purchase the weapon used in the attack, FBI Director James Comey said Friday as he outlined a series of "heartbreaking" missed opportunities and background check flaws that allowed the transaction to take place."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/07/10/charleston-shooting/29967899/*

Reddit interim CEO resigns; co-founder returns

"New York — Reddit said Friday that interim CEO Ellen Pao resigned from the company, and co-founder Steve Huffman is back as its CEO."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/07/10/reddit/29995755/*

Rand Paul hits urban issues in Democratic stronghold

"Highland Park — Rand Paul has made Detroit a regular stop in the past two years, but he returned to the area Friday as a Republican presidential candidate. He used the first of several appearances around the state Friday and Saturday to try to set himself apart from the other 14 GOP hopefuls."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/07/10/rand-paul-hits-urban-issues-democratic-stronghold/29991223/*

The story of the doomed Park Avenue Hotel in Detroit

"As the Park Avenue nears its end, here's the beginning of its story. Consider this its obituary."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/07/10/park-avenue-hotel-detroit/29933261/*

Fine possible for hazardous material incident at Metro

"A California company faces a possible $52,500 fine after one of its employees checked a bag with undeclared hazardous material at Detroit Metro Airport in December, according to the Federal Aviation

Administration."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/07/10/faa-fine-gaffoglio-detroit-metro/29973915/*

Residents question speed of Wayne County financial review

"Wayne County residents questioned the speed of the state's investigation into county finances, the effect on voting rights if an emergency manager is appointed, and even the timing of Friday's meeting where they were able to air their concerns to the governor-appointed financial review team."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/07/10/review-team-meets-wayne-county-finances-review/29997657/*

FedEx center coming to former Detroit Armory site

"Construction has begun of a FedEx Ground distribution center in Oak Park at the former site of the Detroit Artillery Armory."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/2015/07/10/fedex-distribution-center-coming-oak-park/29964541/*

Civil rights group to GM: Pull support from Kid Rock

"Chevrolet has reiterated its commitment to Kid Rock's summer tour as a Detroit civil rights group takes its fight to the automaker — two days after the rocker said protesters can "kiss my ..." amid demands he denounce the Confederate flag."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/entertainment/music/2015/07/10/demand-gm--pull--rock/29973131/*

Air quality concerns make hotel implosion bad for spectators

"Saturday's scheduled implosion of the Park Avenue Hotel may sound like a compelling spectator event. But you may want to think twice."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/07/10/park-avenue-hotel-harbor-lights-implosion-demolition-dust-pollution/29981621/*

Detroit teachers union accuses district of threatening and intimidating outspoken teachers

"DETROIT — The Detroit Federation of Teachers is accusing Detroit Public Schools officials of intimidating teachers who spoke out about conditions at their schools and declining to hear union complaints."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/detroit_teachers_union_accuses.html#incart_river_news*

Gun bill would trade open carry for concealed carry in Michigan schools as 'peace pipe' offer

"LANSING, MI — Gun owners would be prohibited from openly carrying weapons in Michigan schools, day care centers and some other areas under legislation set to be formally introduced next week in Lansing."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/gun_bill_would_trade_open_carr.html#incart_river_news*

Calculate how far your Michigan salary would stretch in other states

"LANSING, MI -- Thinking of a move? Before you sign up for that faraway job make sure your salary would be comparable to what you make in Michigan with our calculator."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/calculator_see_how_far_your_mi.html#incart_river_news*

Small explosion causes evacuation at Michigan State building

"EAST LANSING — An explosion in an empty lab at a Michigan State building Friday morning didn't injure anyone but did require the evacuation of the building."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/small_explosion_causes_evacuat.html#incart_river*

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill to kill film incentives

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder's signature today made it official: Michigan film incentives will fade to black."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/gov_rick_snyder_signs_bill_to.html#incart_river*

3 days from seeing Pluto like never before

"We are about three days from seeing images of Pluto like never before. NASA's New Horizons spacecraft will flyby at its closest distance to Pluto at approximately 7:49 a.m., July 14, 2015. New Horizons will be approximately 7,800 miles above the surface of Pluto at that time."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/07/3_days_from_seeing_pluto_like.html#incart_river*

Another booming year sparks more calls for repeal of Michigan fireworks law

"LANSING, MI — Booming fireworks are a headache for Jan Hollinrake, but they're a "nightmare" for her 10-year old golden retriever, who spent her Fourth of July weekend in a panic despite taking sedatives."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/noise_complaints_booming_injur.html#incart_river*

Resigning Judge Christopher Easthope used pot with lawyer he helped to get city contract, text messages show

"Ann Arbor's 15th District Court Judge Christopher Easthope on Thursday said his recent resignation is due to mistakes exposed in text messages, which were acquired by The Ann Arbor News Wednesday evening."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/07/resigning_ann_arbor_judge_smok.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Advocacy/Opinion

Saturday Shorts: Oakland puts burden on students

"Add Oakland University to the list of colleges Michigan high school students may want to think twice about attending."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/07/10/saturday-shorts-oakland-university-tuition/29976979/*

Krauthammer: Pluto and us

"We need a pick-me-up. Amid the vandalizing of Palmyra, the imminent extinction of the northern white rhino, the disarray threatening Europe's most ambitious attempt ever at peaceful unification — amid plague and pestilence and, by God, in the middle of Shark Week — where can humanity turn for uplift?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/charles-krauthammer/2015/07/11/krauthammer-pluto-new-horizons/29976941/

Other views: Writers on racism, presidential contenders

"America's not that racist Greg Jones, writing for The Federalist: It's called "proof by example," and it happens all the time. We take one event and point to it as evidence of a trend or, even worse, a universal fact—a dog attacked my child, therefore all dogs are vicious and should be put down. Despite its popularity, particularly in political debate, proof by example is a logical fallacy. But logic is officially an endangered species in today's hyperpartisan political environment."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/07/11/views-racism-trump-walker/29976843/

Judge Gorcyca and the mother of all time-outs

"Fishermen rescued 5-year-old Elian Gonzalez 3 miles off the coast of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., on Thanksgiving Day 1999, about a week after he and 11 other refugees, including Elian's mother, fled Cuba on a primitive raft."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/07/10/jailed-kids-judge/29998065/

Readers rip Ford for moving production from Michigan

"Days before the start of UAW contract negotiations, Ford Motor said it is moving production of its Focus and C-Max out of its Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne in 2018. "

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/07/10/ford-jobs-mexico/29998257/

Removal of slavery symbol is where the work begins

"It is Friday morning, July 10, 2015, and I am watching South Carolina Highway Patrol officers, tall and strong in Confederate gray uniforms, removing a lasting symbol of slavery from the South Carolina State Capitol."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/07/10/rochelle-riley-confederate-flag-lowered/29958195/*

Great Lakes Water Levels At High-Level Marks

"Water levels in all the Great Lakes are now above their recorded long-term averages. The rise has submerged portions of beaches and washed away past Internet postings proclaiming man-made global warming as the cause of low water levels."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21523*

That's a Wrap! Film Subsidies Terminated

"On Friday, Gov. Rick Snyder signed House Bill 4122, legislation that phases out Michigan's film subsidy program."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21527*

Susan J. Demas: Conservatives mocking fast-food workers losing jobs to robots may find they're next

"There's little that inspires conservative derision like fast-food workers demanding a fair wage."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/07/automation_jobs_fast_food.html#incart_river_news*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, July 11 and Sunday, July 12

"Snyder Media Advisory for Saturday, July 11 and Sunday, July 12"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558989_smedia.pdf*

New York Times Is Lying: Cruz Campaign Calls on the Times to Release Their Evidence

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Yesterday, news broke that the New York Times had omitted Cruz's best-selling book A Time for Truth from their best-seller list."*

Source: *Cruz Communications* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558929_tc2.pdf

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ADVISORY: Time to Care Coalition to Launch Earned Sick Leave Ballot Initiative

"LANSING — On Monday, July 13, citizens and workers' rights advocates from the Time to Care Coalition will announce a statewide ballot initiative to give workers the ability to earn paid sick days. More than 1.5 million Michigan workers — about 46 percent of the state's private sector workforce — are not able to take a paid sick day when they are ill."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558709_pm2.pdf

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Flint and Lansing Rallies for Safe, Affordable Water Mark end of 70-mile Trek

"

FLINT – Supporters joined those who walked the 70-mile "Detroit to Flint Water Justice Journey" for a Friday morning rally in front of City Hall to highlight the need for safe, affordable water in Michigan. Members of the Detroit People's Water Board Coalition arrived in Flint Thursday, one day earlier than planned. Along the way from Detroit, they encountered residents and reporters and worked to promote safe water for everyone and the Water Affordability Plan for families with low income.
"

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558640_em2.pdf

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Board of Education Members Brenda Gullett, Eileen Lappin Weiser, and Gayle Manchin Receive Awards

"Alexandria, Va. — The National Association for State Boards of Education is pleased to announce that state education leaders from Arkansas, Michigan, and West Virginia have been named recipients of NASBE's 2015 Distinguished Service Award. This national award honors state board members who have made exceptional contributions to education and is given to three outstanding education leaders

each year."

Source: *National Association of State Board of Education* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558559_board.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill phasing out film incentives program

"

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Film Office will continue operating but will no longer offer cash rebates for companies that produce movies in the state, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436558394_gov.pdf*

Peters Cosponsors Bill Supporting Career Advancement for Firefighters, Land Management Employees

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced that he has cosponsored legislation that allows experienced seasonal land management employees, such as firefighters, to compete for open permanent positions in the federal workforce. The Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act would provide career advancement opportunities to qualified temporary workers by removing barriers in the current hiring system and expanding the pool of qualified candidates for job vacancies."*

Source: *US Senator Peters* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436557678_petr.pdf*

21st Century Cures Act Overwhelmingly Approved by House

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act today was approved by the United States House of Representatives by a bipartisan vote of 344-77.

"

Source: *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436557634_fredupop.pdf*

Brandenburg begins work on law banning sanctuary cities that protect illegal aliens

*"**Lansing, Mich. —** State Sen. Jack Brandenburg announced on Friday that he has begun work to ban local governments from adopting sanctuary city policies that protect illegal aliens."*

Source: *Senator Brandenburg* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436557352_brand.pdf

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Rep. Lawrence Calls on Congress to act on Infrastructure, Highway Trust Fund

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – This morning, Congresswoman Brenda L. Lawrence (D-MI) took to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and called on her colleagues to join her in putting an end to the short-term transportation funding extensions that have left Michigan's infrastructure in shambles."

Source: *Congresswoman Lawrence* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436557263_replaw.pdf

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Rep. Trott Supports Effort to Help Patients and Develop New Cures

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today voted in support of the21st Century Cures Act, legislation designed to discover, develop, and deliver lifesaving new cures and medical innovation."

Source: *Rep. Trott* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436548683_trot.pdf

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ALEC State Chair Dishonest in WNEM Interview About ALEC Bills

"LANSING — During an interview with WNEM, the Co-Chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council's (ALEC) Michigan chapter, Senator Mike Green, said he couldn't recall ever introducing model legislation from the corporate bill mill. Progress Michigan is happy to remind Sen. Green of the origins of the legislation he has introduced. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436548777_alec.pdf

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Dr. Dan Benishek Votes in Favor of 21st Century Cures

"Washington, D.C.- Dr. Dan Benishek voted in favor today of the 21st Century Cures Act, a bill that will remove barriers to research by creating access to health data that can inform new therapies and treatments. Additionally, the bill will modernize clinical trials by allowing for increased use of patient-

generated registries to speed the recruitment of participants. "

Source: *US Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436548699_drdan.pdf

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Rep. Bishop on 21st Century Cures Passage

*"**WASHINGTON** – In response to the House's bipartisan passage of the 21st Century Cures Act (344-77), Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *US Rep Bishop* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436548495_bish.pdf

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Patterson appoints Davisburg resident deputy director of HR

"July 9, 2015, Pontiac, Mich. – Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has appointed Lori A. Taylor as deputy director of human resources for the county effective immediately. Among Taylor's responsibilities will be employee recruitment and compensation - an area of focus in Patterson's upcoming budget message on Thursday, July 16."

Source: *Oakland County Government* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436548407_oak.pdf

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House Passes the 21st Century Cures Act

"Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the 21st Century Cures Act to modernize medical research and to spur the development of life-saving treatments. The legislation allows researchers to bring medicines to the marketplace faster and cheaper, and incentivizes the targeting of rare diseases that affect a small number of people. The House passed the bill on a strong, bipartisan vote, 344 to 77."

Source: *Congressman Moolenaar* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436543411_col.pdf

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Overnight ramp closues at US-127/M-50 and I-94 in Jackson this weekend

"Overnight ramp closues at US-127/M-50 and I-94 in Jackson this weekend"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436541793_ramps.pdf

LEAP/LRCC Lead Community Delegation to Study Cleveland BRT System

"(Lansing, MI) – The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) and Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) recently led a group of 30 community and business leaders on a trip to Cleveland to study the economic benefits of that city's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system. Leaders who joined the trip included Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett and Sandy Draggoo, president and CEO of the Capital Area Transportation Authority. CATA is moving forward on a $155 million BRT project for the eight-mile stretch of Michigan Avenue between the State Capitol and Marsh Road in Meridian Township."

Source: *Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436541499_leap.pdf

U.P. lawmakers offer support for Marquette County Road Commission lawsuit against EPA

*"**LANSING, Mich**.—State Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, and Reps. Ed McBroom, R-Escanaba, and John Kivela, D-Marquette, issued the following statements in support of a lawsuit filed by the Marquette County Road Commission on Friday, challenging the decision by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to block construction of County Road 595."*

Source: *Michigan Legislature* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436541356_milegi.pdf

Marquette County Road Commission Files Lawsuit against EPA, Fights Decision to Block Construction of

*"**Marquette, July 10, 2015**—The Marquette County Road Commission, with the support of residents from across the Upper Peninsula, today announced the filing of a lawsuit formally challenging the decision by the EPA in Washington, D.C. to block construction of County Road 595."*

Source: *The Marquette County Road Commission* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436541196_stan.pdf

Peters Joins Congressional Coalition on Adoption

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a member of the Foster Youth Caucus, today announced that he has joined the Congressional Coalition on Adoption (CCA). The CCA is the largest bicameral and bipartisan caucus in Congress and aims to ensure that all children have the love and support of a permanent family and highlights issues pertaining to vulnerable children in need of*

permanent families."

Source: *US Senator Peters* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436541036_usspet.pdf

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Occupy the Corner w/ Michael Brown, Sr.

*"**Detroit** - City Council Member Mary Sheffield (D - District 5) in conjunction with the Joint Council on Policy and Social Impact will host Michael Brown, Sr. during Occupy the Corner - Detroit on Friday July 10, 2015. Mr. Brown, Sr.'s visit will begin with a **"Keeping Our Youth Alive" / "All Hands on Deck"** Roundtable Discussion with community, elected and law enforcement leaders and culminate with a rally at the planned Occupy the Corner - Detroit event scheduled for Delores Bennett Park."*

Source: *Detroit City Council - Office of Council Member Mary Sheffield* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436540986_mbs.pdf

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US-31 BR bridge work near Ludington starts July 13

"US-31 BR bridge work near Ludington starts July 13"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436540659_us3.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 7/9/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 7/9/2015."

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436538976_coa.pdf

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Ag leaders highlight stewardship, future issues at 2015 sustainability forum

*"EAST LANSING – The spotlight was on sustainability in Michigan's agriculture sector Wednesday, July 8 as the**Agricultural Leaders of Michigan** brought together agribusinesses, commodity groups and related interests for the 2015 Michigan Agriculture Sustainability Forum. The forum, hosted at Michigan State University in East Lansing, focused on how Michigan agriculture can meet evolving sustainability demands, while responding to new challenges on water quality, climate change, energy use, waste management and more."*

Source: *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436538897_alm.pdf

Karoub Associates announced today that Berton Brown has joined the firm

"Karoub Associates announced today that Berton Brown has joined the firm"

Source: *Karoub Associates* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436538785_kara.pdf

Snyder Media Advisory for Friday, July 10

"Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the grand opening ceremony for Brugola U.S.A., an Italian-based automotive parts manufacturing company. "

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *07-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1436538709_snyda.pdf

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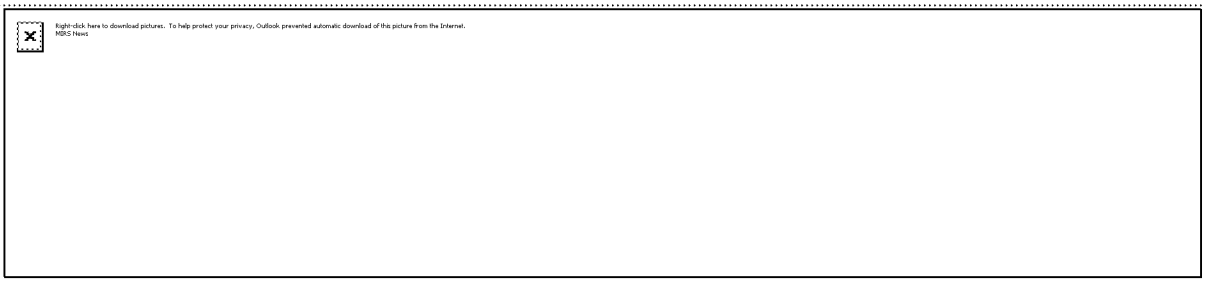

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2016 candidates undermine the political hometown

"It's been 20 years since Bob Dole ran for president as the small town boy who never forgot his roots in windblown Russell, Kan., where he worked in high school as a drugstore soda jerk and recovered from his wounds after World War II. Even after he went to Congress, he never changed his legal residence."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/candidate-hometowns-dole-clinton-hope/30844905/

Koch implores donors to help 'change the trajectory of this country'

"DANA POINT, Calif. — Billionaire Charles Koch on Sunday invoked the American Revolution, the fight to end slavery and the civil-rights movement as he exhorted the donors in his growing political policy empire to help him dismantle what he called the obstacles to a "truly free society.""

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/koch-2016-campaign-republicans/31017189/

Everson to file complaint over first GOP debate

"WASHINGTON — Former IRS commissioner Mark Everson, a candidate for the GOP presidential nomination, will file a complaint with the Federal Election Commission on Monday alleging that he is being unfairly excluded from the first debate, he told USA TODAY."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**

http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/everson-fox-debate-complaint/31022507/

MSU wins $5M grant to study mint plants

"Mint is a daily part of most Americans' lives. It makes toothpaste taste tolerable, pairs beautifully with chocolate and transforms plain bourbon into a mint julep."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/2015/08/03/msu-wins-grant-study-mint-plants/31039935/

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1 in 5 Michigan lawmakers lack college degree

"LANSING One out of every five Michigan lawmakers doesn't have a formal degree in higher education."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/michigan-lawmakers-lack-college-degree/31046293/

Three construction projects along U.S. 127 begin this month

*"**ITHACA, MI** — Three road construction projects will begin along U.S. 127 during the first week of August."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/three_construction_projects_al.html#incart_river_news

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Cheboygan River Front Range Lighthouse helped bolster local shipping and lumber economy

"The Cheboygan River range lights were built in 1880 in response to the increasing commerce taking place in Cheboygan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/08/cheboygan_river_front_range_li.html#incart_river

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Video shows tornado hitting Michigan's Thumb

*"**HURON COUNTY, MI —** A tornado appears to have touched down in Michigan's Thumb in a damaging storm that snapped apart trees and damaged buildings including a school, the National Weather Service reports. "*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/video_of_tornado_hitting_michi.html#incart_river*

Study outlines challenges for black males in medicine

"Detroit — The number of African-American males applying to medical school has steadily declined every year except 2014 since 1978, according to a study released Monday at the National Medical Association Convention and Scientific Assembly."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/08/03/black-men-medical-students/31045469/*

Raging N. California wildfires prompt evacuations

"Lower Lake, Calif. — Fire officials called for thousands of evacuations as numerous homes remained threatened by Northern California wildfires Monday, while more than 9,000 firefighters battled 21 major fires in the state, officials said."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/08/03/california-wildfires-evacuations/31046093/*

Flint pastors tell residents to get their water tested

"Flint — Critics aren't dropping their complaints about Flint's water."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/flint-pastors-tell-residents-get-water-tested/31045607/*

Kerry pushes Iran nuke deal with wary Arabs in Qatar

"Doha, Qatar — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry brought the Obama administration's case for the Iran nuclear deal to wary Arab officials in Qatar on Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/08/03/kerry-iran-nuke-arabs-qatar/31046175/*

Biden for president? Allies mulling Clinton challenge

"Washington — Vice President Joe Biden's associates have resumed discussions about a 2016 presidential run after largely shelving such deliberations while his son was sick and dying earlier this year. But Biden has

yet to tell his staff whether he will run or personally ask them to do any planning for a potential campaign, according to several people close to the vice president."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/08/02/biden-president-allies-mulling-clinton-challenge/31017225/*

Koch warns conservatives must demand smaller government

"Dana Point, Calif. — Billionaire industrialist Charles Koch warned America is "done for" if the conservative donors and politicians he gathered at a retreat over the weekend don't rally others to their cause of demanding a smaller, less-intrusive government."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/08/02/koch-warns-conservatives-must-demand-smaller-government/31042075/*

Judge Keith outraged by incomplete housing discrimination case

"HAMTRAMCK – A Detroit-area community that targeted blacks by demolishing poor neighborhoods is scrambling to come up with money to finally end the case — 44 years after a federal judge found clear evidence of discrimination."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/08/02/judge-damon-keith-housing-discrimination/31024517/*

White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery hosts V-J Day Ceremony

"White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery in Troy hosted its 68th annual V-J Day Ceremony Sunday. More than 400 U.S. flags lined White Chapel's Main Boulevard and the event featured the Gold Star Mothers, an organization of mothers who have lost a son or daughter in service to the U.S., and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/08/02/white-chapel-memorial/31033027/*

Hamtramck 'Guerrilla Road Repair' goes DIY on potholes

"A fast-growing campaign to tamp away craters from Hamtramck neighborhoods entered Round 2 Saturday when nearly 4 tons of filler were dropped into potholes on the streets of the small east-side enclave."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/08/01/potholes-patch-hamtramck/30995401/

Michigan awards nearly $250K for Iron Belle Trail projects

"LANSING – Michigan has awarded nearly $250,000 in grants in 15 of the state's counties to help develop a new hiking and bicycling trail stretching hundreds of miles."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/02/michigan-awards-nearly-iron-belle-trail-projects/31020289/

Sleeping Bear Dunes, Glen Arbor hit hard by storms

"GLEN ARBOR, Mich. — Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the northern Lower Peninsula communities of Glen Arbor and Traverse City have been hit hard by severe storms packing high winds."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/sleeping-bear-dunes-glen-arbor-hit-hard-by-michigan-storms/31045445/

FBI: Former state rep handed out narcotics

"Dr. Paul DeWeese was once a high-ranking politician in the Michigan House of Representatives, and an ER doctor on the side."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/fbi-former-state-rep-supplied-opioid-abusers-dealers/30917051/

Advocacy/Opinion

For petition drives to legalize marijuana, three may not be a crowd

"If you had three groups dedicated to legalizing grass, wouldn't you think they would get their act together and decide on one ballot proposal for 2016 rather than maybe three?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/08/for_petition_drives_to_legaliz.html#incart_river

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Michigan Film Office tries to stave off The End

"We can give you a sunrise and a sunset on the water. We can give you mansions five minutes from ruins."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/neal-rubin/2015/08/02/rubin-michigan-film-office/31040601/*

Many Up North are still down on their luck

"Rogers City is a sleepy town with a tidy appearance, expansive waterfront and coastal views of Lake Huron that exemplify Up North during summer."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/07/31/north-michigan-jobs/30968785/*

State Gives Billions in Dollars to Corporations – But Keeps Secret How Much They Get

"The state of Michigan gives tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to private companies each year. Yet remarkably, the public is kept in the dark about how much each corporate beneficiary receives — or even who receives the money."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *08-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21582*

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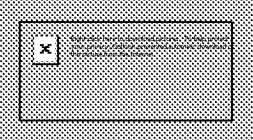

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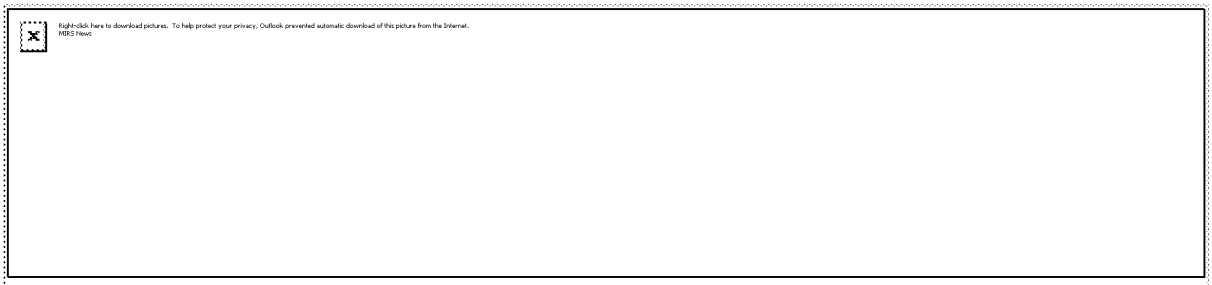

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Nearly 400,000 signatures collected for prevailing wage repeal

"LANSING, MI -- A group aiming to put prevailing wage on the chopping block before voters in November 2016 has submitted more than 390,000 signatures to the Secretary of State."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/advocates_collect_nearly_40000.html#incart_river*

Michigan per-pupil spending flatlines, and 6 other facts on K-12 expenditures

"Michigan spending on K-12 public school students remained virtually the same between 2008-09 and 2013-14, according to state data."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_per-pupil_spending_fl.html#incart_river*

Flint mayor asks governor for $10 million to replace lead water pipes

"FLINT, MI — Mayor Dayne Walling is asking Gov. Rick Snyder for $30 million to upgrade Flint's water system, including $10 million to remove lead service pipes and plumbing susceptible to leaching lead."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/flint_mayor_asks_governor_for_1.html#incart_river*

Michigan AG promotes school safety hotline

"Saginaw — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is promoting a hotline and online student safety system called OK2SAY."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/14/schuette-promotes-anti-bullying-school-hotline/72265248/*

John Oliver rips Courser, Gamrat scandal on HBO show

"HBO comedy host John Oliver is the latest satirist to poke fun at the political sex scandal that rocked Michigan's House of Representatives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/john-oliver-rips-courser-gamrat-scandal-hbo-show/72261336/*

White House's 'Smart Cities' push includes Detroit

"Washington — The White House on Monday unveiled a new $160 million "Smart Cities" initiative that will boost federal research and leverage more than 25 new technology collaborations to help local communities tackle important issues."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/09/14/smart-cities-initiative-white-house-detroit/72272826/*

Wage repeal group submits 390,000 petition signatures

"Lansing — Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, a group with ties to the conservative DeVos family of Grand Rapids and a state organization representing nonunion contractors, has collected 390,000 petition signatures for its proposal to dump Michigan's prevailing wage law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/prevailing-wage-repeal-petition/72275874/*

Fields of candidates grow for seats of Courser, Gamrat

"Lansing — The number of candidates has grown for the state House seats that became vacant when Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat were forced out of the Legislature late last week during a

dramatic session."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/fields-candidates-grow-seats-courser-gamrat/72275382/*

U.P. teacher 1st in Michigan to contract plague

"Marquette — Some people go their entire lives without catching anything worse than a flu or virus."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/14/bubonic-plague-michigan-case/72273284/*

FCA, UAW extend contract on 'hour-by-hour basis'

"The United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles have extended their existing contract "on an hour-by-hour basis," indicating that the two sides could be close on a tentative agreement."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/09/14/uaw-talks/72290540/*

Michigan Legislature: Gun, abortion bills introduced

"LANSING — While most of the Legislature's attention was focused on expulsion hearings for two lawmakers, representatives and senators still managed to introduce 68 new bills in the first full week of their fall session after being off most of the summer."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/11/michigan-legislature-guns-abortions-religious-exemption-bills-inroduced/72050336/*

TV host John Oliver skewers Courser-Gamrat sex scandal

"While this summer's sex scandal between former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat has kept Lansing reporters busy, it's also functioning as an offering to the comedy gods."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/john-oliver-last-week-tonight-michigan-sex-scandal-/72251706/*

Anti-union group offers petition to end prevailing wage

"A group looking to end Michigan's prevailing-wage law turned in enough signatures Monday to put the issue before the Legislature."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/14/anti-union-group-submits-petition-end-prevailing-wage/72268526/*

Bubonic plague case confirmed in Michigan

"A Michigan resident has contracted the rare, life-threatening bubonic plague — the first documented case in Michigan's public health history, state officials confirmed."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/09/14/bubonic-plague-case--michigan/72273070/

UAW extends FCA contract by the hour; some workers walk

"The UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles have extended the existing collective agreement on an hour-by-hour basis as bargaining continues, suggesting they could be close to a deal."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/14/uaw-fiat-chrysler-contract-negotiations-agreement-deadline/72288486/

Advocacy/Opinion

Mackinac pipeline helps power Michigan's industrial comeback

"For months we've heard the same old rhetoric about the integrity of Enbridge's Line 5, which runs under the Straits of Mackinac. It's time to set the record straight about this important piece of Michigan's energy infrastructure, what it means for the state economy, and the commitment by the company and workers to ensure it continues to safely operate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/mackinac_pipeline_helps_power.html#incart_river

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Editor's Note: Get facts on right to work and pay

"Unions work hard to make the case that right to work has a negative impact on wages and employment. But a new study from the Heritage Foundation finds that is not true across the board."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/09/15/editor-note-jacques-right-work-pay/72265136/

Lund: Unions are Chicken Little on prevailing wage

""Chicken Little" — it's an age-old fable with a compelling lesson for Michigan's modern-day debate over whether to repeal prevailing wage laws. Don't let hysteria over an imagined threat obscure good judgment."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/14/lund-unions-chicken-little-prevailing-wage/72285214/

Editorial: Bring them here

"President Barack Obama has signaled the United States will accept at least 10,000 more refugees from Syria during the next year. Michigan should lobby to be the destination for most, if not all of those seeking new homes.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/14/editorial-bring/72285322/

Michigan road funding: The road to 54

"When voters resoundingly rejected a road proposal that would have altered the gas tax and preserved dollars for schools and transit, most folks interpreted it as a sharp message from voters to state lawmakers: Go back to work, and do better this time."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/09/11/michigan-roads-funding/71965034/

Press Releases

JEB BUSH RELEASES VIDEO CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

*"**Miami, FL —** In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Jeb! 2016 campaign released a new web video featuring Governor Jeb Bush and Mrs. Columba Bush with a message for all Hispanic-Americans. Jeb and Mrs. Bush discuss the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month and the great contributions of the*

Hispanic community in the U.S., while inviting everyone to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264204_jb2.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Dennis Rodeman

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Wednesday, Sept. 16 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Lansing firefighter Dennis E. Rodeman, who died Wednesday, Sept. 9.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264175_gov.pdf

Board of State Canvassers to meet Sept. 17 in Capitol

"

The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 17 in room 426 of the Capitol in Lansing."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264149_bc.pdf

Peters, Stabenow Announce over $650,000 for Capital Region International Airport

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today announced that the Capital Region Airport Authority will receive $652,400 for improvements at Capital Region International Airport in Lansing, including for the rehabilitation of a taxiway and to address key issues, objectives, and goals related to safety developments. The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264090_gp.pdf

Fleming Announces Candidacy For 31st House District

"FRASER– John Fleming, an attorney practicing in Clinton Township and a former legislative aide to Rep. Marilyn Lane, has announced his intention to run for the Michigan House of Representatives in District 31, serving Clinton Township, Fraser, and Mount Clemens. Rep. Marilyn Lane cannot run again due to term limits."

Source: *John Fleming* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264063_jf.pdf

CORRECTION: EEE Found in Barry County Horse

"

CORRECTION: The earlier version of this news release contained an incorrect county. The correct county where EEE has been detected is BARRY COUNTY, not Branch County as previously stated. MDARD apologizes for the error."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263973_mdard2.pdf

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MDHHS Confirms Michigan Resident Contracts Plague in Colorado

"LANSING, Mich. – A case of bubonic plague has been confirmed in a Michigan resident who recently returned from Colorado in an area with reported plague activity, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

"
Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263916_dhs2.pdf

First Annual Governor's Energy Excellence Awards to be Held Sept. 22 in Lansing

*"**LANSING, MICH.—**Individuals and organizations from across the state will be recognized by Gov. Rick Snyder for their commitment to responsible energy production and consumption at the first annual Governor's Energy Excellence Awards event in Lansing. Michigan has emerged as a leader in energy efficiency and the awards are meant to showcase outstanding achievements in reducing energy waste."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263885_tr.pdf

390,000 Signatures Submitted to Eliminate Prevailing Wage

*"**Lansing, MI, September 14, 2015** – Protecting Michigan Taxpayers today submitted to the Bureau of Elections more than 390,000 signatures from voters demanding a repeal of the state's costly prevailing wage law. The filing exceeds minimum signature requirements by over 140,000.*

"

Source: *Protecting Michigan Taxpayers* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263842_pmt.pdf

Monroe County Woman Wins $2 Million Playing Mega Money Multiplier Instant Game

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 14, 2015** – A Monroe County woman was all smiles after winning $2 million playing the Michigan Lottery's Mega Money Multiplier instant game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263815_lottery2.pdf

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ICBA Updates

"ICBA Updates"

Source: *Ingham County Bar Association* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263787_icba.pdf

Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week Reminds All Family Members to Ride Safely

"LANSING, Mich. – There is a lot to think about during the back to school season, but the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is joining the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning in asking residents to make child passenger safety a priority. Governor Snyder has proclaimed the week of September 13-19 as Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week in Michigan.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263733_dhs.pdf

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $19.5 Million to Improve Transit Access

"TACOMA, WA. – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced that 21 organizations around the country will receive a share of $19.5 million in grants to

support comprehensive planning projects that improve access to public transit. The funds are made available through FTA's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Pilot Program for communities that are developing new or improved mass transit systems. A list of selected projects is available online."

Source: *U.S. Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263703_usdot.pdf

JEB BUSH: STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY

"The Internet has transformed everyday life for people, revolutionizing communications and how Americans interact with each other and the world. The Internet's impact on economic growth has likewise been profound. U.S. manufacturers reported e-commerce shipments were $3.3 trillion in 2013. According to one report, from 2004 to 2009, the Internet accounted for 15% of GDP growth."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263654_jb.pdf

EEE Found in Branch County Horse

"

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development today announced the state's first reported case in 2015 of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in a Branch County horse. The testing was done by the private practitioner who sent the blood sample directly to the United States Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263515_mdard.pdf

CORRECTION: Ramp from WB I-96 to SB US-127 closed Tuesday night, Sept. 15

"The ramp from westbound I-96 to southbound US-127 will be closed starting at midnight Tuesday until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254655_rampc.pdf

M-53 water main installation at Clear Lake Road in Imlay City

*"**September 14, 2015** -- Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 15, M-53 (North Van Dyke Road) will have a*

temporary traffic signal in place at Clear Lake Road for water main installation."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254767_53_pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder makes case for investing in Michigan, strengthens ties with Japan

"TOKYO – Michigan is helping companies create more and better jobs and is eager to build upon the state's longstanding relationships with Japanese businesses, Gov. Rick Snyder said today after addressing the 2015 Midwest U.S.-Japan Association Conference.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254701_mi.pdf*

I-75 bridge beam setting at Baker and Hess roads scheduled for Sept. 16

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) expects to set bridge beams on the Baker Road and Hess Road bridges over I-75 on the night of Sept. 16.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254086_brid.pdf*

Rabhi Announces Run for State House

*"ANN ARBOR – **Yousef Rabhi** announced today that he will run in the Democratic primary for the 53rd Michigan House District, which represents much of Ann Arbor. Rabhi has been a Washtenaw County Commissioner since 2011, and served as the chair of the county Board of Commissioners. At an event at the Buhr Park Wet Meadow Project, Rabhi told supporters that he wants to represent Ann Arbor's values in Lansing."*

Source: *Yousef Rabhi* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442253436_rab.pdf*

Rep. Lawrence to host "Miss Representation: The Portrayal of Powerful

Women in the Media" panel at

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence will host a powerful panel discussion on the power of the media to perpetuate or challenge the gender bias that women have struggled with for many generations and that has translated to women being extremely underrepresented in politics, business, and the media. Her panel discussion is part of the 45th Annual Legislative Conference for the Congressional Black Caucus, which is scheduled to begin Wednesday, Sept. 16th. The ALC is the premier gathering of African Americans, cultivating engaging policy discussions on issues that impact communities of color around the world."

Source: *Congresswoman Lawrence* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252608_cbl.pdf

Upton to be Honored for Working on Behalf of At-Risk Kids and Families

"NILES, MI – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, will be honored for his support of early childhood home visiting programs on Tuesday, September 15, at the Berrien County Courthouse – South County. The event, hosted by Michigan members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, Ready Nation and Shepherding the Next Generation, is a thank-you to state and federal lawmakers who helped pass early childhood home visiting program legislation which benefits at-risk children and their families.

"

Source: *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252462_freupt.pdf

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Justice Viviano Honors First Graduates of the 3rd Circuit Court's Veterans Treatment Court

"LANSING, MI, September 14, 2015 – Michigan Supreme Court Justice David F. Viviano helped mark a milestone today at the 3rd Circuit Court in Detroit by speaking at the court's first Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) graduation. Two graduates were recognized during the event.

"

Source: *Michigan Courts* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252046_mdr.pdf

Column: State Licensing, Inspection and Certification Helps Michigan Food Businesses Export Products

"

Food safety is the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's top priority, not only

because it helps protect consumers from foodborne illness, but also because it helps Michigan food businesses stay competitive and market their products both domestically and across the world."

Source: *Michigan Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251962_mdard.pdf*

US-127 at I-96, Ingham County

"This week, there will be a single lane closure on southbound US-127 and on eastbound I-96, along with ramp closures, for bridge work at the interchange. The following is the schedule: "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251843_laner.pdf*

Lanes reopening on southbound I-75 at 13 Mile Road

"The maintenance repairs to the 13 Mile Road bridge at I-75 have required lane closures during the last couple months. This work will be completed Tuesday late afternoon when all lanes will be reopened. Southbound I-75 will reopen by 3 p.m. Tuesday, while 13 Mile Road will have all lanes reopened by 5 p.m.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251663_dto.pdf*

Media Advisory Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — State Sen. Tom Casperson announced Monday that the Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 16 will include testimony from U.P. residents via remote videoconference.*

"

Source: *Senator Tom Casperson* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442245390_tc.pdf*

Governor Walker will be attending Michigan Republican Leadership Conference on Mackinac Island

*"**LANSING, Mich., September 12, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel issued the following statement on Gov. Scott Walker confirmation to attending the Mackinac*

Republican Leadership Conference:"

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442244937_mr.pdf

Tuscola County Woman Wins $283,791 Fantasy 5 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 14, 2015** – Winning a $283,791 Fantasy 5 jackpot left a Tuscola County woman feeling "numb and in disbelief.""*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442244879_lottery.pdf

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Yousef Rabhi announces run for State House I Today, noon

*"ANN ARBOR—Today, **Yousef Rabhi** will announce his candidacy for the 53rd House District (Ann Arbor). Rabhi, who has been a Washtenaw County Commissioner since 2011, will run in the Democratic primary. At today's event, Rabhi will speak about his plans to bring Ann Arbor's values to Lansing: education, equity, environment, and economic resiliency."*

Source: *Yousef Rabhi* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442241070_yr.pdf

Schuette Joins Saginaw Schools to Promote OK2SAY Student Safety Program

"

***SAGINAW** – Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined Saginaw Superintendent Nathaniel McClain, Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy Principal Priscilla Arocha-Roby, Michigan State Police Tri-City Post Commander David Simon and students at the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy to promote the Michigan OK2SAY program.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240787_ag.pdf

Sparrow Medical Group OB/GYN Carson celebrates its first arrival

"

CARSON CITY, MI – Sparrow Medical Group's new Carson City OB/GYN practice has made history, welcoming its first baby, a bouncing boy."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240150_sparrow.pdf

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Travel Advisory - M-21 in Genesee County

"Beginning today (Monday, September 14, 2015) Mid Michigan Contracting will be repairing catch basins on M-21 from the Flint city limit to Dye Road. Single right lane closures will be needed as work in completed. Motorists are advised to be prepared for lane closures. This work is expected to take approximately two weeks, and is weather dependent.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240062_mdot2.pdf

M-72 roundabouts in Acme to open later this month

*"**September 14, 2015** – Two new roundabouts on M-72 in Acme are scheduled to open later this month, and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is offering guidance for drivers who are unfamiliar with this newer intersection design."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240033_mdot.pdf

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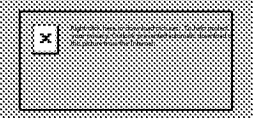

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FY 2015-16: DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND FY 2014-15 SUPPLEMENTAL Summary: Conference Report Senate Bill 118 (S-2) CR-1

Analysts: Susan Frey, Kevin Koorstra, and Kyle I. Jen, HFA
Steve Angelotti and Ellyn Ackerman, SFA

	FY 2014-15 YTD as of 3/12/15	FY 2015-16 Executive	FY 2015-16 House	FY 2015-16 Senate	FY 2015-16 Conference	*Difference: Conference From FY 2014-15 YTD Amount*	*%*
IDG/IDT	$9,425,900	$9,678,100	$9,678,100	$9,678,100	$9,678,100	*$252,200*	*2.7*
Federal	12,455,907,600	13,465,957,200	13,457,655,100	13,488,611,200	14,035,917,900	*1,580,010,300*	*12.7*
Local	227,120,400	85,984,600	85,961,700	85,974,700	85,951,800	*(141,168,600)*	*(62.2)*
Private	127,856,600	127,698,700	127,698,700	127,698,700	129,698,700	*1,842,100*	*1.4*
Restricted	2,135,694,400	2,289,035,100	2,130,566,200	2,173,385,400	2,100,525,800	*(35,168,600)*	*(1.6)*
GF/GP	3,088,706,800	2,993,251,300	3,121,097,300	3,128,354,300	3,200,596,700	*111,889,900*	*3.6*
Gross	**$18,044,711,700**	**$18,971,605,000**	**$18,932,657,100**	**$19,013,702,400**	**$19,562,369,000**	***$1,517,657,300***	***8.4***
FTEs	3,659.1	3,683.1	3,683.1	3,695.1	3,693.1	*34.0*	*0.9*

Notes: (1) FY 2014-15 adjusted year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through March 12, 2015 (including Executive Order 2015-5 and House Bill 4112). (2) Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time."

Overview

The Department of Community Health budget provides funding for a wide range of behavioral health (mental health and substance use disorder), public health, and medical services programs, including Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Plan. Established in 1996, the Department also includes the Office of Services to the Aging, the Crime Victim Services Commission, and health policy.

NOTE: Information on House action in this document is based on House Bill 4102 (H-1) as passed by the House. Information on Senate action is based on Senate Bill 133 (S-1) as passed by the Senate.

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations

		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
1. Base Medicaid, MIChild, and Federal Medicare Pharmaceutical Program Cost Adjustments	**Gross**	**$12,915,340,200**	**$190,188,200**
	IDG	2,999,900	(11,000)
	Federal	8,448,405,800	145,159,600
	Local	45,465,200	0
	Private	2,100,000	0
	Restricted	1,900,374,300	(1,536,100)
	GF/GP	$2,515,995,000	$46,575,700

The Executive includes an increase of $104.5 million Gross ($20.2 million GF/GP) for caseload, utilization, and inflation adjustments for Medical Services, Behavioral Health Services, Children's Special Health Care Services, Federal Medicare Pharmaceutical Program, and Family Support Subsidy. Amount also includes the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) adjustment from 65.54% to 65.60% and the Enhanced FMAP adjustment from 75.88% to 98.92%, offsetting $22.9 million GF/GP. The House and Senate concur, with a technical adjustment to offset an additional $805,000 GF/GP with federal funds based on Enhanced FMAP adjustments. The Conference includes revised adjustments of $190.2 million Gross ($46.6 million GF/GP) based on estimates agreed to at the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference with the technical adjustment to offset an additional $805,000 GF/GP with federal funds based on Enhanced FMAP adjustments and also includes FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments agreed to at the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference in the bill (see final page of analysis)

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
2. Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) Cost Adjustments	**Gross**	**$2,651,022,800**	**$960,427,100**
The Executive includes an increase in FY 2014-15 HMP costs of $361.1 million and an increase in FY 2015-16 HMP costs of $454.6 million, reflecting increased federal funding for caseload, utilization, and inflation adjustments in Medical Services and Behavioral Health Services for Healthy Michigan Plan/Medicaid expansion. HMP costs are funded with 100% federal revenue through the end of calendar year 2016. The House concurs and also includes FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments for HMP in the FY 2015-16 budget bill. The Senate concurs with the Executive and does not include FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments in the bill. The Conference includes revised adjustments of $485.9 million for FY 2014-15 and $474.6 million for FY 2015-16 based on estimates agreed to at the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference and also includes FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments for HMP in the FY 2015-16 budget bill (see final page of analysis).	Federal	2,651,022,800	960,427,100
	GF/GP	$0	$0
3. Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) MACI Payments	**Gross**	**$0**	**$318,200,000**
The Conference includes $318.2 million in federal funding for Medicaid Access to Care Initiative (MACI) payments to hospitals under Healthy Michigan Plan; these payments had not previously been appropriated. Conference also includes FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments for HMP MACI payments in the FY 2015-16 budget bill (see final page of analysis). FY 2015-16 funding is the same amount that will be appropriated for FY 2014-15 HMP MACI payments.	Federal	0	318,200,000
	GF/GP	$0	$0
4. Actuarially Sound Capitation Payment Rates Adjustments	**Gross**	**$9,820,800,900**	**$170,040,500**
The Executive provides $170.0 million Gross ($38.0 million GF/GP) to increase capitation payment rates for Medicaid Health Plans 2.0% and Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs) 1.5% to comply with federal requirement that rates for managed care entities are actuarially sound. Line items increased include Medicaid mental health services, Medicaid substance use disorder services, Healthy Michigan Plan – behavioral health, health plan services, and Healthy Michigan Plan. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	IDG	2,999,900	0
	Federal	7,402,104,700	132,035,300
	Local	38,846,400	0
	Restricted	1,235,226,000	0
	GF/GP	$1,141,623,900	$38,005,200
DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION			
5. Administrative Hearing System Costs	**Gross**	**$1,424,600**	**$1,039,400**
The Executive increases funding for administrative hearing costs related to DCH programs by $1.0 million gross ($519,700 GF/GP): $139,400 for new charges for related rent and information technology costs, and $900,000 transferred from Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) for Healthy Michigan Plan related hearings costs. LARA administers the hearings system for all departments through interdepartmental grants. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	Federal	704,000	519,700
	GF/GP	$720,600	$519,700
6. Economic Adjustments	**Gross**	**NA**	**($607,500)**
The Executive includes a net reduction of $607,500 Gross ($232,100 GF/GP) for the following economics adjustments: salary/wage 2.0% base increase, insurance rate increase, reductions in actuarially-determined retirement rates, and increases for worker's compensation, building occupancy, and rent. There are no economic adjustments recommended for food, gas, fuel, or utility costs for state hospitals and centers. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	IDG	NA	(5,500)
	Federal	NA	(250,400)
	Local	NA	(42,800)
	Private	NA	(400)
	Restricted	NA	(76,300)
	GF/GP	NA	($232,100)
7. Administrative Savings from Merger of DCH and DHS	**Gross**	**$64,816,200**	**$0**
The House assumes savings totaling $2.2 million GF/GP from the merger of the Department with the Department of Human Services, effective April 10, 2015 under Executive Order 2015-4, including: $350,000 Director and Other Unclassified line item, $1,650,000 Departmental Administration and Management line item, and $243,000 Information Technology line item. YTD shown includes all three line items. The Senate does not include. The Conference concurs with the Senate.	Federal	32,920,500	0
	Restricted	2,657,700	0
	GF/GP	$29,238,000	$0

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
8. Administrative Lapse Savings			
The Senate includes savings of $340,000 GF/GP from 7 administrative line items throughout the budget, based on FY 2013-14 year-end lapsed amounts. The Conference does not concur.	**Gross**	**NA**	**$0**
	GF/GP	NA	$0
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES			
9. Mental Health and Wellness Commission	FTE	0.0	1.0
The Executive provides $5.0 million Gross ($1.9 million GF/GP) and 1.0 FTE for a 12-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility and a children's behavioral action team with an emphasis on children residing at Hawthorn Center; provides $1.5 million GF/GP designated as one-time basis only to coordinate child trauma response and to partially offset reductions from Executive Order 2015-5; and removes $6.1 million Gross ($2.1 million GF/GP) designated as one-time basis funding appropriated in FY 2014-15. The House concurs and reduces funding for 12-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility and children's behavioral action team to $2.7 million Gross ($1.0 million GF/GP), requiring a roughly 6-month delay in implementation. The Senate reduces funding for 12-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility and children's behavioral action team to $1.25 million Gross ($469,000 GF/GP), requiring a 9-month delay in implementation, and reduces one-time funding to a $100 GF/GP placeholder. Finally, the Senate removes $13.8 million Gross ($4.7 million GF/GP), equal to 50% of remaining funding, based on the assumption those initiatives could be funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, which is funded by statutorily-required contributions from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. The Conference concurs with the Executive and reduces funding for 12-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility and children's behavioral action team to $1.25 million Gross ($469,000 GF/GP), requiring a 9-month delay in implementation.	**Gross**	**$33,625,000**	**($3,312,500)**
	Federal	22,205,000	(3,181,500)
	GF/GP	$11,420,000	($131,000)
10. Mental Health Jail Diversion and Transition	FTE	1.0	0.0
The Executive restores an Executive Order 2015-5 reduction of $300,000 GF/GP and transfers in $1.0 million GF/GP from Department of Corrections for jail diversion and transition programming. The House concurs. The Senate concurs with restoration of the Executive Order reduction but does not include the $1.0 million GF/GP transfer from Department of Corrections. The Conference concurs with House.	**Gross**	**$3,050,000**	**$1,300,000**
	GF/GP	$3,050,000	$1,300,000
11. Community Mental Health (CMH) Non-Medicaid Services	**Gross**	**$117,050,400**	**$0**
The Executive replaces $20.0 million in one-time Roads and Risks Reserve funds with an equal amount of GF/GP to maintain annual CMH Non-Medicaid funding at $117.1 million. The $20.0 million in one-time Roads and Risks Reserve funds was included in the current year supplemental, HB 4112. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	Restricted	20,000,000	(20,000,000)
	GF/GP	$97,050,400	$20,000,000
12. Community Mental Health (CMH) Purchase of State Services	**Gross**	**$278,931,200**	**($139,465,600)**
The Executive eliminates the transfer of GF/GP to local Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSP) for the purchase of state services, reducing the corresponding $139.5 million in local revenue appropriated for state psychiatric hospitals. The GF/GP currently appropriated for CMHSP purchase of state services is instead directly appropriated to support the state psychiatric hospitals. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	Local	139,465,600	(139,465,600)
	GF/GP	$139,465,600	$0
13. Liquor License Fee Increases	**Gross**	**$1,784,200**	**$0**
The Executive authorizes $913,200 in restricted funds to support fetal alcohol syndrome disorders. Restricted funds would be available through Executive proposal for increased liquor fees, which have a statutory requirement for 3.5% of license fees to be used for prevention, rehabilitation, care, and treatment of alcoholics and 15% of the fee charged for the issuance of licenses to sell spirits or mixed spirit drinks on Sunday to be used for the treatment of alcoholics. Remaining liquor license fee revenue appropriated in Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) budget. The House concurs. The Senate and Conference do not include the additional restricted fund authorization.	Restricted	1,784,200	0
	GF/GP	$0	$0

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
14. One-Time Drug Policy Initiatives	**Gross**	**$0**	**$1,500,000**
The Executive provides $1.5 million GF/GP on a one-time basis to support a new initiative for prescription drug abuse prevention and treatment. Funding targeted to reduce prescription drug abuse and to support those seeking recovery. The House includes a $100 placeholder for this item. The Senate does not include funding for this item. The Conference concurs with the Executive.	GF/GP	$0	$1,500,000
15. Children's Waiver Home Care Program	**Gross**	**$21,544,900**	**($1,544,900**
The Executive revises fund sourcing for the children's waiver home care program by offsetting $1.4 million in federal funds that are not available with GF/GP. The House concurs and also reduces program funding by $1.5 million Gross ($531,400 GF/GP) to reflect anticipated program expenditure levels based on historic expenditure trends. The Senate concurs with the Executive. The Conference concurs with the House.	Federal	15,488,700	(2,368,700)
	GF/GP	$6,056,200	$823,800
STATE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS & FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES			
16. State Psychiatric Hospitals – Pharmacy Costs	**Gross**	**NA**	**$425,700**
The Executive provides $567,600 Gross ($449,100 GF/GP) for a 5% inflationary increase for pharmacy costs at the state's 4 psychiatric hospitals and the Forensic Center. The House concurs. The Senate provides a lower increase of $425,700 Gross ($336,800 GF/GP) based on an estimate of 3.75% in inflationary growth. The Conference concurs with the Senate.	Federal	NA	28,700
	Local	NA	29,500
	Restricted	NA	30,700
	GF/GP	NA	$336,800
PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION			
17. Essential Local Public Health Services	**Gross**	**$39,386,100**	**$1,500,000**
The Executive reinstates $1.5 million GF/GP for essential local public health services, a reduction in the current fiscal year under Executive Order 2015-5. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	Local	5,150,000	0
	GF/GP	$34,236,100	$1,500,000
18. Health and Wellness Initiatives	**Gross**	**$7,450,000**	**$1,500,000**
The Executive reinstates $1.5 million GF/GP for health and wellness initiatives including cancer prevention funding, a reduction in the current fiscal year under Executive Order 2015-5. The House concurs. The Senate does not concur with the Executive, and reduces the line item by $3.2 million, ($2.2 million GF/GP), eliminating allocations for certain projects and assuming funding for the discontinued projects may be granted by the non-state Michigan Health Endowment Fund foundation; shifts $947,900 of Healthy Michigan Fund savings to Medicaid, for GF/GP savings. (YTD amounts shown are Health and Wellness Initiatives only, and do not include Medicaid). The Conference concurs with the House.	Restricted	5,210,700	0
	GF/GP	$2,239,300	$1,500,000
HEALTH POLICY			
19. Federal Grant for Blueprint for Health Innovation	**Gross**	**$20,000,000**	**$5,000,000**
The Executive recognizes a $30.0 million increase in federal grant funds to test and implement Michigan's Blueprint for Health Innovation, supporting major innovations in health care service delivery and payment systems. The grant totals $70.0 million over 4 years. (Current year authorization for the initial $20.0 million was in HB 4112). Also adds new related boilerplate Sec. 718, including outcomes and performance measures. The House concurs, and includes revised Sec. 718. The Senate recognizes authorization of $15.0 million for the grant and includes Sec. 718 with revisions. The Conference provides $25.0 million of federal authorization for the grant and includes Sec. 718 with revisions including standards for aggregated claims data systems created with funds from the grant.	Federal	20,000,000	5,000,000
	GF/GP	$0	$0
20. Health Innovation Grants	**Gross**	**$1,500,000**	**$0**
The House reduces state GF/GP funding for Health Innovations Grants, leaving a $100 placeholder for the line item. The Senate makes no funding changes. The House and Senate concur with Executive revisions to related boilerplate Sec. 717. The Conference concurs with the Senate.	GF/GP	$1,500,000	$0

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
21. Newborn Screening	**Gross**	**$14,070,500**	**$2,060,900**
The Executive increases funding for newborn screening and treatment program, and related laboratory and vital records services by $2.1 million from state restricted newborn screening fees. Additional revenues are from fee increases for inflation and for new tests as recommended by the Quality Assurance Advisory Committee, pursuant to the Public Health Code. YTD amount shown includes funding for all newborn screening services. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	Restricted	14,070,500	2,060,900
	GF/GP	$0	$0
EPIDEMIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE			
22. Immunization Vaccine Education	**Gross**	**$15,022,300**	**$2,500,000**
The Senate increases funding for immunization programs by $500,000 GF/GP with new related boilerplate Sec. 853, to provide and promote education about the value of vaccines. The funding is to be expended only upon commitment of matching funds from private sector sources, at a match rate of $1.00 state for $4.00 private. The Conference concurs with the Senate and adds $2.0 million private funds authorization for the private match, and establishes the focus of the project on vaccines for infants and toddlers.	Federal	12,112,400	0
	Private	0	2,000,000
	Restricted	850,000	0
	GF/GP	$2,059,900	$500,000
CHRONIC DISEASE, INJURY PREVENTION, & HEALTH PROMOTION			
23. Public Health Federal Grants	FTE	NA	4.0
The Executive recognizes federal grant adjustments for public health and family, maternal, and child health programs totaling $5.9 million, including: a new chronic disease prevention grant of $3.5 million, five other new grants totaling $2.9 million, removal of one completed grant of $850,000, and an increase of $286,000 to one ongoing grant. Other new grants address immunization, lead poisoning prevention, environmental public health tracking, and school readiness for children with high health needs. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	**Gross**	**NA**	**$5,868,200**
	Federal	NA	5,868,200
	GF/GP	NA	$0
24. Trauma Hospital Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Support	**Gross**	**$1,000,000**	**($1,000,000)**
The Executive eliminates $1.0 million GF/GP supporting evidence-based traumatic brain injury intensive care treatment management system, training, and interactive software at Level I trauma hospitals, first funded in FY 2011-12. This program was reduced by $350,000 GF/GP in the current fiscal year by Executive Order 2015-5. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	GF/GP	$1,000,000	($1,000,000)
25. Alzheimer's Disease In-Home Care Pilot	**Gross**	**$150,000**	**$0**
The Executive eliminates $150,000 GF/GP funding for an Alzheimer's Disease in-home care and support pilot program, first funded in FY 2014-15, and related Sec. 1001. The House concurs. The Senate does not concur. The Conference concurs with the Senate.	GF/GP	$150,000	$0
FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES			
26. Real Alternatives Pilot Program	**Gross**	**$800,000**	**($750,000)**
The Executive eliminates funding of $800,000 GF/GP for alternative pregnancy and parenting support program which promotes childbirth and alternatives to abortion, first funded in FY 2013-14, and eliminates related Sec. 1136. The House, Senate and Conference reduce program funding to $50,000, and revise Sec. 1136.	GF/GP	$800,000	($750,000)
27. Rural Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visit Program	**Gross**	**$2,250,000**	**($550,000)**
The Senate reduces funding from $2.25 million GF/GP to a $100 placeholder for a home visit program of prenatal, infant, and early childhood support services in rural areas in the northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula, first funded in FY 2014-15, and adds related new Sec. 1141 directing the Department to spend available work project funds for this program. The Conference reduces funding to $1.7 million GF/GP, and provides a work project in the proposed FY 2014-15 supplemental for anticipated $550,000 lapse that would be available for expenditure during FY 2015-16; also concurs with Senate Sec. 1141.	GF/GP	$2,250,000	($550,000)

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
28. Rollup Public Health Dental Program Line Items	**Gross**	**$1,798,600**	**$0**
The Conference rolls up the Dental Program for Persons with Developmental Disabilities line item and funding of $151,000 GF/GP into the Dental Programs line item, as requested in a revised Executive recommendation	Federal	1,247,600	0
	Private	250,000	0
	GF/GP	$301,000	$0
29. Pay for Success Maternal and Child Health Pilot Program	**Gross**	**$0**	**$1,500,000**
The Executive reinstates $1.5 million GF/GP for one-time funding for pay for success contracts for maternal and child services programs that was eliminated in the current fiscal year by Executive Order 2015-5. The House and Senate provide a $100 placeholder. The Executive and House revise related Sec. 1906; the Senate eliminates Sec. 1906. The Conference concurs with the Executive and revises related Sec. 1906 to require copies of contracts executed for this program be provided to the Legislature.	GF/GP	$0	$1,500,000
30. Autism University and Family Assistance Programs	**Gross**	**$9,000,000**	**($6,500,000)**
The Executive provides one-time funding of $2.5 million GF/GP for university autism provider education programs, a reduction from $7.5 million Gross ($7.0 million one-time and $500,000 ongoing). (In the current year HB 4112 shifted $3.0 million for this program from GF/GP to Autism Coverage Fund). The House eliminates the ongoing funding, and reduces the one-time funding to a $100 GF/GP placeholder. The Senate concurs with the Executive. All include revisions to related Sec. 1902. The Conference concurs with the Senate, and moves the appropriation line item from the one-time appropriation unit to the Behavioral Health Services unit; related boilerplate is revised and moved to Sec. 460.	Restricted	8,500,000	(8,500,000)
	GF/GP	$500,000	$2,000,000
The Executive also eliminates one-time funding of $1.5 million for autism family assistance services from the Autism Coverage Fund, and related Sec. 1902(2). The House, Senate and Conference concur.			
OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING			
Renamed to AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY per Executive Order 2015-4			
31. Seniors – Ombudsman Fund Shift and Nursing Home Improvement	**Gross**	**$357,500**	**$200,000**
The Executive includes a net $0 gross ($357,500 GF/GP) shift from civil monetary penalty fund revenues to GF/GP to fund state and local long-term care ombudsman programs, to comply with revised federal guidelines that disallow use of penalty fund revenue for this purpose, and retains $200,000 of the civil monetary penalty fund revenue as a budget increase for a new voluntary nursing home culture and quality improvement project emphasizing person-centered services. The House, Senate and Conference concur.	Private	357,500	(157,500)
	GF/GP	$0	$357,500
32. Rollup Senior Volunteer Program Appropriation Lines	**Gross**	**$4,465,300**	**$0**
The Conference rolls up three appropriation line items into one Senior Volunteer Service Programs line item, including foster grandparent volunteer program $2.23 million, retired and senior volunteer program $627,300, and senior companion volunteer program $1.6 million, as requested in a revised Executive recommendation.	GF/GP	$4,465,300	$0
MEDICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION			
33. Transparency Database	**Gross**	**$0**	**$0**
The Senate provides $300,000 GF/GP to develop a transparency database. The funding is contingent upon enactment of enabling legislation. The Conference does not concur.	GF/GP	$0	$0
34. Medicaid Inspector General and Third Party Liability Efforts	FTE	NA	10.0
The Senate provides $2.4 million Gross ($1.2 million GF/GP) and 10.0 FTEs for the Medicaid Inspector General and additional third party liability efforts, and assumes these increased administrative activities will result in savings of $36.6 million Gross ($12.8 million GF/GP) in Medical Services costs; net assumed savings of $34.2 million Gross ($11.6 million GF/GP). The Conference concurs with the Senate with a technical federal funding adjustment. The Conference also includes reporting language in Sec 1505 on the actual savings in expenditures from these efforts.	**Gross**	**NA**	**($34,809,300)**
	Federal	NA	(23,209,300)
	GF/GP	NA	($11,600,000)

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
35. Commercial Insurance Third Party Liability Efforts	**Gross**	**NA**	**($2,709,000)**
The Conference assumes an additional savings of $2.7 million Gross ($1.0 million GF/GP) from commercial insurance third party liability efforts. Savings would require enabling legislation.	Federal	NA	(1,907,000)
	GF/GP	NA	($1,000,000)
MEDICAL SERVICES			
36. Health Insurance Claims Assessment (HICA)	**Gross**	**$237,178,400**	**$0**
The Executive increases HICA revenue $180.1 million to offset an equal amount of GF/GP. The additional HICA revenues are from a proposed rate increase from 0.75% to 1.30% ($162.8 million) and a proposed removal of the statutory cap on annual HICA collections ($17.3 million). The House and Senate do not concur, retaining current GF/GP funding. The Conference concurs with the House and Senate and also increases GF/GP $27.1 million to offset a net reduction of available HICA revenue based on updated revenue and statutory cap projections.	Restricted	237,178,400	(27,100,000)
	GF/GP	$0	$27,100,000
37. Replacement of Medicaid Restricted Revenue with GF/GP	**Gross**	**$90,037,300**	**$0**
The Executive includes an increase of $90.0 million GF/GP to replace the following: one-time Roads and Risks Reserve funds ($62.9 million), a decline in Medicaid Benefits Trust Fund revenue ($19.5 million), one-time Certified Public Expenditures ($5.9 million federal), and a decline in Healthy Michigan Fund revenue ($1.7 million) that are currently used to support Medicaid medical services. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	Federal	5,900,000	(5,900,000)
	Restricted	84,137,300	(84,137,300)
	GF/GP	$0	$90,037,300
38. Merit Award Trust Fund Offset	**Gross**	**NA**	**$0**
The House offsets $37.5 million in GF/GP funding for Long-Term Care Services with an equal amount of available restricted Merit Award Trust fund revenue. The Senate offsets $40.0 million in GF/GP funding in the same manner. The Conference does not increase Merit Award Trust funds to offset GF/GP.	Merit Awd	NA	0
	GF/GP	NA	$0
39. Graduate Medical Education (GME)	**Gross**	**$148,378,700**	**$14,509,600**
The Executive restores a $14.5 million Gross ($5.0 million GF/GP) Executive Order 2015-5 reduction and finances GME with $63.5 million in increased hospital quality assurance assessment program (QAAP) revenue to offset $63.5 million GF/GP. Amount includes $7.4 million in GF/GP retainer savings. The House concurs but includes technical adjustments to GF/GP retainer savings (additional GF/GP savings of $8.0 million). The Senate and Conference restore the Executive Order 2015-5 reduction and do not concur with the use of QAAP revenue for GME.	Federal	97,278,700	9,509,600
	Restricted	0	0
	GF/GP	$51,100,000	$5,000,000
40. Special Rural Hospital Payments	**Gross**	**$29,019,200**	**$5,803,800**
The Executive restores a $5.8 million Gross ($2.0 million GF/GP) Executive Order 2015-5 reduction and finances special rural hospital payments with $13.6 million in increased hospital QAAP revenue to offset $13.6 million GF/GP. Amount includes $1.6 million in GF/GP retainer savings. The House does not concur with use of QAAP revenue and instead retains the same level of reduction from the original FY 2014-15 level. Reduction would, however, be spread over four quarterly payments, rather than two payments, effectively restoring 50% of the Executive Order 2015-5 reduction. The Senate and Conference restore the Executive Order 2015-5 reduction and do not concur with the use of QAAP revenue for these payments.	Federal	19,019,200	3,803,800
	Restricted	0	0
	GF/GP	$10,000,000	$2,000,000
41. Hospital QAAP Increase	**Gross**	**NA**	**$92,856,100**
The Senate provides a net increase in Medicaid hospital payments of $85.2 million Gross through a combination of: increased hospital quality assurance assessment program (QAAP) ($85.2 million), a reduction in GF/GP funding for hospitals ($38.8 million), and the net increase to federal matching funds ($55.9 million). Including state retainer savings of $17.1 million, this results in a total GF/GP savings of $55.9 million. The Conference does not concur with providing a net increase in Base Medicaid hospital payments, instead the Conference offsets $92.9 million hospital QAAP increase used to offset GF/GP with a $92.9 million increase to the Healthy Michigan Plan Hospital Rate Adjustment (HRA) which is 100% federally funded.	Federal	NA	92,856,100
	Restricted	NA	92,856,100
	GF/GP	NA	($92,856,100)

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
42. Hospital Capital Cost Reimbursements	**Gross**	**NA**	**($34,806,800)**
The Executive assumes savings of $34.8 million Gross ($12.0 million GF/GP) from incorporating managed care hospital capital cost expenditure data into the hospital capital cost reimbursement formula. The House concurs. The Senate does not concur, retaining the current funding level. The Conference concurs with the House.	Federal	NA	(22,833,300)
	GF/GP	NA	($11,973,500)
43. OB/GYN Hospital Lump Sum Payment Elimination	**Gross**	**$11,027,300**	**$0**
The Executive eliminates $11.0 million Gross ($3.8 million GF/GP) allocated as lump sum payments based on amount of obstetrical care and newborn care provided through hospitals that qualify for special rural hospital payments. The House, Senate, and Conference do not concur with elimination, retaining current funding for the payments.	Federal	7,233,900	0
	GF/GP	$3,793,400	$0
44. Wayne State Psychiatric DSH Payment	**Gross**	**$5,605,900**	**$0**
The Senate reduces the Wayne State Psychiatric Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment by $605,900 GF/GP. Current funding level is $5.6 million GF/GP. The Conference does not concur.	GF/GP	$5,605,900	$0
45. Value-Added DSH Pool	**Gross**	**$0**	**$0**
The Senate creates a value-added Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) pool of $2.9 million Gross ($1.0 million GF/GP) to reward and incentivize hospitals that provide low-cost and high-quality Medicaid services. The Conference does not concur.	Federal	0	0
	GF/GP	$0	$0
46. Primary Care Rate Annualization	**Gross**	**$72,547,900**	**$24,182,600**
The Executive annualizes the partial continuation of the primary care rate increase that was provided through the Affordable Care Act with 100% federal funds through calendar year 2014. After calendar year 2014, states have the option to continue the higher rates at regular FMAP. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	Federal	47,547,900	15,863,800
	GF/GP	$25,000,000	$8,318,800
47. Hospice Room and Board	**Gross**	**$111,982,500**	**$2,500,000**
The House includes a $100 GF/GP placeholder for room and board costs under Hospice Services on a one-time basis. The Senate provides $3.4 million in ongoing GF/GP for these costs. The Conference provides $2.5 million GF/GP on a one-time basis.	Federal	73,393,200	0
	GF/GP	$38,589,300	$2,500,000
48. Healthy Kids Dental Services	**Gross**	**NA**	**$37,042,200**
The Executive provides $21.8 million Gross ($7.5 million GF/GP) to expand Healthy Kids Dental for an estimated 210,000 additional children ages 0-8 in Kent, Oakland, and Wayne Counties. The House concurs. The Senate includes a lower funding increase of $16.25 million Gross ($5.6 million GF/GP) based on assumptions of (1) expansion to include all children in those counties at an annual cost of $65.0 million Gross ($22.4 million GF/GP) and (2) delaying implementation until the final 4 months of FY 2015-16 savings $48.75 million Gross ($16.8 million GF/GP). The Conference provides $37.0 million Gross ($12.7 million GF/GP) to expand Healthy Kids Dental to children ages 0-12 in Kent, Oakland, and Wayne Counties.	Federal	NA	24,299,800
	GF/GP	NA	$12,742,400
49. Adult Dental Services	**Gross**	**NA**	**$0**
The Executive provides $23.0 million Gross ($7.9 million GF/GP) to convert the current Medicaid fee-for-service adult dental program to a managed care contract statewide. Adult dental increase would be effective for only the last 3 months of FY 2015-16; full year cost would be $92.1 million Gross ($31.7 million GF/GP). The House includes a $100 GF/GP placeholder for this item. The Senate provides a lower increase of $7.7 million Gross ($2.6 million GF/GP) based on delayed implementation until final month of FY 2015-16. The Conference does not concur.	Federal	NA	0
	GF/GP	NA	$0

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
50. Ambulance QAAP	**Gross**	**NA**	**$8,641,000**
The Senate increases ambulance provider rates $40.0 million Gross through a new ambulance quality assurance assessment program (QAAP). State retainer results in a GF/GP savings of $3.5 million. The Conference revises the increase to ambulance provider rates to $8.6 million Gross, and revises the state retainer savings to $1.0 million GF/GP.	Federal	NA	5,668,500
	Restricted	NA	3,972,500
	GF/GP	NA	($1,000,000)
51. Dual Integrated Care Demonstration	**Gross**	**NA**	**$0**
The House includes various shifts requested by the State Budget Office as technical adjustments, with no net change in appropriations, to reflect anticipated expenditure levels under ongoing duel integrated care demonstration projects, known as MI Health Link. Net adjustments include Gross increases of $56.2 million for Long-Term Care Services and $38.5 million for Federal Medicare Pharmaceutical Program and Gross reductions of $37.3 million for Adult Home Help Services and $23.8 million for Integrated Care Organization Services, among other smaller line item reductions. The Senate does not incorporate these adjustments. The Conference incorporates these adjustments within the Base Medicaid cost adjustments within item #1.	Federal	NA	0
	GF/GP	NA	$0
52. Adult Home Help Administrative Reimbursement Policy Savings	**Gross**	**$302,440,800**	**($2,300,000)**
The House, Senate, and Conference assume savings of $2.3 million Gross ($791,200 GF/GP) to Adult Home Help Services line item to reflect DCH's proposed administrative Home Help agency provider reimbursement policy change (#1512).	Federal	198,669,500	(1,508,800)
	GF/GP	$103,771,300	($791,200)
53. Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Expansion	**Gross**	**NA**	**$0**
The Executive provides $8.3 million Gross ($2.8 million GF/GP) to expand PACE into Jackson County and Traverse City. Assumes expansion of PACE will offset an equal amount of funding within the long-term care services line item. The House concurs with a technical adjustment requested by the State Budget Office to reflect the full projected expansion of $9.1 million Gross ($3.1 million GF/GP). The Senate concurs without the technical adjustment. The Conference concurs with the technical adjustment and transfers the line item from Medical Services to the Aging and Adult Services Agency Unit.	Federal	NA	0
	GF/GP	NA	$0
54. Medicaid Managed Care Pharmacy Coverage	**Gross**	**NA**	**($54,585,800)**
The Executive assumes savings of $48.8 million Gross ($16.8 million GF/GP) from moving current funding of $450.0 million Gross ($154.8 million GF/GP) for pharmacy coverage from managed care contracts to fee-for-service effective January 1, 2016. The House retains funding in managed care contracts and assumes higher savings amount, $54.6 million Gross ($18.8 million GF/GP), from anticipated pharmacy formulary savings. The Senate retains funding in managed care contracts and assumes same savings amount as Executive from anticipated pharmacy formulary savings. The Conference concurs with the House.	Federal	NA	(35,808,300)
	GF/GP	NA	($18,777,500)
55. Medicaid Managed Care Laboratory Reimbursement Annualization	**Gross**	**($4,352,900)**	**($27,437,100)**
The Executive annualizes laboratory reimbursement savings effective August 1, 2015 under Executive Order 2015-5. Savings are from a policy change that reduces laboratory service payments benchmark from Medicare payment rates to Medicaid fee-for-service rates. The House, Senate, and Conference concur. The Conference also includes reporting language in Sec 1770 on the actual reduction in expenditures from this reduction.	Federal	(2,852,900)	(18,001,300)
	GF/GP	($1,500,000)	($9,435,800)
56. Medicaid Managed Care Integration Savings	**Gross**	**$4,886,273,000**	**($15,375,000)**
The Executive assumes savings of $15.4 million Gross ($5.3 million GF/GP) from Medicaid managed care coordination and other contractual changes effective January 1, 2016. The House concurs. The Senate assumes a higher savings of $19.4 million Gross ($6.7 million GF/GP). The Conference concurs with the House.	Federal	3,259,591,300	(10,086,000)
	Local	13,617,500	0
	Restricted	1,217,104,000	0
	GF/GP	$395,960,200	($5,289,000)

Major Budget Changes From FY 2014-15 YTD Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2015-16 Conference Change
57. Medicaid Managed Care Use Tax Actuarial Soundness	**Gross**	**NA**	**$16,818,900**
The Executive includes $8.1 million Gross ($2.8 million GF/GP) to reflect federally-required actuarially sound payments for costs to Medicaid managed care organizations of the 6% use tax currently applied to such organizations. The House concurs. The Senate does not include this funding increase. The Conference provides $16.8 million Gross ($5.8 million GF/GP).	Federal	NA	11,033,200
	GF/GP	NA	$5,785,700
58. Medicaid Autism Services through Age 21	**Gross**	**$25,171,800**	**$7,350,100**
The Executive provides $7.4 million Gross ($2.5 million GF/GP) to expand Medicaid autism benefit through age 21. Current benefit is offered to individuals from ages 18 months to 5 years. Also transfers line item from Medical Services to Behavioral Health Services. The House, Senate, and Conference concur.	Federal	16,497,500	4,821,700
	GF/GP	$8,674,300	$2,528,400
ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS			
59. Eliminate Other One-Time Basis Appropriations	**Gross**	**$10,742,300**	**($9,492,300)**
The Executive removes the following one-time funding items that were included in the FY 2014-15 budget: $250,000 GF/GP for bone marrow registry, $2.0 million GF/GP for child and adolescent health services pilot, $4.1 million GF/GP for University of Detroit dental program, $3.0 million Gross ($300,000 GF/GP) for Healthy Kids Dental computer project, $1.3 million for statewide trauma system (HB 4112 shifted in current year from GF/GP to state restricted Crime Victim's Rights Fund), and $100,000 GF/GP for Senior Olympics. The House concurs except that it retains $100 GF/GP placeholders for the child and adolescent health services pilot and the University of Detroit dental program. The Senate concurs with the Executive except that it retains $250,000 GF/GP for the bone marrow registry and includes a $100 GF/GP placeholder for the child and adolescent health services pilot. The Conference concurs with the Executive except that it retains $1.0 million GF/GP for University of Detroit Dental and transfers the funding into the Medical Services appropriation unit, and retains $250,000 GF/GP for the bone marrow registry and transfers the funding into the Health Policy appropriation unit (related boilerplate is moved to Sec. 720).	Federal	2,700,000	(2,700,000)
	Restricted	1,300,000	(1,300,000)
	GF/GP	$6,742,300	($5,492,300)

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2014-15

GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 204. Benchmarks for New Programs or Program Increases **– REVISED**

Requires DCH to identify performance measurement benchmarks for new programs or program expansions for which funds of $500,000 or greater are appropriated, and provide a report; also expresses Legislative intent for FY 2015-16 budget. Executive deletes. House revises current law to $1.0 million or more and deletes report. Senate revises current law to program-specific metrics in addition to metrics required under the Management and Budget Act. Conference concurs with the Senate, but revises to new programs or enhancements in excess of $1.0 million.

Sec. 218. Basic Health Services **– CURRENT LAW**

Lists eight basic health services as required in Part 23 of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, that are to be available and accessible throughout the state. Executive deletes. House, Senate and Conference retain current law.

Sec. 282. Performance Metrics for Contracts **– DELETED**

Requires establishment of an automated annual metric collection and reporting system for contracts via the state's e-procurement system, and deadlines for generation of report under the system for state-funded contracts of $1.0 million or more. Executive deletes. House revises, removing deadlines and reference to e-procurement. Senate retains current law. Conference concurs with the Executive.

Sec. 285. Workgroup to Investigate Bridge Card Fraud Minimization **– NOT INCLUDED**

House requires participation of department in a multi-department workgroup to investigate means of minimizing fraud in the MIBridges benefits programs, including improper use or sale of bridge cards, possible replacement of bridge cards with a state driver's license or identification card, and federal policies that may inhibit or enhance adoption of fraud minimization actions. Senate does not include. Conference concurs with the Senate.

Sec. 290. Department Merger Status Report **– NEW**

House includes new boilerplate to require a monthly status report on the merger of the Department of Community Health and Department of Human Services. Senate does not include. Conference concurs with the House, but requires quarterly reporting.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2014-15

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

***Sec. 412. Non-Medicaid Substance Use Disorder Services* – CURRENT LAW**

Requires the Department to contract with the Salvation Army Harbor Light Program for providing non-Medicaid substance use disorder services. Executive and House delete. Senate and Conference retain current law.

***Sec. 424. Timely Claims Process for PIHPs* – CURRENT LAW**

Requires that PIHPs contracting with the Department to provide services to the Medicaid population adhere to the timely claims processing and payments procedure to claims submitted by health professionals and facilities as described in Section 111i of the Social Welfare Act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.111i. Executive deletes. House, Senate, and Conference retain current law.

***Sec. 436. Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Authority* – NOT INCLUDED**

House requires Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Authority to provide $8.9 million for mental health services at the Wayne County adult and juvenile detention facilities. Senate and Conference do not include.

***Sec. 498. State General Fund Distribution to CMHSPs* – NEW**

House requires the Department, if the Department decides to use census data, to use the most recent federal decennial census data available for distribution of state general funds to CMHSPs. Senate does not include. Conference concurs with the House.

***Sec. 503. Policies and Procedures for PIHPs or CMHSPs* – CURRENT LAW**

Requires the Department to notify the Michigan Association of CMH Boards when developing policies and procedures that will impact PIHPs or CMHSPs. Executive deletes. House, Senate, and Conference retain current law.

***Sec. 507. Distribution of Non-Medicaid funds to CMHSPs* – NOT INCLUDED**

Senate requires the distribution of non-Medicaid funding to CMHSPs as follows: $97.1 million in the same manner as the original FY 2014-15 allocation, $10.0 million in proportion to the original FY 2014-15 allocation, and $10.0 million in proportion to the $40.0 million FY 2009-10 reduction, with the exception that no CMHSP receive more than $3.3 million of this $10.0 million. Conference does not include.

***Sec. 509. Workgroup on Staff Recruitment and Retention* – NEW**

Senate requires the Department to establish a workgroup to analyze the workforce challenges of recruitment and retention of staff who provide Medicaid-funded services and supports and to develop a plan to enhance recruitment and retention efforts accounting for the mandated increases in the state minimum wage; identifies who must be included in the workgroup; requires a report. Conference revises Senate language by striking the specific reference to the state minimum wage and requires the report to note when the participants of the workgroup had points of difference.

***Sec. 510. Medicaid Mental Health Services Lapse Redistribution* – NEW**

If allowed by the federal government, Conference requires the redistribution of federal fund lapses in the Medicaid mental health services line to the PIHPs based on the current fiscal year funding formula; states legislative intent that any lapses from the Medicaid mental health services line be redistributed to CMHSPs based on the current fiscal year funding formula; and requires a report on PIHP lapses from the previous fiscal year and projected PIHP lapses in the current fiscal year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

***Sec. 651. Michigan Health Endowment Fund* – REVISED**

Requires the Department to work with the Michigan Health Endowment Fund Corporation established to explore ways to expand health and wellness programs. Senate revises to direct the Department to work with the Corporation to fund health and wellness programs and recommendations of the Mental Health and Wellness Commission that potentially qualify under the Fund. Conference revises current law to require the Department to work with the Health Endowment Fund Corporation to explore ways to fund and evaluate current and future policies and programs.

***Sec. 654. School Children's Healthy Exercise Program* – CURRENT LAW**

Allocates $1.0 million for the school children's healthy exercise program for children in kindergarten through grade 8, using evidence-based best practice models; no less than one half of the funds shall be granted for before- and after-school programs. Executive deletes. House retains current law. Senate deletes. Conference concurs with the House.

***Sec. 655. Health and Wellness Initiatives Criteria*– NEW**

Conference adds new language to require the Department to establish criteria for Health and Wellness Initiatives line item project allocations, including evidence-based and supported by research, include interventions that demonstrate outcomes that lower cost and improve quality, and be designed for statewide impact. Preference is given to programs that use the funding to match additional resources.

HEALTH POLICY

***Sec. 712. Free Health Clinic Funding* – CURRENT LAW**

Allocates $250,000 to free health clinics from the funds appropriated for primary care services, to be distributed equally to each free health clinic; defines free health clinic. Executive deletes. House, Senate and Conference retain current law.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2014-15

***Sec. 719. Supplemental Payments to Indian or Tribal Facilities for Certain Medicaid Managed Care Services* – NEW**
Senate includes new boilerplate to require supplemental prospective quarterly payments by Medicaid managed care entities that provide services to clients through a contract with Indian Health Service, Tribal or Urban Indian Health Program facilities, of the estimated difference between managed care payments and Medicaid fee for service payments for services rendered. Conference revises to direct the Department to takes steps necessary to assure that Indian Health Service, Tribal or Urban Indian Health Program facilities receive the maximum amount allowable under federal law for Medicaid services.

FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES

***Sec. 1103. Report of Sexual and Maternal Health Demographics and Expenditures by Marital Status* – REVISED**
Requires annual report of estimate of public funds expended for family planning, sexually transmitted infection prevention and treatment, pregnancies, and births, and client demographics as voluntarily provided to DCH; and to report data by marital status. Executive deletes. House retains and updates state application form references. Senate deletes. Conference concurs with the House.

***Sec. 1107. Contract and Subcontract Restrictions for Family Planning Local Agreements State Funds* – NEW**
House language prohibits the department from contracting with an organization which provides elective abortions, abortion counseling, or abortion referrals, for services funded with state restricted or GF/GP funds appropriated for family planning local agreements. Also prohibits an organization under contract with the department from subcontracting with an organization that provides elective abortions, abortion counseling, or abortion referrals, for services that are to be funded with state restricted or GF/GP funds appropriated for family planning local agreements. Senate does not include. Conference concurs with the House.

***Sec. 1139. Housing Rehabilitation and Hazard Abatement Program Task Force and Report* – REVISED**
Requires DCH to establish a joint task force with Department of Human Services and Michigan State Housing Development Authority to review housing rehabilitation, energy, weatherization, and hazard abatement policies, and report recommendations. Executive deletes. House retains and revises to require Department to continue to work with the joint task force. Senate deletes. Conference concurs with the House.

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

***Sec. 1151. Report on Access and Savings Regarding Generic Peanut Butter Purchasing Requirement* - REVISED**
Requires the Department to report on complaints received regarding access to and savings gained related to recent generic peanut butter purchasing requirement modifications by the Department to the Women, Infants, and Children Special Supplemental Food and Nutrition program (WIC). Executive deletes. House revises to require Department to make national brand products available if price is more cost effective and satisfies program nutritional requirements. Senate retains current law. Conference revises to require the Department to encourage participants in the WIC program to choose the lowest price product available, that all products must satisfy the federal program nutritional requirements, and that the biannual food authorization guidelines will be updated to reflect such.

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

***Sec. 1205. Expansion of Telemedicine Capacity* – REVISED**
Authorizes the Department to use up to $500,000 for continued development and expansion of telemedicine capacity to allow CSHCS children better access to specialty providers. Executive deletes. House strikes the specific dollar amount of $500,000. Senate retains current law. Conference concurs with the House.

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION

***Sec. 1302. Allocation of Funds for Forensic Nurse Examiner Programs* – REVISED**
Allocates up to $200,000 of justice assistance grants line item funds for expansion of forensic nurse examiner programs to facilitate training for improved evidence collection for prosecution of sexual assault. Executive deletes. House revises to require the Department to continue to support the program, and removes amount. Senate retains current law. Conference concurs with the House.

MEDICAL SERVICES

***Sec. 1620. Pharmacy Dispensing Fee and Prescription Drug Copayments* – REVISED**
Establishes the pharmacy dispensing fee at $2.75 for recipients not in nursing homes and $3.00 for nursing home residents, or the pharmacy's usual and customary charge, whichever is less. Specifies prescription copayments for Medicaid recipients of $1.00 for generic drugs and $3.00 for brand-name drugs except as prohibited by federal or state law or regulation. Senate and Conference add prescription copayments for Healthy Michigan Plan enrollees with an income above 100% of the federal poverty level of $4.00 for generic drugs and $8.00 for brand-name drugs except as prohibited by federal or state law or regulation.

***Sec. 1625. Pharmaceutical Formulary Savings* – NOT INCLUDED**
House requires the Department and contracted Medicaid health plans to work together to achieve pharmaceutical formulary savings through a mutually agreed upon developmental and implementation process; requires report on implementation progress. Senate and Conference include Sec. 1806 instead of this section.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2014-15

Sec. 1631. Medical Services Copayments **– REVISED**
Requires copayments on dental, podiatric, and vision services unless prohibited by law or regulation. Specifies copayments of $2 for a physician office visit, $3 for a hospital emergency room visit, $50 for the first day of an inpatient hospital stay, and $1 for an out-patient hospital visit. Executive retains. House revises to requires recipients to pay "not less than" the copayments listed in this section. Senate adds copayments for Healthy Michigan Plan enrollees with an income above 100% of the federal poverty level copayments of $4 for a physician office visit, $8 for a hospital emergency room visit, $100 for the first day of an inpatient hospital stay, and $4 for an out-patient hospital visit or any other medical provider visit except as prohibited by federal or state law or regulation. Conference concurs with both House and Senate revisions.

Sec. 1730. Maternal Infant Health Literacy Assessment **– NEW**
House requires the Department to work with the Department of Education to evaluate the feasibility of including an assessment tool to promote literacy development of pregnant women and new mothers in the maternal infant health program; requires a report on the findings of the feasibility study. Senate does not include. Conference concurs with the House.

Sec. 1764. Actuarial Soundness Certification of Medicaid Health Plan Rates **– REVISED**
Requires the Department to annually certify that rates paid to Medicaid health plans and specialty prepaid inpatient health plans are actuarially sound and to notify the legislature upon rate certification and approval. Executive deletes. House strikes the annual certification requirement. Senate adds requirements to include an economic analysis demonstrating that the approved rates will not be compromised for new Medicaid policy bulletins affecting Medicaid health plans and to annually reimburse Medicaid health plans the full cost of all taxes imposed by this state and the federal government, including the health insurer fee. Conference adds requirement that actuarial soundness take into account any Medicaid Policy Bulletins affecting Medicaid health plans and PIHPs.

Sec. 1770. Medicaid Managed Care Laboratory Reimbursement Report **– NEW**
The Conference requires the Department to submit a report on the actual gross reduction in expenditures by Medicaid health plans that result from the reduction in the laboratory service fees.

Sec. 1800. Outpatient DSH payments **– REVISED**
Requires the Department to explore establishment of a Medicaid value pool within the $85.0 million outpatient DSH pool that rewards and incentivizes hospitals providing low cost and high quality services, to establish a workgroup to assist in the development of metrics used to determine value, and requires a report. Executive and House delete the workgroup and report and requires the $85.0 million in Medicaid value disproportionate share hospital payment pool be based on metrics utilized to determine value. Senate retains current law. Conference deletes the workgroup and requires each pool within the $85.0 million outpatient DSH pool to be distributed based on quality of care, cost, and traditional DSH factors.

Sec. 1805. Graduate Medical Education (GME) Data Reporting **– NEW**
Senate requires hospitals that receive GME funding to provide data to a national nonprofit organization on a public website. Conference concurs with the Senate and adds the requirement that the Department withhold the hospital's fourth quarter payment if the hospital fails to submit the required data.

Sec. 1806. Pharmaceutical Consensus Formulary Savings **– NEW**
Senate requires contracts for Medicaid health plans include cooperation and participation in development of a consensus formulary to be used by all contracting Medicaid health plans; permits the Department to establish performance standards; requires ongoing implementation to include consultation with the Department's preferred drug list; permits Medicaid health plans to use evidence-based management techniques to achieve low net cost objective; and requires the Department and the Medicaid health plans to continue emphasis on use of e-prescribing and electronic medical records. Conference concurs with the Senate with technical revisions.

Sec. 1808. Third Party Collections **– NOT INCLUDED**
Senate requires contracting Medicaid health plans to be considered an "agent of the Department" for purposes of Medicaid third party collections in order to access other carrier data that are otherwise provided to the Department. Conference does not include.

Sec. 1809. Medicaid Health Plan Performance Standards **– NEW**
House and Senate require the Department to establish contract performance standards for Medicaid health plans by July 1, 2016 and requires those performance standards be recognized concepts such as 1-year continuous enrollment and Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) audited data. Conference requires separate contract performance standards for the 0.75% and 0.25% capitation withholds with the 0.75% capitation withhold to include 1-year continuous enrollment and HEDIS audited and the 0.25% capitation withhold to include encouraging high-value services and discouraging low-value services.

Sec. 1811. Maternal Infant Health Program Integration **– NOT INCLUDED**
Senate requires the Department to integrate the Maternal Infant Health Program into the Medicaid health plan benefit beginning January 1, 2016 and refer all pregnant women to service providers that use evidence-based models; defines "evidence-based". Conference does not include.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2014-15

***Sec. 1812. Graduate Medical Education (GME) Cost and Retention Reporting* – NEW**
Senate requires hospitals that receive GME funding to submit direct and indirect costs of the GME program; requires GME hospitals to report the marginal cost to add 1 residency program slot and number of additional slots that would result in significant increased administrative costs; requires the Department to report on postresidency retention rates for GME over the past 10 years; requires the Department to convene a workgroup based on the reports provided in this section; requires the Department to seek a federal waiver if needed to fulfill the requirements of this section. Conference concurs with the Senate, adds the requirement that the Department withhold the hospital's fourth quarter payment if the hospital fails to submit the required data, and includes technical revisions.

***Sec. 1815. Cap on Health Plan Capitation Withhold* – DELETED**
Prohibits the Department from implementing a capitation withhold as part of overall health plan capitation rate schedule that exceeds the 0.19% withhold administered during FY 2008-09. Executive, House, Senate, and Conference delete.

***Sec. 1861. Nonemergency Medical Transportation Pilot Program* – REVISED**
Requires the Department to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the current nonemergency transportation system and report the results to the Legislature, directs the Department to create a pilot in at least two counties, with priority given to Berrien and Muskegon counties, to provide nonemergency transportation services encouraging use of nonprofit entities. Executive deletes. House strikes current law and requires department to encourage cooperation between the Medicaid managed care health plans and nonprofit entities providing nonemergency transportation to create a pilot in at least 2 counties, with priority given to Berrien and Muskegon Counties. Senate retains current law. Conference strikes current law and requires the Department to encourage cooperation between Medicaid managed care plans, other health providers, and nonprofit entities to facilitate a pilot nonemergency transportation system.

***Sec. 1870. MIDocs Consortium* – REVISED**
Directs the Department to establish the MIDocs consortium, consisting of Michigan-based medical schools. The purpose of MIDocs is to develop freestanding residency training programs in primary care and other ambulatory care-based specialties. Directs the Department to require an annual report from the consortium detailing per resident costs for medical training and clinical quality measures. Allocates $500,000 to prepare the report, legally create the consortium, prepare to obtain ACGME accreditation, and develop new residency programs. Executive deletes. House removes the $500,000 allocation and encourages, rather than requires, the department to work with MIDocs. Senate replaces $500,000 with $100. Conference replaces $500,000 with "the work project allocation form the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015".

FY 2014-15 Supplemental Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2014-15 Conference Supplemental
1. Base Medicaid, MIChild, and Federal Medicare Pharmaceutical Program Cost Adjustments	**Gross**	**$12,915,340,200**	**$65,397,000**
	IDG	2,999,900	0
The Conference includes increase of $65.4 million Gross ($14.7 million GF/GP) for caseload, utilization, and inflation adjustments for Medical Services, Behavioral Health Services, Children's Special Health Care Services, and Federal Medicare Pharmaceutical Program based on estimates agreed to at the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference. Conference also includes a fund sourcing adjustment based on increased restricted funding for the base Medicaid Access to Care Initiative (MACI) that offsets $3.3 million GF/GP.	Federal	8,448,405,800	40,915,000
	Local	45,465,200	0
	Private	2,100,000	0
	Restricted	1,900,374,300	13,010,100
	GF/GP	$2,515,995,000	$11,471,900
2. Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) Cost Adjustments	**Gross**	**$2,651,022,800**	**$485,865,600**
The House includes FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustments in Part 1B of the bill for a projected increase in HMP costs of $361.1 million, reflecting increased federal funding for caseload, utilization, and inflation adjustments in Medical Services and Behavioral Health Services for Healthy Michigan Plan/Medicaid expansion. HMP costs are funded with 100% federal revenue through the end of calendar year 2016. These adjustments were requested by the Executive in State Budget Office supplemental request 2015-3. The Senate does not include this FY 2014-15 supplemental adjustment. The Conference includes revised supplemental adjustment of $485.9 million, based on estimate agreed to at the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference.	Federal	2,651,022,800	485,865,600
	GF/GP	$0	$0
3. FY 2013-14 Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) MACI Payments	**Gross**	**$0**	**$148,700,000**
The Conference includes $148.7 million in federal funding for FY 2013-14 Medicaid Access to Care Initiative (MACI) payments to hospitals under Healthy Michigan Plan; these payments had not previously been appropriated. Funds will be appropriated in FY 2014-15 to make payments associated with FY 2013-14 services	Federal	0	148,700,000
	GF/GP	$0	$0

FY 2014-15 Supplemental Appropriations		FY 2014-15 Year-to-Date (as of 3/12/15)	FY 2014-15 Conference Supplemental
4. FY 2014-15 Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) MACI Payments	**Gross**	**$0**	**$318,200,000**
The Conference includes $318.2 million in federal funding for FY 2014-15 Medicaid Access to Care Initiative (MACI) payments to hospitals under Healthy Michigan Plan; these payments had not previously been appropriated.	Federal	0	318,200,000
	GF/GP	$0	$0
5. Psychiatric Residency Program	**Gross**	**$0**	**$1,500,000**
The Conference provides $1.5 million GF/GP to support a new psychiatry residency program. Conference also includes boilerplate section 3003 that requires these funds to be considered work project appropriations.	GF/GP	$0	$1,500,000

FY 2014-15 Supplemental Boilerplate Changes

GENERAL SECTIONS

***Sec. 3003. Psychiatric Residency Program Work Project Authorization* – NEW**

Conference requires any unexpended, unencumbered, or unalloted funds appropriated in the FY 2014-15 supplemental to support a new psychiatry residency program to be considered a work project appropriation; specifies an estimated cost of $1.5 million; and specifies a tentative completion date of September 30, 2016.

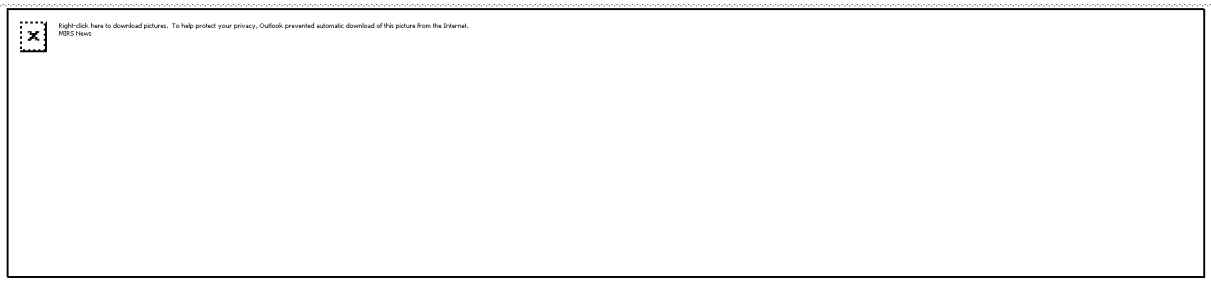
***Sec. 3004. MIDocs Consortium Work Project Authorization* – NEW**

Conference requires any unexpended, unencumbered, or unalloted funds appropriated in section 1870 of Article IV of 2014 PA 252 to support the MIDocs consortium to be considered a work project appropriation; specifies an estimated cost of $500,000; and specifies a tentative completion date of September 30, 2016.

***Sec. 3005. Prenatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting Work Project Authorization* – NEW**

Conference requires any unexpended, unencumbered, or unalloted funds appropriated in Article IV of 2014 PA 252 for prenatal care outreach and services delivery support to support evidence-based prenatal and early childhood home visiting programs in rural areas to be considered a work project appropriation; specifies an estimated cost of $550,000; and specifies a tentative completion date of September 30, 2016.

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 6:00 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Fred Upton, Congress panel to hold hearing on Volkswagen emissions trickery

"DETROIT, MI - A congressional panel will be held in the coming weeks on revelations that Volkswagen has been tricking U.S. emissions tests for nearly half a million of its cars with diesel engines. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2015/09/fred_upton_congress_panel_to_h.html#incart_river

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Michigan SOS, after review, says expelled Rep. Cindy Gamrat eligible to run for re-election

"LANSING, MI — Former Michigan state Rep. Cindy Gamrat is eligible to run for her old seat in an upcoming special election despite her recent expulsion, according to the Bureau of Elections."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_sos_after_review_says.html#incart_river*

Allegan County GOP to hold debate for 80th House candidates

"The Allegan County Republican Party is sponsoring a debate next month for the eight GOP candidates on the primary ballot for the 80th State House seat."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/allegan_county_gop_to_hold_deb.html#incart_river

Recent poll shows U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg leads challenger Gretchen Driskell

"JACKSON, MI – A recent poll shows U.S. Representative Tim Walberg leading against his challenger Gretchen Driskell in the race for Michigan's 7th District."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2015/09/recent_poll_indicates_voters_l.html#incart_river*

Hooker wants Planned Parenthood, cucumbers out of sex education

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Planned Parenthood and any other organization "that provides abortion or abortion counseling" would be prohibited from teaching sex education in Michigan schools, per a bill introduced by state Rep. Tom Hooker, R-Byron Township."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/hooker_wants_planned_parenthoo.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

U.S. congressman calls for more testing of Flint water

"FLINT, MI – Congressman Dan Kildee says more homes need to to have water tested for lead in Flint and wants an agency or company other than the city or state to carry out the testing."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/kildee_says_independent_tests.html#incart_river*

Father of Republican hopeful Ted Cruz to address Flint-area pro-life group

"GRAND BLANC TWP, MI -- Rafael Cruz, father of presidential candidate Ted Cruz of Texas, will be guest speaker Friday, Sept. 25, at a luncheon in Brick Street restaurant honoring pastors and pro-life advocates."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/father_of_presidential_candida.html#incart_river*

State rules ex-Rep. Gamrat eligible for ballot

"The Michigan Bureau of Elections ruled Monday that former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat is eligible to run in the special primary election for her seat even though she was expelled 10 days ago."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/21/gamrat-courser/72566018/

Michigan State Police urged to return DNA evidence

"State law says biological evidence collected from crime suspects is to be returned or destroyed after acquittal. But samples stored by the Michigan State Police can be kept for months after a case is resolved, unless a court intervenes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/21/dna-evidence/72602950/

Cindy Gamrat eligible for ballot, but may not be seated

"LANSING — The state's Bureau of Elections has concluded former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat, a Plainwell Republican, is eligible to try to regain her seat in Michigan's 80th House District, despite her recent expulsion from the Legislature, a spokesman said Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/21/cindy-gamrat-eligible-ballot-but-maybe-not-seat/72557428/

Snyder to meet in Seattle with Chinese president

"LANSING -- Gov. Rick Snyder -- along with governors from four other states -- is to fly to Seattle Tuesday to meet with Chinese president Xi Jinping, officials said Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/21/gov-rick-snyder-xi-jinping-michigan-governor-chinese-president/72583552/

Evans to set terms for 1 union, extend others' deadline

"The administration of County Executive Warren Evans has announced its second order under the consent agreement, setting the stage for it to impose contract terms on one of the county's unions, even as it extends the time for others to potentially ratify their own contracts."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/09/21/wayne-county-unions-warren-evans-contract-ratification/72593068/

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3 corporate expansions upbeat news for region

"Just a few days after eliminating 65 jobs in its economic development agency, the state of Michigan is expected to announce some upbeat news today -- three corporate expansions in metro Detroit that will bring $109 million of investment and more than 600 jobs to the region."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/09/22/valiant-carhartt-expansions/72573006/*

$1.4B Windsor highway could set tone for new bridge

"As southwest Detroit prepares for construction of the Gordie Howe bridge to Canada, community leaders have taken notice of a new $1.4-billion highway in Windsor that they hope can be a model for similar improvements in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/09/22/gordie-howe-bridge-windsor-delray/72570636/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Nuclear energy offers benefits to Michigan

"All of us from Michigan are used to frigid winters and scorching summers. These temperature extremes underscore the need to keep the lights, air conditioning, and heat on and running reliably. Every time you flip a switch, turn a dial, or plug into an outlet, electricity is there when you need it — something many seem to take for granted. What we should not take for granted, however, is the vital role that our nuclear power plants play in making the electricity we use each and every day, and more broadly, the role that the generation of nuclear power plays in our state's economy and environment. This is especially true in light of the Environmental Protection Agency's recently announced Clean Power Plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing generating sources across the country."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/22/column-nuclear/72601496/*

Editorial: Common-sense Detroit pot rules a good start

"Marijuana dispensaries, commonly called pot shops, have sprung up throughout Detroit in the years since medical marijuana was legalized in Michigan, and local officials are worried about getting too many without a regulatory structure in place.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/21/editorial-common-sense-detroit-pot-rules-*

good-start/72601302/

Press Releases

Gov. Snyder's Press Advisory

*"**Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. Eastern***
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks as part of a bipartisan delegation of U.S. governors meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping that will focus on collaborative economic development efforts. Snyder will be joined by U.S. governors Jerry Brown (D-California), Terry Branstad (R-Iowa), Kate Brown (D-Oregon) and Jay Inslee (D-Washington) and six governors from China."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442872733

Coalition Plans Lansing Symposium on the Bipartisan Movement for Michigan Criminal Justice Reform

"

LANSING - A broad coalition of groups on the left and right is hosting a symposium on the bipartisan movement for Michigan criminal justice reform tomorrow morning in downtown Lansing.
"
Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870541_gm.pdf

Walker Declares War on Working People, Immediately Waves White Flag

"MICHIGAN — Today, Republican presidential hopeful Scott Walker is expected to suspend his campaign amid abysmal polling numbers and a resume that held one feature: attacking working people. In a pathetic, last ditch effort to save his own national political aspirations, Walker once again took the attack to unions and working families during the last presidential debate."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870504_pm2.pdf

ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA ON TUESDAY

*"**Miami, FL –** Tomorrow, Governor Jeb Bush will visit Iowa. In the morning, he will participate in a meet and greet event in Cedar Falls, IA. Later in the morning, Governor Bush is unveiling his regulatory reform policy at John Putney's Farm in Gladbrook, IA, where he will participate in a roundtable discussion on regulatory reform with local farmers and small business owners. That afternoon, Governor Bush will attend the Linn*

Eagles Lunch event at the Cedar Rapids Country Club."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870448_jb2.pdf*

Rep. Cole encourages local residents to explore Michigan farms

"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, invites local residents to share their Michigan farm fresh experiences this fall by uploading photos to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag: #MIFarmFresh105."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870418_tc3.pdf

Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future Ad Shows Utilities are Behind Bad Energy Bills

"MICHIGAN – Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future (CMEF), a utility front group, released an ad this month calling for public support for legislation introduced in the Michigan House and Senate to eliminate Michigan's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards. The misleading ad falsely claims that Michigan will face power shortages unless electric utilities are given carte blanche to build expensive, dirty power plants instead of abiding by state standards for greater energy efficiency and renewable energy."

Source: *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870375_cen.pdf

Traffic Advisory - M-20 traffic restrictions at Leaton Road now starting Sept. 22

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will begin reconstruction of the intersection at M-20 (East Pickard Road) and Leaton Road.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870339_mdot4.pdf*

Michigan Announces Regional Approach to the Blueprint for Health Innovation

"LANSING, Mich. – In an effort to better coordinate care, lower costs, and improve the health of Michigan residents, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has chosen to move forward with the Blueprint for Health Innovation through a regional approach.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870311_dhs2.pdf

Sept. Coffee Hour, Home Heating Credit Deadline Quickly Approaching

"It is an honor and a pleasure to contact you once again as the state representative for the 53rd Michigan House District. Throughout the year, I will send regular updates to keep you informed about issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state. I will continue to represent our values and interests here in Lansing."

Source: *Rep. Jeff Irwin* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870274_ji.pdf

Dingell Announces $500,000 COPS Grant to Hire Four Additional Police Officers in Taylor

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today announced that the City of Taylor has been awarded a $500,000 grant so that the police department can hire four additional police officers. The grant was awarded through the Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870239_dd.pdf

Final Call for Benishek Academy Nominations

*"WASHINGTON, D.C.- Each year, Dr. Benishek has the honor of nominating a number of young men and women to our nation's military academies. **The application submission deadline is October 16, 2015.**Applicants must submit complete documentation of all required information by this date. Students will then be scheduled for an interview with the advisory board on November 10, 2015. All applications should be mailed to:*

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870211_db.pdf

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson: National Voter Registration Day reminds us of the importance of vot

"

LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson is commemorating National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, Sept. 22, by calling on eligible voters in Michigan to get registered or update their information."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870183_sos.pdf

Imminent Hazard Requires Immediate Actions to Eliminate Oil Risk in Straits of Mackinac

"

TRAVERSE CITY – Filling a void left by the state, a Great Lakes law and policy group and its scientific advisors released a report today calling on the Snyder administration to take interim steps – including the immediate temporary halt of oil flowing through two aging pipelines in the Mackinac Straits – and swiftly pursue an "action plan" to prevent an oil spill that likely could not be cleaned up and would threaten the state and regional economy, a vital fishery, and the drinking water supply for Mackinac Island and St. Ignace. "

Source: *For Love of Water* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870136_flow.pdf

ICYMI: CNN: Cruz, the 'Original Outsider'

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – CNN's Nia-Malika Henderson recently discussed Cruz's standing as the 'original outsider' and how he has the record of leading the fight in Washington on issues important to American voters."*

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870028_tc2.pdf

Peters Tours Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), the Ranking Member on the Space, Science and Competitiveness Subcommittee, toured the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University and held a roundtable discussion with academic leaders and researchers from Michigan State University to gather input as the Senate Commerce Science and Transportation Committee works to formulate new legislation to shape federal science research and development priorities."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442869597_gp2.pdf

HUD AWARDS $12.4 MILLION TO 18 TRIBES NATIONWIDE TO ADDRESS MOLD

"WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced today it has awarded $12.4 million to 18 tribal communities in 13 states to remove and prevent dangerous mold in more than 1,000 homes. This is the largest amount to date awarded by HUD for this purpose. The grants are being made available through HUD's Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program, which addresses a wide variety of community development and affordable housing activities."

Source: *HUD* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442869565_hud.pdf*

Medication disposal event to be held Tuesday at state Capitol

"The DEQ will participate in a medication disposal event for the public from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 22 at the state Capitol building in Lansing.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851782_deq2.pdf*

Davenport University Honors TC Chamber Executive Director

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Laura Oblinger is among six Davenport University graduates who will be honored at the university's Alumni Awards Celebration in October."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851741_tc.pdf*

MEDIA ADVISORY: Enbridge to Conduct Functional Oil Spill Response Exercise

"MACKINAW CITY, MI--(Marketwired - September 21, 2015) - Enbridge, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and several local emergency management agencies will conduct a functional oil spill response exercise in Mackinaw City and St. Ignace, Michigan, Thursday, September 24.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851675_deq.pdf*

Additional closure needed tonight at I-96/US-127 in Lansing

"Starting tonight at 8 p.m. there will be a single lane closure on eastbound I-96 under US-127 and the ramp from eastbound I-96 to northbound US-127 will be closed until 5 a.m. the following morning. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851640_mdot3.pdf*

MEDIA ADVISORY- TOMORROW: Schuette at Detroit's Cass Tech to Promote Anti-Bullying Program

"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851612_ag.pdf*

Fall asset management conference set for Oct. 15 in Marquette

*"**September 21, 2015** -- The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) will sponsor the 2015 TAMC Fall Conference on Thursday, Oct. 15, at the Ramada of Marquette. The conference will once again provide a forum for state and local officials to examine the relationship between asset management, pavement management, and road funding."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851568_tam.pdf*

Improvements to Online Education to Benefit Michigan Students

*"**September 21, 2015** - Online postsecondary distance education for Michigan students just got a lot better, along with streamlined regulation for colleges and universities, with the State of Michigan joining a new national reciprocity agreement under the enactment of Public Act 45 of 2015."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851531_lara.pdf*

MDHHS to host public forum in Escanaba about MI Health Link

"

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be hosting a public forum about the MI Health Link program that integrates care

for individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, in Escanaba. MDHHS will also provide a conference line for those interested to participate by phone.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851499_dhs.pdf*

Sparrow transforms care for Patients with new approach to hip replacement surgery

"

LANSING, MI – Orthopedic Surgeon Jason Cochran, D.O., at Sparrow, now provides an alternative to traditional hip replacement surgery, featuring a smaller incision and quicker recovery time."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843831_sparrow.pdf*

TODAY: Peters to Tour Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

*"**EAST LANSING, MI** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) will tour the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University **TODAY, September 21st, at 10:45 AM. Media should plan to arrive at 10:30am to access the tour site.** Following the tour, Peters will hold a roundtable discussion with academic leaders and researchers from Michigan State University to gather input as the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee works to formulate new legislation setting federal science research and development priorities. Peters is the Ranking Member on the Space, Science and Competitiveness Subcommittee."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843718_gp.pdf*

ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA TODAY

*"**Miami, FL –** This evening, Governor Jeb Bush will attend a town hall in Mason City, IA."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843681_jb.pdf*

Final Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of the year starts Sept. 26

*"**September 21, 2015** – The final Adopt-A-Highway pickup of the year will mark the completion of the 25th*

anniversary of the popular Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) program. Thousands of volunteers will be scouring the roadsides looking for trash from Saturday, Sept. 26, through Sunday, Oct. 4.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843645_mdot.pdf*

WalletHub Survey: 2015's Most & Least Fair State Tax Systems

"With taxes being top of mind for many American voters as political hopefuls sell their tax-reform ideas to the public, the personal finance website WalletHub released its annual report on the2015's Most & Least Fair State Tax Systems."

Source: *Wallet Hub* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843433_wh.pdf*

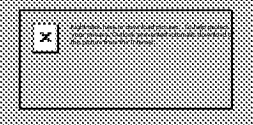
CONGRESSMAN WALKS 570 MILES FOR VETERANS

"Congressman Kerry Bentivolio is fed up and he's taking it to the streets! The 64 year old Congressman from Milford, MI and veteran of two wars left this past Friday at 0800 and is literally walking for justice for his fellow veterans, soldiers, sailors, airmen and women and the US Marines on a 570 mile journey from his home to Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of the abominable conditions that our veterans and their families are living under after giving their lives to protect and serve this country."

Source: *Congressman Kerry Bentivolio* **Date:** *09-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843312_kb.pdf

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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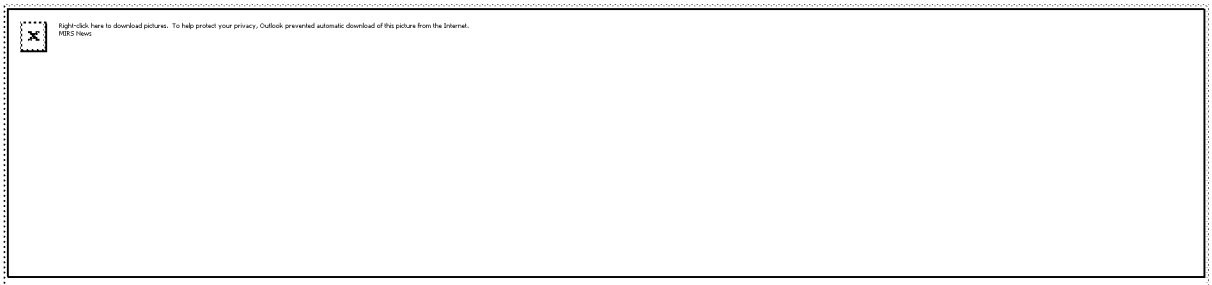
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 7:00 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, September 25, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, September 25, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php

SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

U-M Professor Leading Supreme Court Candidate

A University of Michigan professor and dean for student and graduate activities is among the leading candidates to replace state Supreme Court Justice Mary Beth KELLY when she steps down for a private sector job Oct. 1.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44493

HP Counter-Claim: State Demanded $16M 'Ransom' From BAM Contractor

Hewlett-Packard (HP) is responding to claims it "failed" to oversee the Secretary of State's IT contract by accusing the state of contract breaches and for levying "grave threats" against HP.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44505

Spreading Private Nude Images Becomes Misdemeanor Under Bills

Posting sexually explicit material online without appropriate permission would be a 93-day, $500 misdemeanor under legislation introduced in the Senate this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44504

No More Street Clothes For Inmates During Visits

Next month, state prisoners will have to wear their prison garb rather than their personal attire while hosting the guests that visit them.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44498

Debate Over Big Box Stores' Taxes Coming To A Head In Legislature

A bipartisan coalition has put the final touches on bills that supporters believe will help rein in a new legal strategy big retailers have been using with much success to fight their tax assessments.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44503

Marijuana Ballot Proposal Takes Breather To Evaluate Data

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44507

Huizenga Takes Credit For Breaking Boehner News

The U.S. House of Representatives was roiled today by Speaker John BOEHNER's (R-Ohio) announcement he would resign from his position and Congress on Oct. 30.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44496

Firm Selected For Ed Funding Study Defends Prior Work

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44497

18-Year-Olds Could Be Legislators Under New Measure

Inspired at least in part by Michigan's first governor who took the job at 24 years old, a new proposal in the House aims to lower the age requirements for serving in the Legislature and as the state's governor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44500

Higher Lead Levels In Flint Kids Spurs Legislator Action

This week's medical study finding Flint children with elevated lead levels after the city switched its water supply, spurred area lawmakers to call for decisive action from state and federal authorities.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44508

Graduated Income Tax Proposal Still Just In 'Talk' Phase

An update on the move to install a graduated income tax is right where it's been for some time -- going nowhere fast.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4678#44494

McBroom: Ready to Boot Courser And/Or Gamrat Again

The chair of the select House committee that investigated the conduct of two former lawmakers reported he is ready to remove them again from the Legislature if either or both of them are re-elected.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44501

New FY 2016 Capitol Projects To Focus On Building's Interior

Now that the exterior of the Capitol is nearly complete, restoration and maintenance work for the next fiscal year is expected to shift inwards under the budget approved by the Michigan State Capitol Commission this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44496

Nearly 3 in 4 Believe MI Auto Insurance Rates Are Too High

That National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) released polling today showing 73 percent of Michigan voters think their auto insurance premiums are too high and 60 percent think auto insurance premiums in Michigan are higher than those of other states.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44502

Bits And Tidbits

Huizenga: Miller 'Would Make A Great Governor'

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44498

On This Day In Michigan History

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44506

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children & Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
8:45 AM - **FISCAL AGENCY GOVERNING COMMITTEE|Rep. Pscholka**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 307 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**
Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
12:30 PM - **Outdoor Recreation and Tourism**
Hansen, Goeff; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
11:30 AM
Rep. Derek Miller Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League, 208 N. Capitol Ave., 1st Floor, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Ryan Bardoni 734-552-4868
ryanbardoni@gmail.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:30 AM
Senator Jon Bumstead Brunch
Guest Speakers: Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton
Location: The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at karenwhite009@gmail.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
7:30 PM
Rep. Earl Poleski Birthday Celebration
Location: Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 W. Washtenaw St., Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Maria by October 12 at 517-256-2139 - or via email at m.ostrander08@gmail.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
11:30 AM
Liberati Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League, 208 N. Capitol Ave., 1st Floor, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: emal RSVP to Travis
travis.g.greer@gmail.com

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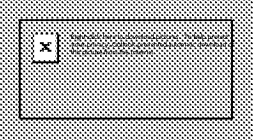

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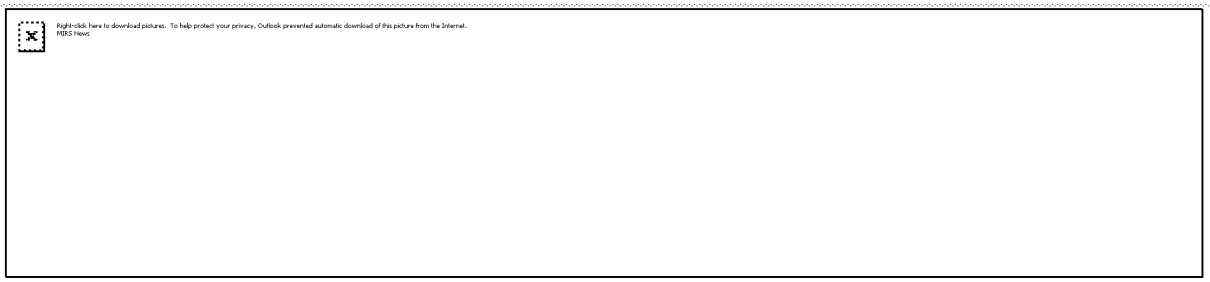
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 8:26 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Tuition receipts lower than expected at Lake Superior State

"SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Tuition receipts at Lake Superior State University are about $2.5 million down from what school officials were expecting."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/09/27/lake-superior-sate-university-tuition/72942240/*

War on Islamic State focus at UN assembly

"NEW YORK —When world leaders convene for the UN General Assembly this week, it will be a year since the U.S. president declared the formation of an international coalition to "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/09/27/war-islamic-state-focus-un-assembly/72950642/*

Detroit man creating mobile school museums

"Two old, beat-up SMART shuttle buses are parked end-to-end in Michael Williams' Detroit driveway. Only one runs."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/09/27/detroit-man-creating-mobile-school-museums/72578686/*

Tribe, state exploring $14M path around bay

"Native Americans in the Upper Peninsula and the state of Michigan are exploring a plan to build a 12-mile hiking and bicycling trail that would connect two villages on opposite sides of a Lake Superior bay — and, supporters hope, boost tourism and economic development in the beautiful but remote area."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/27/indian-tribe-trail-plan/72924580/*

Henry Ford Health System plans $110M cancer center

"Detroit — Henry Ford Health System plans to build a $110 million cancer center in Detroit as part of a $500 million expansion and neighborhood improvement project."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/09/28/cancer-center-detroit/72960752/*

CIA, special ops join to kill extremists in Syria, Iraq

"Washington — With no regular American presence in the war theater, the U.S. has struggled to answer basic intelligence questions about the situation in Syria and Iraq, including the Islamic State group's fighting strength. And the overall U.S.-led bombing campaign has failed to dislodge the group from its self-declared caliphate across both countries."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/09/28/syria-intelligence-targeting/72960558/*

Burden of health care costs continues shift to workers

"American workers saw their out-of-pocket medical costs jump again this year, as the average deductible for an employer-provided health plan surged nearly 9 percent in 2015 to more than $1,000, a major new survey of employers shows."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/09/27/burden-health-care-costs-continues-shift-workers/72947928/*

Catholic church seeks lasting effects from pope's visit

"Philadelphia — Pope Francis' six-day U.S. trip will be as memorable for his deeds as his words, from visiting with homeless people in Washington, to praying with prisoners in Philadelphia and meeting with victims of church sex

abuse."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/09/27/catholic-church-seeks-lasting-effects-popes-visit/72948478/*

German prosecutors open probe of former VW boss

"Berlin — German prosecutors on Monday opened an investigation against former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn to establish what his role was in the company's emissions-rigging scandal."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/foreign/2015/09/28/volkswagen/72960002/*

Low-income students lag in grad rates, loan repayment

"Low-income students working to get a higher education are in peril, graduating less often than their middle-income counterparts and struggling to pay down their college loans, according to two new studies."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/09/28/low-income-students-lag-grad-rates-loan-repayment/72951450/*

FCA-UAW deal under fire before key votes

"Toledo — Approval of the tentative four-year contract between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles is in jeopardy after a majority of workers voted "no" at several large facilities, including Jefferson North Assembly Plant in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/27/uaw-local-toledo-vote-meeting/72938820/*

Greenville rebounding from image as down-trodden Midwestern factory town

"GREENVILLE, MI – "Wow! That's up already!" exclaimed Kathy Jo VanderLaan last week as she drove past an addition being built for Dicastal North America's new aluminum wheel factory on the north end of this Montcalm County town."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/09/greenville_rebounding_from_ima.html#incart_river_home*

38% of Michigan high schoolers aren't virgins, and 11 takeaways on teen sex

"State Rep. Tom Hooker, R-Byron Township, is outraged by letting teenagers practice using condoms by putting them on cucumbers and bananas, and he recently introduced a bill seeking to ban the practice in Michigan schools."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/look_up_rates_of_teen_sexual_a.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis

"It's hard to understand the resounding yawn that seems to have emanated from the governor's office, following news that an increasing percentage of Flint kids have been lead poisoned after a switch in the city's water supply."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/09/26/shortfalls-em-law-writ-large-flint-water-crisis/72811990/*

Page: Fact-challenged campaign drama

"'Facts are stubborn things," goes an old saying that President Ronald Reagan liked to quote. Unfortunately, so are cherished myths."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/clarence-page/2015/09/28/page-fact-challenged-campaign-drama/72939176/*

Letter: Corporations should pay 'fair share'

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley recently came out against a citizens-initiated proposal that would require corporations to pay their fair share to help fix Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges so middle-class families don't continue to bear all the costs (Re: "Calley: Michigan can't afford a return to 'lost decade,'" Sept. 10)."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/28/letter-corporations-pay-fair-share/72939240/*

Rennie: Scott Walker's final bow

"Poor Scott Walker. There's nothing like a competitive presidential campaign to shred the hopes of a candidate who looks good on paper."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/28/rennie-walker-final-bow/72940322/*

Crops rot for want of immigration reform

"Some Michigan farm owners are leaving their crops to rot because they can't find enough workers to harvest them. That's a shameful problem linked to bad immigration policy, and could be easily fixed if Congress would stop fighting about immigration and start adopting sensible regulations."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/crops-rot-want-immigration-reform/72940352/*

Emails Show Shaky Grounds for Corporate Welfare Agency's Transparency Shutdown

"The official story from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation — the state's corporate welfare arm — is that its 2009 decision to stop disclosing how much money particular companies collect in tax breaks (and cash subsidies styled as tax credits) was based on informal verbal advice solicited from the attorney general's office. However, contemporary email records reveal that an even greater degree of ambiguity surrounded the agency's leap away from transparency."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21748*

School dress codes have a serious sexism problem

"School dress codes have a sexism problem. It's become now more apparent than ever, with a spate of viral photos and news stories showing female students wearing innocuous outfits that supposedly run afoul of the rules."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/school_dress_codes_have_a_seri.html#incart_river_home*

Clean Water Rule needs protection for Michigan rivers' sake

"From the Huron River to Saginaw Bay to the Great Lakes, our waterways help support many Michigan businesses that contribute to local economies, help Michiganders enjoy and explore their waterways, and provide clean drinking water to over 1,400,000 residents. These waterways are now better protected, thanks to the Clean Water Rule."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/clean_water_rule_needs_protect.html*

Pope Francis\' climate message heard, if not received, in Lansing

"Realizing that Pope Francis has a lot of reading to do, it\'s possible somewhere along the line he missed the internal memo about not mixing politics and religion, because there he was, smack dab in the middle of the most political body in the country, urging the U.S. Congress to get off the dime and work on climate change."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/pope_francis_climate_message_h.html#incart_river_home

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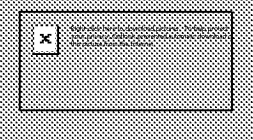

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
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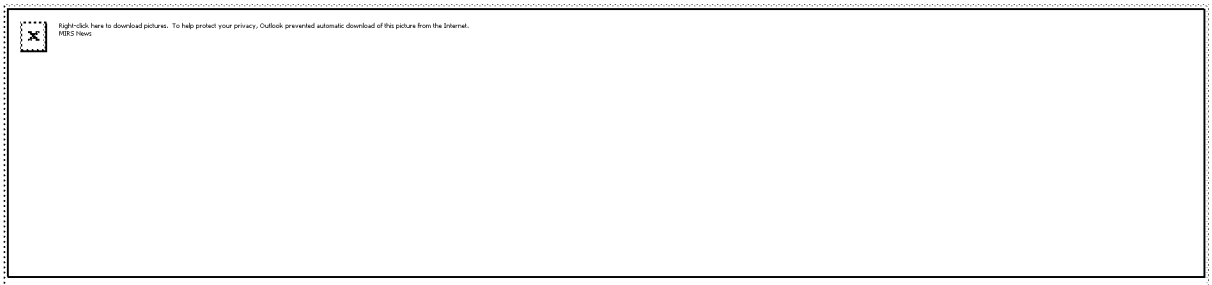
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, September 28, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, September 28, 2015

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CAPITOL CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Road Lobbyist: 'It's Common Knowledge That We Need More Money'

Being the road funding lobbyist for the last four years could make one feel like Bill MURRAY in Groundhog's Day -- asking lawmakers to find $1.2 billion in new revenue for road construction day after day after day.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44510

Consultant Urges Courser To Drop Out Of Face For Gamrat's Benefit

A "truth seeking" consultant from Cleveland has spoken to former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT about working with her in her quest to regain the 80th House District seat she lost Sept. 11 when she was expelled.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44521

Dems Propose Pumping Up Tax Credits For Individuals By $1 Billion

The tax burden on families, seniors and individuals would plummet about $1 billion under a plan that

Democratic lawmakers in the House and the Senate announced today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44513

Sanders Dominates Student Dems Organizing For 2016

The Democrats' top two presidential candidates -- Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders -- have support groups forming at the state's two highest profile universities and the atmosphere couldn't be more different.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44520

Michigan Dems Plan To Drop Jefferson-Jackson Dinner Moniker

Michigan Democrats will likely be the latest in a string of state parties to change the name of its Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner events.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44515

Construction Workers, Managers Make Case Against Prevailing Wage Repeal

A coalition of construction-related groups came together today to argue that repealing Michigan's prevailing wage law -- which is being proposed through a citizens' initiative currently in the Bureau of Elections' hands -- would be bad for their industry.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44522

Ananich Urges Snyder To Get Involved With Flint Water Situation

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) today called on Gov. Rick SNYDER to get involved in resolving a water supply issue in his home city that he said is "dangerous for our citizens, especially our most vulnerable young people."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44523

Senate Bill Calls For Statewide Recycling Reporting

Recycling establishments would have to beef up its annual reporting on how much recyclable materials are collected under a recently introduced Senate bill.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44519

Bill To Add Default Criminal Intent Standard Now On House Floor

A bill that would require authorities to more frequently prove that someone had criminal intent to commit wrongdoing before convicting that person has made it out of committee and is awaiting action on the House floor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44513

Retailers Lose Suit Against Marathon

Three small retailers in Southwest Detroit have lost their federal lawsuit that blames an oil refinery for killing their businesses and creating environmental hazards.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44508

Snyder Announces Rising Tide Pilot

Some ten Michigan communities have been selected to participate in what Gov. Rick SNYDER is dubbing a pilot program to develop new economic growth strategies.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44517

Bishop Telephone Survey

While most Michigan folks were focused on the nice weather and football this past Saturday, the office of Congressman Mike BISHOP was busy gathering data on his re-election bid, even though that is not until a year from last month.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44511

Bits And Tidbits

State Confirms More EEE Cases In Calhoun/Van Buren Horses

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44516

On This Day In Michigan History

On Sept. 28, 1912, the Muskegon High School football team defeated Hastings High 216-0 in what was believed at the time to be the most lopsided drubbing of a high school football team in world history.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44514

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
8:45 AM - **FISCAL AGENCY GOVERNING COMMITTEE|Rep. Pscholka**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 307 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**
Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
12:30 PM - **Outdoor Recreation and Tourism**
Hansen, Goeff; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
(CANCELLED)Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
2:00 PM - **Appropriations**
Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Jon Bumstead Brunch
Guest Speakers: Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton
Location: The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at karenwhite009@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:00 AM
Weatherization Day at the Capitol(Sponsored by Michigan Community Action)
Location: State Capitol, North Corridor
Contact: Michael F. Shalley 517-679-6403
mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org

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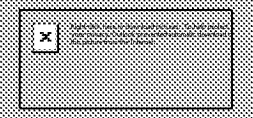

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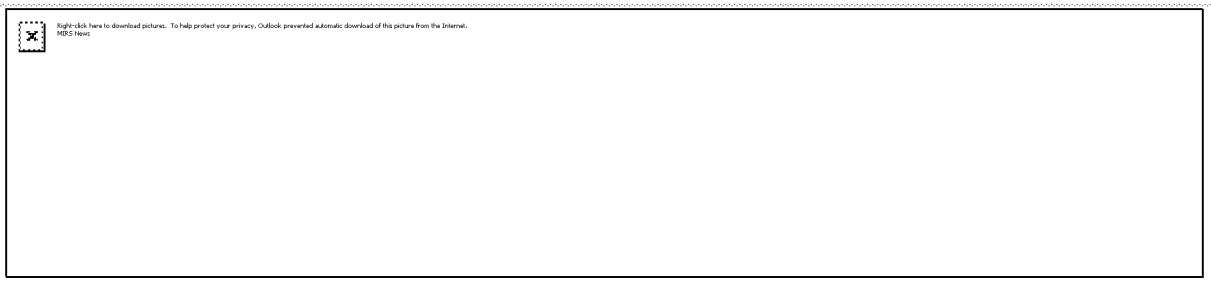

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Michigan state agency installs solar panels, expects to save taxpayers $800,000

"LANSING, MI -- The Michigan Agency for Energy is in charge of leading Michigan's energy future, and it's leading by example with solar panels and energy efficiency improvements."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_state_agency_installs.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan Dems propose $1 billion in tax credits aimed at alleviating 'middle class squeeze'

"LANSING, MI — Democrats in the Michigan Legislature are proposing $1 billion in new and expanded tax credits to benefit middle class families, saying it's time to revisit a 2011 tax shift that benefited businesses."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_dems_propose_1_billio.html#incart_river*

House Speaker front-runner Kevin McCarthy recently spoke in Kalamazoo

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI —** Kevin McCarthy, the Republican congressman from Bakersfield, Calif. who announced Monday he will seek to replace Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner, spoke recently in Kalamazoo."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/house_speaker_frontrunner_kevi.html#incart_river*

State Sen. Ananich joins call for disconnecting city from Flint River

"FLINT, MI – Michigan Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich is asking Gov. Rick Snyder to broker a new contract allowing Flint to return to pre-treated water from the city of Detroit."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state_sen_ananich_joins_call_f.html#incart_river_home*

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz plans Oct. 5 rally in Kalamazoo

"Lansing — Republican presidential candidate and Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz is returning to Michigan to hold an Oct. 5 campaign rally in Kalamazoo."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/28/ted-cruz-kalamazoo/72975556/*

Bill to cut repair costs for federal vehicles passes

"The U.S. House on Monday approved a bipartisan bill to cut federal vehicle repair costs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/09/28/bill-cut-repair-costs-federal-vehicles-passes/73003130/*

Snyder urged to help Flint reconnect to Detroit water

"Lansing — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich urged Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday to help Flint switch back to Detroit's water system after medical researchers found elevated levels of lead in children who consumed water from the Flint River over the past year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/2015/09/28/snyder-urged-help-flint-reconnect-detroit-water/72999390/*

Howes: Old Detroit lives in UAW tide against FCA deal

"The potential rejection of the FCA-UAW labor contract shows Old Detroit is not yet dead, proof that competitive reality cannot necessarily overcome unrealistic expectations in a post-bailout era."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/09/26/howes-old-detroit-lives-*

potential-rejection-fca-deal/73008962/

Unlicensed title lenders defy state laws

"Two lenders offering loans that charge consumers exorbitant, triple-digit interest rates to borrow against their cars are operating in defiance of state law in Michigan, often seizing the vehicles of desperate borrowers who can't pay."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/09/28/unlicensed-title-lenders-defy-state-laws/73009542/

Congress supports use of rebuilt auto parts

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., got his first piece of legislation as a senator approved by the U.S. House on Monday and sent on to President Barack Obama to be signed into law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/28/congress-supports-use-rebuilt-auto-parts/72989944/

Blind activist arrested at Capitol disability event

"LANSING — A blind activist for disability rights is to be arraigned in district court in Lansing on Friday after he was arrested at an Americans with Disabilities Act rally and demonstration in front of the Capitol on Sept. 17."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/28/blind-activist-arrested-capitol-disability-event/72982496/

Lawyer sues Warren over medical marijuana

"A Warren lawyer filed a lawsuit Monday against the City of Warren that demands up to $5 million in damages on behalf of 23 state-approved medical-marijuana users who say they've been harassed and ticketed by Warren police."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/28/lawyer-sues-city-warren-over-medical-marijuana-law/72989056/

UAW gets yes vote at Warren Truck, Mack Engine

"A majority of production workers at Warren Truck Assembly and at a Detroit engine plant narrowly voted in

favor of a proposed national agreement on Monday with Fiat Chrysler, giving the UAW it first glimmer of hope in recent days that it can convince a majority workers to ratify the proposed contract."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/28/uaw-gets-yes-vote-warren-truck-mack-engine/73002052/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Enacted nearly 40 years ago, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act is a vital tool for residents of this state to track what their government is doing and how their tax dollars are being spent.

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Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/565886/Scandal-another-example-of-weak-FOIA-policy.html?nav=5052*

Crops rot for want of immigration reform

"Some Michigan farm owners are leaving their crops to rot because they can't find enough workers to harvest them. That's a shameful problem linked to bad immigration policy, and could be easily fixed if Congress would stop fighting about immigration and start adopting sensible regulations.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/crops-rot-want-immigration-reform/72940352/*

Dark money: The hot stove politicians can't stop touching

"In 2013, Gov. Rick Snyder vowed to shut down a nonprofit that was collecting funds from donors whose names were never made public. Instead, the governor said, he'd launch a new nonprofit with a transparent donor list."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/snyder-dark-money/72972996/*

Mark Hackel: Jails new asylums for mental health patients

"Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel says correctional institutions have become the new asylums for mental health and substance abuse patients, and there needs to be a better system other than jailing them for minor crimes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/09/28/macomb-executive-hackel-correction-asylum/72995104/*

Press Releases

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Urges Governor, State Action in Flint

"FLINT, Mich.—Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement:"

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443468395_ananich.pdf*

Bishop Leads Movement to Extend Vital Student Aid

*"**WASHINGTON** – Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) today led the House passage of H.R. 3594, the Higher Education Extension Act of 2015, to extend for one year the Perkins Loan Program while Congress continues its effort to achieve higher education reauthorization. In response, Rep. Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *U.S. Representative Mike Bishop* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443460931_mb.pdf*

Immediate Release: Most Contractors Oppose Prevailing Wage Mandates

*"**Lansing, MI, September 28, 2015** – Associated Builders and Contractors President Chris Fisher today issued the following statement:*

"

Source: *Associated Builders and Contractors* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443460792_abc.pdf*

JEB BUSH: MY TAX PROPOSAL WOULD DELIVER $2,000 BACK TO MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES

"I recently unveiled a dramatic tax reform plan that upends a dysfunctional and complicated tax code that

was written by special interests. We would go from seven brackets to three (28%, 25% and 10%). To get to the lower rates — which are essential to sparking economic growth — the plan would eliminate carve outs, loopholes and deductions that primarily benefit the wealthy."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480641_jb2.pdf*

Huizenga, Peters Remanufacturing Legislation Headed To The President's Desk

*"**Washington, DC –** Today, the House of Representatives unanimously passed Congressman Bill Huizenga and Senator Gary Peters' bipartisan legislation to save taxpayer dollars by encouraging federal agencies to use remanufactured vehicle components such as engines, transmissions, alternators, and starters. Prior to passage of the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act of 2015, Congressman Huizenga spoke on the House floor and detailed how this legislation would have a direct impact on remanufacturing in West Michigan, throughout the state, and across the nation. To watch Rep. Huizenga's remarks, click on the photo below:*

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480556_bh.pdf*

Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Sept. 29

"Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Sept. 29"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480467_smedia.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder: Rising Tide program will help communities establish strong economic vision

"RIVER ROUGE, Mich. – Ten communities across Michigan will participate in a pilot program to work with local leaders as they develop new strategies for economic prosperity, creating more and better jobs, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

"

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480408_gov.pdf*

Peters Bill Headed to President's Desk to be Signed into Law

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today applauded the unanimous passage in the U.S.*

House of Representatives of legislation he introduced, the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act, which requires federal agencies to encourage the use of remanufactured parts in federal vehicle repairs when doing so lowers costs, maintains quality and performance and does not compromise safety. The legislation is the first bill Peters introduced as a member of the U.S. Senate in February, along with Republican Senator James Lankford (OK), and the bill now heads to the President's desk to be signed into law. Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) introduced the companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives."

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480350_gp.pdf*

ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEW HAMPSHIRE ON WEDNESDAY

*"**Miami, FL –** On Wednesday morning, Governor Jeb Bush will participate in a roundtable discussion on substance abuse with community leaders at the Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, NH. Wednesday evening, he will attend a town hall in Bedford, NH."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480272_jb.pdf*

Eastbound I-69 lane shifts for bridge deck work

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete an epoxy overlay on bridge decks along eastbound I-69.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443469691_mdot2.pdf*

Congressman Randy Weber Endorses Cruz For President

"

***HOUSTON, Texas** - Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced the endorsement of Texas Congressman Randy Weber. Originally a small business owner, the second-term Congressman has been a strong conservative voice in Congress for fiscal discipline, national security, and protecting life. Weber won election in 2012 for the seat previously held by Ron Paul.*

"

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443468934_tc3.pdf*

ADVISORY: Advocates to Gather in Chicago to Advance Great Lakes Restoration

"11th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference"

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443468046_nwf.pdf

Counties' fund issues Loss Prevention Grants; announces largest dividend in its history

"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation Fund (MCWCF) made two major announcements at the 2015 Michigan Association of Counties Annual Conference in Traverse City last week."

Source: *Michigan Association of Counties* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443467992_mac.pdf

PRESS ADVISORY: Educators and Faith Leaders to Discuss Paid Sick Leave Campaign

"DETROIT — On Tuesday, September 29th at noon, members of the Michigan Time to Care Coalition, as well as educators, faith leaders and parents, will hold a press conference to emphasize the need for all parents to have the ability to earn paid sick time. With the school year rolling, kids are piling onto buses and into classrooms, increasing their contact with germs and classmates with runny noses. As the weather begins to cool, there will inevitably be more sick kids, which means parents will need time to care for their children."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443467907_pm.pdf

DNR answers questions about status of Lake Michigan fishery

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has posted a two-page document to its website to provide updated information about the current status of the Lake Michigan fishery."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466470_dnr2.pdf

Texas-based Direct Energy Has History of Scamming Michiganders Better Business Bureau Warns Michigan

*"**Lansing** — Despite a history of scamming customers in Michigan, Texas-based Direct Energy's manager of government and regulatory affairs, Teresa Ringenbach, came up from Ohio and attempted to convince members of the Senate Energy and Technology Committee to support increasing energy deregulation in Michigan, saying "Competitive markets were built on free market principles that customers are in control of*

choosing the price they pay for electricity.""

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466420_tr2.pdf

Benishek Toxic Exposure Bill Surpasses 100 Co-Sponsors

"

Washington, D.C.- Dr. Dan Benishek, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Veterans Health, recently introduced the bi-partisan, bi-cameral Toxic ExposureResearch Act along with Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Sens. Moran (R-KS) and Blumenthal (D-CT). In the House of Representatives, the bill has now earned over 100 co-sponsors with strong representation of both parties.

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466357_db.pdf

MDARD cracking down on credit card skimmers

"

In an effort to protect consumers and stop criminals trying to steal consumers' credit card information at gas pumps, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development launched a two-week intensive blitz to locate and remove credit card skimming devices. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466273_mdard2.pdf

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Full Restoration of Board of Police Commissioners' Powers

"

Detroit - *Council Member Mary Sheffield, in continuance of her efforts to improve police-community relations, has authored a resolution restoring full power to the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners. She is joining Michigan United's Detroit Pastoral Alliance for Change (DPAC) and the Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC) in seeking full restoration of the powers which were stripped under Emergency Management. Council Member Sheffield will join DPAC and the BOPC for a* ***Press Conference on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 9am in front of the Spirit of Detroit Statue located a 2 Woodward Avenue.***

"

Source: *Detroit Council Member Mary Sheffield* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466179_ms.pdf

Truscott Rossman Continues Growth, Hires Grand Rapids Senior Account Executive

*"**GRAND RAPIDS** – Truscott Rossman, Michigan's top public relations and strategic communications firm with offices in Grand Rapids, Lansing and Detroit, has hired Allie Walker as senior account executive. Walker joins the firm after seven years in Washington, D.C. and will serve a variety of clients in Grand Rapids and Lansing, including the American Petroleum Institute and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466117_tr.pdf

Physicians, Pain Management Experts Sound Warning Siren over Bill

*"**LANSING**—As Michigan struggles to deal with an opioid abuse crisis, physicians and pain management experts today warned lawmakers about the danger of Senate Bill 320, a bill that would grant 3,000 registered nurse anesthetists full prescribing authority for opioid pain killers. The bill does not require any additional training for the new prescribers and removes all physician oversight of nurse anesthetists, allowing them to prescribe opioids without supervision."*

Source: *Resch Strategies* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466082_rs.pdf

Kalamazoo River restoration plan, assessment out for public review

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, along with other recognized trustees, are in the process of determining both the extent of the injuries to natural resources caused by the past releases of PCBs to the Kalamazoo River and how to restore these injured natural resources and the services they provide."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465993_dnr.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY- TOMORROW: Schuette at East Lansing High School to Promote Anti-Bullying Program

"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465947_agm.pdf

COLUMBA BUSH: EMBRACE YOUR HISPANIC HERITAGE, EXPAND THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR CULTURE

""As an American of Hispanic origin, I am proud to celebrate my heritage and join with each of you as we recognize the tremendous influence of the Hispanic culture on our great nation."
"

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465889_jb.pdf*

USDA AWARDS MICHIGAN $496,000 TO SUPPORT

"LANSING – Michigan students will continue to get healthier school meal options as a result of the Michigan Department of Education receiving nearly half a million dollars in federal grants, and working with other state partners, to provide training to school nutrition professionals.

"
Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465740_doe.pdf

Media Advisory: Senator Ted Cruz in Kalamazoo- October 5th

"KALAMAZOO, Michigan- Monday, October 5th, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz will speak at a rally in Kalamazoo, MI. Press is invited to cover his comments."

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443454139_tc2.pdf

House and Senate Dems Announce Blueprint for Michigan's Families

"LANSING – Democrats in the state House and Senate announced a defining package of bills today to strengthen Michigan's middle class and reverse one of the largest tax shifts in Michigan history. Called the Blueprint for Michigan's Families, the bills take aim at stagnant incomes and tax increases which make it difficult to achieve and sustain a middle-class quality of life while coping with the rising costs of living."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452190_md.pdf

Senate adopts Casperson's resolution supporting hunting camp owners

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** A resolution encouraging the United States Forest Service (USFS) to work with owners of privately held hunting camps on leased acreage within the Ottawa National Forest was adopted by the state Senate last Thursday."*

Source: *Senator Tom Casperson* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452151_tc.pdf*

Additional Cases of EEE Found in Calhoun County and Van Buren County Horses

"

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development announced two additional cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in horses in Calhoun and Van Buren Counties."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452081_mdard.pdf*

Sparrow Physicians to discuss breast health during Oct. 1 community event

"

LANSING, MI – In celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the public is invited to hear from Sparrow Physicians as they present "Healthy breasts at every age." "

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447802_sh.pdf*

Bullard Announces Run for County Clerk

"

***(Highland, 9-28-15)** Citing his record of bringing an unprecedented amount of new technology and expanded customer service to the Clerk and Register of Deeds office, former Oakland County Clerk Bill Bullard announced his candidacy today.*
"

Source: *Bill Bullard* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447750_bb.pdf*

Just in Time for Her 92nd Birthday, Redford Woman Wins $250,000 Playing

KENO!

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 28, 2015** – Just in time for her 92nd birthday, a lucky Redford woman won $250,000 playing the Michigan Lottery's KENO! game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447715_lottery.pdf

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TODAY: House, Senate Democrats to Unveil Blueprint for Michigan's Families

*" LANSING – House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills, state Representative **Tom Cochran** (D-Mason) and state Senator **Curtis Hertel Jr.** (D-Meridian Twp.) will hold a press conference to announce the Blueprint for Michigan's Families on **Monday, Sept. 28, at 10 a.m. in the House Democratic Press Room, S1124 Anderson House Office Building, 124 N. Capitol Ave. in Lansing.** Democratic lawmakers are unveiling their Blueprint for Michigan's Families, which is a plan to help improve the economic outlook for Michigan families and residents after years of struggling with Republican-imposed tax increases."*

Source: *Michigan Senate Democrats* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447655_sd.pdf

The Future of the Great Lakes - Wall-to-Wall Coverage - Live from Great Lakes Week in Chicago

"For the fifth year in a row, Detroit Public Television (DPTV) will bring pioneering coverage of Great Lakes issues to viewers nationwide. This year's coverage will be even more important featuring not one but two conferences: The 11th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference (hosted by Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition); and the Great Lakes Commission 2015 Annual Meeting. Coverage will be available on the Great Lakes Now website, http://greatlakesnow.org. In addition, stay tuned for a special announcement from DPTV on Monday, September 28."

Source: *Detroit Public Television* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447573_dptv.pdf

Traffic Advisory - I-75 lane closure under Mackinaw Road bridge Monday, Sept. 28

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be completing routine maintenance on the Mackinaw Road bridge over southbound I-75.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447524_mdot.pdf*

Snyder Press Advisory

"Snyder Press Advisory Monday, September 28."

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *09-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447494_smed.pdf

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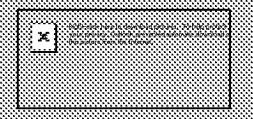
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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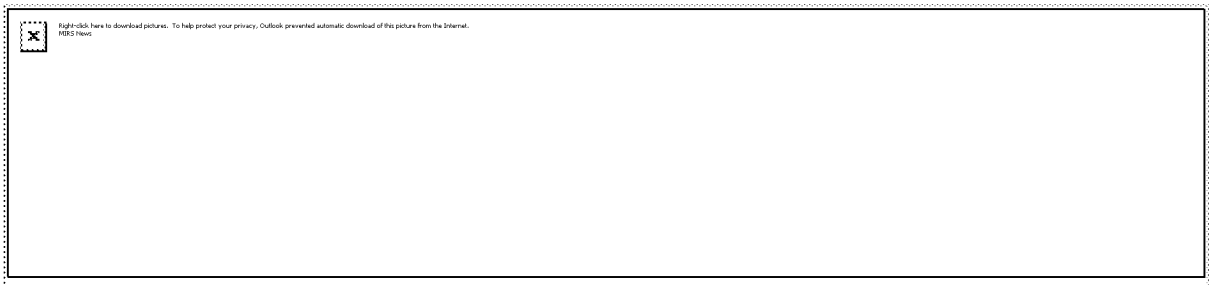
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 8:15 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, September 29, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, September 29, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/837

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/838

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Bills To Criminalize Abortion Coercion Move To The Floor

Bills that would criminalize the act of coercing a woman to have an abortion against her will gained the approval of a House committee today, moving the debate to the House floor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44529

Snyder 'Exploring' Prospect Of Bringing Middle East Refugees To MI

Gov. Rick SNYDER revealed today his administration is at least "exploring" the idea of bringing an unknown number of refugees from the Middle East to Michigan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44534

O'Brien Appointed To Court Of Appeals

Colleen O'BRIEN, the Oakland County Circuit Court judge who made a stab at the state Supreme Court as a Republican-nominated candidate, was appointed today by Gov. Rick SNYDER to replace retiring

Court of Appeals Judge Pat DONOFRIO.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44527

Murray Joins Equality Michigan Board

AT&T Michigan President Jim MURRAY is joining the board of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) group that went after him and his company last year for pushing an expansion to the state's civil rights law that didn't include transgender individuals.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44524

Kowall Bill Ending Sanctuary Cities Given Senate Hearing

Legislation from Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake) to cut designated sanctuary cities in Michigan off from state revenue sharing was given a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44540

Bill To Hike Max Speed Limit To 80 MPH Off To Slow Start

A five-bill package that includes a proposal to hike the state's current maximum speed limit to 80 mph isn't going to speed out of a House committee.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44531

Snyder Pledges 'Action Steps' On Flint Water Issues

As attention on Flint water problems trickles into Lansing, Snyder today said he's got a "team" of people working on the matter and promised some "action steps" to come soon.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44535

Non-Married Partner Benefits For State Employees End Under Bill

An upcoming proposal from Sen. Rick JONES (R-Grand Ledge) would end benefit opportunities for unmarried partners of state employees and their dependents.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44533

Rubio's Lead Over Clinton In Michigan Narrows

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio's lead over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in Michigan has dropped from 9 percentage points to 3, 43 to 40 percent, which is very close to the margin of error at 2.5 percent.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4660#44528

Detroit Parents Rally For School Reforms

Greg POSEY of Northwest Detroit has three grown children who went through the Detroit Public School

(DPS) system. One son received his masters in electrical engineering. One daughter is a teacher and going for her masters at Wayne State University.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44525

Critical Shortage Areas Taken Up In Senate Committee

Retired teachers can come back as substitutes and schools could tap non-certified and non-endorsed teachers to fill in in "critical shortage" areas under legislation considered in the Senate Education Committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44527

Homeowner Can Sue Unlicensed Builder For Shoddy Work

A pair of Detroit homeowners can sue an unlicensed builder for providing shoddy restoration work on their flood-damaged home, despite cashing $128,000 in insurance money to cover the cost of the work.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44526

Backed By New Poll, Reformers Claim Public 'Mandate' For Forfeiture Fix

With supportive new poll numbers and everyone from Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) on board, backers of civil asset forfeiture reform say there's an "overwhelming mandate" from the public to get it done.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44532

Reps. Eye Extending Good Samaritan Protections To Drug Overdoses

Three years after the Governor signed legislation protecting those under 21 from criminal charges for getting medical attention for their overly intoxicated buddies (See "Snyder Signs Taser Bills, Medical Amnesty For Minors," 5/8/12), lawmakers are looking are offering similar protections to drug-related emergencies.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44536

Bits And Tidbits

GLEP Supports Peabody For 82nd, Whiteford For 80th

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44538

On This Day In Michigan History

On Sept. 29, 1844, the U.S.S. Michigan, the first iron warship built for the U.S. Navy, was commissioned. The 16-gun steamer patrolled the Great Lakes until 1911 when she was decommissioned, then during World War I went back into service as a training ship.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4680#44539

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.nirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
8:30 AM - **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL|Sen Meekhof**
Rm: SAR

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
10:30 AM - **Military & Veterans Affairs**
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
10:30 AM - **Financial Services**
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
(CANCELLED) Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
2:00 PM - **Appropriations**
Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
11:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Jon Bumstead Brunch
Guest Speakers: Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton
Location: The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at karenwhite009@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:00 AM
Weatherization Day at the Capitol(Sponsored by Michigan Community Action)
Location: State Capitol, North Corridor
Contact: Michael F. Shalley 517-679-6403
mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
6:00 PM
Rep. Yonker Budget Town Hall
Guest Speakers: House Appropriations Chair Rep. Al Pscholka
Location: Wayland Union High School
Contact: Rep. Yonker 888-347-8072
kenyonker@house.mi.gov

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
7:30 AM
Rep. Michael Webber Leadership Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 W. Washtenaw St., Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Trisha at 517-703-4930 - or by email at tkosloski@grassrootsmidwest.com

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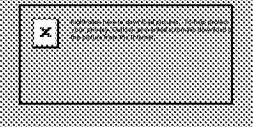
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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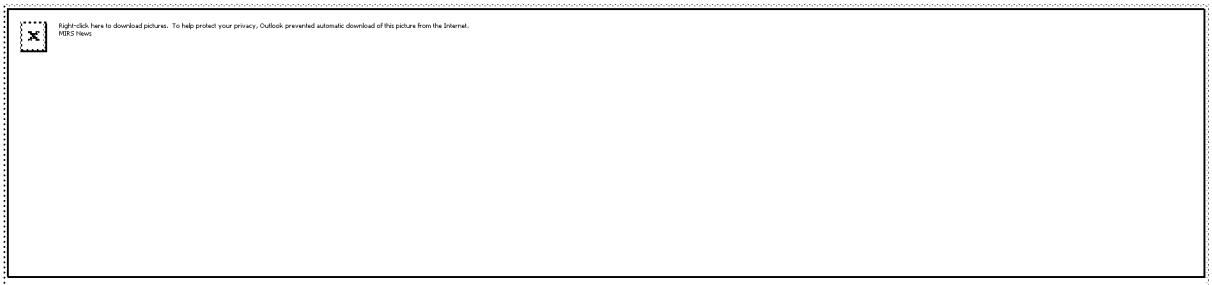

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Teen prescription drug overdose inspires push for 'Good Samaritan' exemption in Michigan law

"LANSING, MI - The recent death of a Michigan teen has inspired new legislation that would shield a minor or friend from criminal prosecution if they seek treatment for a prescription drug overdose."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/teen_prescription_drug_overdos.html#incart_river*

Abortion coercion prevention bills advance to Michigan House in party-line vote

"LANSING, MI — Controversial legislation that would make it a crime to coerce a woman into having an abortion is heading to the Michigan House for consideration."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/abortion_coercion_bill_advance.html#incart_river*

Are state lawmakers running on your dime? Courser, Gamrat staffs weren't the only ones blurring that line

"LANSING, MI -- Emails released as part of a House investigation of now-ousted Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat show staff mix political and official work. But an MLive investigation found those blurred lines, far from being isolated to the offices of two members, trace throughout the Michigan

House of Representatives."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/are_state_lawmakers_running_on.html#incart_river*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette backs civil asset forfeiture reform package

"LANSING, MI — Attorney General Bill Schuette, Michigan's top law enforcement officer, is backing legislation that would begin to reform the state's civil asset forfeiture laws, which allow police to seize property linked to a crime even if charges are never filed."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_back.html#incart_river*

Group launches ballot initiative to mandate paid sick leave in Michigan

"DETROIT, MI -- A group of activists on Tuesday announced a statewide ballot initiative aimed at enacting a law that would require Michigan employers to offer all workers one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/group_launches_ballot_initiati_1.html#incart_river*

Snyder expected to name new Michigan Supreme Court justice Wednesday

"LANSING, MI — Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who has scheduled an 11 a.m. news conference Wednesday, is expected to name his pick for the next justice of the Michigan Supreme Court."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_expected_to_name_new_mi.html#incart_river*

$6,455 in fines, fees for Grand Rapids campaign in term limits vote

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – A campaign that opposed a 2014 ballot proposal for city term limits has paid $6,455 in fees and fines, according to an agreement with the Michigan Secretary of State."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/6455_in_fines_fees_for_campaig.html#incart_river*

Snyder picks O'Brien for state Court of Appeals

"Lansing -- Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday he has appointed Oakland County Circuit Judge Colleen O'Brien to fill a vacancy on the Michigan Court of Appeals."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-picks-obrien-state-court-appeals/73045752/*

Snyder in talks on resettling Syrian refugees in Mich.

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday his administration is in talks with the federal government about resettling refugees from war-torn Syria in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-talks-resettling-syrian-refugees-mich/73032658/*

Insurer uses cash to promote surgical shopping

"A Michigan health insurer is giving consumers a cash incentive to shop for medical procedures as a way to promote a healthy lifestyle — a development that experts said could help lower prices if its practice spreads."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/insurer-cash-incentives-surgical-shopping/73063158/*

Toledo, Sterling Heights workers reject UAW-FCA deal

"The tentative four-year contract between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles was voted down Tuesday by a majority of workers at both the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant and Toledo Assembly Complex, The Detroit News has learned."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/29/uaw-fca-voting-nears-end/73037864/*

Bill would make coercing a woman into abortion a crime

"LANSING — A bill that would make it a felony to coerce a woman into having an abortion passed a state House of Representatives committee on a straight party-line vote Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/bill-would-make-coercing-woman-into-abortion-crime/73020478/*

Bishop bill extends federal student loan program

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop this week got his first piece of legislation passed in the U.S. House, a one-year extension of a student loan program which now goes to the Senate for consideration."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/29/bishop-bill-extends-federal-student-loan-program/73025212/*

Michigan gets grant to fight heroin

"WASHINGTON — Michigan's U.S. senators on Tuesday announced the awarding of nearly $1.5 million to the state police to work with other law enforcement agencies to address an increase in heroin distribution and trafficking."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/michigan-gets-grant-fight-heroin/73027238/*

Snyder: Michigan exploring steps to take in Syria refugees

"LANSING – The state is in talks with the federal government to determine the process for accepting refugees from the ongoing crisis in Syria and the Middle East, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-michigan-exploring-steps-take-syria-refugees/73030078/*

Bill would punish so called 'sanctuary cities'

"LANSING — Cities like Detroit and Ann Arbor could risk losing millions in state revenue sharing if they maintain "sanctuary city" designations, under proposed legislation currently being debate in the Capitol."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/bill-would-punish-so-called-sanctuary-cities/73050034/*

U-M attorney headed to Michigan Supreme Court?

"LANSING — Will Gov. Rick Snyder turn to his alma mater to fill a vacancy in the Michigan Supreme Court, in an announcement expected today?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/u-m-attorney-headed-michigan-supreme-court/73041084/

Gov. Snyder says action coming on Flint's water woes

"LANSING — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday the drinking water situation in Flint is a serious issue and he expects the state to come forward with "action steps" by early next week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/snyder-state-action-coming-flint-water/73033462/

Salmon population plummeting in Lake Michigan

"They are the king of the Great Lakes sport fish, luring thousands of anglers to Michigan waters every year for a chance to try to land them — and helping fuel a multibillion-dollar fishing and boating tourism industry."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/salmon-population-plummeting-lake-michigan/73032260/

UAW workers in Toledo decisively reject FCA contract

"UAW workers at assembly plants in Toledo and Sterling Heights on Tuesday overwhelming voted against a proposed four-year contract with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, the latest in a string of decisive defeats that now makes ratification of the deal a long shot."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/29/jeep-workers-toledo-decisively-reject-fca-contract/73062770/

Syrian refugees find new home, peace in metro Detroit

"Gazing through his living room window in a quiet block in Garden City, a 48-year-old Syrian refugee ponders his new life in America."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/syrian-refugees-detroit-michigan-syria-war/72811502/*

UAW VP threatens strike at Ford F-150 plant

"UAW Vice President Jimmy Settles told Ford workers Tuesday they should expect a different national agreement than the one Fiat Chrysler workers are voting on this week and is threatening to call a strike at Ford's plant in Kansas City, Mo., over disagreements with the automaker at that plant."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/09/29/uaw-vp-threatens-strike-ford-f-150-plant/73056832/*

Lt. Gov. Calley, Justice Bernstein to visit for Dearborn Area Chamber breakfast

"Michigan Lt. Governor Brian Calley and Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein will be joining the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce as the guest speakers for the Dearborn Area Chamber's upcoming Business Builder Series, as a part of the 2015 Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals annual convention."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/09/29/news/doc5609c19638e8a676246692.txt*

Advocacy/Opinion

Robinson: Demystify the minimum wage

"One of the most widely discussed but least understood public policy debates essential to the well-being of our economy and every American citizen is the minimum wage."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/robinson-labor-voices-demystify-minimum-wage/73044382/*

Glenn: Keep energy choice alive

"Michigan's economy is hindered by an arbitrary law allowing only 10 percent of electricity users to buy from an alternative provider, guaranteeing Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison 90 percent of the

market. Utility monopoly-backed legislation to eliminate electricity choice altogether would further damage our economy, schools in particular."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/glenn-energy-choice/73070132/*

Editor's Note: NLRB seeks right to trash employers

"When my son was a teenager, he got in a bit of trouble for starting a website with a friend that caused a racket at his high school."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/09/30/trash-talking-employers/73070092/*

Editorial: UAW members must face contract reality

"The UAW rank and file is obviously not pleased with the tentative labor contract President Dennis Williams and FCA US CEO Sergio Marchionne agreed to two weeks ago, even though it provides significant economic rewards for workers.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/30/editorial-uaw-members-must-face-contract-reality/73070116/*

State Senator Blames Public School Choice After Fight Makes News

"A Republican state senator is blaming a Michigan schools of choice program for a fight at L'Anse Creuse Public Schools that was caught on videotape and broadcast statewide."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21753*

Retired State Police Officer: Forfeiture is 'Big Money' for Law Enforcement Agencies

"The first time Ted Nelson realized something was wrong with civil asset forfeiture occurred when he was training police officers around the state on the practice."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21751*

Correcting corrections would save money, but carry risks

"Trying to come up with better corrections policy for Michigan is tough, because you have to balance two different factors – costs versus public safety – where a fact-based comparison is difficult."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/09/correcting-corrections-would-save-money-but-carry-risks/*

Press Releases

Equality Michigan Elects New Board Members

*"**DETROIT, MI, September 29, 2015** —Equality Michigan, the state's only statewide advocacy organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens, today announced that four new members have been elected to join its Board of Directors. Joining the board are Mira Krishnan, Director, The Center for Autism at Hope Network; Kerene Moore, attorney, Legal Services of South Central Michigan; Jim Murray, president, AT&T Michigan; and Michael L. Rowady, a Southfield, MI law firm managing attorney.*

"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560157_em3.pdf*

Rep. Jacobsen welcomes local student to Capitol as 'Junior Rep.'

"State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, welcomed St. Joseph Catholic School student, Kira Corrigan of Oxford, to the Capitol today to shadow the lawmaker as "junior representative for the day." Kira was selected from the Oakland County students that participated in Rep. Jacobsen's Summer Reading Contest."

Source: *Rep. Brad Jacobsen* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560129_bj.pdf*

Judge Harold Hood (posthumously) with the Founders Award Marilyn Mullane with Award

"The Michigan State Bar Foundation has selected Hon. Harold Hood (posthumously) as the 2015 recipient of its Founders Award, which recognizes lawyers who exemplify professional excellence and outstanding community contributions. Past recipients included Dennis Archer, Wallace Riley, Charles Rutherford, Hon. Julian Cook, Patrick Bruetsch, Kim Cahill (posthumously), Hon. Avern Cohn, John

Cummiskey (posthumously) and Hon. Hilda Gage (posthumously)."

Source: *Michigan State Bar Foundation* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560089_msbf.pdf

Snyder Admin: There's No Lead Problem, But Here's Some Water Filters

"FLINT — News broke today that the Snyder administration secretly organized the distribution of water filters to Flint residents that help remove lead from the water. This comes on the heels of the Snyder administration denying that there was any problem with the Flint water, which has been deemed dangerous to drink by researchers and resulted in Flint children having increased levels of lead in their blood. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559942_pm2.pdf

Rep. Yonker invites area residents to budget town hall

"State Rep. Ken Yonker, R-Caledonia, invites local residents of Allegan and Kent counties to attend a budget town hall with guest-speaker House Appropriations Chair Rep. Al Pscholka on Thursday, Oct. 15 at Wayland Union High School from 6 to 8 p.m."

Source: *Rep. Ken Yonker* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559780_ky.pdf

Westbound US-10 bridge opens, demolition and rebuild begin on eastbound US-10 bridge

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is nearing completion of the westbound US-10 bridge over I-75, with the bridge opening to traffic on Oct. 3. Then on Oct. 4, crews will shift eastbound traffic over to the newly constructed westbound bridge, closing the eastbound bridge. Final concrete work on the north end ramps (northbound I-75 to westbound US-10 and westbound US-10 to southbound I-75) will finish by Oct. 5.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559737_mdot5.pdf

State parks wrap up camping season with harvest festivals

"Each year in the fall, Michigan state parks close out the busy summer camping season with a family favorite: harvest festivals. These events, offered this year at many locations statewide, are a great way

to welcome autumn and feature activities such as pumpkin carving, costume contests, trick-or-treating and more. Each park puts its own personal spin on the celebration, so no two events are exactly the same."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559708_dnr.pdf

Person-Centered Long Term Care the Focus of Joint Provider Surveyor Training

*"**September 29, 2015** – Developing positive approaches to person-centered care is the focus for more than 700 long term care health professionals, providers, and state surveyors attending today's Joint Provider Surveyor Training (JPST) at the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids. The training is organized by the Bureau of Community and Health Systems within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559679_lara2.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Judge Colleen O'Brien to Michigan Court of Appeals

"LANSING, Mich. -- Colleen O'Brien, an Oakland Circuit Court judge with more than 30 years of legal experience, was today appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Gov. Rick Snyder.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559618_gov.pdf

JEB BUSH: UNLEASH THE ENERGY REVOLUTION

""Taken together, these policies will fully unleash the Energy Revolution, creating more jobs, higher wages, cheaper gas and cheaper electricity, while better protecting our interests abroad and our environment."
"

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559572_jb.pdf

Michigan Legislature & Congress Attack Women's Reproductive Rights

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan is proud to stand with Planned Parenthood in Michigan and across the country as extremist-backed elected officials continue to push for an end to a woman's constitutional right to safe and legal abortions."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559529_prn.pdf

Zorn raising awareness of Dysautonomia

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Tuesday approved a resolution sponsored by Sen. Dale Zorn to help increase the public's understanding and awareness of dysautonomia."*

Source: *Senator Dale Zorn* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559497_dz.pdf

Horn Hometown Tours: Huron Eastern Railroad and Sargent Docks

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn last week joined Huron Eastern Railroad staff for a tour of their operations and a trip down the rails to one of their common stops, Sargent Docks."*

Source: *Senator Ken Horn* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559474_kh.pdf

THIRTEEN MICHIGAN SCHOOLS AWARDED NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION

"LANSING – Thirteen Exemplary High Performing Schools in Michigan were recognized today as being National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2015 by the U.S. Department of Education (USED).

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559427_doe.pdf

Big trucks on display at State Capitol as ag leaders highlight truck regulations

*"LANSING – Tomorrow, **Wednesday, September 30**, the **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan (ALM)** will host a display of large trucks outside the Michigan capitol and highlight the importance of Michigan's current truck regulations, allowing trucks of up to 11 axles and 160,000 pounds to operate*

on roads and highways."

Source: *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559376_alm.pdf

Dingell, Miller Introduce Resolution Establishing National Manufacturing Day

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Candice Miller (MI-10) this week introduced a bipartisan resolution designating Friday, October 2, 2015 as "National Manufacturing Day." The resolution recognizes the critical role manufacturing plays in the United States economy and honors the hardworking men and women of the manufacturing sector. The resolution can be read in full here."*

Source: *U.S. House of Representatives* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559319_ushr.pdf

Voter registration deadline for November election nears

"

LANSING, Mich. - Michigan residents have until Monday, Oct. 5, to register to vote in the Nov. 3 election, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559281_sos.pdf

MSC Opinion: Epps v 4 Quarters Restoration LLC

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an opinion in No. 147727, Epps v 4 Quarters Restoration LLC, a case in which oral arguments were heard on March 10, 2015.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559240_sc2.pdf

Jones introduces bill banning fish farming in the Great Lakes

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones on Tuesday introduced legislation to ban commercial fish farming in the Great Lakes."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559177_rj.pdf

USDA Helps Rural Michigan Businesses Create Jobs and Increase Economic Opportunities

"PINE RIDGE, S.D., Sept. 29, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today awarded nearly $20 million through 385 grants to help support the start-up or expansion of rural small businesses."

Source: *USDA* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559146_usda.pdf

Sen. Robertson welcomes the Rev. Ed Pedley to state Capitol to give Senate invocation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Dave Robertson, R-Grand Blanc, welcomed the Rev. Ed Pedley to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Pedley serves as pastor at First Baptist Church of Holly and delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

Source: *Senator David B. Robertson* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553963_dr.pdf

School Year + Germs = Sick Kids: Detroiters Talk Need for Earned Sick Time

"DETROIT — With the school year back in session, every parent knows it is only a matter of time before the crowded school buses and bustling playgrounds lead to a child sick at home with a cold."

Source: *Time to Care Coalition* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553574_ttc.pdf

Schuette, State Attorneys General Urge Congress to Address Heroin, Opioid Addiction and Abuse

"

***LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined attorneys general from 37 states and the District of Columbia to urge the Committees on the Judiciary for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to pass legislation designed to help states more effectively confront the growing challenge of heroin and opioid abuse and addiction.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553538_ag2.pdf

House committee takes testimony on Rep. Pscholka's 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

"The House Committee on Criminal Justice today took testimony on House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553506_ap.pdf

Ted Cruz Climbs to Top of This Week's Fox News 2016 Presidential Power Index

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Yesterday, in the weekly update of Fox News's Presidential Power Index, Digital Politics editor Chris Stirewalt offered his analysis on America's Newsroom with Gretchen Carlson for why Ted Cruz replaces Jeb Bush as this week's number one pick to win the 2016 GOP Primary, citing Cruz's strong positioning to compete for "the long haul" against the party's establishment candidate."*

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553444_tc3.pdf

VOLKSWAGEN'S LEGAL ISSUES DISCUSSED BY WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL PROFESSORS MARK DOTSON AND PAUL CARRIER

"WMU-Cooley Law School Professors Mark Dotson and Paul Carrier are paying close attention to potential legal ramifications facing Volkswagen for rigging millions of cars with deceptive software, which falsifies emission testing results. Professor Dotson teaches Torts and Remedies and has extensive knowledge in consumer protection laws. Professor Carrier teaches a variety of international law courses, which include EU Law, International Business Law, and Public International Law."

Source: *WMU - Cooley Law School* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553399_wmu.pdf

Oct. 15: Honor Diaries to be Screened at the University of Michigan

"

Ann Arbor, Mich. — The University of Michigan chapter of Young Americans for Freedom will host a screening and panel discussion of Honor Diaries on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. More than a documentary,Honor

Diaries has become a movement that educates viewers about "honor"-based violence faced by women in Muslim-majority societies and how to combat such abuse.
"

Source: *Young Americans for Freedom - U of M* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553349_yaff.pdf

TC Chamber Young Professionals Headed to Leelanau Outdoor Center

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Scores of rising stars from the youthful ranks of Northern Michigan's business and professional community will head to the great outdoors for the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals Annual Conference."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553312_tc2.pdf

Powerball Jackpot Tops $300 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 29, 2015** – Cash continues to pile up for the Powerball jackpot, which now stands at $301 million for Wednesday night's drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553233_lottery.pdf

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Manufacturers Honor State Leaders at Legislative Reception

"

LANSING — Stakeholders from across Michigan will convene in Lansing today, 9/29/15, for the annual Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) Legislative Reception. This networking event features the presentation of the MMA Legislator of the Year Award. The honor recognizes legislators for their leadership and dedication to Michigan's manufacturing sector and their role advocating on behalf of Michigan's largest job-creating industry.

"

Source: *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553186_mma.pdf

ICYMI: Rep. Bishop Floor Statement on House Passage of Higher Education Extension Act of 2015

"In case you missed it yesterday, Congressman Mike Bishop led the House passage of the "Higher Education Extension Act of 2015," H.R. 3594, which will prevent the Perkins Loan Program from expiring later this week. This is Rep. Bishop's first legislation to pass the full House of Representatives, making him the first Michigan freshman to pass a bill this session."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553093_mb.pdf

East Lansing Kids Join with Schuette to Stop Bullying and School Violence

*"**EAST LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined State Superintendent Brian Whiston, East Lansing High School Principal Coby Fletcher, Anti-Bullying Advocate Kevin Epling, and Michigan State Police Inspector Matt Bolger and students at East Lansing High School to promote the success of Michigan's OK2SAY student safety program.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553036_ag.pdf

VENTURE NORTH AND ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS DEVELOP COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

*"**TRAVERSE CITY AND MANISTEE, MICHIGAN** – Venture North Funding and Development, based in Traverse City and the Alliance for Economic Success in Manistee have entered into a working agreement to collaborate in promoting business and job growth in the Manistee County area using economic development funding sources managed by Venture North."*

Source: *Venture North* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552871_vn.pdf

Legal Self-Help Website Attracts More Than 1.6 Million Visitors;Two New Self-Help Centers to Open Th

"LANSING, MI, September 29, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that use of the Michigan Legal Help website has grown dramatically, facilitating increased access to the state's court system. Sincewww.michiganlegalhelp.org was launched in August 2012, the website has had 5,645,811 page views and 1,638,853 visitor sessions.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552809_sc.pdf

Traffic Advisory - M-83 in Saginaw County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will have lane closures in effect today (Tuesday, Sept. 29), through Thursday, Oct. 1 on M-83 north of Frankenmuth, while crews repair culverts.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552744_mdot2.pdf

New medication management therapy program saving lives, improving Patient health

"

LANSING, MI – Three months after its launch, a new medication management program led by a Physicians Health Plan (PHP) Clinical Pharmacist is already saving lives and improving the health of Patients in the mid-Michigan region."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *09-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552718_sh.pdf

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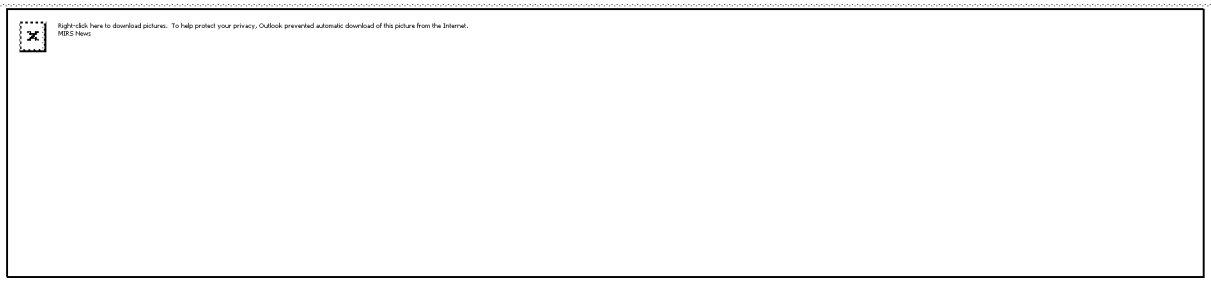

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Michigan motorists can prove auto insurance coverage on cell phone under approved bill

"LANSING, MI — Michigan motorists involved in traffic stops or crashes will have the option to show proof of no-fault auto insurance coverage in an electronic form under legislation heading to the desk of Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_motorists_can_prove_i.html#incart_river*

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints U-M attorney Joan Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court

"LANSING, MI — University of Michigan attorney and law professor Joan Larsen is heading to the state Supreme Court."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_appoints_u-m_attorney_j.html#incart_river*

Big trucks not bad for Michigan roads, truckers say

"LANSING, MI — Heavy trucks may not be doing as much damage to Michigan roadways as many people think, industry experts argued Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/09/big_trucks_not_bad_for_michiga.html#incart_river

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Detroit-area congresswoman blasts questioning of Planned Parenthood head in hearing

"SOUTHFIELD, MI -- Frustrated by what she called insensitive and uniformed questions asked during testimony of Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards in a congressional hearing, U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence, D-Southfield, chastised other members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/detroit-area_congresswoman_bla.html#incart_river*

Bay County commissioner, high school teacher Don Tilley enters 96th District state Rep race

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — The number of candidates hoping to represent Bay City in Lansing continues to grow."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/09/bay_county_commissioner_high_s.html#incart_river*

Judge rejects portions of Ambassador Bridge lawsuit fighting Gordie Howe bridge project

"DETROIT, MI -- A judge on Wednesday dismissed several portions of Ambassador Bridge owner Manuel "Matty" Moroun's lawsuit against the federal government, but his fight to build a second span to Windsor continues."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/judge_rejects_portions_of_amba.html#incart_river

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Governor says fallout from Flint water switch wasn't fully understood

"FLINT, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder says "There are probably things that weren't as fully understood" as they should have been before the city tapped into the Flint River for drinking water."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_says_he_helped_bring_wa.html#incart_river_home

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No plea for former State Rep. Roy Schmidt on marijuana charges

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – "This is going to trial," Roy Schmidt said Wednesday, Sept. 30 as he appeared briefly in Kent County Circuit Court where is charged with two counts of manufacturing/delivery of marijuana, a four-year felony."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/no_plea_for_former_state_rep_r.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan House candidate urges bus drivers to catch 'blue flu,' call in sick

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Characterizing The Rapid as a "bully" for its handling of labor contract negotiations, state House candidate Michael Scruggs is urging bus drivers to fight back by calling in sick."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_house_candidate_urges.html#incart_river_home*

Legislative Black Caucus urges state of emergency for Flint water

"FLINT, MI — The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus is putting pressure on Gov. Rick Snyder to issue a state of emergency for the city of Flint's water problems."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/michgans_black_causus_urges_go.html#incart_river_home*

Sen. Peters: Triple Syrian refugees accepted into U.S.

"Washington — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters wants the Obama administration to triple the number of refugees from war-ravaged Syria that it will accept next year and to give higher priority to resettling persecuted minorities from both Syria and Iraq in the United States."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/peters-syria/73090848/*

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8 Mich. lawmakers urge Obama to extend Great Lakes aid

"Washington — Eight Michigan lawmakers have signed a bipartisan letter urging President Barack Obama to extend funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative into 2017."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/mich-lawmakers-urge-obama-extend-great-lakes-aid/73117826/*

Rep. Bishop gets first bill passed among Mich. freshmen

"U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, this week became the first among Michigan's five House freshmen to get a piece of legislation approved by the U.S. House of Representatives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/rep-bishop-gets-first-bill-passed-among-mich-freshmen/73129588/*

Pay, right to work cited in slow Mich. teacher talks

"Nearly a month into the school year, teachers in more than a dozen Michigan districts are working without contracts as negotiations bog down over wages and other issues."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/01/teacher-contract-talks-michigan/73131112/*

Rep. Tinsley-Talabi linked to Detroit corruption case

"Federal officials are investigating state Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi in a bribery and kickback scandal stemming from her time as a city councilwoman and a Detroit pension fund trustee, The Detroit News has learned."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/09/30/scream-sentencing-detroit-corruption-case/73095744/*

Flint water woes seep into city, state politics

"Flint — The questionable quality of the city's drinking water made headlines again this week, but not much of it has been news to Ashley Holt."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/flint-water-woes-seep-city-state-politics/73129478/*

Stakes high after UAW workers reject Fiat Chrysler deal

"The rejection by United Auto Workers members of a tentative contract with Fiat Chrysler for the first time in a generation is pushing leaders of both sides down an unpredictable road that doesn't guarantee a better deal

for the union's 40,000 members."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/30/stakes-high-uaw-workers-reject-fiat-chrysler-deal/73127166/

Most Wayne County unions sign off on new contracts

"Most Wayne County unions have signed off on new contracts that administration officials say are key to the county's recovery plans, and commissioners are poised to consider, and likely approve, the agreements at their regular meeting on Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/09/30/most-wayne-county-unions-sign-off-new-contracts/73110080/

Snyder appoints Joan Larsen to Supreme Court

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday named to the Michigan Supreme Court University of Michigan attorney and law professor Joan Larsen, a former legal adviser to the administration of President George W. Bush and a former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/snyder-appoints-joan-larsen-supreme-court/73079114/

Peters wants more Syrian refugees resettled in U.S.

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters sent a letter to the White House on Wednesday asking that the U.S. accept no fewer than 100,000 refugees fleeing bloodshed from Syria and Iraq in the coming years, including 30,000 during the next fiscal year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/peters-wants-more-syrian-refugees-resettled-us/73089266/

Traffic stops might become easier with bill passage

"LANSING — Frantically digging around in vehicle glove boxes may become a thing of the past because of a bill that received final passage in the state Senate on Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/traffic-stops-might-become-easier-bill-

passage/73095802/

Michigan's lone venomous snake may get fed protection

"The eastern massasauga rattlesnake, Michigan's lone venomous viper, is the scariest snake you've probably never seen — except in pictures, perhaps. But the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing that this chicken of a snake needs federal protection as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/michigans-lone-venomous-snake-may-get-fed-protection/73092180/

Defense authorization bill protects Selfridge's jets

"WASHINGTON — A10 fighter jets at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and elsewhere across the U.S. would be protected by a congressional compromise measure being readied for a vote, but the White House says in its present form it is still likely to be vetoed."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/defense-authorization-bill-protects-selfridges-jets/73105588/

Morouns lose on virtually all counts in bridge lawsuit

"WASHINGTON — A federal judge on Wednesday dismissed virtually all of the remaining legal counts in a lawsuit against the U.S. government brought by owners of the Ambassador Bridge, rejecting Manuel (Matty) Moroun's contention that his company has an exclusive rights to operate a span to Canada in Detroit without competition."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/morouns-lose-virtually-all-counts-bridge-lawsuit/73083798/

UAW didn't get through to members

"Over the past two weeks UAW members appear to have overwhelmingly rejected a contract that their elected union leaders openly celebrated, dealing an embarrassing blow to UAW President Dennis Williams and his leadership team."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/30/uaw-didnt-get-through-members/73095526/

Former Congressman John Dingell honored for Head Start support

"Half a century ago, Michigan Congressman John Dingell supported a new program called Head Start, which at the time provided eight weeks of summer programming for kids in poverty."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/former_congressman_john_dingel.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Let's block attacks on sports referees before they happen

"Referees make tough calls, and it's not uncommon for them to find themselves in the middle of heated confrontations. And while thick skin is a requirement for officiating, fiercely competitive athletes sometimes vent their feelings in potentially dangerous ways."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/lets_block_assaults_on_referee.html#incart_river*

Campbell: Unregulated prescribing authority wrong move

"At the beginning of the summer, Gov. Rick Snyder announced the formation of a "Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force." It was an important move and perhaps an even more important acknowledgment — Michigan is facing a prescription drug abuse crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/01/campbell-unregulated-prescribing-authority-wrong/73123270/*

Buss: Debtor's prison trap must go

"David Stojcevski died in the Macomb County jail after being placed behind bars for failing to pay a traffic ticket."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/buss-debtor-prison-trap/73123056/*

Finley: Keep politics out of taxes

"If you don't own a home, if you don't have dependent children, if you aren't a senior citizen and if you don't have outstanding college loans, don't bother to check out the "Blueprint for Michigan Families" offered by Democrats this week. It isn't for you."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/09/30/finley-keep-politics-taxes/73121468/*

Editorial: Adding Larsen should make good court better

"Gov. Rick Snyder is making the case for the appointment of Supreme Court justices look quite appealing. The governor's third pick for an opening on the court, Joan Larsen, reflects his preference for justices with solid legal grounding over those with political connections.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/30/editorial-larsens-pick-make-good-court-better/73121506/

Firm Picked to Evaluate Education Funding Has Long History of Recommending Spending Hikes

"The Snyder administration's preliminary pick for a contractor to do a study on whether Michigan spends an "adequate" amount on public schools has a long history of coming to the same conclusion on similar questions: "Not adequate." The company's 12 most recent state studies have all concluded that spending on public schools should be increased."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21754*

Press Releases

Proos, Pscholka, Pagel honor the late Sen. Harry Gast at the Michigan Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. John Proos was joined by Reps. Al Pscholka and Dave Pagel at the Michigan Capitol on Wednesday to honor former state Sen. Harry Gast, who died in July."*

Source: *Senator Proos* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443647020_jpro.pdf

Upton, Committee Advance Key Energy Legislation

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined by his colleagues on the

House Energy and Commerce Committee, advanced key energy legislation to the House floor. H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act was approved by the full committee by a bipartisan vote of 32 - 20. Today's vote marks another important milestone in the multi-year, multi-Congress effort to modernize the nation's energy laws.

"

Source: *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646956_fru.pdf*

Iowa State Senator and Former Walker Supporter Randy Feenstra Endorses Ted Cruz for President

"

HOUSTON, Texas *– Presidential candidate Ted Cruz today announced the endorsement of former Scott Walker supporter, Iowa State Senator Randy Feenstra. The endorsement follows Cruz's earlier announcement that all three of Walker's former grassroots co-chairs in Georgia are also now organizing for the Cruz campaign.*

"

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646922_cru.pdf*

Sen. Schmidt announces October coffee hours

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Wayne Schmidt announced he will hold coffee hours in the 37th District this month."*

Source: *Senator Schmidt* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646875_schm.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Richard Crosby

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Thursday, Oct. 1 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Casnovia Township firefighter Richard Crosby Sr., who died Saturday, Sept. 26.

"

Source: *Governor Snyder* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646833_govs.pdf*

Zorn outlines need for firefighter certification bill

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Dale Zorn on Wednesday urged the Senate Regulatory Reform Committee to support his legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan."*

Source: *Senator Zorn* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646743_zor.pdf

Peters, Stabenow Applaud $2.5 Million Grant for Muskegon Community College

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today applauded a $2,514,000 grant for Muskegon Community College to be used forrenovations of the new Muskegon College Applied Technology Center. The funding comes from the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Public Works Program."*

Source: *U.S. Senate* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646706_ps.pdf*

Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 1

"Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 1"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646679_smedia2.pdf

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Dingell: Congress Should be Embarrassed for Letting Conservation Fund Expire

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today in support of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), one of our nation's oldest and most significant conservation programs. Authorization for LWCF will expire at midnight tonight without action by Congress.*

"

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646654_dd.pdf

MDHHS releases RFP for community coalitions focused on obesity reduction

"LANSING, Mich. – To support the continued efforts of the Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently released a Request for Proposals to

assist community coalitions in implementing components that will further healthy lifestyles and help prevent obesity.

"

Source: *MDHHS* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641793_mdhh.pdf*

Traffic Advisory - I-69/M-54 ramp closure in Genesee County

"Traffic Advisory – Genesee County On Thursday, Oct. 1 the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will replace the sign over the ramp from eastbound I-69 to M-54 (Dort Highway). Crews will need to close the ramp (Exit 138) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to complete this work.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641751_mdt.pdf*

Dingell Language to Help Evacuate US Citizens from Yemen Included in Final Defense Authorization Bil

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today thanked the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee for including language she authored in the final FY2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conference report. The report urges President Obama to work with international partners, to the extent practicable, to protect non-combatants and assist in the evacuation of U.S. citizens and nationals from Yemen."*

Source: *Congresswoman Dingell* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641690_yme.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills modifying local regulations to save resources, improve customer service

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed three bills that clarify operations of municipalities, making it easier for counties, cities, townships and villages to file documents and save money at the local government level.

"

Source: *Governor Snyder* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641431_sny.pdf

Schuette Convicts Southfield Doctor of Sex Offenses, Drug Delivery, Fraud

"

LANSING – *Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that John Ronald Verbovsky, 67, of Southfield, was sentenced by Ingham County Circuit Judge William Collette to five to 20 years in prison for prescribing controlled substances without any legitimate medical need in exchange for sex or cash.*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641304_schue.pdf*

Ag leaders urge lawmakers to maintain Michigan's truck weight regulations

"LANSING – The ***Agricultural Leaders of Michigan*** *today called on state legislators to maintain Michigan's truck weight regulations, allowing trucks of up to 11 axles and 160,000 pounds to operate on roads and highways. The policy reduces the number of trucks needed, and spreads out weight over additional axles, reducing wear on roads and highways."*

Source: *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641251_alm.pdf*

Booher works on Great Lakes issues with fellow state and provincial lawmakers from the basin

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — Sen. Darwin Booher recently joined other regional leaders in Great Lakes policy to discuss important Great Lakes water issues."*

Source: *Senator Booher* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443640814_booh.pdf*

Rep. Glenn moves to roll back occupational licensing

"Rep. Gary Glenn, R-Midland, today announced he will introduce legislation to protect the state of Michigan from liability for overreaching occupational licensing boards following a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling. "

Source: *Rep. Gary Glenn* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635256_gg.pdf*

Jones bill would eliminate benefits to unmarried couples

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to ban health insurance benefits for domestic partners of state employees unless the couple is married."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635066_rj.pdf

Senate adopts MacGregor resolution establishing Michigan Hunger Solutions Day

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – The state Senate on Wednesday approved a resolution declaring Oct. 21, 2015 as Michigan Hunger Solutions Day."*

Source: *Senator Peter MacGregor* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635032_pm2.pdf

Runners Hit the Road 8AM this Saturday for the M23.1K Run

"Twenty three years after the first M231 planning meeting, three-hundred athletes will hit the road on Saturday, October 3 at 8AM for the CU Link M23.1K Run. The event takes place on the new M231 highway before it opens to vehicles. The start and finish lines are at Robinson Elementary School in Grand Haven. (11801 120th Avenue Grand Haven, MI) The running event is full, but spectators are welcome. Following the race, from 11:45AM until 1PM, the community is welcome to walk or ride their bikes on the new stretch of highway.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634916_mdot4.pdf*

Peters Urges Obama Administration to Resettle More Syrian, Persecuted Religious Minority Refugees

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced that he has sent a letter to President Obama urging the United States to resettle at least 100,000 refugees in the coming years from Syria and persecuted religious minority refugees in both Iraq and Syria, including 30,000 refugees in fiscal year 2016. The Obama administration has previously announced a goal of resettling 85,000 refugees in the next fiscal year, including at least 10,000 Syrian refugees in the United States through the United States Refugee Admission Program (USRAP)."*

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634680_gp.pdf

I-75 in Auburn Hills- Chrysler Drive to nb I-75 opens Fri - wb University to nb I-75 ramp closes Mon

"Chrysler Drive on ramp to northbound I-75 will open Friday, 10/2/15 and will allow traffic direct access to northbound I-75 without the need to go to University Drive."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634647_mdot3.pdf*

Sen. Wayne Schmidt named Michigan Manufacturers Association Legislator of the Year

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) on Tuesday announced state Sen. Wayne Schmidt as its 2015 Legislator of the Year."*

Source: *Senator Wayne Schmidt* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634599_ws.pdf

Senate OKs Rep. Nesbitt bill for electronic proof of insurance

"A bill authored by state Rep. Aric Nesbitt enabling drivers to present electronic proof of auto insurance was approved today by the state Senate and is on its way to the governor for consideration."

Source: *Rep. Aric Nesbitt* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634562_an.pdf

Successful Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors Liberty Hunt event

"Hunters with health challenges from all corners of Michigan joined Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors Sept. 19-20 for a Liberty Hunt event at Sharonville State Game Area in Jackson County. A firearm deer hunt for wounded veterans and others with disabilities, it also marked the first hunt period for the new restricted hunt area at the Pierce Road Unit."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634523_dnr2.pdf

Questions Abound: Snyder Supreme Court Appointee Authored Secret Bush-Era Indefinite Detention Memo

"MICHIGAN — Gov. Rick Snyder's appointee to the Michigan Supreme Court, Joan Larsen, helped author a legal document while at the Office of Legal Counsel regarding habeas corpus rights of detainees during the Bush Administration."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634485_pm.pdf

ACLU Statement on Appointment of Bush Administration Attorney to Michigan Supreme Court

"DETROIT – In a press conference today, Governor Rick Snyder officially announced his appointment of University of Michigan legal professor Joan Larsen to the Michigan Supreme Court. From January 2002 through May 2003, Larsen served as deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel. During her tenure, the OLC weakened the rule of law by issuing several legal opinions authorizing torture, indefinite detention, warrantless wiretapping, and other abuses of power. While it's unclear the general role Larsen played in crafting policies, the ACLU has learned through ongoing litigation that Larsen co-authored a secret memo in March 2002 regarding detainees' right to habeas corpus, the constitutional right to challenge one's detention in a court of law."

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634445_aclu.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY - TOMORROW: Schuette Joins North Rockford Middle School Students For OK2SAY Program

"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.
"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629839_ag2.pdf

Laborers endorse Nathan Triplett

"EAST LANSING—Laborers' Local 499 today announced its endorsement of Nathan Triplett for re-election to East Lansing City Council."

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629787_bf2.pdf

Assessment of Breathing Chemicals Related to 2010 Kalamazoo River Oil Spill Finalized

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has finalized the Public Health Assessment evaluating levels of oil-related chemicals in the air following the July 2010 oil spill in Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties. MDHHS has concluded that residents are not expected to experience long-term harm to

their health from breathing chemicals released into the air from the spilled oil.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629742_dhs.pdf*

Liberty Leaders Coalesce Around Ted Cruz for President

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced 17 members of his Liberty Leaders for Cruz coalition from New Hampshire and South Carolina, joining chairman Bob Barr and eight previously announced Iowa Liberty leaders."*

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629311_tc.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Joan L. Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court

"LANSING, Mich. -- Joan L. Larsen, a University of Michigan legal expert with experience with the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Justice Department, was appointed today to the Michigan Supreme Court by Gov. Rick Snyder.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629283_gov.pdf*

Statement on Larsen's Supreme Court appointment

*"**LANSING, Mich., Sept. 30, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel released the following statement on Joan Larsen being appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court:"*

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629251_mr.pdf*

Chief Justice Young: Justice Joan Larsen is "perfect fit" for Court

"LANSING, MI, September 30, 2015 – Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. today said that Governor Snyder's appointment of Joan L. Larsen was "a perfect fit with a Court that is second to none in its commitment to the rule of law and legal scholarship." Larsen is currently special counsel and adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629223_courts.pdf

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Schuette Statement on Appointment of Joan Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court

"

***LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today issued the following statement on Gov. Snyder's appointment of Joan Larsen to the Michigan Supreme Court:*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-01-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629182_ag.pdf <hr style='margin:20px 0;

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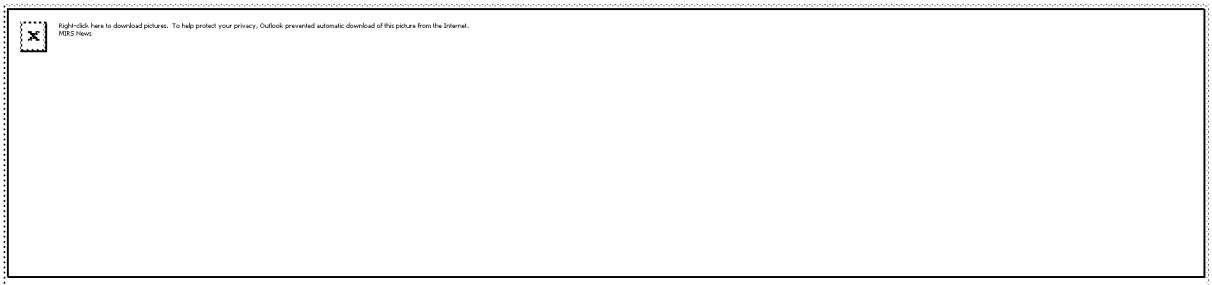
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 9:33 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 1, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 1, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/841

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/840

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Presumptive Parole Bill Passes House In Face Of AG's Opposition

A bill to ensure that more low-risk prisoners get parole after serving their minimum sentences passed the House today as supporters argued that some inmates are being forced to stay behind bars too long.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44565

House Committee Goes Its Own Way, Advances Ed Evaluation Bill

The push to define a system for evaluating teachers in Michigan took a step forward today in the House. But lawmakers are expecting that some old obstacles could still lie ahead.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44568

State Tries To Soothe Growing Alarm Over Flint Water

State officials have scheduled a Friday afternoon press conference during which they will announce an action plan designed to calm concerns caused by a study claiming Flint's municipal water supply is

elevating lead levels in the city's kids.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44571

Funding Placeholder For Flint Water Supply Added In Senate

A supplemental appropriations bill passed in the Senate included a $100 placeholder for potential solutions to address the city of Flint's water supply.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44566

Sweeping Reforms To Michigan Tax Tribunal Proposed Under Senate Bill

The makeup and proceedings of the Michigan Tax Tribunal would be shaken up under a new Senate bill supporters say is a starting point to streamline the quasi-judicial agency and fix its longstanding issues.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44570

Senate Leaders Not Enthusiastic About Presumptive Parole

The day the House passed legislation making it easier for some prison inmates to receive parole for keeping their noses clean, the chair of the Senate committee likely receiving the bills threw water on the proposal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44563

Cotter: Leaders On `Good Pace' To Get Road Plan In October

House Speaker Kevin COTTER (R-Mt. Pleasant) says he believes legislative leaders are on pace to get a road-funding plan to the House floor some time this month.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44569

Senate Caucus Focuses On BAM

Senate Republicans went behind closed doors today not to get an update on a long-term road funding package, but to open a discussion on the legal dispute between the Secretary of State's office and computer giant Hewlett Packard (HP).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44561

Calley Leading Trade Mission To India

The Gov. Rick SNYDER administration is making its third international trade mission three months Friday when Lt. Gov. Brian CALLEY goes to India in an effort to expand markets for Michigan-made products and encourage direct investments.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44562

Hackel Up 8 On Schuette In New Poll

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44560

MSHDA Aims To Heal `Culture' Problems With New Employee Initiative

The state's housing agency has launched its own employee services office in an effort to revamp the agency's “culture,” as its leader put it this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44564

Prisoner Store Reshuffling Results In 4 Temp Worker Losses

Only four employees working on a temporary basis didn't come back as a result of the restructuring of the state's prisoner store operations.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44567

Garcia Highlighted By National Republicans

Rep. Daniela GARCIA (R-Holland) is being recognized on the National Republican Committee's (RNC) website Friday as part of a nationwide push to reach out to the Hispanic community during Hispanic History Month.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44569

Bits And Tidbits

MDE To Hold Additional Hearings On New Social Studies, Science Standards

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44572

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 1, 2007, Gov. Jennifer GRANHOLM signed into law a pair of tax increases at 4:20 a.m. that prevented a prolonged state government shutdown, which had started at midnight when the Legislature had not passed a Fiscal Year 2008 budget by 11:59 p.m. Sept. 30.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#44568

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|**
Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
(CANCELLED) Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
10:30 AM - **Financial Services**
(CANCELLED) Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
9:00 AM - **Education**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:00 PM - **JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
8:30 AM - **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL|Sen. Meekhof**
Rm: SAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
8:30 AM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
11:30 AM
Wolverine Caucus forum of 2015 - Preserving Our Great Lakes(Sponsored by University of Michigan)
Guest Speakers: Dr. John Callewaert and Nicole Berg
Location: Christman/MML Building
Contact: Register by calling 517-372-7801 - or by emailing amccullu@umich.edu

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
12:00 PM
Michigan Says Thanks - Honoring Michigan Vietnam Era Veterans(Sponsored by Senator Mike Kowall)
Location: Michigan State Capitol Lawn
Contact: Lynn OBrien 517-373-0563
LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Colasantis Market
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Dave and Amys
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
12:00 PM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Bakers
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

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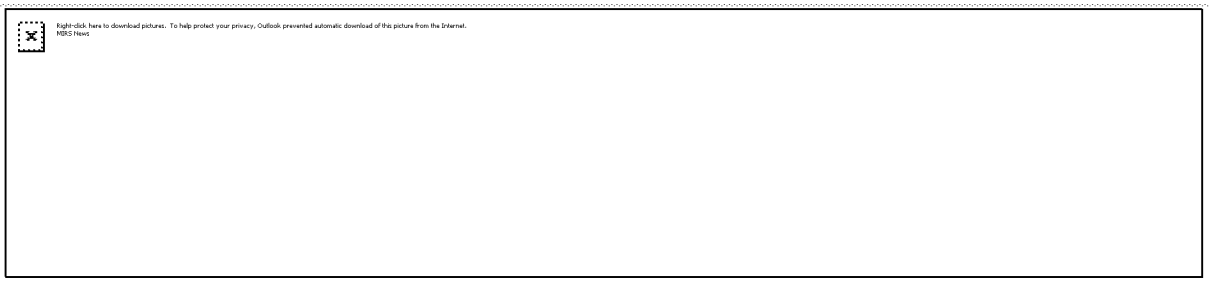
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 6:45 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Michigan House revises prisoner parole procedure despite objections from AG Bill Schuette

"LANSING, MI -- Prisoners who present a low risk to society would be more likely to serve only their minimum sentences under legislation passed by the Michigan House of Representatives Thursday, despite opposition from Attorney General Bill Schuette."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_revises_parole.html#incart_river*

Cotter: No immediate action on Tinsley-Talabi as feds investigate link to bribery scheme

"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter, weeks removed from overseeing a rare expulsion, said Thursday he is not planning immediate action against a lawmaker linked to a bribery scheme dating back to before her time in the Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/cotter_no_immediate_action_on.html#incart_river*

Former Detroit council staffer who took bribes gets probation after cooperating with feds

"DETROIT, MI -- A former City Council staffer who took and facilitated bribes related to pension system

investments in 2006 and 2007 won't spend time in prison."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former_detroit_council_staffer.html#incart_river*

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5 reasons why report says Justin Amash could 'revolutionize' the U.S. House as Speaker

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – U.S. Rep. Justin Amash has fresh ideas that could "revolutionize" the House if he becomes Speaker, opined a libertarian writer today on The Week."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/5_reasons_why_justin_amash_cou.html#incart_river_home*

Budget bill add-on awaits future state funds for Flint water

"FLINT, MI – A funding mechanism aimed at the state paying for measures to reduce lead levels in Flint's drinking water has been added to a budget bill in the Michigan Senate."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_sen_ananich_sets_stage_f.html#incart_river_home*

State to announce Flint water action plan Friday at Kettering

"FLINT, MI — Local, state and federal officials are set to announce a plan for addressing concerns with lead in Flint's drinking water at a news conference Friday, Oct. 2."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_will_announce_flint_wate.html#incart_river_home*

Public health emergency declared in Flint

"Flint — Officials have declared a public health emergency over the city of Flint's water after tests showed children with elevated levels of lead."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/01/thousands-flint-will-able-get-water-filters/73148174/*

House OKs reform bill on releasing nonviolent inmates

"Lansing — The Michigan House approved Thursday tightening the guidelines for the state's parole board to deny an inmate release from prison in a move aimed at releasing non-violent offenders after they've served their minimum mandatory sentences."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/nonviolent-inmates/73153978/*

Michigan Dems may shift support if Biden runs

"Some Michigan Democrats are anxious for Vice President Joe Biden to decide soon whether he'll jump into the race for president and disrupt former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's presumed path to the Democratic nomination."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/michigan-dems-may-shift-support-biden-runs/73181080/*

No announcement follows UAW leaders' meeting

"United Auto Workers leaders met into the night Thursday with no decision announced about the union's next move, following membership's rejection of a tentative deal with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/01/contract-rejected-uaw-meeting-warren/73144882/*

Mich. House passes bill adopting 'presumptive parole'

"LANSING — Prisoners who have served their minimum sentences and who score well on behavior and type of crime criteria could be approved for parole faster under a bill that received bipartisan support in the House of Representatives Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/mich-house-passes-bill-adopting-presumptive-parole/73155514/*

Presidential primary ballot could include local issues

"LANSING — The March 8 presidential primary ballot could grow next year and in future election cycles because of a bill which passed on a vote of 105-1 in the House of Representatives Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/presidential-primary-ballot-could-include-local-issues/73161320/

Legislators take action to fix Flint water supply

"LANSING — The Michigan Legislature is beginning to take notice of the ongoing controversy surrounding Flint's water system, which has been plagued by problems with discoloration and foul smells since the city disconnected from the Detroit water system and began pulling its water supply from the Flint River."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/legislators-take-action-fix-flint-water-supply/73152540/

Tinsley-Talabi's ex-staffer avoids prison in scam

"A former Detroit public official who pocketed more than $100,000 in bribes was spared a prison sentence today due to his cooperation, convincing the prosecution and judge that he was doing some dirty work at the behest of his former boss, former Detroit Councilwoman Alberta Tinsley-Talabi."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/tinsley-talabis-ex-staffer-avoids-prison-scam/73161594/

Governor in Silicon valley selling Michigan

"While 175 Michigan expatriates returned this week for a three-day Detroit Homecoming 2015 conference to talk about reinvesting in the city, Gov. Rick Snyder and three business leaders traveled to San Francisco today to preach the same gospel to Michigan expats there."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/10/01/ambassadors-silicon-valley/73166584/

No decision as UAW grapples with next steps

"No decisions were made on the next steps in UAW negotiations with Detroit automakers after a marathon session of the union leadership that stretched into the night Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/01/no-decision-uaw-grapples-next-steps/73159150/

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan energy planning should not be rushed

"In testimony given on Sept. 17 regarding Senate Bill 437before the Senate Energy and Technology Committee, David Mengebier, a senior vice president for Consumers Energy, listed a number of potential risks to Michigan's electricity market and stated: "It is imperative that we get a fair Michigan policy in place this fall.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_energy_planning_shoul.html#incart_river*

Editor's Note: Strike no good for anyone

"It's hard to see how a strike by the UAW will help either the union or the domestic auto industry."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/01/editor-note-finley-strike/73172036/*

Jacques: Plan for Detroit schools shouldn't be delayed

"Gov. Rick Snyder better act soon on his plans for Detroit schools. Because the momentum surrounding revamping education in the city is deflating."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/10/02/jacques-detroit-schools-plan/73190098/*

Our Editorial: Get Flint residents drinkable water

"It doesn't matter if official reports say Flint's water is safe to drink. If residents turn on the tap and the water that comes out is oddly colored — or any color but clear — and stinky, they aren't going to drink it. Nor should they have to.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/01/editorial-flint-drinkable-water/73172092/*

City Manager: 'Prosperity Doesn't Come From Government; It Comes From Freedom'

"When cities cry poverty, the organization helping them pursue more resources from state or local taxpayers is often the Michigan Municipal League. It is interesting then to see signs that the lobbying group

is doing some self-reflection, in the form of allowing a city manager with a fresh point of view to address the organization's annual meeting."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21759*

Press Releases

Schuitmaker announces office hours events for October

"Schuitmaker announces office hours events for October"

Source: *Senator Tonya Schuitmaker* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443733141_ts.pdf

Sent on behalf of the National Center for State Courts: Michigan Court of Appeals Judge William B.

"As a Mentors Plus volunteer, only a few hours of your time each month, will help a young person in your community. Be a positive adult role model for someone 5 to 16 years old. "

Source: *Oakland County Youth Assistance* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731809_oc.pdf

Michigan Appellate Court Judge Named Recipient of National Court Organization's Award

"Michigan Court of Appeals Judge William B. Murphy is the recipient of the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) 2015 Distinguished Service Award, one of the highest awards presented by the organization.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731740_sc.pdf

Media Reminder: Kowall sponsoring Capitol event honoring Vietnam era veterans

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall reminded residents Thursday that he is sponsoring an event honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era on the Capitol lawn on Thursday, Oct. 8. Kowall encouraged his constituents and all interested Michiganders to attend."*

Source: *Senator Mike Kowall* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731577_mk.pdf

Traffic Advisory – Genesee County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will require one additional day to complete sign replacement over the ramp from eastbound I-69 to M-54 (Dort Highway). Crews will close the ramp (Exit 138) from 9 a.m. to 12 noon tomorrow (Oct. 2) to complete this work.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731539_mdot5.pdf*

TOMORROW: Dingell to Speak at Detroit-Area Manufacturing Day Kickoff

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will join local manufacturers, government officials, business and community leaders, and students **tomorrow at 10 a.m.** to kick off National Manufacturing Day, a nationwide effort to draw greater attention to modern manufacturing and the rewarding career opportunities available in the manufacturing sector."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731508_dd2.pdf

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley leading trade mission to India focused on strengthening relationships, boostin

"LANSING, Mich. – In an effort to expand markets for Michigan made products and encourage job-creating foreign direct investment in the state, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will lead a delegation of state and business leaders on a trade mission to India starting Friday.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731474_ltgov.pdf

MDE SCHEDULES ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MEETINGS ON PROPOSED STATE STANDARDS

"LANSING – To continue sharing information and receiving public input on the proposed new Michigan science and social studies standards, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has announced additional public information sessions.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731438_mde2.pdf

Rep. Bishop on Legislation Demanding Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism

*"**WASHINGTON** – The House today passed Pennsylvania Congressman Patrick Meehan's legislation, the Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism Act, by a vote of 251-173. In response, Congressman Mike Bishop, a co-sponsor, issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Bishop* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443728431_bihs.pdf

Sen. Nofs honors retiring Michigan Public Service Commissioner Greg White

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Mike Nofs on Thursday honored retiring Michigan Public Service Commissioner Greg White with a Senate resolution. White accepted the resolution with his wife Junru at the Capitol during Senate session."*

Source: *Senator Mike Nofs* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443727223_mn.pdf

House passes probation, parole reform legislation

"The Michigan House of Representatives today approved legislation that would make much-needed reform to the state's parole and probation practices while lightening the burden of corrections costs in the state budget."

Source: *Michigan House* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443727179_mh.pdf

Huizenga: Hold Iranian Terror Accountable For Death of West Michigan Soldier

*"**Washington, DC –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3457, the Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism Act. This legislation requires that American victims and their families affected by Iranian linked terror attacks are compensated before the Iranian regime receives any of the $150 billion in sanction relief contained within the Iranian Nuclear Agreement.*

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443727102_bh.pdf

Statement from Rep. Phelps on his denied FOIA requests pertaining to the City of Flint water crisis

""Residents of the City of Flint face a substantial health risk due to contaminants found in their drinking water. In an effort to not politicize this situation, I have been working directly with state and local officials in seeking important information and attempting to correct the City's water crisis. Unfortunately, I have been faced with continual road blocks in my requests for information. It has been nearly a month since I submitted Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the State and the City of Flint requesting to see documents related to the City's switch to using water from the Flint River. I requested the applications and permits required by law to change a city's source of water. So far, the State Treasury has violated FOIA by not providing any information or even a denial. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and City of Flint have denied my request saying that the documents I requested do not exist. However, state law requires Michigan cities to apply for a permit from the DEQ to switch their source of water. Violation of this law is punishable by a fine of $5,000 per day and possible incarceration. I find it hard to believe that the DEQ and the City of Flint ignored such a critical step, not to mention one that the cost in fines alone would already be roughly $2.5 million and cause those responsible to be subject to criminal prosecution."

Source: *Rep. Phil Phelps* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725542_pp.pdf

MRG Release: Hackel tops Schuette

*"**Lansing, Mich. – If the next race for Governor were being held today,** Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel would lead Attorney General Bill Schuette 38% to 30% among likely voters. A recent statewide survey by Marketing Resource Group asked 600 likely voters for whom they would vote if the candidates for Governor in 2018 were Democrat Mark Hackel and Republican Bill Schuette."*

Source: *Marketing Resource Group* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725320_mrg.pdf

Statement from the Attorney General on the Presumptive Parole Vote in the House

"Attorney General Schuette today released the following statement in response to the vote on presumptive parole:"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725272_ag3.pdf

House Passes National Defense Authorization Act

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined by his colleagues in the House of Representatives, passed the Conference Report to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016. The legislation was advanced by a bipartisan vote of 270-156 and now heads to the U.S. Senate and then the president's desk.

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725111_fru.pdf

Statement from CAPPS on Michigan House Passage of HB 4138

"LANSING - Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) released the following statement on HB 4138 passing the Michigan House today with 67 votes:

"

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725058_grm.pdf

NDAA Heads to President with Rep. Bishop's Continued Support

*"**WASHINGTON** – In response to the House passage of the Adoption of the Conference Report to H.R. 1735 – FY16 National Defense Authorization Act, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725019_mb.pdf

Benishek Acts to Help Seniors and Rural Americans Obtain Paper Tax Forms

"

Washington, D.C. - Today, Dr. Dan Benishek introduced a new piece of legislation entitled H.R. , the "Personal Access to Paper Election Reform (PAPER) Act of 2015." In response to complaints from constituents who were unable to easily access free copies of paper forms or instructions to file their taxes in a timely manner, Dr. Benishek introduced legislation that would require the IRS to automatically mail these forms to individuals who have filed by paper the year prior.
"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722423_db.pdf

Michigan receives funds to assist providers, increase awareness of PrEP

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan has received funds to expand awareness of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), a way for people that do not have HIV but are at high risk to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722387_dhs.pdf*

Donate blood with the Red Cross to support cancer patients and others needing blood

"(October 1, 2015) — During Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood to support cancer patients and others needing blood products. "

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722353_rc.pdf*

Emmons: Harrison named as part of state's 'Rising Tide' economic development program

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Judy Emmons announced Thursday that Harrison has been named as one of 10 communities in Michigan that will participate in a pilot program to work with local leaders as they develop new strategies for economic prosperity and creating more and better jobs."*

Source: *Senator Judy K. Emmons* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443716001_je.pdf*

North Rockford Middle School Students, Schuette Tackle Bullying, Violence in Schools with OK2SAY Sch

"

***ROCKFORD** – Students at North Rockford Middle School and Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined with Rockford Superintendent Dr. Michael Shibler and Michigan State Police Inspector Matt Bolger to talk about the importance of preventing bullying and violence in school, with help from the OK2SAY student safety initiative*

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715963_ag2.pdf*

MIOSHA Launches Local Emphasis Program to Reduce Injuries and Illnesses

"October 1, 2015 – Effective today, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) is launching a Local Emphasis Program (LEP) to target the siding contractors, structural steel and pre-cast concrete construction sectors and improve overall workplace safety and health. MIOSHA is part of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)

"

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715921_lara.pdf*

Nominations Open for TC Area Chamber Board of Directors

"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.—Nominations are being accepted for seats on the Board of Directors for the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715879_tc.pdf*

Grant opportunity for funding of dam removals, critical repairs

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has announced its Dam Management Grant Program is now open for proposals. The fourth year of this grant opportunity will provide $350,000 in fiscal year 2016 to address Michigan's failing dam infrastructure through the funding of dam removals and critical repair/maintenance."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715806_dnr.pdf*

MDOT weekend construction 10/2-10/5/15

"MDOT weekend construction for 10/02-10/05/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715753_mdot4.pdf*

New Statewide Poll Shows Broad, Bipartisan Support for Smarter,

Evidence-Based Justice

"LANSING - Today the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) released a new poll showing broad, bipartisan support for corrections reform measures currently moving through the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708880_gr.pdf*

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tadium Drive carpool lot open in Kalamazoo

*"**October 1, 2015:** With traffic volumes increasing on the US-131 and Stadium Drive corridors in Kalamazoo, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has built a new feature for commuters."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708845_mdot3.pdf*

Road Commission for Oakland County's 2015 Strategic Planning report

*"**Beverly Hills, Mich. —** The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) this week released its biennial Strategic Planning report, which summarizes the meetings the agency's leaders conducted recently with the leaders of virtually every community in the county."*

Source: *Road Commission for Oakland County* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708806_rcoc.pdf*

Rep. Leonard welcomes local students to Capitol as 'junior representatives'

"State Rep. Tom Leonard welcomed six local students to the Capitol Tuesday to shadow him as "junior representatives for the day." The students all participated in Rep. Leonard's summer reading program."

Source: *Rep. Tom Leonard* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708749_tl.pdf*

Rep. Trott Calls On Obama Administration to Put U.S. Security Ahead of Syrian Refugee Resettlement

"

WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today called on the Obama Administration to work with Congress on the Syrian refugee crisis and endorsed legislationthat allows Congress to vote on the Obama Administration's Syrian refugee resettlement program.
"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dave Trott* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708686_dt.pdf*

"SPOOKTACULAR" GOP Debate Watch Party

"West Bloomfield, MI, October 1, 2015: (For Immediate Release) With a record number of television viewers for each of the first two Republican Presidential debates, the Greater West Bloomfield Republicans are hosting an opportunity to join the crowd and cheer on your favorite GOP candidate.

"

Source: *Greater West Bloomfield Republicans* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708641_gwbr.pdf*

M-72 detour in Grayling starts Oct. 12 for railroad crossing work

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be upgrading the Lake State Railway crossing on M-72 in Grayling.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708574_mdot2.pdf*

Railroad crossing improvements in Ludington start Oct. 8

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be upgrading the south Marquette Rail line railroad crossing and approaches on US-31 BR in Ludington, south of West 6th Street.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708529_mdot.pdf*

Oct. 15: University of Michigan Students Tackle Honor Violence with Film, Discussion

*"**Oct. 1, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich.** – UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

Source: *Young Americans for Freedom - U of M* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708326_yaf.pdf*

TODAY: CAPPS Announcing Polling Showing Broad Support for Corrections Reform

"LANSING - This morning at 10:00 AM the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) will announce a new statewide poll showing broad, bipartisan support for corrections reform measures currently moving through the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705327_grmw.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY - TODAY: Schuette Joins North Rockford Middle School Students For OK2SAY Program

"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.

"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705278_ag.pdf

UPDATED: Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Richard Crosby

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Thursday, Oct. 1 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Casnovia Township firefighter Richard Crosby Sr., who died Saturday, Sept. 26.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705207_gov.pdf

Rep. Lawrence statement on the House passage of H.R. 719

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C. –** Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Wednesday released the following statement regarding the passage of H.R. 719, which maintains government funding at its current spend rate through December 11. "*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *10-02-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705118_bl.pdf*

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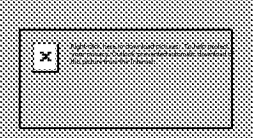
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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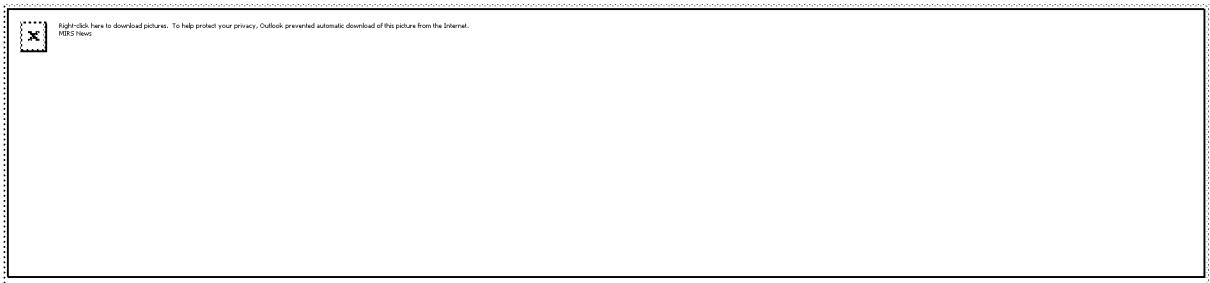
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 6:45 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 2, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 2, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php

SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

State Plan For Flint Water Includes More Testing, $1 Million For Filters

(FLINT) -- State and local officials today rolled out a plan to tackle growing concerns over Flint's water supply, acknowledging that some residents with lead pipes are at risk -- but they stopped short of saying the switch from Detroit water to Flint River water played a role.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44579

MDOT To Face Further Scrutiny From House Transportation Panel

The state's transportation department will soon be spending more time in front of a House committee as state lawmakers look for an additional $1.2 billion in road funding.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44578

First Leader Of EAA Executive Committee Resigns

The first chair of the Education Achievement Authority's (EAA) executive committee has resigned his

post on the committee after serving there since its inception.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44583

Attack A Consumers Energy Employee, Get Your Power Shut Off?

If Consumers Energy had its way, customers who direct violent threats at the utility's employees could have their electric service immediately cut off.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44581

Colleges Eye Higher Tuition For Honors, High-Cost Programs

To cover the costs of honors and higher-priced degree programs, public universities across the state are moving toward "differential tuition" -- charging more for programs that are more expensive to deliver, have a high demand or high job placement, according to a Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) report.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44575

Panel Readies Bill To Protect Teens Seeking Help For Overdoses

A mom sat before a House committee this week and described coming home to find a mailbox stuffed with college applications that she knows will never be filled out.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44580

Gamrat Goes After House Leadership In Flier

Former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT goes after House leadership in her latest flier featuring a stern-looking Gamrat, arms crossed.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44582

Johnson Likes Biden For President

Sen. Bert JOHNSON (D-Highland Park) is endorsing Vice President Joe BIDEN for president, saying he's suffering from "fatigue" with the Clintons and likes Biden's personality.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44576

Hoekstra: Boehner Got Raw Deal

Former Michigan Republican Congressman Pete HOEKSTRA said he believes resigning U.S. House Speaker John BOEHNER (R-Ohio) is making the right decision by stepping down (See "Huizenga Takes Credit For Breaking Boehner News," 9/25/15), but got a raw deal in the process from the 25 or so members of the GOP conference who wanted him out.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4683#44577

Gag Order Lifted In Wayne County Jail Case

A gag order placed on those involved in the Wayne County jail construction debacle was lifted today by the Court of Appeals, which found Wayne County Judge Vonda EVANS' "overbroad and vague" order was a freedom of speech restriction.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44585

Bits And Tidbits

Challenger Announces In Geiss' 12th District

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44574

Attention MIRS Subscribers

In the Oct. 1, 2015, edition, in the story "State Tries To Soothe Growing Alarm Over Flint Water," it should be noted that Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) was the public official who worked with the United Way to help distribute more than 5,000 water filters Tuesday to Flint residents.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44573

On This Day in Michigan History

On Oct. 2, 1873, the cornerstone for the new Capitol building was laid.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44584

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:00 PM - **JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen**
(CANCELLED) Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**
Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
8:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: The Breakfast Place
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
5:00 PM
Michigan House Democratic Evening Reception(Sponsored by Dem. Leader Tim Greimel, Dem. Floor Leader Sam Singh, Campaign Chair Rep. Adam Zemke, Finance Chair Rep. Andy Schor and members of the House Democratic Caucus)
Location: Henrys on the Square
Contact: RSVP via email to Hillary Kipp
hillkipp@gmail.com

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015

5:30 PM
Jake Davison For State Representative Fundraiser Concert
Location: Cavellis
Contact: Jake Davison 810-406-1709
jd@youradvantage.org

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Biggby Coffee
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Plainwell City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:30 AM
Michigan Laborers\' Training & Apprenticeship Institute\'s Mobile Training Unit Event(Sponsored by Michigan Laborers District Council)
Location: Capitol Building
Contact: Chris Hennessy 989-284-3649
hennessy.chris@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Railroad Cafe
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fennville City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Mugshots Coffeehouse
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Antwerp Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
12:00 PM
Michigan Says Thanks - Honoring Michigan Vietnam Era Veterans(Sponsored by Senator Mike Kowall)
Location: Michigan State Capitol Lawn
Contact: Lynn OBrien 517-373-0563
LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
11:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Paw Paw District Library
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fillmore Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fillmore Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
8:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Colasantis Market
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
5:00 PM
Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception
Location: Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Scott Bean 517-881-0013
toryrocca@yahoo.com

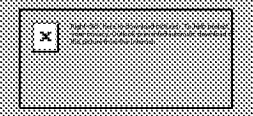
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Dave and Amys
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015
12:00 PM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Bakers
Contact: Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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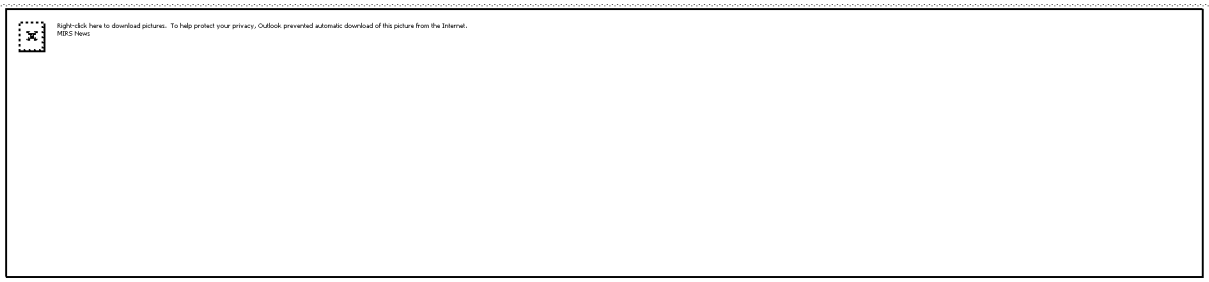

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Interest hike likely to hold off after hiring pace fell

"September hiring fell well short of consensus expectations and previous gains were less robust than thought, new Labor Department statistics show a dismal monthly report that painted a picture of an economy in downshift mode."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/02/interest-hike-likely-hold-hiring-pace-fell/73251560/*

Capitol Park first residences with fiber-optic Internet

"A Capitol Park building converted to lofts will be the first residences in Detroit to get fiber optic-based Internet service, which can be 100 times faster than DSL and home cable connections."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/02/capitol-park-first-residences-fiber-optic-internet/73217542/*

Courser, opponents debate gun control at forum

"Lapeer — One day after a gunman killed nine people in a shooting rampage at an Oregon community college, the issue of gun control was a hot debate topic at a Lapeer County candidates forum to fill an open seat in the Michigan House."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/courser-opponents-debate-gun-control-forum/73266132/*

9 killed after Afghan hospital hit in suspected U.S. airstrike

"Nine Doctors Without Borders staff members were killed and another 37 people were seriously wounded after a suspected U.S. airstrike early Saturday near the organization's hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/10/03/doctors-without-borders-killed-afghanistan/73271370/*

MDOT seeks input on massive I-275 closure in 2016

"The Michigan Department of Transportation is planning a massive construction project for I-275, which will affect traffic for a year or more. How it affects traffic is something they'd like to hear from the public about."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/02/mdot-seeks-input-massive--275-closure-2016/73235784/*

Ship with 33 aboard missing as Hurricane Joaquin slams Bahamas

"The U.S. Coast Guard was searching Friday for a missing cargo ship with 33 crewmembers, including 28 Americans, as a slow-moving Hurricane Joaquin continued to batter the Bahamas."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/weather/2015/10/02/southeast-floods-flooding-hurricane-joaquin-bahamas/73196666/*

UAW to explore new deal with FCA

"The UAW will formally explore whether it should renegotiate a proposed contract with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles before making the bolder decision to move on to General Motors or Ford to reach a deal, according to a report obtained by the Free Press that gives details of a private Thursday meeting of union officials."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/02/uaw-fca-explore-new-deal/73241184/*

Monica Conyers files for divorce from Rep. John Conyers

"She went from City Hall to federal court to prison. Now embattled former Detroit City Councilwoman Monica Conyers is headed to divorce court, seeking to end her marriage of 25 years to one of the highest-ranking

Democratic members of Congress, U.S. Rep. John Conyers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/02/monica-conyers-john-conyers-divorce/73229188/*

What will become of woolly mammoth bones found near Chelsea?

"Eighty-five-year-old Paul Bollinger has lived in the Chelsea area all his life. For decades, he's dug foundations for houses and graves. But the discovery of a woolly mammoth buried in a farm field shocked the old-timer."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/woolly_mammoth_bones_will_be_c.html#incart_river_home*

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation awards grant to purchase water filters in Flint

"FLINT, MI – The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has awarded an grant to the United Way of Genesee County in an effort to provide help with citizens' water concerns."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/charles_stewart_mott_foundatio_7.html#incart_story_package*

State offers city cash for filters, but no break from Flint River

"FLINT, MI – The state is offering to speed up work aimed at reducing lead in the city's water system, to pay for faucet filters and to do more to encourage people to flush their pipes to clear lines of lead."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_rolls_out_flint_water_pl.html#incart_river_home*

Ride along for a sneak peek at Michigan's newest highway

"OTTAWA COUNTY, MI - In downtown Grand Rapids between Wealthy and Leonard streets there are 10 bridges over the Grand River, more than triple the number in all of Ottawa County."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/ride_along_on_unfinished_m-231.html#incart_river_home*

Todd Courser, Cindy Gamrat sued by staffers they fired in Michigan House

sex scandal case

"LANSING, MI — Ex-staffers have sued former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat under the Michigan Whisleblowers' Protection Act, alleging they were fired "solely in retaliation" for telling House management about the lawmakers' extra-marital affair, cover-up and other behavior."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/todd_courser_cindy_gamrat_sued.html#incart_story_package*

Ken Braun: Proposed laws would bring sensible speed limits and phantom student funding

"The Michigan House is taking another stab at sensible speed limits. Hearings have begun on House Bill 4423, sponsored by Republican Rep. Bradford Jacobsen of Oxford. The bill would allow for a maximum state speed limit of 80 miles per hour on rural freeways."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken_braun_proposed_laws_would.html#incart_story_package*

Michigan Political Points: Vice presidential speculation begins for Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, MI — Is Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder "positioning himself to be an attractive" vice presidential candidate?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_vice.html#incart_river_home*

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14 rapes, more than 1,400 liquor law violations cited in U-M's annual crime report

"From 2013 to 2014, the number of rapes reported at the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus doubled from 7 to 14, while the number of liquor law violations referred for disciplinary action grew from 1,234 to 1,429, or 16 percent, according to the school's annual crime statistics report. In 2012, there were 941 liquor law violation referrals."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/14_rapes_more_than_1400_liquor.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Advocacy/Opinion

Letter: Stakes high for patent reform

"If current trends continue, as many as 1 of every 3 American adults could have diabetes by 2050. That's up from an already staggering 1 in 10 adults today. But the future of innovation leading to the development of new medicines for diabetes and other illnesses is under threat. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/letter-stakes-high-patent-reform/73240886/*

Opinion: Congress should legislate Open Internet

"Media in the 21st century is characterized by the convergence of content, communication, and connectivity. This means that the future of the Internet is also the future of the television. Recent Open Internet regulations created by the Federal Communications Commission are indicative of one thing: Congress has not done its job to keep pace with evolving technologies."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/opinion-congress-open-internet/73241250/*

Opinion: Political polarization approaches crisis level

"Political polarization is a serious problem for the United States because it impedes steps necessary to solve mounting national problems. These problems include rising levels of government debt, illegal immigration, spending on entitlement programs, the deterioration of America's roads, bridges, railways and airports, the impending failure of employee pension systems, and lackluster economic growth, not to mention various pressing international issues."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/opinion-political-polarization/73241186/*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, Oct. 5

*"**Monday, Oct. 5 at 4:10 p.m.***
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks highlighting the importance of continued workforce development at a general session of the 2015 Michigan Works! Annual Conference."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443820467_snyder.pdf*

Agribusinesses say new report highlights need for state energy optimization standard

"

MPSC report demonstrates increase in savings from energy efficiency

*LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** today emphasized the importance of Michigan's energy optimization standard in light of a new report showing businesses save more than $4 for every dollar invested in energy efficiency. The report is issued annually by the **Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)**."*

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443819764_agribusiness.pdf*

MDOT is looking for public feedback for I-275 lane closures

*"**PROJECT DETAILS:** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking public input in selecting the best traffic control option for a $70-$80 million I-275 repair project. Construction will begin in the spring of 2016 on I-275 between 5 Mile Road and the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange, including all the ramps, which involves the removal and replacement of 13 miles of concrete pavement. Repair work also will occur on the entrance and exit ramps at each "Mile Road" and with 16 bridges along the route."*

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443819573_mdot.pdf*

Sierra Club Calls For Urgent Action on Snyder Water Plan, Probe of Michigan Department of Environmen

"LANSING—Sierra Club today called on Gov. Rick Snyder to act decisively and urgently to implement plans to end the public health crisis in Flint and to support an independent investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's oversight of federal drinking water laws."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818369_sierra.pdf*

Judge LeDuc and Clerk Sabaugh offer Clerk Mobile Office and foreclosure prevention services at Dist

"Judge Denis LeDuc, 42-I District Court in Romeo, will host Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh and her mobile office services on Thursday, October 15th from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the 42-I District Court at 14713 - 33 Mile Road, Romeo, MI, just West of Powell Road."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818290_judgedeluc.pdf*

OCDP - OCTOBER MEETING/ DEBATE WATCH PARTY!!

"Join us Tuesday, October 13th at Overtyme Bar and Grill located at 4724 Dixie Hwy, Waterford Township at 7:00 p.m. for our October meeting. We will have a short meeting and then be watching the first of the

democratic presidential primary debates. "

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818194_ocdp.pdf*

Dingell Joins Southeast Michigan Students to Celebrate National Manufacturing Day

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined students from across Southeast Michigan to kick off National Manufacturing Day, a nationwide effort to draw greater attention to modern manufacturing and the career opportunities available in the manufacturing sector. Dingell and Congresswoman Candice Miller (MI-10) introduced a bipartisan resolution this week designating October 2 as National Manufacturing Day."*

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443815596_dingell.pdf*

Senator Stabenow Announces Support for Mid-Michigan Farmers Markets and Local Food Initiatives

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced $255,469 for four Mid-Michigan farmers markets and local food initiatives. The grants were awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Programs, which help expand access to farmers markets and food hubs and develop new opportunities for farmers to sell locally."*

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443814730_stabenow.pdf*

DNR participates in mock oil spill exercise

"UPDATE: We are reissuing this release, to ensure the photo folder links at the end of the story are working correctly."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443813297_DNR.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments to Community Service Commission

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced eight appointments and reappointments to the Michigan Community Service Commission."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443812705_GOV.pdf*

DNR participates in mock oil spill exercise

"Department of Natural Resources personnel from a handful of divisions were on hand for the recent daylong exercise by Enbridge, Inc., designed to test the capabilities of dealing with an oil spill near the Mackinac Bridge."

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443812390_DNR.pdf*

MCEF: MPSC report shows energy efficiency standards save ratepayers billions of dollars

"LANSING – Members of the ***Michigan Conservative Energy Forum*** *today applauded Michigan's highly successful energy efficiency standard, which was highlighted in a report issued this week by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). According to the report, Michigan's energy efficiency standard saves ratepayers $4.2 billion."*

Source: Date: *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443811326_MCEF.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns

"FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443810447_gov2.pdf

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2015 deer season forecast and important reminders

"With archery deer season just under way, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources would like to share the annual deer season forecast and remind hunters of important changes to the deer regulations for the 2015 deer seasons."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808150_dnr2.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns

"FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808107_deq.pdf

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Rep. Jim Lyons to Serve as Massachusetts Chairman for Cruz For President

"

***HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced State Rep. Jim Lyons, 18th Essex District, chairman of the Cruz campaign in Massachusetts. Rep. Lyons and his wife, Bernadette, hosted Cruz at their home in Andover this past May, which drew a crowd of 600 who came to hear Sen. Cruz's optimistic vision for the future of our nation.*

"
Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808069_tc.pdf

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Kowall to attend check presentation to outreach center

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall on Friday announced that he will attend a check presentation on Friday, Oct. 16 for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford."*

Source: *Senator Mike Kowall* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808028_mk.pdf

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Section of Warren Ave. to Close for M-1 RAIL Construction

*"**DETROIT** – M-1 RAIL and the Michigan Department of Transportation announced today that construction crews will be closing a section of Warren Ave. at Woodward beginning nextFriday, October 9. "*

Source: *M-1 Rail* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807996_m1rail.pdf

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MRG Michigan Poll: Prevailing wage repeal may not prevail

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – In a recent Marketing Resource Group (MRG) survey, Michigan general election likely voters support the repeal of the Michigan's Prevailing Wage law. Forty-five percent support and 39 percent oppose the repeal with 16 percent undecided. Support is highest among behavioral Republicans (60 percent). Ticket-splitters and behavioral Democrats are less likely to support the laws repeal (49 percent and 33 percent, respectively)."*

Source: *Marketing Resource Group* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807263_mrgi.pdf

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Michigan advocates react to federal criminal justice reform

"Michigan - Bipartisan legislation aimed at reducing the nation's mushrooming prison population was introduced in Washington DC. The "Criminal Justice Reform and Corrections Act of 2015" would reduce mandatory sentences such as "Three strikes" rules and 10 year minimums for nonviolent felonies.

"

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807179_mu.pdf

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First wave of filters coming for Flint families, much more to be done

"LANSING, Michigan — Local experts and community leaders provided details this morning about how water filters would be distributed to Flint residents, and demonstrated how to install them. This assistance comes on the heels of $105,000 in combined donations for water filters announced yesterday by United Way, General Motors and the Making Our Children Smile Foundation.

"

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807143_md.pdf

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Consumers Energy, GVSU Break Ground on State's Largest Community Solar Project

"ALLENDALE, Mich., Oct. 2, 2015 – Officials from Consumers Energy and Grand Valley State University celebrated their collaboration to expand renewable energy in Michigan, breaking ground on a new, 17-acre community solar project."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807093_ce.pdf

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Michigan Works! Association Hosts Workforce Development Conference in

Mount Pleasant Oct. 4–6

"LANSING, Mich. (Oct. 1, 2015) – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder headlines the agenda for this year's Michigan Works! Association annual conference, which begins at 12:00 PM on Sunday, Oct. 4 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mount Pleasant."

Source: *Michigan Works* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807015_mw.pdf

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DNR conservation officers perform lifesaving operations during Pentwater fire

"The quick response and lifesaving actions of two Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers prevented injuries and potentially saved lives Monday during an Oceana County business fire."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806555_dnr.pdf

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Sparrow Clinton Hospital recognizes Emergency Department Nurse for extraordinary care

" ST. JOHNS, MI – Carol Pickott, BSN, RN, of Dimondale has been recognized by Sparrow Clinton Hospital (SCH) for her special nursing skills, earning the hospital's first DAISY Award."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806469_sparrow.pdf

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Sen. Jones introduces court e-filing bill

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to develop and implement a statewide e-filing system to make Michigan's courts more cost efficient and easier for residents."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806420_rj.pdf

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USDA Now Accepting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project Applications

*"**EAST LANSING, Oct 2, 2015 –** U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan James J. Turner today announced the agency is currently accepting applications for the Rural Energy for America Program. The deadline for the current funding cycle is Oct. 31, 2015."*

Source: *USDA* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806393_usda.pdf*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 10/1/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/1/2015."

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806354_courts.pdf

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MABA leads Michigan agriculture delegation to Cuba, focuses on strengthening dialogue

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association** last week led a delegation of more than 20 industry leaders on a visit to Cuba to learn more about the nation's agriculture sector and enhance dialogue with Cuban leaders. The visit, from Sept. 20-23, included meetings with government officials from Cuba and the U.S., agriculture industry experts and academics, as well as visits to rural areas of the country."*

Source: *Michigan Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806309_maba.pdf

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Bloomfield Hills Woman Wins $100,000 Playing Instant Football Payout Online Game

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 2, 2015** – A touchdown celebration was in order after a Bloomfield Hills woman won $100,000 playing the Michigan Lottery's Instant Football Payout online game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806274_lottery.pdf

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Traffic Advisory – Genesee County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete bridge inspections this Saturday and Sunday (Oct. 3 and 4) on I-475 in Flint. Motorists should expect intermittent lane closures on I-475 between Chavez and Leith from the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806247_mdot.pdf*

Traffic Advisory – Genesee County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete bridge inspections this Saturday and Sunday (Oct. 3 and 4) on I-475 in Flint. Motorists should expect intermittent lane closures on I-475 between Chavez and Leith from the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-03-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806150_mdot.pdf*

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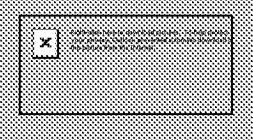
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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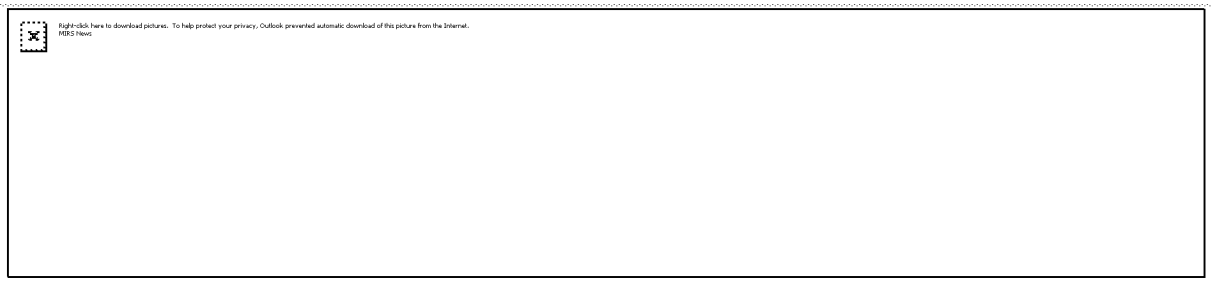
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 04, 2015 8:50 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Hillary Clinton defends gay rights in strongest speech yet on issue

"Hillary Clinton pledged Saturday to champion new federal laws banning discrimination against gays and lesbians and warned that Republican presidential candidates will try to undo a Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality, among other protections, if elected."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/2015/10/03/hillary-clinton-defends-gay-rights-strongest-speech-yet-issue/73280848/*

'I had to do this,' Trump says of presidential run

"FRANKLIN, Tenn. — Thousands of Donald Trumpsupporters braved a soggy, gray Saturday in hopes of hearing the Republican presidential candidate speak in suburban Nashivlle."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/03/trump-says-presidential-run/73305992/*

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4 students arrested for Calif. school shooting plot

"Four students were arrested Saturday after police discovered a shooting plot involving Summerville High School in Tuolumne."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/local/2015/10/03/4-students-arrested-for-plotting-school-shooting/73290456/*

Michigan State students targeted in check-cashing scam

"EAST LANSING, MI — Michigan State University police are warning of a check-cashing scam targeting MSU students."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_state_students_target.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Gov. Snyder working hard to build future trade relationships

"Gov. Rick Snyder engaged in some important work recently as part of his goal to enhance Michigan's economic competitiveness long after he leaves office."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_gov_snyder_workin.html#incart_story_package*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette to unveil new book, share 'Big Lessons from a Small Town'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, a potential 2018 gubernatorial candidate, has penned a new book focused on lessons he learned growing up in Midland and how they influenced him later in life."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuettes_big.html#incart_river_home*

Are the streetlights on in your neighborhood?

"The Public Lighting Authority of Detroit is about 80% done with a $185 million project to overhaul Detroit's street lighting system and install new LED fixtures. "

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/01/streetlights-your-neighborhood/73166892/*

Ore. college shooter's death ruled a suicide

"ROSEBURG, Ore. — The cause of death for the young man responsible for shooting several people at Umpqua Community College this week was ruled a suicide by the Oregon state medical examiner's office,

authorities announced Saturday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/03/roseburg-oregon-community-grieving-shooting-community-college/73283670/*

Vatican fires gay priest on eve of Catholic bishops meeting

"The Vatican fired a priest Saturday after he came out as gay and revealed he has a boyfriend on the eve of an important meeting of the world's bishops to discuss church teachings on family life, a topic that encompasses divorce, homosexuality and cohabitation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/10/03/vatican-fires-gay-priest-eve-catholic-synod-meeting/73278004/*

Bills target property tax cuts for 'big box' stores

"LANSING — Local governments across Michigan say they are losing millions of dollars in taxes and facing cuts in services because "big box" retailers such as Lowe's and Home Depot are unfairly getting their property assessments slashed through appeals."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/bills-target-property-tax-cuts-big-box-stores/73144482/*

Great Lakes face threat from another Enbridge line

"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, that has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/*

UAW, FCA officials miscalculated young worker angst

"UAW negotiators failed to understand the deep hostility of entry-level workers who, instead of taking a substantial raise, chose to join forces with higher-paid veterans to resoundingly defeat a proposed, four-year deal with Fiat Chrysler."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/03/uaw-fca-officials-miscalculated-young-worker-*

angst-united-auto-workers/73291332/

Detroit's homeless treated to Red Carpet luncheon

"With winter weather just around the corner, Leon Odom is concerned about making sure he has a warm place to lay his head each night ."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/03/detroits-homeless-treated-red-carpet-luncheon/73297260/*

Dozens of deaths likely from VW pollution dodge

"Washington — Volkswagen's pollution-control chicanery has not just been victimless tinkering, killing between five and 20 people in the United States annually in recent years, according to an Associated Press statistical and computer analysis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/foreign/2015/10/03/dozens-deaths-likely-vw-pollution-dodge/73313068/*

Mich.: Progress made to reduce phosphorus in Lake Erie

"Monroe — Efforts in Michigan to cut down on the pollutants feeding algae in Lake Erie have been showing signs of success, state officials say."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/mich-progress-made-reduce-phosphorus-lake-erie/73320696/*

Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal

"Lansing — The best chance advocates have to save a Michigan law that promises better wages on public works projects is if Republican legislators ignore a petition initiative and instead let voters decide the fate of prevailing wage."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/prevailing-wage-repeal-campaign-michigan/73295556/*

Advocacy/Opinion

State Police slow down lawmaker's drive to raise freeway speeds

"If lawmakers can't fix the roads, would you settle for them boosting some of the freeway speeds to 80 miles an hour?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/state_police_slow_down_lawmake.html#incart_story_package

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Michigan's Wind Energy Mandate Costs Each Family Nearly $4,000

"A new study from Utah State University found that, as of 2013, Michigan's renewable energy mandate, enacted in 2008, has cost families and businesses here a bundle: $15.1 billion overall, or $3,830 per family, compared to what we would have experienced without the mandate."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21783*

Make college affordable again

"College should be accessible and affordable to everyone regardless of where they live and how much money they have. We have been taught that education is the key to success, that a better education equals a better job."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/04/make-college-affordable/73247796/

We need legislators with both eyes on the road

"The announcement in March that Republican U.S. Representative Candice Miller would not seek re-election in 2016 sent Michigan's politicos abuzz about who might jump into the race for the state's 10th Congressional District."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/03/we-need-legislators-both-eyes-road/73179036/

Do guns belong in Michigan schools? Readers sound off

"Last Sunday, the Free Press published a story about the debate on whether staff and parents should be allowed to carry guns in schools."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/04/letters-editor-guns/73247864/

The case against term limits in the Michigan Legislature

"Michigan's experiment with term limits stretches back 20 years, and it's hard, in retrospect, to think of when they actually improved government performance."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/03/case-against-term-limits-michigan-legislature/73229422/*

Avoiding tap water has become a way of life in Flint

"Outside a taco shop on Flint's Fifth Street, Estella Walker balances a gallon jug of water on top of the stroller that holds her 3-month-old son, DeWayne. She's mixing bottles of formula for DeWayne and his 19-month-old sister Vanessa."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/03/life-flint-sickening-water/73219988/*

Finley: Obama just jawboning on guns

"So President Barack Obama is angry that America has done nothing to change its gun laws despite a series of mass shootings throughout his presidency. He showed us that Thursday in yet another self-righteous, finger-wagging speech that he admits himself he's tired of giving."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/04/finley-obama-just-jawboning-guns/73294784/*

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To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Monday Podcast, Oct. 5, 2015

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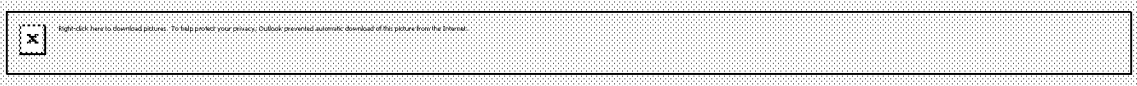
This week on MIRS Monday

If the same municipal water problems Flint residents are experiencing were happening in West Bloomfield or Birmingham would they have been taken care of long ago? Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich answers that question and shares his thoughts that he's getting the feeling from the state that, "These are poor folks, well, we'll get to it when we get to it."

MIRS Editor Kyle Melinn shares his takeaways from Friday's Lapeer Tea Party debate of 82nd House District candidates, the Michigan Freedom Fund hits Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi and how is an empty bowl of stew analogous to the state's road funding talks? This and much more in this week's edition.

Click Here To Listen



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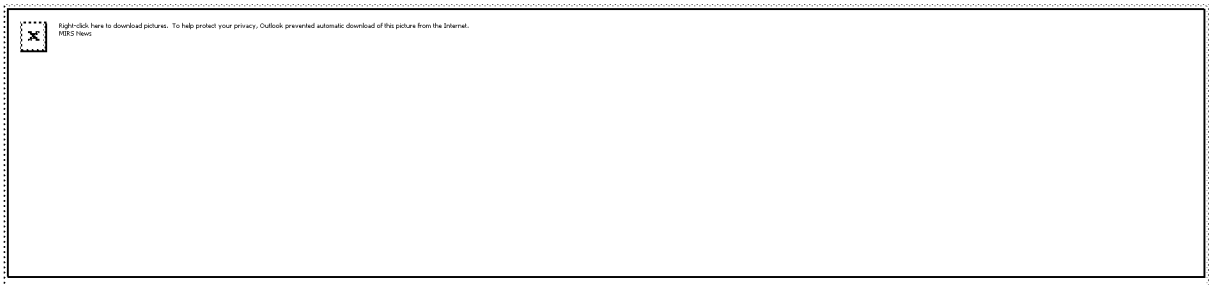


MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, October 5, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Some Groups Question Feds' Ability To Approve Michigan Medicaid Waiver

The federal government's public comment period on Michigan's key second Medicaid expansion waiver ended this weekend, and while most remarks were glowing, some openly questioning whether the proposal can be approved.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44591

Ananich: Feels Like State Is Dragging Its Feet Because Flint Is Poor

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) said he doesn't know why state officials are not aggressively pushing to hook Flint's municipal water supply back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), but it feels like the city's impoverished residents is a factor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44593

State On Planned Parenthood: 'No Evidence To Date' Of Illegal Practices

Two state departments say their review of Planned Parenthood in Michigan has found "no evidence to date that illegal practices are occurring."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44595

Ex-Courser, Gamrat Aides Sue, Say They Told House Staff Of 'Wrongdoing'

In a new lawsuit, Keith ALLARD and Ben GRAHAM, two staffers for former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT, allege that they were wrongfully fired and that they had informed "House management staff" about their former bosses' wrongdoing.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44589

Supporters Claim Bill Would Lower Interest Costs On Bonds

A House bill currently before the Senate Finance Committee aims to lower interest costs on voter-approved bonds by beefing up assurances to bondholders and investors, but the administration contends it isn't necessary.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44592

Anesthesiologists, Nurses Battle Over Bill Using Competing Websites

Arguments over a Senate bill that would give nurse anesthetists more ability to put patients to sleep without physician oversight have spilled over into separate attack websites.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44590

State Audit Of Flint Elections Suggests More Staff, Fewer Precincts

The state today published its audit looking into Flint's election operations after a mistake made by the Flint City Clerk nearly led to a complete write-in mayoral election for the city this November.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44594

Schuette: No Hidden Agenda in New Book

It took him just over four years to do it, but Michigan Attorney General Bill has written a book in order to "help others" learn from the life lessons he learned while growing up in Midland.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44588

GLEP Sends Out 4 Mailers In 80th, 82nd Districts

Todd COURSER is a "recipe for disaster" while Cindy GAMRAT is "deceptive, deceitful and dishonest," according to a pair of mailers sent out in the former House members' districts by the pro-school choice political action committee of the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44583

Kelly's Wife Dies At Age 67

Nancy KELLEY, wife of former Attorney General Frank KELLEY, died Sunday at the age of 67.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44597

Courser Attorney Grievance Update

The Attorney Grievance Commission (AGC) will not confirm that it has launched an investigation into the conduct of lawyer and former lawmaker Todd Courser, but it is telling the gentleman who filed a complaint with the commission that it is thankful for "ensuring that this matter is brought to our attention."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44587

Bits And Tidbits

Cotter, Wife Celebrate Birth Of Son, Joseph

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44596

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 5, 1835, Michigan voters went to the polls and elected its first governor and state legislature. The winner was 24-year-old Stephen T. MASON. His closest competitor received 814 votes. Only "free, adult, white male taxpayers" could vote.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#44595

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4584#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:00 PM - **JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen**
(CANCELLED) Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**
Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 352

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
8:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: The Breakfast Place
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
5:00 PM
Michigan House Democratic Evening Reception(Sponsored by Dem. Leader Tim Greimel, Dem. Floor

Leader Sam Singh, Campaign Chair Rep. Adam Zemke, Finance Chair Rep. Andy Schor and members of the House Democratic Caucus)
Location: Henrys on the Square
Contact: RSVP via email to Hillary Kipp
hillkipp@gmail.com

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015
5:30 PM
Jake Davison For State Representative Fundraiser Concert
Location: Cavellis
Contact: Jake Davison 810-406-1709
jd@youradvantage.org

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Biggby Coffee
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
5:30 PM
Third Annual Innovation in Conservation Awards Gala(Sponsored by Michigan League Of Conservation Voters)
Location: Westin Book Cadillac Hotel , 1114 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226
Contact: Kristina Pepelko 734-222-9650
events@michiganlcv.org

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Plainwell City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:30 AM
Michigan Laborers\' Training & Apprenticeship Institute\'s Mobile Training Unit Event(Sponsored by Michigan Laborers District Council)
Location: Capitol Building
Contact: Chris Hennessy 989-284-3649
hennessy.chris@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Railroad Cafe
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fennville City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564

DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Mugshots Coffeehouse
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Antwerp Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
11:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Paw Paw District Library
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fillmore Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

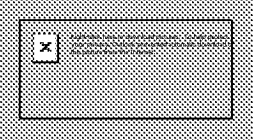
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fillmore Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
8:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
5:00 PM
Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception
Location: Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Scott Bean 517-881-0013
toryrocca@yahoo.com

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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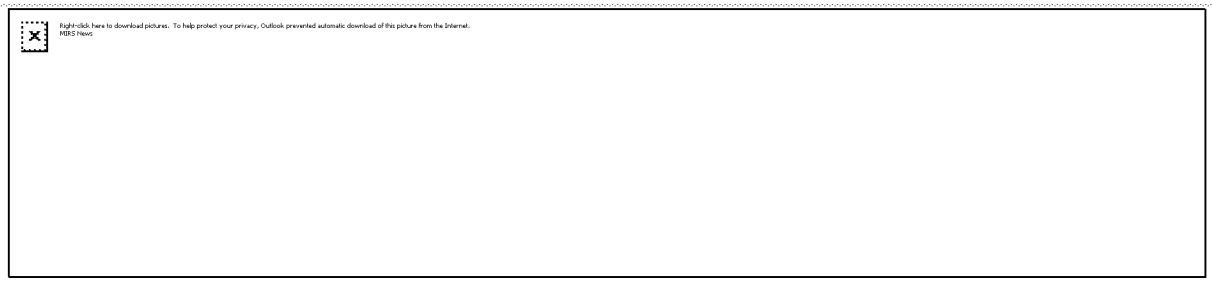

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Snyder talks job creation, STEM and auto careers at Michigan Works conference

*"**MOUNT PLEASANT, MI —** In the past four years, 420,000 private sector jobs have been created in Michigan."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_talks_job_creation_unem.html#incart_river_home*

Ted Cruz in Michigan: 'Nothing short of crazy' to take in Syrian Muslim refugees

"KALAMAZOO, MI — Presidential candidate Ted Cruz said Monday morning in Michigan that it would be "crazy" to bring more Syrian refugees to the United States, despite a humanitarian crisis that has captured the attention of the world."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/ted_cruz_in_michigan_nothing_s.html#incart_river*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette takes a tip from Taylor Swift in releasing book of life lessons

"LANSING, MI -- It took Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette four and a half years to write a book of important life lessons, something he knows some people will see as a political move."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_take.html#incart_river

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Dave Agema leaning toward Ted Cruz for president, considering run for Congress

"KALAMAZOO, MI — Controversial Michigan Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema is close to endorsing Ted Cruz for president and is considering a Congressional run."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/dave_agema_close_to_endorsing.html#incart_river*

Fred Upton distances himself from GOP's anti-immigration wing

"U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R- St. Joseph, is not on board with those calling for a hardline stance on immigration.

"
Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/fred_upton_distances_himself_f.html#incart_river

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State plans Flint water filter giveaway Tuesday

"Lansing — Starting Tuesday, free water filters will be available to Flint residents who are worried about lead contamination and other concerns, the state Department of Health and Human Services announced Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/state-flint-water-filter-giveaway/73411770/*

Cruz: More Syrian refugees ups chances of U.S. terror

"Kalamazoo — Republican presidential hopeful Ted Cruz warned Monday that allowing more Syrian refugees to resettle in the United States would make it easier for Islamic radicals "to murder innocent Americans.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/ted-cruz/73365190/*

U.S. auto tariffs fall slowly in trade deal

"Washington — In the landmark Asia-Pacific free trade deal reached among the United States and 11 other nations, U.S. automakers won a lengthy delay of the phaseout of tariffs that protect domestic truck production."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/free-trade-deal/73367820/*

Attorney: John Conyers doesn't want divorce

"U.S. Rep. John Conyers doesn't want to get divorced, his attorney says."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/05/conyers-divorce/73369628/*

Detroit mayor nominates 2 to head city water department

"Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan has nominated two officials to head the city's Water and Sewerage Department, officials announced early Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/06/detroit-mayor-nominates-head-city-water-department/73430436/*

Schuette writes 'Big Lessons from a Small Town'

"Ever wonder why that nice young man with the blond hair and immaculate business suit has been pouring your coffee at political gatherings."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/04/schuette-book-big-lessons-small-town/73225458/*

Great Lakes face threat from another Enbridge line

"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/*

Ford, others say trade deal lacks currency protections

"WASHINGTON — The Obama administration and negotiators from 11 Pacific Rim nations announced an agreement, in principle, for a sweeping trade deal, but critics — including Ford — were quick to complain that it doesn't do enough to address currency manipulation, which many see as a huge barrier to American auto sales in

some Asian countries."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/05/ford-others-say-trade-deal-lacks-currency-protections/73372996/*

Senators urge NASA to continue monitoring Lake Erie

"WASHINGTON — Michigan and Ohio's U.S. senators on Monday sent a letter to NASA's head administrator asking him to continue supporting flights being flown over Lake Erie to monitor for harmful algae blooms."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/senators-urge-nasa-continue-monitoring-lake-erie/73397776/*

U.S. Rep. Conyers does not want to divorce wife Monica

"Despite her going to prison, losing her political job and often embarrassing the family with her behavior in City Hall, U.S. Rep. John Conyers does not want a divorce from his feisty wife, Monica Conyers, his lawyer told the Free Press on Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/05/us-rep-john-conyers-does-not-want-divorce-monica/73392542/*

About-face for UAW on FCA: We'll 'tell the whole story'

"As the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles resumed talks for a new four-year labor contract, union leaders say they plan to do a much better job of telling members what has been negotiated on their behalf and of helping them to understand the implications."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/05/uaw-trying-set-record-straight-deal/73375518/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Dramatic transformation of education necessary to keep Michigan top-tier state (Guest column)

"So much of what we do in life is about giving ourselves and our families the best."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/dramatic_transformation_of_edu.html#incart_river_home*

Moore: Anti-sanctuary bill wrong for Detroit

"The Detroit Police Department has a lot of work on its hands, and this has been the case for many years. A bill in the Michigan Senate, termed the "sanctuary policy prohibition act" would only make matters worse for Detroit. It would strip the Police Department of discretion in terms of how or when to assist the federal government in enforcing immigration law, adding to its overwhelming duty of enforcing state criminal law by adding federal civil law as well."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/moore-anti-sanctuary-bill-wrong-detroit/73426556/*

Rep. Forlini: 'Michigan penalty' harms taxpayers

"While our state has made significant progress toward restoring its fiscal health, taxpayers across Michigan continue to pay inflated interest rates on voter-approved bonds. These bonds — referred to as "unlimited tax general obligation bonds" — are used to build schools, pave roadways and repair bridges, and prior to the Detroit bankruptcy case, were considered among the safest investments around."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/rep-forlini-michigan-penalty-harms-taxpayers/73426512/*

McBroom: Courser, Gamrat expulsions warranted

"The Michigan Constitution, voted on by the people of Michigan, lays out a specific method for protecting the integrity of the Legislature. The House of Representatives' ability to determine its members' qualifications and expel them when necessary is an important check and balance to the possibility of corrupt, deceptive or unqualified members. Such a safety valve is also provided in the federal Constitution and in other states' constitutions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/mcbroom-courser-gamrat-expulsions-warranted/73426490/*

Our Editorial: Toughen proposed forfeiture reforms

"Innocence until proven guilty should also mean an individual isn't punished until guilt is established in court. But in Michigan and other states, a suspect can lose property and cash without ever even being charged with a crime.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/05/editorial-toughen-proposed-forfeiture-reforms/73426474/*

Try again, try harder to get FCA deal for UAW

"The loud voices of FCA Automobiles UAW members have got to be heard — by the union's leadership, which failed to sell a contract that had many spoils but failed to address some key concerns, and by the company's management, which should be fearful that the current trajectory winds up in a devastating strike."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/try-again-try-harder-get-fca-deal-uaw/73365270/*

Press Releases

Dingell Statement on the Passing of Civil Rights Activist Grace Lee Boggs

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on the passing of long-time civil rights activist and philosopher Grace Lee Boggs."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076918_dingell.pdf*

Court Rules EPA Failed to Protect U.S. Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species

*"**ANN ARBOR, MICH. (October 5, 2015)** – In a unanimous 3-0 decision that has ramifications for waters across the country—from Long Island Sound to the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico to San Francisco Bay—the U.S. Court of Appeals 2nd Circuit today ruled that the U.S. EPA failed its responsibility under the Clean Water Act to protect U.S. waters from aquatic invasive species introduced by ballast water discharge. Ballast water invaders cost citizens, businesses, industry, and municipalities billions of dollars per year annually due to damages and control costs."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444077346_epa.pdf*

MDOT to host M-25 resurfacing open house in Sebewaing

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will host a public open house to discuss M-25 resurfacing from Sebewaing Road to Main Street. Individuals interested in learning more details regarding the project, as well as the timeline, are invited to attend. MDOT officials will be on hand to answer questions."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444077252_mdot.pdf*

Michigan Army National Guard Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA)

Veterans Affairs

*"**The Secret is Out: Statewide recruiting for MYCA Class 34 has begun** Statewide recruiting for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) has begun. "Recruiting and Informational" events are scheduled around the State of Michigan and open to the public. These events provide an MYCA outline and benefits presentation along with individual applicant interviews. The main purpose of each recruiting event is to identify the best qualified applicants; those who possess the necessary abilities to become an MYCA graduate. For an active list of Recruiting and Informational events, visit www.miycp.org. "*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076323_mdva.pdf*

Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday

"LANSING, Mich. – Free water filters will be available to current Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients and Flint residents at four locations beginning Tuesday, October 6, at 9 a.m. through a partnership between the MDHHS and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. Free National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters are being provided to Flint residents as part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076157_mdhhs.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder honors Oregon shooting victims

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has joined President Barack Obama's call for U.S. flags to be lowered to half-staff today through Tuesday, Oct. 6 to honor the victims of the Roseburg, Oregon shooting."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075483_gov.pdf*

DNR - Cubs survive illegal black bear killing in Oceana County

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologists today said the recent illegal killing of a female black bear, which had three cubs with her, has aroused great public interest."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075431_DNR.pdf*

TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

*"**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 5, 2015** –The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-*

foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075365_GERALD.pdf*

DEQ to hold public hearing on Michigan's Adventure discharge permit

"The DEQ will hold a public hearing on the proposed groundwater discharge permit for Michigan's Adventure in Muskegon County. "

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444072992_deq.pdf*

Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus to Urge Action on Domestic Violence Bills

"LANSING – Members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus, including PWLC chairwoman Rep. ***Winnie Brinks*** *(D-Grand Rapids), Rep.* ***Kristy Pagan*** *(D-Canton) and Sen.****Rebekah Warren*** *(D-Ann Arbor), will urge action on a package of legislation aimed to combat the persistent problem of domestic violence on* ***Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 11:15 a.m. in room 402/403 of the Michigan Capitol Building****. The bills, introduced in March, have yet to receive committee hearings or be voted on in the Legislature. As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the PWLC is sending message that it is time to move forward with this legislation"*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444072104_house.pdf*

News Conference and Demonstration regrading Sterling Heights Mosque

"News Conference and Demonstration regrading Sterling Heights Mosque set for Thursday, October 8th from 11:30AM-12:30PM"

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444069453_mosque.pdf*

Out-of-State Company Slammed with Federal Fine Tries To Woo Michigan Legislators

"Lansing—A Baltimore-based company that paid what was then the largest fine in the history of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)— the federal agency tasked with regulating, monitoring and investigating electricity markets — wants Michigan to continue paying $300 million a year in unfair subsidies. That's essentially what Richard Spilky, principal of retail analytics at Constellation Energy, said last week in testimony to the Michigan Senate Energy and Technology Committee when he argued against Senate Bill 437."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444066302_energy.pdf*

Construction begins this week on I-96 near Cedar Street in Lansing

"

Construction begins this week

on I-96 near Cedar Street in Lansing

COUNTY: *Ingham* ***ROADWAY:*** *I-96* ***CLOSEST CITY:*** *Lansing"*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067846_mdotr.pdf*

COLUMBA BUSH: AN ESCAPE FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

"The 2014 Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Uniform Crime Report reflects a 10.2 percent increase in domestic violence homicides, which represents a stunning 20.9 percent of all homicides in our state. During the 2014/2015 fiscal year, Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers provided 546,658 nights of emergency shelter to 15,397 survivors and their children, many who fled a violent home with nothing but the clothes on their backs."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067786_jeb.pdf*

DESE - NILES DISTRICT LIBRARY EARNS 2015 STATE LIBRARIAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARD

"

NILES DISTRICT LIBRARY EARNS 2015 STATE

LIBRARIAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARD
October 5, 2015

LANSING – The Niles District Library (NDL) has earned the 2015 State Librarian's Excellence Award for its superior customer service, State Librarian Randy Riley announced today."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067448_dese.pdf*

Michigan Manufacturers Association honors Sen. Nofs as 2015 Legislator of

the Year

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Mike Nofs was recently honored as one of four Michigan lawmakers to receive the Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) Legislator of the Year Award."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067390_manu.pdf*

Gov. Snyder Proclaims Fire Prevention Week October 4-10

"

***Hear the beep where you sleep, every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm October 5, 2015 -** Gov. Rick Snyder today proclaimed October 4-10 as Fire Prevention Week to emphasize the importance of having multiple home smoke alarms, urge citizens to install smoke alarms in every bedroom and on every level of their home, including the basement, and routinely test and maintain them to make sure they work."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067320_gov.pdf*

Peters Statement on Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement

*"**WASHINGTON, DC –** U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today released the following statement as the twelve Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) countries concluded negotiations and reached an agreement:"*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067272_peters.pdf*

Dedication ceremony for Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge set for Saturday

"

Dedication ceremony for Heath M. Robinson Memorial

Cut River Bridge set for Saturday WHAT:
The family of Heath M. Robinson will have a dedication ceremony for the newly renamed Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge. ***WHO:***
Family and friends of Heath M. Robinson
Military honor guard units
U.S. Navy and Coast Guard representatives
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) staff
Interested citizens ***WHEN:***
Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015
10 a.m. ***WHERE:***
Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge, 26 miles west of St. Ignace on US-2
Mackinac County (between Epoufette and Brevort) ***BACKGROUND:***
Navy Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Heath M. Robinson, a resident of Petoskey and Mackinac

Island, was killed in action on Aug. 6, 2011. Robinson was in a CH-47 Chinook helicopter when it was shot down over Wardak Province in Afghanistan. The crash claimed the lives of 30 American service members and eight members of the Afghan military, making it the largest single-day loss of life in Naval Special Warfare history. Former State Rep. Frank Foster introduced a bill to rename the bridge in Robinson's honor in September 2013. The measure was approved by both houses of the Michigan Legislature in 2014, and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder on Oct. 22, 2014."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067218_mdot.pdf*

Michigan State Police Host Women's Recruiting Seminar

*"**LANSING, MICH.** The Michigan State Police (MSP) is hosting an informational recruiting seminar for women at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (6767 W. O Ave., Kalamazoo, Mich.)."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067173_msp.pdf*

MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ANNUAL RESTAURANT SHOW

"LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Show, produced by the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA), is the premier foodservice industry trade show in Michigan. Held October 13 and 14 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, the Show provides access to new products, ideas, and trends for restaurateurs."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067053_rest.pdf*

FEMA - Fire Prevention Week: Learn the Dos & Don'ts of House Fire Safety

*"**Fire Prevention Week: Learn the Dos & Don'ts of House Fire Safety CHICAGO –**October 4 – 10, 2015 marks Fire Prevention Week, a commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 and an opportunity to emphasize fire safety and preparedness."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444066982_fema.pdf*

Press Advisory for Winter Resource Fair

"Please see attached a press advisory regarding an upcoming Winter Resource Fair hosted by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence and that is scheduled for Oct. 19 in Detroit. The fair will include about a dozen representatives from local business, government, and nonprofit agencies who will help residents prepare for the on-coming severe weather months. Any advance coverage/notification of the event that you can provide is greatly appreciated. The congresswoman would also love to see you at the fair, should you have the time and are interested in speaking with the participating agencies. A full press release will follow after the event, in case you

are unable to attend."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061639_winter.pdf*

Lawmakers fight to increase benefits, insurance period for unemployed

*"**Lawmakers fight to increase benefits, insurance period for unemployed** Sen. Hood, Rep. Garrett seek to raise maximum weekly benefit, expand eligibility period LANSING—State Senator Morris W. Hood III (D–Detroit) and Representative LaTanya Garrett (D–Detroit) have introduced joint legislation to increase the maximum weekly benefit and extend the insurance eligibility period for unemployed citizens in Michigan."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061346_senatenews.pdf*

Media Invited to Ride Along as Michigan Farmers Begin Corn Harvest

"MICHIGAN – The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) invites members of the media to ride along in the combine with a local corn farmer and get a firsthand harvest experience."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061198_cmpm.pdf*

DNR's Habitat Improvement Account to fund five projects on key rivers

"The Department of Natural Resources has announced five recipients of its Habitat Improvement Account (HIA) for fiscal year 2016. The HIA funds projects to improve aquatic habitat, fishing access, water quality and the DNR's understanding of resources on the Au Sable, Manistee and Muskegon rivers. The account was established to mitigate resource impacts from hydropower dam operations."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444059620_dnr.pdf*

MDARD - New Invasive Vegetable Pest Found in Michigan

"LANSING – A potentially serious threat to Michigan's cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and other crucifers has been found in the state for the first time in five organic production fields in Sanilac County."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444058558_mdard.pdf*

Students get moving - more than 250 schools to celebrate Walk to School Day

*"**October 7, 2015 --** More than 250 schools in Michigan will join students around the country in observing the 18th annual Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 7. Thousands of Michigan students, along with their parents,*

teachers and community leaders, are expected to participate."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444058086_mdot.pdf*

GAMRAT: The People of Allegan Deserve a Voice!

"In the early morning hours on September 11th, 2015, Allegan County had their voice in the House of Representatives stolen from them. The Representation of 90,000 people was overridden by 91 Lansing politicians. They decided that they knew what was best for our District and that the people of Allegan County should not have a say in their Representation."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057626_gamrat.pdf*

Attorney General to Launch Book on Life's Lessons

*"**WHO:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **WHAT:** **Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette will unveil a book he's written at a press conference this coming Monday in Lansing.** The book shares a number of lessons he has learned throughout his career and personal life that can also serve as life lessons for others. Focusing on his home town and people who have influenced his life, Schuette recounts the people, the places and the lessons learned."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057520_ag.pdf*

Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee hearing via videoconf

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******Media Advisory******

Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee hearing via videoconference

***LANSING, Mich**. — State Sen. Tom Casperson announced Monday that the Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing on Wednesday, Oct. 7 will include testimony from U.P. residents via remote videoconference."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057467_casperson.pdf*

Congresswoman Dingell Statement on TPP Agreement

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on the*

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. "Early reports indicate that this agreement is a bad deal for the working men and women of the American auto industry and for many other sectors of the U.S. economy. The negotiators' cloak and dagger approach has resulted in Members of Congress and the public being forced to operate on hearsay – not facts – because to date, we have been unable to access the secret web of side agreements and backroom deals that are associated with the latest rounds of negotiations."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057391_dingell.pdf*

JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA THIS WEEK

*"**Miami, FL –** This week, Governor Jeb Bush is making a swing through Iowa. He will be in the state Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Tuesday, he will be in Bettendorf. On Wednesday, he will be in Muscatine and Oskaloosa. On Thursday morning, he will be in Des Moines and Indianola."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057340_jeb.pdf*

Freedom Fund: In Wake of Bribery Allegations, Tinsley-Talabi Should be Stripped of Committee Assignm

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Freedom Fund: In Wake of Bribery Allegations, Tinsley-Talabi Should be Stripped of Committee Assignments

***Minority Leader Tim Greimel Must Request Democratic Lawmaker Be Replaced on Committees Immediately LANSING, MI, October 5, 2015** –The Michigan Freedom Fund today called on House Minority Leader Tim Greimel to formally request state Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi be removed from her House Committee assignments after being accused of accepting bribes and implicated last week in a federal corruption probe."*

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057286_mff.pdf*

Hunt and win - Consumers Energy and DNR partner to bring hunters Wetland Wonders Challenge

"Seven lucky waterfowl hunters will win more than $1,500 dollars in prizes just by hunting at three of Michigan's seven managed waterfowl areas this fall. The Wetland Wonders Challenge, sponsored by Consumers Energy, will begin Oct. 10 and continue through Jan. 31, 2016. "

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057068_dnr.pdf*

Rep. Hoadley Earns 'Friend of Nursing' Award from Michigan Nurses Association

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Rep. Hoadley Earns 'Friend of Nursing' Award from Michigan Nurses Association

Honor recognizes advocacy for safe patient care and healthcare professionals State Representative Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) has received the Michigan Nurses Association 'Friend of Nursing' Award in recognition of his advocacy on safe patient care and other issues that support nurses and their profession."

Source: Date: *10-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057013_hoadley.pdf*

UPDATED: Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, Oct. 5

"Monday, October 5, 2015
Contact: Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray
Office: 517-335-6397
Monday, Oct. 5 at 12:15 p.m.
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Mt. Pleasant Rotary club luncheon. He will be joined by state Sen. Judy Emmons. ***Location:***
Mountain Town Station
506 W. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI ***Monday, Oct. 5 at 4:10 p.m.***
Snyder will offer remarks highlighting the importance of continued workforce development at a general session of the 2015 Michigan Works! Annual Conference. ***Location:***
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort -

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From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 2:02 PM
To: Budget 6th Floor Staff
Subject: Legislative Update 10/6
Attachments: Legislation with Negative $ Impact.docx

Good afternoon,

Sorry for the delay in getting this out. I wanted to update the attached document before sending, so a couple items in the committee section already took place today. Here are some highlights of what's happening in the House and Senate this week:

Session this Week: The House and Senate will hold session Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

School Aid Supplemental: The House and Senate completed work on SB 134 (Pscholka) last week, and the Governor is expected to sign the bill this week.

FY 15 Supplemental (HB 4102)Pscholka: The Senate passed the bill by a 30-5 vote on Thursday, October 1 and added two amendments:

- $100 placeholder intended to continue discussions on the Flint water crisis
- $100 placeholder for potential funding to pay off the county portion of bonds related to the now-vacated DHHS Alger County lease

I expect discussions on both of these issues to continue this week, with potential House floor action likely held off until next week (Oct. 13-15)

- **FY 17 Legislator Outreach:** John and I have individual FY 17 budget outreach meetings with 8 members of the appropriations committees this week: Reps. McCready, Poleski, Santana, and VerHeulen and Sens. Green, Hertel, MacGregor and Schuitmaker.

Legislation That Costs $: I attempt to maintain a list of bills getting some degree of traction in the Legislature that have a direct appropriation or a negative revenue impact. Just looking at the committee agendas for House Tax Policy, Senate Finance, and full sessions this week, I've added a number of bills to the list. Attached is what I've compiled. Please let me know if you're aware of any others.

Committee Meetings:

- New committee meeting notices are still being posted.
- House Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and will likely vote to report SB 22 (H-2) This is the supplemental payment enhancement for low-income MSP troopers who retired before October 1, 1986. The H-2 version reflects and agreement we reached with Sen. Nofs on the issue. Senate Appropriations Committee will likely not meet this week.
- House State Police Subcommittee: Holding a joint meeting with the House Communications and Technology Committee on First Net. This hearing was today at Noon.
- House School Aid Subcommittee: Hearing on pupil membership counting was today at 10:30 a.m.
- Senate School Aid Subcommittee: MDE will be presenting on the GSRP formula. There will also be a presentation on the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative. This meeting is Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

- House LARA and General Government subcommittees: There will be a joint hearing on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on the UIA claims process.

Road Funding: Discussions still ongoing.

Legislation to Watch: If you're aware of any others that pop up, please let me know:

- SB 22 (Nofs) Retirement enhancement for troopers retired before 1986. FY 16 target agreement holds $400,000 in reserve. SB 22 now scaled back to provide a boost to 96 retirees whose pensions are below $16,000—to $16,000. SB 22 is in House Appropriations. We have agreement with Sen. Nofs on an alternative supplemental payment instead of direct pension enhancement. House likely to take up the bill this fall.
- SB 218 (Schmidt)—Fallen officer survivor benefits. Some legislators are looking at ways an individual policy can be purchased instead of adding to the state system, and ORS is working on a prefunding estimate. This bill could move at some point before the end of the year. The House Fiscal Agency estimates this cost at $59,000 in the first year, growing to over $700,000 annually after ten years.
- SB 343 (Schuitmaker) University MPSERS rate cap legislation. Currently in House Appropriations, and the committee is hoping to take the bill up on Wednesday, October 7. We are currently trying to determine whether amendments are needed to reconcile an issue related to state universities overpaying into the MSPERS system.
- SB 388-390 (Casperson, Kowall, Robertson) Local unfunded mandates. These bills could still see action this fall, but it sounds like things might be slowing down a bit. Will keep everyone posted.
- HB 4338 (Forlini) Allows school districts to contract with an alternative provider for DC plans. ORS is awaiting feedback and data from one of the financial advisor groups that is advocating for this legislation.

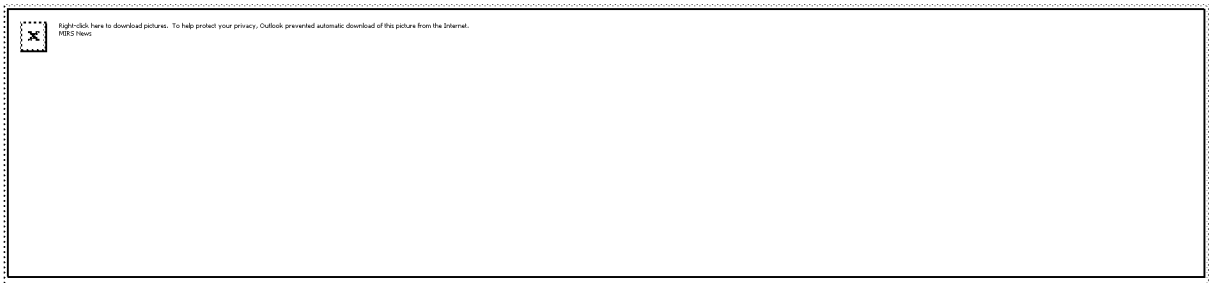
Please let me know if you have any questions or if you hear of anything that might be helpful for me to know. Have a great week!

Legislation with Direct Appropriation or Estimated Negative Revenue Impact (October 6, 2015)

Bill(s)/Sponsor(s)	Subject	Estimated Revenue Impact	Status
SB 3 (Robertson)	Prevailing Wage Repeal/$75,000 Appropriation to LARA	$75,000 GF **(DIRECT APPROPRIATION)**	House Commerce and Trade
SB 6 (Hildenbrand)	Expands disabled veteran property tax exemption	Indeterminate SAF	Senate Floor
SB 8 (Schuitmaker)	Pilot Program/Potential Phase-In of GPS in DTMB State Vehicles	$500,000 to $1.2 million after 1/1/17	Senate Floor
SB 22 (Nofs)	Retirement Enhancement for Certain Retired MSP Troopers	$250,000 GF	House Appropriations
SB 56 (Jones)	Judges Compensation	Indeterminate	House Appropriations
SB 81 (Brandenburg)	Principal Residence Exemption	$15 million SAF	House Floor
SB 171 (Bieda)	Elderly/Disabled Housing Exemption	GF/SAF Negligible	Senate Floor
SB 173 (Horn)	Buena Vista Operating Debt/18 Mills	$725,000 SAF (Operating Debt) $1.6 million SAF (18 Mills thru 12/2016)	House Appropriations
SB 218 (Schmidt)	Survivor Benefits for Families of Fallen Public Safety Officers	$59,000 GF first year $709,000 GF after 10 years	House Appropriations
SB 232 (Robertson) SB 233 (Robertson)	Expands Sales Tax on the Difference to Autos and RVs Bought Out of State (Also strips provision making SOD phase-in contingent upon Healthy Michigan staying in place)	$3 million or less (HFA estimate)	House Tax Policy
SB 234 (Booher)	Financial Institution Franchise Tax Revisions	$13 million (Treasury estimate)	Senate Finance
SB 248 (Hune)	Auto No-Fault/$150,000 Appropriation to DIFS	$150,000 GF **(DIRECT APPROPRIATION)**	House Floor
SB 291 (Bieda) HB 4536 (Chang)	Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation	Indeterminate, but significant. SFA estimates $3.6 million GF, plus economic damages, attorney fees, lost wages, etc.	Senate Floor House Floor
SB 448 (Proos)	Revision to Liquor Discount Provided to Designated Distributors and On-Premise Licensees	None at this time, but according to MLCC, likely significant	Senate Regulatory Reform

SB 514 (Robertson)	Exempts Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation from Income Tax	Dependent Upon Compensation	Senate Finance
SB 537	Tax Tribunal Act Revisions	Checking with Treasury	Senate Finance
SB 360 (Warren) HB 4542 (Forlini) HB 4543 (Forlini) HB 4544 (Jenkins)	Creates Michigan ABLE Program	$300,000 GF/SAF in FY 16 $400,000 GF/SAF in FY 17 $1.9 million GF/SAF by FY 19	Senate Floor Enrolled Enrolled Messages from Senate
SB 368 (Horn)	Modifies Some Deductions on Pension Income	ORTA still estimating revenue impact	Senate Finance
HB 4018 (Farrington) HB 4019 (Farrington)/ SB 82 (MacGregor) SB 83 (Proos)	Cloud Computing	$32.7 million GF $34.5 million SAF	House Floor House Floor Senate Floor Senate Floor
HB 4064 (Yanez)	Income Tax Refund for Disabled Veterans	$4 million GF	House Floor
HB 4124 (Townsend)	Income Tax Treatment of Surviving Spouse Retirement Income	Indeterminate but would impact GF and SAF	House Floor
HB 4209 (Callton)	Medical Marijuana—Licensing and Regulation	$8.5 million restricted **DIRECT APPROPRIATION**	House Floor
HB 4581 (Crawford)	Removes Cap on Per-Case Liquor Fees Paid to Vendors	Dependent Upon Amount of Future Fee Increase	House Floor
HB 4790 (McBroom)	State Aid to Public Schools for Private/Homeschooled Pupils	$6.5 million SAF	Senate Education
HB 4871 (Howrylak)	Homestead Credit Property Value Limit—Index to Inflation	ORTA still estimating revenue impact	House Tax Policy
HB 4909 (Kivela) SB 524 (Casperson)	"Dark Stores"	Lowers Local SETax Revenue/Costs Borne by SAF—Impact TBD	House Tax Policy Senate Finance

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 7:56 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 6, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 6, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46885

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/843

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/842

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Old Water Pipes Not Just A Flint Issue

Flint's lead-tainted water has refocused attention on something usually buried in the minds of the public: The water supply, and how it's piped into homes.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46885#44803

New Ideas For Counting Students Floated In Subcommittee

A school superintendent urged House members today to reconsider how the state counts students for the purpose of divvying up state funding.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46885#44809

More Than A Little Issue Made Over Microbead Ban

Tiny plastic beads used in skin cleaners to scrub off grime took up more than 90 minutes of a House committee's time this morning as lawmakers debate how to keep the beads out of fish stomachs.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44599

Santana Sees 'Historic Moment' As Juvenile Justice Reforms Unveiled

Michigan 17-year-olds could be processed in juvenile courts and people under the age of 18 would be banned from adult prisons under wide-ranging bills a bipartisan group of lawmakers announced today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44605

Modified Juneteenth Resolution Passes Panel . . . In October

The Senate Judiciary Committee today approved a modified version of a resolution commemorating Juneteenth on a split vote, months after the holiday itself and following a controversy that nearly held up the Senate road package.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44612

The Dentist Will See You Now . . . In The Hair Salon

When Dr. Stuart BOEKELOO of St. Joseph was asked to be the resident dentist of a new assisted living home, he was ready to say yes until he asked where he would be seeing his patients.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44600

Bill Allowing Concealed Weapons In Schools Up Next Week

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Rick JONES (R-Grand Ledge) said legislation allowing properly trained gun owners to carry concealed weapons in schools will be taken up in his committee next week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44611

Lawmakers Contemplate New Steps For Combatting Meth 'Epidemic'

About 20 months ago, the House Criminal Justice Committee heard law enforcement officers describe Michigan's methamphetamine problem as an "epidemic." That description came up again this morning.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44604

State Says Workers' Comp Rate Down 32.7% Since 2011

The state announced today the costs of workers' compensation for businesses would drop again in 2016, marking a 32.7 percent decrease since 2011 and an estimated $327 million in savings.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44607

House Panel To Hear Senate Version Of Regulating Amateur MMA Fights

A pair of bills from Sen. Dave ROBERTSON (R-Grand Blanc) aiming to regulate amateur boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) fights is coming up for consideration in the House Regulatory Reform Committee Wednesday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44613

Pot Tax Cut From 8% to 3%

Medical marijuana would be taxed at 3 percent, as opposed to 8 percent, under changes made to legislation on the House floor today, giving it needed Democratic support as lawmakers prepare for a Wednesday or Thursday vote.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44602

Dems Urge GOP To Take Up Their Domestic Violence Bills

As Democratic lawmakers called on their Republican counterparts to advance bills aimed at helping domestic violence victims, Rep. Kristy PAGAN (D-Canton) used numbers today to outline the problem she sees.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44603

Gamrat Gives Whistleblower Suit To Speaker's Office

Former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT's attorney Mike NICHOLS referred the copy of the whistleblower suit filed against Gamrat by two former House staffers to the House Speaker's office today since House rules state the Speaker appoints all House employees.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44601

Bits And Tidbits

Ananich Welcomes New Addition To Family

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44608

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 6, 1972, Picture Rocks National Lakeshore, 73,653 acres of massive, multicolored rock formations, sand dunes, beaches and forests near Munising, was officially dedicated.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#44610

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4685#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 352

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**
Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
8:30 AM - **Michigan Competitiveness**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
1:00 PM - **Energy and Technology**
Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
5:30 PM
Third Annual Innovation in Conservation Awards Gala(Sponsored by Michigan League Of Conservation Voters)
Location: Westin Book Cadillac Hotel , 1114 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226
Contact: Kristina Pepelko 734-222-9650
events@michiganlcv.org

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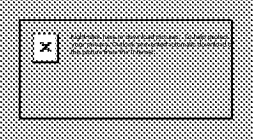

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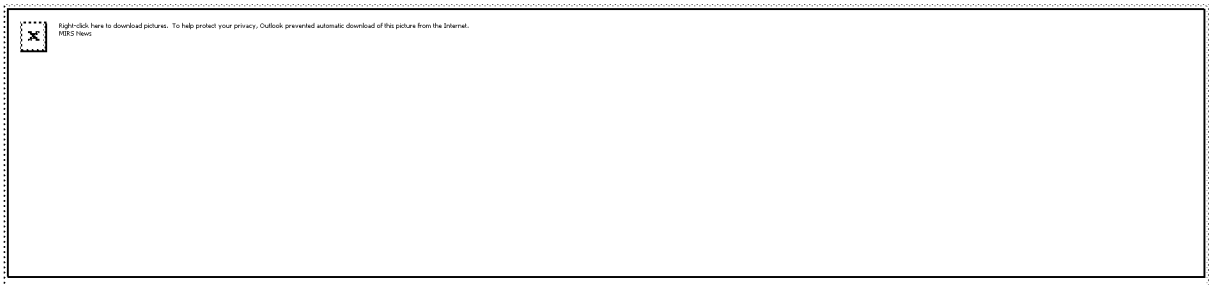
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 6:43 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Microbeads in the Great Lakes: Legislators butt heads over whether current legislation would help

"LANSING, MI -- The flow of tiny plastic pieces known as microbeads into the Great Lakes would be stymied by a House bill, some say, but others think the state should take more meaningful action."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/microbeads_in_the_great_lakes.html#incart_river*

More regulations? More guns? Michigan lawmakers debate solutions in wake of Oregon shooting

"LANSING, MI — Michigan state Sen. Steve Bieda was at a conference in Washington D.C. last week when he learned about a tragic shooting at an Oregon community college. When he flew home days later, he was struck by the fact that he had to remove his shoes before before boarding."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/more_regulations_more_guns_mic.html#incart_river*

How grown up is 17? Bills would stop automatic adult prosecution of 17-year-old offenders

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan 17-year-olds would stop automatically being prosecuted as adults under bipartisan legislation rolled out with broad support on Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how_grown_up_is_a_17-year-old.html#incart_river*

Michigan Senate votes to increase fines for selling tobacco to minors

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate on Tuesday voted unanimously to increase fines for selling tobacco to minors for the first time since at least 1988."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_senate_votes_to_incre.html#incart_river*

Statewide donations of clean water pour in for Flint students, residents

"FLINT, MI – What started as smaller attempts to bring clean water to Flint residents has turned into an outpouring of support as businesses, individuals and charities send thousands of bottles of water to the city, mostly for Flint Community Schools."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/post_444.html#incart_river_home*

John Dingell hospitalized, will undergo heart procedure

"Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit Monday and will undergo an unidentified heart procedure — his second in two years, his office said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/john-dingell-hospitalized-will-undergo-heart-procedure/73465228/*

President Clinton to visit Bingham Farms fundraiser

"Bingham Farms – President Bill Clinton is scheduled to headline a Wednesday fundraiser for his wife's presidential campaign in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/president-clinton-visit-bingham-farms-fundraiser/73494782/*

UAW issues strike notice to Fiat Chrysler

"Thousands of United Auto Workers members could walk out of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV plants

and head to picket lines early Thursday if bargainers fail to reach a new tentative labor contract."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/06/uaw-fca/73453880/*

U.S. Senate readies bill for Obama that saves A10s

"WASHINGTON — On a notably bipartisan vote of 73-26, the U.S. Senate advanced a bill that saves A10 aircraft at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and across the nation even though President Barack Obama has promised to veto it when it reaches his desk, which is expected to happen in the next several days."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/bill-obama-a10-selfridge-aircraft/73461718/*

Senators propose making auto safety cover-ups a crime

"WASHINGTON — Two U.S. senators on Tuesday introduced legislation which would make it a crime for a corporate officer to conceal information about a dangerous product, citing last month's settlement between General Motors and the U.S. Justice Department as proof that stronger laws are needed."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/06/senators-propose-making-auto-safety-cover-ups-crime/73474402/*

Road side drug testing project approved by Senate panel

"LANSING — A bill that would authorize the Michigan State Police to set up a roadside drug testing pilot program in three Michigan counties is on its way to the Senate after getting unanimous support in a Senate committee Tuesday afternoon."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/road-side-drug-testing-project-approved-senate-panel/73475214/*

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Michigan Senate raises fines for selling cigarettes to minors

"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan lawmakers want to make it costlier for stores that sell cigarettes to minors and the minors who illegally buy them."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/mich-senate-approves-higher-fines-cigarettes-minors/73480914/*

Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell back in hospital

"WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital on Monday and is expected to undergo a heart procedure, his wife's office said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/john-dingell-back-hospital/73464268/*

Great Lakes face threat from Enbridge Line 5

"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/*

Bill would get retired teachers back in the classroom

"Arlene Millman retired from education in 2012, but she wasn't quite ready to give up working with kids. That's why she's hoping Michigan lawmakers get moving on legislation that would allow people like her to go back to work — with some restrictions — without risking their retirement benefits or health care."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/retired-teachers-bill-classroom/73198854/*

UAW set to strike, FCA keeps talking

"Negotiations between UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles to restructure a deal overwhelmingly rejected by workers last week took an ominous turn Tuesday with the union issuing a

strike notice that says the current contract extension will expire at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/06/uaw-fiat-chrysler-talks-break-down-walkouts-looming/73448018/

John Dingell admitted to hospital for heart procedure

"Former U.S. congressman John Dingell was admitted Monday, Oct. 5, to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/10/06/news/doc56141dffbcc21289014010.txt

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Advocacy/Opinion

Why the right should support forfeiture reform in Michigan

"One of the most important features of limited government and economic freedom is the rule of law. In the words of John Adams, we should seek to establish "a government of laws and not of men.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/why_the_right_should_support_f.html#incart_river

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Williams: Trade deal must put America's interests first

"With 40 percent of the world's economy in the balance, possibly more if China, Thailand and other countries join over time, the Trans Pacific Partnership will have a huge impact on working families and our nation for generations to come."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/06/williams-trade-deal-american-interests/73487004/

Column: Minimum wage hike will hurt restaurants

"It's been one year since Michigan took its first step toward implementing a 25 percent minimum wage increase. To judge the effects of the policy, it's important to look beyond the state's overall economic growth numbers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/06/column-minimum-wage-hike-will-hurt-restaurants/73486906/

Our editorial: Ted Cruz is wrong on Syrian refugees

"The downside of having so many presidential candidates in the GOP field is that it increases the likelihood that one of them — or several — will say something so offensive that it taints everyone else. Ted Cruz is the latest.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/06/editorial-ted-cruz-wrong-syrian-refugees/73486846/*

Even Compared to Workers With College Degrees, Teachers Are Well Paid

"The new Dearborn school district superintendent Glenn Maleyko says he is worried about losing his best teachers."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21789*

New Detroit-Windsor bridge crossing raises traffic exhaust concerns

"Patricia Gonzalez can't imagine living in Southwest Detroit's Delray Neighborhood after a second international bridge to Canada opens and truck traffic doubles."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/new-detroit-windsor-bridge-crossing-raises-traffic-exhaust-concerns/*

Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, Oct. 7

"Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, Oct. 7"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444166448_smedia6.pdf*

Stamas bill supports Critical Incident Stress Management teams

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Jim Stamas, Roxanne Affholter of Michigan Crisis Response Association and Midland Fire Department Chief Chris Coughlin shared with members of the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday about the need to support Michigan's Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) teams."*

Source: *Senator Stamas* **Date:** *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444164889_stama.pdf*

Pine Rest President: Huizenga Leading On Mental Health Reform

"While national in scope, the bill would support local West Michigan solutions to problems that are unique to West Michigan — problems that decrease our quality of life, and create unnecessary health care costs and present challenges in our workplaces. ***Congressman Bill Huizenga, R-Michigan, understands these local issues and is helping champion comprehensive mental health reform on the national level. Rep. Huizenga recently became a co-sponsor to the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act and is diligently working to make sure the local, West Michigan perspective is shared and helps inform national policy reform.*** *Passage of the act will reduce the number of headlines we see linking mental illness to tragic events, and will increase the headlines describing breakthroughs of care, access and innovations, and improved quality of life in West Michigan. Let's support our national legislators who are working hard to find consensus around common-sense solutions to this fixable problem of inadequate access to quality behavioral health services."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444162838_pine.pdf*

Events Planned for Securing Mi Financial Future Month

"LANSING – On October 1, 2015, Governor Snyder proclaimed October as "Securing Mi Financial Future Month" and encouraged Michigan residents to take advantage of free, non-commercial financial education events throughout the month. Spearheaded by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS), the ***Securing Mi Financial Future*** *initiative will be holding several events across the state throughout the month. The first three events entitled****Building Mi Financial Future*** *are geared toward residents 18 years and older."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444162575_difs.pdf*

Senate panel approves Jones legislation to allow tax donations to American Red Cross

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Senate Finance Committee on Tuesday approved measures sponsored Sen. Rick Jones to allow residents to make voluntary donations on their state tax returns to help support the American Red Cross in Michigan."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444161134_senate.pdf*

Creative Many Selected for Bloomberg Philanthropies' Grant

*"**DETROIT —** Creative Many Michigan – the statewide economic development organization for the arts, culture and creative and design industries – announced it is a grantee recipient of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Arts Innovation and Management (AIM) program. Through the two-year initiative, Bloomberg Philanthropies is providing $30 million across 262 small and mid-sized nonprofit cultural organizations around the country to help strengthen their operational and programming efforts, including training in fundraising, audience development and board member engagement."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444159563_creative.pdf*

Whistleblower Lawsuit Raises Further Questions About Cotter's Leadership

"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement after staff members fired by Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat raised new allegations in a lawsuit. In the lawsuit, Keith Allard and Ben Graham allege that they informed "House management staff" about wrongdoing by Reps. Courser and Gamrat prior to being fired."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444159501_whistleblower.pdf

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Congressman John Dingell to Undergo Medical Procedure in Detroit

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Congressman John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit on Monday. He is being evaluated and will undergo a heart procedure. Mr. Dingell is resting comfortably under doctor's care and is his usual feisty self. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be in Michigan this week."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444158278_DINGELL.pdf*

Lansing citizens file federal complaints in response to illegal political robocalls

"LANSING — Local citizens filed FCC complaints Tuesday against Capitol Region Progress, a shadowy Lansing special interest group that has been sending out illegal robocalls to area voters ahead of the Nov. 3 election."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444158235_MORGAN.pdf

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JEB BUSH TO ATTEND GEORGIA - TENNESSEE TAILGATE

*"**Miami, FL –** On Saturday, Governor Jeb Bush will attend a tailgate prior to the Georgia Bulldogs at Tennessee Volunteers football game in Knoxville, TN."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444156191_JEB.pdf*

Rep. Kurt Heise to speak at Youth in Prison Legislative Bill Package Press Conference

"Rep. Kurt Heise to speak at Youth in Prison Legislative Bill Package Press Conference"

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444154289_reminder.pdf*

Statement on Courser/Gamrat Staff Lawsuit Claiming House Management Staff Were Told of Wrongdoing

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party released the following statement today on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon regarding the recent lawsuit filed by former Courser and Gamrat aides, Keith Allard and Ben Graham, against the former representatives. In the lawsuit, Allard and Graham claim they reported to 'House management staff' instances of Courser's and Gamrat's 'wrongdoing i.e., the abuse of staff and government resources.' "

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444152239_mdp.pdf*

Three Rivers Woman Wins $310.5 Million Powerball Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 6, 2015** – The dream of being a Lottery jackpot winner has come true for a Three Rivers woman who won a $310.5 million Powerball jackpot from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444152192_lottery.pdf*

The time is now to act on abortion coercion

"On September 29, in a 5-3 vote, H.B. 4787 and H.B. 4830 passed the Michigan House Criminal Justice Committee and are under consideration on the House floor. Right to Life of Michigan applauds these legislative efforts to address the ongoing injustice of coerced abortions. "

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444148670_abortion.pdf*

EQUALITY MICHIGAN MOURNS THE LOSS OF ANOTHER MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY

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DETROIT, MI – The body of Melvin, a 30-year old African American gay male, was discovered shot to death early yesterday morning by a neighbor on Detroit's East side. Melvin was homeless, and often wore women's clothing to earn a living causing early reports to identify him as potentially a member of the transgender community. Friends of Melvin, however, insist that he did not identify as transgender. The Detroit Police Department (DPD) is not releasing Melvin's legal name out of respect for his family.

"

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444148050_equality.pdf*

MacGregor bill would add Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund tax checkoff

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Michigan taxpayers would be able to donate a portion of their tax return to the Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund next year under legislation introduced by Sen. Peter MacGregor on Tuesday."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444147538_mcgregor.pdf*

2015 Michigan Capitol Robotics Day

"Don't miss this opportunity to meet Michigan STEM students and Instructors as they exhibit robots, drones, and submersibles at the State Capitol. Two innovative Michigan companies, Pratt & Miller Engineering and Quantum Signal will be on hand to discuss their AVETAR robotic vehicle which will be on display outside."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444147478_robotics.pdf*

Photo Advisory: Sen. Schuitmaker welcomes the Rev. Steve Smail to state Capitol to give Senate invoc

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*****SCHUITMAKER PHOTO ADVISORY*****

Sen. Schuitmaker welcomes the Rev. Steve Smail to state Capitol to give Senate invocation ***LANSING, Mich.*** *— State Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton, welcomed the Rev. Steve Smail to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Smail serves as senior pastor at Lighthouse Baptist Church of Plainwell and delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444147150_schuitmaker.pdf

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Legislative Democrats Call for Action on Domestic Violence Bills

"LANSING – As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus are urging their Republican colleagues that a package of bills aimed at combating domestic violence has languished in the Legislature for half a year. The measures would give survivors of domestic violence the tools they need to escape violent situations and seek justice."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444146505_dems.pdf

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Study: 13 Michigan Corporations Had a Total of $54 Billion in Untaxed Profits Stashed Offshore in 20

"MICHIGAN – Tax loopholes encouraged 13 Michigan Fortune 500 companies – including Dow Chemical, General Motors, Stryker, Whirlpool, Ford Motors and Kellogg – to maintain a total of $54 billion in profits offshore in 2014, much of the money in tax havens, according to a report released today by Engage Michigan and Michigan Citizen Action. These 13 companies had a total of 304 subsidiaries in offshore tax havens last year. The corporations are most likely paying a tax rate on these profits of no more than 6 percent in these tax havens and are able to dodge paying any U.S. taxes on these profits until they are brought back to the United States, which may never happen."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444144925_engage.pdf

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Michigan Supreme Court to open 2015-2016 term; first case to be heard in the old Supreme Court court

"LANSING, MI, October 6, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court will convene to hear oral arguments in 11 cases scheduled for October 13-15, 2015. The Court will hear the first caseat 9:30 am, October 13, in the old Supreme Court courtroom on the third floor of the State Capitol."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444144056_court.pdf

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Michigan conservation officers share tips for safe bowhunting

"Michigan's bowhunting season opened October 1, and Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are sharing tips for a safe bowhunting experience."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444143968_mdc.pdf

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Continued Savings in Workers' Compensation Costs Boosts Economic Competitiveness

"LANSING — The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) lauded huge gains in manufacturing competitiveness as the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency (WCA) announced today, 10/6/15, that the state's workers' compensation pure premium rate will drop another 6.9 percent in 2016. Michigan is the only state in the Midwest to have seen such a steady cost-saving trend in workers' compensation costs and the cumulative effect is a 32.7 percent decrease over the period of 2011 to 2016."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444143900_mma.pdf*

MI Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development Seeks Food Safety Education and Training Grant Proposals

*"**LANSING** – The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development is seeking grant proposals for food safety education and training as part of the Food Safety Education Fund grant program. Grant proposals must be received by MDARD no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2015. An electronic copy of the Request for Proposals, including grant criteria, is available on the department's website at www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants. The Food Safety Education Fund was established under the Michigan Food Law of 2000, as amended, Sec. 4117, and is funded through assessments of $3.00 to $5.00 from each Michigan food establishment license. Up to $250,000 is available in the fund for the 2016 food safety education and training grant cycle."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444142008_mda.pdf*

Local state representatives endorse Nathan Triplett

*"EAST LANSING–All three Ingham County State Representatives today announced their support for **Nathan Triplett** for reelection to East Lansing City Council."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444141958_triplett.pdf*

Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus to Urge Action on Domestic Violence Bills

*"LANSING – Members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus, including PWLC chairwoman Rep. **Winnie Brinks** (D-Grand Rapids), Rep. **Kristy Pagan** (D-Canton) and Sen.**Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor), will urge action on a package of legislation aimed to combat the persistent problem of domestic violence today, **Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 11:15 a.m. in room 402/403 of the Michigan Capitol Building**. The bills, introduced in March, have yet to receive committee hearings or be voted on in the Legislature. As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the PWLC is sending message that it is time to move forward with this legislation."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444138619_house.pdf*

The Education Trust - Midwest - Making Progress for MI Students

"In a major step toward making Michigan a top ten education state, a bill to improve the quality of feedback and support for Michigan educators was approved by the House Education Committee on October 1, in a bipartisan, 14-2 vote."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444138150_education.pdf

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MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CAREER COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS (MACCS) RETAINS CLARK HILL

*"**TROY, MI – OCTOBER 6, 2015 –** Kurt Mayry, President of MACCS and CFO/Co-Owner of The Motion Picture Institute in Troy, Michigan announced today that the 53-member association has retained Clark Hill to represent the membership and advise on important state legislation. "*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444138043_maccs.pdf*

Consumers Energy, Habitat for Humanity Celebrate World Habitat Day with Commitment to Safe, Affordab

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Consumers Energy, Habitat for Humanity Celebrate World

Habitat Day with Commitment to Safe, Affordable Housing"

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137335_energy.pdf*

Schuette: Emmet County Attorney Allegedly Stole $100,000 from Elderly Woman with Alzheimer's

*"**LANSING** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette announced felony criminal charges against Michael Aho Kennedy, 67, of Petoskey, for allegedly embezzling funds from a client suffering from Alzheimer's disease."*

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137130_schuette.pdf*

MICCD - Major Bill Package Seeks to Remove Youth from Michigan's

Prison System

"LANSING - In response to growing concern on the treatment of youth in Michigan's adult prison system, Representatives Harvey Santana (D-Detroit), Peter Lucido (R- Shelby), Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth), Klint Kesto (R- Commerce), and Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) announced legislation today to reduce the number of young people exposed to the dangers of adult jails and prisons and improve public safety. Over the past ten years, more than 20,000 young people under 18 have been convicted as adults in Michigan, mostly for non-violent offenses with no prior juvenile record."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137065_micod.pdf*

Rep. Trott to Honor Southeast Michigan's Vietnam Veterans

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today announced he will be hosting a ceremony honoring the Vietnam veterans of the 11th Congressional District for their courageous service to our nation. On Sunday, November 8, 2015, in Livonia, Rep. Trott will be awarding veterans with the Congressional Vietnam Veteran Pin to mark the 50th Anniversary of the War in Vietnam. "

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136984_trott.pdf*

COURSER - Conservative voting record second to none

"Every day I fought to defend you AGAINST the Progressive leaders of the Republican Party! Do you want a Party player, a Party hack, a new comer, a Lobbyist dream, or a Defender for Liberty who will not bend to the Progressive demands? It is your choice."

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136932_courser.pdf*

Dr. Benishek Announces Agriculture Grants USDA Grants Will Support Farmers Growing Agriculture Crop

"Washington, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today the awarding of more than $113 million in program grants to support farmers growing "specialty crops," which include products such as cherries, apples, asparagus, and other Northern Michigan products. "

Source: Date: *10-07-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136850_benishek.pdf*

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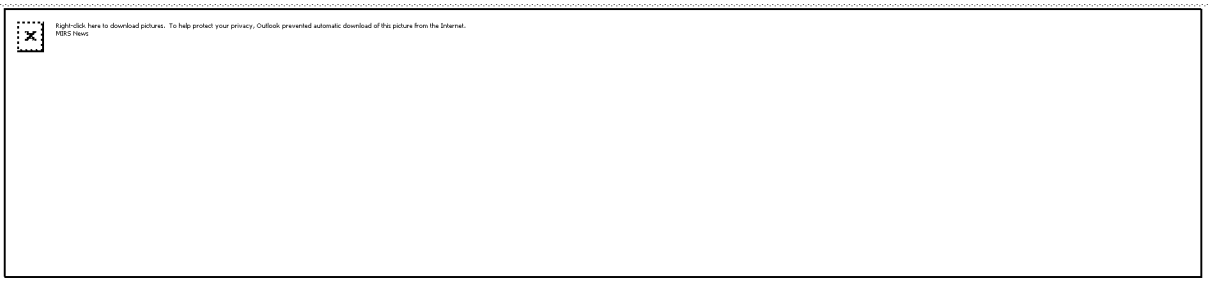

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Forfeiture package sails through Michigan Legislature, requiring police to disclose profits

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate on Wednesday voted unanimously to increase civil asset forfeiture reporting requirements for law enforcement agencies and make it harder for the government to keep confiscated property."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/forfeiture_package_sails_throu.html#incart_river*

Medical marijuana dispensaries, taxes and edibles approved by Michigan House

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House on Wednesday signed off on sweeping plans to create a highly-regulated medical marijuana industry and allow patients to purchase the drug at storefront dispensaries, which would be taxed."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/medical_marijuana_dispensaries_1.html#incart_river*

Planned Parenthood not mishandling fetal remains in Michigan, state finds

"LANSING, MI -- There is no evidence that Planned Parenthood is illegally handling fetal tissue in Michigan, according to two state departments who reviewed practices after lawmakers called for an investigation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/planned_parenthood_not_mishand.html#incart_river*

Bill Clinton attends $500-per-ticket fundraiser for wife in Bingham Farms

"Former President Bill Clinton was scheduled to be in Bingham Farms Wednesday afternoon for a private event raising funds for his wife Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/bill_clinton_attends_2700-per-.html#incart_river

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Gov. Snyder says he\'ll make announcement on Flint water Thursday

"FLINT, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder says on Twitter that he will make an announcement about Flint water at 10 a.m. Thursday."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_snyder_says_hell_make_anno.html#incart_river_home

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Upton backs Scalise for majority leader

"Michigan's senior congressional Republican, U.S. Rep. Fred Upton of St. Joseph, has endorsed Majority Whip Rep. Steve Scalise, R-Louisiana, to be the next majority leader of the U.S. House."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/upton-backs-scalise-majority-leader/73560308/

Michigan leader defends Planned Parenthood

"Washington — A top official of Planned Parenthood in Michigan is firing back at congressional critics seeking to gut federal funding for the embattled organization, $8.5 million of which goes to Planned Parenthood clinics in Michigan annually."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/07/michigan-leader-defends-planned-parenthood/73560328/

GOP lacks consensus picks to defeat Courser, Gamrat

"Lansing — The education policy lobbying arm of west Michigan's powerful DeVos family is aiming to defeat former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat in two special GOP primaries on Nov. 3, but Republicans don't have consensus choices on who should succeed them."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/gop-lacks-consensus-picks-defeat-courser-gamrat/73494926/*

Our editorial: Good behavior paroles will cut costs

"Fairness alone would argue that, in most cases, an inmate with good behavior should be set free on completing the minimum sentence. That's not always the case in Michigan, and it's helping fuel the state's $2 billion a year in corrections spending.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/07/editorial-good-behavior-paroles-cut-prison-costs/73556864/*

Michigan pays $1.9M in legal fees for gay marriage case

"The state of Michigan has paid the nearly $2 million legal tab for the Michigan couple whose lawsuit helped clear the way for same-sex couples to legally marry."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/10/07/michigan-pays-million-legal-fees-historic-gay-marriage-case/73522282/*

House votes to expand types of medical pot allowed

"Lansing — The Michigan House of Representatives approved Wednesday a three-bill package that expands the kinds of medical marijuana patients can ingest and more clearly specifies who can dispense the pot."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/07/house-votes-expand-medical-pot-allowed/73533268/*

30,000 Michigan Teamsters face pension cuts

"The Central States Pension Fund, one of the largest Teamsters funds, has filed for reorganization and has sent letters to an estimated 30,000 Michigan members warning that their benefits must be cut."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/07/michigan-teamsters-pension-*

cuts/73549076/

UAW, Fiat Chrysler avoid strike; reach tentative deal

"The United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles avoided a potential strike by reaching a new tentative contract before a Wednesday night deadline."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/06/uaw-fca-reach-agreement/73562314/*

Lon Johnson reports raising more than $350,000

"WASHINGTON — Former state Democratic Party Chairman Lon Johnson said Wednesday he has raised more than $350,000 since the end of June toward his campaign to represent a congressional seat opening up in northern Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/07/lon-johnson-reports-raising-more-than-350k/73529578/*

Mike Bouchard endorses Jeb Bush

"WASHINGTON — Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard on Wednesday added his name to those in Michigan endorsing former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush for the Republican nomination for president in 2016."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/07/bouchard-endorses-jeb-bush/73532100/*

Dingell to have 2nd heart procedure, stays in hospital

"WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell underwent a heart procedure Wednesday at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, which helped determine that he did not have a heart attack, but his wife's office said he will undergo a second procedure Friday to implant a new device."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/07/dingell-have-2nd-heart-procedure-stays-hospital/73533274/*

State moving 1,600 prisoners out of Kinross in U.P.

"LANSING — About 1,600 state prisoners will soon be on the move in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, as the

Michigan Department of Corrections closes one prison and reopens another one that closed in 2009."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/07/michigan-prisons-kinross-upper-peninsula/73456330/*

U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade: A fighter for justice

"Barbara McQuade is on a mission."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/08/22/barbara-mcquade-us-attorney-profile/32213953/*

Michigan House OKs medical pot rules with wide support

"LANSING — With wide bipartisan majorities, the Michigan House of Representatives passed bills Wednesday to regulate the production and sale of medical marijuana, in both smokable and non-smokable forms."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/07/michigan-house-try-again-medical-marijuana-rules/73510520/*

Group: IRS should probe shadowy pro-Schuette spending

"WASHINGTON — A national watchdog group is calling for an investigation into a tax-exempt Michigan political organization, saying it has spent millions on TV ads featuring Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, targeting his opponents, but failing to disclose any of its donors as required by law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/bill-schuette-michigan-advocacy-trust-political-ads/73526000/*

UAW-FCA reach deal, union claims 'significant gains'

"Averting a possible midnight strike, the UAW and FCA reached a new tentative agreement late Wednesday, with the union saying it won "significant gains" compared with an earlier deal members rejected last week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/08/uaw-strike-2015-fca/73550246/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Moss: Mich. Supreme Court shuts door on young readers

"Last week the Michigan Supreme Court denied leave to appeal in this state's groundbreaking Right to Read lawsuit. In so doing, the justices slammed shut the courthouse doors to our most vulnerable children — those who cannot read."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/07/moss-mich-supreme-court-shuts-door-young-readers/73557010/*

Press Releases

Benishek Votes in For Select Committee to Investigate Abortion Provider

"Washington, D.C. - The House voted today in favor of H. Res. 461 - "Establishing a Select Investigative Panel of the Committee on Energy & Commerce," a bill that would allow the Congress to examine the need for further legislation to protect the lives of the unborn in light of a series of videos which appear to show Planned Parenthood officials negotiating the price of fetal organs for sale. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444255690_benishek.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill allowing drivers to show proof of insurance on their phone during traffi

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation that will allow drivers on Michigan roads to present proof of auto insurance using their cell phone or other mobile device if asked by a law enforcement officer."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444251901_gov.pdf

Schuitmaker, O'Brien bills improve public safety

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Legislation that would improve oversight and uniformity for Michigan's law enforcement officers passed the Senate on Wednesday."*

Source: *Schuitmaker* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444251793_shuit.pdf

Cruz For President Announces Michigan Grassroots Leadership Team

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today extends his strong, national organization to the Great Lakes State, announcing the first round of his Michigan Grassroots Leadership Team comprised of conservative leaders from all over the state. The announcement comes the same day that the Cruz campaign announced county chairs in every one of the 171 counties that comprise the first four early states of Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina, and Nevada. "*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444251693_cruz.pdf*

CRUZ: Chaos in Syria and Iraq is Direct Consequence of Administration's Failed Foreign Policy

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate Ted Cruz today joined Fox News's Bill Hemmer to discuss how the U.S. should approach Russia President Vladmir Putin's involvement in Syria and the ongoing success the Cruz Campaign has seen in its ground operations in the early states and beyond."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444250615_crux.pdf*

Senate unanimously approves Iden bill to reform asset forfeiture laws

"The Michigan Senate today unanimously approved legislation authored by state Rep. Brandt Iden to reform Michigan's asset forfeiture laws and protect citizens' rights across the state. Rep. Iden applauded the Senate on its approval of the bill."

Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444248501_repub.pdf

Statement on Clinton campaign fundraiser

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 7, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday issued the following statement on Hillary Clinton's campaign fundraiser in Michigan:"*

Source: *Michigan GOP* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444247537_gop.pdf

Upcoming ramp restriction - Dixie Highway and I-75

"I-75 at Dixie Highway, Monroe County Starting on Friday, October 9, at 8 p.m., traffic from westbound Dixie Highway to northbound I-75 will be restricted with a detour in place. The detour will direct traffic to southbound I-75 to Elm Street, then back north on I-75. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444246933_mdot.pdf

Congressman John Dingell in Good Spirits, Will Undergo a Second Procedure at Henry Ford on Friday

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Today, Congressman John Dingell underwent an angiogram at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and doctors determined that he did not have a silent heart attack. Congressman Dingell will undergo a second procedure on Friday to implant a new device, and is expected to remain in the hospital for a few more days."*

Source: *Congressman John Dingell* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444246840_dingell.pdf

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Michigan medical marijuana businesses hail passage of strong regulations as House OKs landmark legis

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Cannabis Development Association** today applauded the **Michigan House** for passing strong medical marijuana regulations that will protect patients, promote public safety and ensure all businesses play by the same set of rules on a level playing field."*

Source: *Byrum and Fisk Communications* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444246789_byrum.pdf

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ouse passes Callton, Lyons legislation improving patient access to medical marijuana

"Access to medical marijuana will be safe and simple for Michigan patients through a two-bill package that passed the House today to clarify and update the existing statutes. The legislation implements ideas developed at lengthy workgroup meetings that included patients, caregivers, law enforcement, health care providers and officials from cities, villages and townships."

Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444246688_repub.pdf

NYPD COMMISSIONER'S LEGAL COUNSEL TO TO SPEAK AT WMU-COOLEY EVENT

"On Saturday, Oct. 24, Edna Wells Handy, legal counsel to the New York Police Commissioner William J. Bratton, will present the Keynote during WMU-Cooley Law School's Black Law Students Association's (BLSA) 19th Annual Charles Hamilton Houston Black Tie Affair."

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444244668_nypd.pdf

Rep. Jacobsen optimistic following second hearing on speed limits legislation

"

Rep. Jacobsen optimistic following second hearing on speed limits legislation *State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, and his House colleagues introduced a bipartisan bill package earlier this year that would improve safety for motorists on Michigan roads."*

Source: *Rep. Jacobson* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444242956_jacobson.pdf*

Rep. Cole bill requires temporary weather towers to meet FAA regulations

"

Rep. Cole bill requires temporary weather towers to meet FAA regulations *State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, recently introduced legislation to require that Meteorological Evaluation Towers (METs) meet standard Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations for pilot visibility."*

Source: *Rep. Cole* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444242850_cole.pdf*

House Appropriations committee considers legislation cracking down on 'puppy mills,' encouraging res

"The House Committee on Appropriations today took testimony on House Bill 4898, legislation introduced by State Rep. Mike McCready designed to provide funding to address and properly regulate large-scale house pet breeding facilities."

Source: *House Appropriations Committee* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444242535_approp.pdf*

Zorn bill would expand Michigan Tuition Grant eligibility

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Dale Zorn has introduced legislation to help more Michigan students enrolled in independent universities and colleges in the state receive the Michigan Tuition Grant."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444242192_zorn.pdf*

ICYMI: NRO: When Cruz Makes His Move, Watch Out

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – National Review's Eliana Johnson writes that Cruz is a serious contender for the Republican nomination with strong support in early states, solid poll numbers and leading in hard-dollar donations. Johnson writes, "…the Texas senator may be the most undercovered serious candidate in the race – and the most underestimated. But he shouldn't be dismissed.""*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444242121_cruz.pdf*

MAJOR EVENT AT CAPITOL TOMORROW

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall reminded residents that he is sponsoring an event honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era on the Capitol lawn tomorrow – Thursday, Oct. 8. Kowall encouraged his constituents and all interested Michiganders to attend."*

Source: *Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowell* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444241990_kowell.pdf

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Seven Michigan Lottery Players Headed to Las Vegas for Monopoly Millionaires' Club(tm) Game Show

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 7, 2015** – Seven lucky Michigan Lottery players are heading to Las Vegas to appear on the Monopoly Millionaires' Club game TV show."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444241177_lottery.pdf

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Winning Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Bonus Drawing Ticket Bought in Ottawa County

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 7, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player has won $25,000 in the first Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle bonus drawing. The winning raffle ticket number was 013156. The lucky ticket was bought at the Wesco store, located at 502 West Savidge Street in Spring Lake. The winning ticket also is eligible for the game's remaining bonus drawings, and jackpot drawing. The Veteran's Day 50/50 Raffle jackpot currently stands at $295,362."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444240680_lottery.pdf

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Cruz for President Announces County Chairs in Every County in First Four States

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – The Cruz for President campaign today announced that it has named a chairman in all 171 counties that comprise the first four early states – 99 Iowa counties, 10 New Hampshire counties, 46 South Carolina counties, and 16 Nevada counties."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444237155_cruz.pdf*

Sen. Colbeck expresses support of eliminating gun-free zones

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, gave the following statement to his colleagues on the Senate floor in support of eliminating gun-free zones in response to the latest shooting in Oregon."*

Source: *Sen. Colbeck* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444236977_colbeck.pdf

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Successful early elk hunting season in the books

"Michigan's early elk season is now over, leaving many happy hunters with full freezers and memories for a lifetime."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444236919_dnr.pdf

State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD

"LANSING, Mich. – Flint residents and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients with a city of Flint water bill will now be able to take advantage of extended hours this Thursday,Friday, and Saturday at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department 2727 Lippincott location. Extended hours will be offered at the Lippincott facility only, and will run until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The other three locations will maintain 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. operating hours, Monday through Friday, for filter pick up."

Source: *Michigan Department of Health and Senior Services* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444233358_mdhhs.pdf

Natural Resources Commission to meet Thursday in Cedarville

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Oct. 8, at Clark Township Community Center, 133 East M-134, in Cedarville."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444233286_dnr.pdf*

GR Chamber PAC Announces Support for Mary Whiteford in 80th District State House Race

*"**Grand Rapids -** Today, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee (PAC), theFriends of West Michigan Business, announced its endorsement of Mary Whiteford for the November 3 special election for the Michigan House of Representatives District 80. Endorsements were based on candidate questionnaires and interviews."*

Source: *Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444233234_grpac.pdf*

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eslie Shanlian appointed CEO of Michigan Veteran Health System

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes today announced the appointment of Leslie Shanlian as chief executive officer of the Michigan Veteran Health System, which oversees the state's two veterans homes."

Source: *Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444233119_dmv.pdf*

Microplastics in the Great Lakes

*"**Ever heard of microbeads?** They are tiny pieces of plastic that add up to one big problem. Microbeads, or microplastics, are added as exfoliants in many toothpastes and facial scrubs. They wash **down our drains and into our Great Lakes**, where they pollute our water and even end up in the stomachs of fish."*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444233008_micv.pdf*

Court Press Release - Macomb Circuit Court Adult Drug Court Proven Highly Effective

"Macomb Circuit Court Adult Drug Court Proven Highly Effective Based on the statistics released by the State Court Administrative Office, the Adult Drug Court of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court is working. The Adult Drug Court was evaluated for recidivism rates in 2014. The evaluation used case data from the 16th Circuit Court to compare drug court graduates with a similar group of comparison members."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444232206_court.pdf*

Pavlov serves on international panel highlighting Canadian nuclear waste debate

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Phil Pavlov on Tuesday spoke as part of an expert panel at a Toronto town hall meeting on the planned construction of a nuclear dump that could jeopardize the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem."*

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444232153_senate.pdf*

Small Business Owners Urge Senate Committee to Protect Franchise Model

"October 7, 2015 (Lansing) – The state's leading small business organization, the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), testified today along with a number of Michigan based franchise owners in support of legislation that would clarify the relationship between franchisor and franchisee employees. The legislation is necessary because of a recent ruling by the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board) that changed current law in the relationship between employers, franchise arrangements and independent contractors."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444227428_sb.pdf*

HOUSE OF REPS TO VOTE TODAY ON MEDICAL MARIJUANA BILLS

"LANSING, MI: Today in Lansing the House Of Representative will vote on an important package of Medical Marijuana bills. HB 4209 sponsored by Representative Mike Callton will set up a new state department to license and regulate medical marijuana provisioning centers. HB 4210 sponsored by Representative Lisa Posthumus-Lyons will legalize the possession, use and processing of smoking-alternative forms of medical marijuana. HB 4287 sponsored by Representative Klint Kesto production and sale of medical marijuana."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444227377_house.pdf*

Peters Joins Colleagues in Requesting Homeland Security Department Share its Refugee Vetting Process

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced he has joined his colleagues in sending a letter to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Jeh Johnson requesting an update on how the Administration screens refugees from conflict regions. In the letter, Peters and his colleagues noted the mounting backlog of refugee applications in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) pipeline, and requested information about the possibility of refugee interviews being conducted via videoconferencing in war-torn regions too dangerous for U.S. personnel to conduct in-person interviews."*

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444226928_peters.pdf*

Report: Efforts to reduce teen pregnancies in Michigan working

*"**Teen births down 40 percent, but much room for improvement** LANSING – Concentrated efforts over the past 20 years have led to a 40 percent drop in Michigan's teen births, but the annual state teen birth rate remains among the highest of any industrialized country and significant disparities persist in low-income communities and communities of color, according to a new report released today."*

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444224462_report.pdf*

Capitol Modillion Lottery release

"The Michigan State Capitol Commission is offering an opportunity to acquire a piece of Capitol history. The Commission is hosting a public lottery to sell one hundred historic sandstone modillions removed from the Capitol during its 2015 exterior restoration."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444224131_lottery.pdf*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/6/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444224081_court.pdf*

Michigan Legislators Introduce Youth Justice Reforms

"Lansing - A bipartisan group of Michigan legislators introduced a package of bills Tuesday to keep 17 year old offenders from automatically going into the adult corrections system. In the past decade, more than 20,000 youths under the age of 18 have been sentenced as adults in Michigan. Most were convicted for nonviolent offenses and had no prior juvenile record. The proposed legislation was introduced in conjunction with the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MCCD)."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444224022_justice.pdf*

US-31/M-37 concrete patching in Chums Corners starts Oct. 12

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be making concrete pavement repairs in the right-turn lanes at the intersection of US-31/M-37 in Chums Corners. Work will be done between 6 a.m. and 4

p.m. daily."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444223958_mdot.pdf*

JEB BUSH: SHAKING UP MOUNT WASHINGTON

"Seven years into Barack Obama's presidency, the American people are growing increasingly distrustful of all things happening in Washington, D.C."

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444223835_jeb.pdf*

October 2015 Ruth Report

"Dear Supporters & Friends,

Click here for the latest edition of the Ruth Report. It includes the latest information about our efforts in the Michigan Secretary of State's office to save tax dollars, improve customer service and, most importantly, to safeguard election integrity.

The monthly Ruth Report includes photos, information about new services and updates from across Michigan. To access a copy of the newsletter, click here. Please feel free to share it with your family and friends.

Let us know if you have ideas or suggestions for what you'd like to see in upcoming editions. You can email us at sosruthjohnson@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!"

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444223778_ruth.pdf*

Schuitmaker bills would enhance public safety with new BAIID standards

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** A package of bills that aims to reduce drunk driving offenses, introduced by state Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, was voted out of the Senate Committee on Judiciary Tuesday."*

Source: Date: *10-08-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444223730_schuitmaker.pdf*

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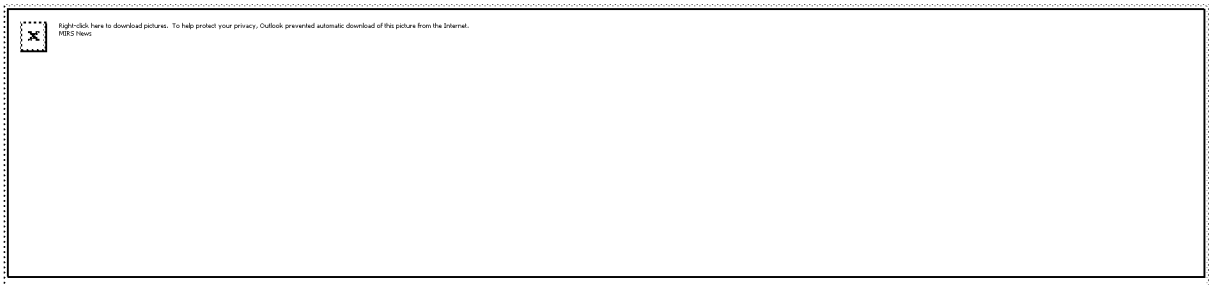
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 7:53 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 8, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 8, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/847

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/843

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Legislative Leaders Begin Ironing Out Road Plan Details

After participating in one of their longest closed-door meetings yet, House and Senate leaders reported this afternoon that they've begun agreeing to some details of what's expected to be a $1.2-billion road-funding plan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44632

Flint To Return To Detroit Water, Gov Asks Lawmakers To Help Cover Cost

(FLINT) -- The city of Flint will transition back to getting its water from Detroit within weeks, and Gov. Rick SNYDER said today he is in "full support."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44634

Speaker Says He's `Committed To Taking Action' On Flint Water

Just hours after Gov. Rick SNYDER requested that the Legislature provide $6 million to help connect

Flint to a different water source, key lawmakers seemed more than open to the idea today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44635

Miller As Caretaker Speaker?

So who is going to replace retiring U.S. House Speaker John BOEHNER at the end of the month now that U.S. Majority Leader Kevin McCARTHY said he's not the person for the job?

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44631

Schuette Takes A Pair Of Disclosure-Related Hits

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE's office suggested a state agency attach a $52,000 fee to a perceived bothersome Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and a "dark money" group that advocated for his re-election is now the subject of a federal complaint.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44640

Meekhof: How Do We Make Medical Marijuana Process Better?

The current way in which medical marijuana is distributed in Michigan is a "messy, messy thing" that is leaving "a lot of people not satisfied," said Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44639

`Out-Of-Whack' Insurance Code Revamped Under New Bills

A new three-bill package that spans some 234 pages would “modernize” state health insurance laws and would help them to make more sense for companies and regulators alike, supporters told a House committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44636

Michigan Corporations Split On Senate Energy Plan

Even some of Michigan's largest users of energy remain divided over how to move forward with the state's energy plan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44641

Senate OK's Anti-Breed Discrimination Bill

Legislation preventing local governments from banning or restricting ownership of pit bulls and other so-called "dangerous" dog breeds was passed out of the Senate today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44633

Students Would Need Six Hours Of Genocide Teaching Under Bill

Public school students need to be exposed to at least six hours of teaching on genocide and the Holocaust by the time they graduate, according to legislation that has re-emerged in the House this

term.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44629

Liberal Group Files Complaint Involving 3 MI Reps.

A publicly identified liberal watchdog group filed a congressional ethics complaint against 23 members, including U.S. Reps. Dan BENISHEK (R-Crystal Falls), Tim WALBERG (R-Tipton) and Mike BISHOP (R-Rochester) for filling out a political form that asked for information on members' legislative strategy.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44630

Bits And Tidbits

Buiteweg Becomes New President Of State Bar

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44638

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 8, 2007, in the wake of the budget debacle, Gov. Jennifer GRANHOLM told reporters she thought there was no need to revisit the expansion of the use tax on services, which had been part of the 12th hour budget solution.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44637

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **Education**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
10:30 AM - **General Government**
Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015
11:00 AM
Senator Patrick Colbeck October Office Hours
Location: Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154
Contact: Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713
senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015
7:00 PM
19th Annual Charles Hamilton Houston Black Tie Affair(Sponsored by Cooley Law School)
Guest Speakers: New York Police Commissioner William J. Bratton
Location: , Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, 219 South Harrison Rd., East Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Yanique Kennedy (407) 414-4337
kennedyy@cooley.edu

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
5:30 PM
West Michigan Meet the Players(Sponsored by MICPA, State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section, Michigan Women's Taxation Section)

Location: , Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Contact: Shane Barry 248.267.3700
sbarry@micpa.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015
6:30 PM
2015 ACLU of Michigan Annual Dinner(Sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan)
Guest Speakers: Charles M. Blow
Location: , The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 6:40 AM
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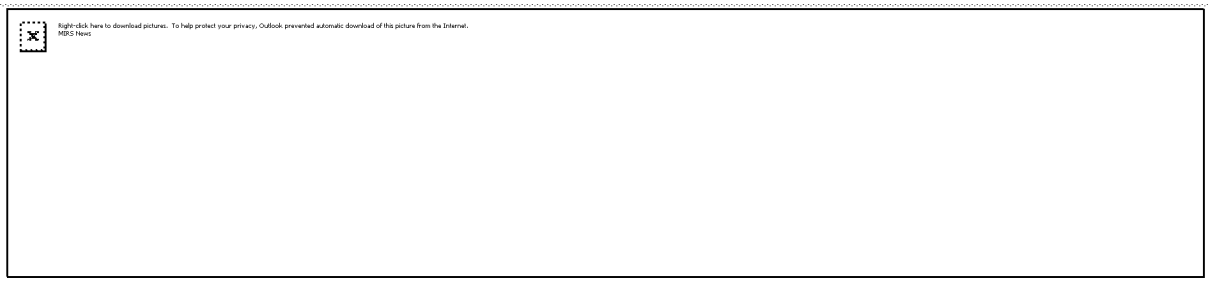
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Snyder seeking $9.35M in state aid for Flint water crisis, and Michigan lawmakers are on board

"LANSING, MI — Top Michigan lawmakers appear ready and willing to send nearly $10 million to Flint in order to address a public health crisis and help the city return to Detroit water, but it's not immediately clear where the funding will come from."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_requesting_935m_for_sta.html#incart_river*

Michigan dog 'breed discrimination' ban would prohibit local ordinances

"LANSING, MI — Local communities would be prohibited from banning or otherwise regulating specific dog breeds — including pit bulls — under legislation approved Thursday by the Michigan Senate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_breed_discrimination.html#incart_river*

Michigan's Candice Miller floated as possible 'interim' House Speaker

"LANSING, MI -- U.S. Rep. Candice Miller of Michigan, who is retiring at the end of 2016, is reportedly being floated as a possible "interim" House Speaker after Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of California shocked his colleagues by dropping out of the race."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/candice_miller_interim_house_s.html#incart_river*

What's the fuss over Flint water? Six takeaways from Gov. Snyder's plan

"FLINT, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder has announced a $16 million plan to reduce lead in the city's drinking water, and he and other key players in carrying it out made several key points to remember on Thursday, Oct. 8."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/seven_key_takeaways_from_gov_s.html#incart_river_home*

Switch from Flint River to Detroit water expected to take two weeks

"FLINT, MI — Water from Lake Huron is expected to start running through Flint's system in two weeks or less, but an expert says it will take another month for lead levels in the city to drop back to lower levels as a result."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/city_says_it_can_switch_from_f.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Duggan in D.C. talking housing, refugees

"Washington — Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan was on a two-day trip to Washington, meeting with White House, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development and State Department officials about blight removal, Syrian refugees and other issues."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/08/duggan-dc-talking-housing-refugees/73590558/*

House bill would cut prison time for some offenders

"Washington — In a rare move for the bitterly partisan House, Republicans and Democrats have come together to propose major legislation that would reduce prison sentences for some nonviolent drug offenders."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/house-bill-cut-prison-time-offenders/73618900/*

UAW-FCA deal sets $29 top wage for entry-level workers

"Under a new tentative deal between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, entry-level workers will receive a substantial increase in their top wage."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/08/new-uaw-fca-contract-includes-cap-entry-level-workers/73593558/

Flint water tests suggest statewide lead issues

"State and local officials hope switching Flint back to Detroit's water system, announced Thursday, will solve lead contamination issues there in the short run, but the situation exposed a health issue that may be happening in other parts of the state."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/flint-water/73623958/

Feds to release 83 prisoners in Michigan

"WASHINGTON — Of the approximately 6,000 federal prisoners expected to be released nationwide in the next month, only a relative handful — 83 — are expected to be in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/feds-release-83-prisoners-michigan/73577072/

Group says high fees used to conceal state records

"LANSING — Did a failed attempt by the Department of Treasury to redact part of an e-mail related to a Freedom of Information Act request expose a state government strategy of charging high fees to discourage requests for public information?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/08/group-says-high-fees-used-conceal-state-records/73580020/

Conyers, House Judiciary propose sentence reforms

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, and other leaders of the House Judiciary Committee announced bipartisan legislation Thursday meant to reform federal sentencing guidelines for nonviolent drug offenders, reducing many mandatory minimum sentences."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/conyers-house-judiciary-propose-sentence-reforms/73594538/

Former Rep. John Dingell gets pacemaker

"WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell got a pacemaker Thursday as doctors at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit performed their second heart procedure this week on the longest-serving congressman in U.S. history."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/former-rep-john-dingell-gets-pacemaker/73602986/*

Treasury: 'We really goofed this up. We're fixing it.'

"LANSING — Michigan Treasury will need another 12 weeks to sort through 67,000 taxpayer accounts that may have been erroneously flagged as delinquent, department officials told a legislative oversight panel on Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/08/mchigan-house-panel-grills-treasury-errant-tax-collections/73570082/*

UAW deal improves wages for entry-level workers

"Entry-level workers could reach a new wage level of $29 an hour over eight years, putting them at par in 2023 or sooner with their senior colleagues and eliminating the much-hated two-tier pay scale under a new proposed tentative agreement between the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/08/uaw-deal-improves-wages-entry-level-workers-2015/73591642/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Complaint asks IRS to investigate dark money group behind pro-Bill Schuette ads

"LANSING, MI — A dark money organization that spent at least $3.6 million on television ads benefiting Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette in 2010 and 2014 may have violated federal tax law by failing to disclose any donors, according to a liberal watchdog group."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/complaint_asks_irs_to_investig.html#incart_river*

Electric regulation must move Michigan toward renewables, efficiency

"Michigan's regulated electric utility market can be significantly improved. An open market should be the goal,

but it will require overcoming significant political and economic hurdles. In the meantime, lawmakers should enact legislation that creates incentives for utilities, consumers and entrepreneurs aligned with goals to use less energy, lower costs and transitions the state toward generation from cleaner sources and more efficient sources, including renewables."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_electric_regulation_m.html#incart_river

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State should pay for its own mistakes in Flint water crisis

"Another slap in the face."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/editorial_flint_water_slap_in.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Snyder signs law to let drivers show insurance on phone

"Lansing — Michigan drivers pulled over by the police will be able to show proof of their auto insurance on a phone or another mobile device instead of having to provide a hard copy under legislation signed by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/snyder-signs-law-let-drivers-show-insurance-phone/73570554/

Flint water crisis: An obscene failure of government

"There's good news: The City of Flint could soon reconnect to the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, a water source that doesn't leach lead from aging pipes into the municipal water supply."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/08/flint-water-crisis-obscene-failure-government/73578640/

Civil Asset Forfeiture Reforms Head to the Governor

"The Michigan state Senate unanimously passed a seven-bill package on Wednesday to require more transparency, and a higher standard of evidence before law enforcement agencies can take ownership of seized cash and property alleged to have been obtained illegally. The bills have already passed the House and with this vote are now heading to Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21795*

Echoing state, Detroit schools cut back on standardized tests

"Typically during the first three weeks of class in Detroit Public Schools, students can be found plowing through a battery of standardized tests given by the district."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/echoing-state-detroit-schools-cut-back-on-standardized-tests/*

Giving Michigan nurses more authority to prescribe drugs and treat patients

"More times than she can count, MaryLee Pakieser said she has wished that the rules that govern medical care in Michigan would allow her to do her job."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/giving-michigan-nurses-more-authority-to-prescribe-drugs-and-treat-patients/*

Press Releases

Senate passes Billy's Law

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Senate on Thursday approved Billy's Law to empower law enforcement to administer drug tests and obtain drug test results conducted on at-fault motorists in traffic accidents that lead to serious injury or death."*

Source: *Sen. Wayne Schmidt* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444338170_senate.pdf

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UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

*"**Oct. 7, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. –** Students at UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

Source: *Young Americans for Freedom* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444338094_yaf.pdf

Benishek Bill to Protect Sportsmen Advances

"WASHINGTON, DC: Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) supported H.R. 2406, the " Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act, during a markup in the House Committee on Natural Resources today. This legislation, which he helped author, will work to protect and enrich our Nation's hunting and fishing heritage while also promoting wildlife and habitat conservation in a responsible manner. Now that the Committee on Natural Resources has passed the legislation, the bill is eligible for consideration on the House floor."

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444336717_benishek.pdf

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Veterans Service Dogs Legislation Headed to Governor's Desk

"LANSING – With unanimous approval from the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan Senate, legislation authored by Senator David Knezek to protect Michigan veterans who use service dogs is on its way to Governor Snyder's desk to be signed into law. Senator Knezek's legislation is part of a bipartisan, bicameral package of legislation introduced in April 2015 that would protect Michigan veterans who use service dogs to better manage the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. Current state law does not protect veterans who use service dogs."

Source: *Sen. David Knezek* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444331301_knezek.pdf

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Huizenga/Peters Legislation To Save Taxpayer Dollars, Boost Michigan Jobs Signed Into Law

*"**Washington, DC –** Last night, President Obama signed into law the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act of 2015, authored by Congressman Bill Huizenga and Senator Gary Peters. This bipartisan "Made-in-Michigan" legislation saves taxpayer dollars by directing federal agencies to use remanufactured components to repair and maintain the federal vehicle fleet when using those parts would lower costs, achieve high safety standards and maintain quality as well as performance. "*

Source: *Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444331232_huizega.pdf

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Bridge work on M-28 in Gogebic County starts Monday

"Bridge work on M-28 in Gogebic County starts Monday"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444330469_MDOT.pdf

Greater Lansing Labor Council endorses Nathan Triplett

"EAST LANSING—The Greater Lansing Labor Council today announced their support of Nathan Triplett for East Lansing City Council."

Source: *Greater Lansing Labor Council* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444330016_lansing.pdf

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Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Flint Water Announcement

"FLINT—Following Governor Snyder's announcement this morning, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement:"

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329246_ananich.pdf

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ICYMI: ADLF Calls for Ethics Investigation into Reps. Benishek, Walberg and Benishek

"The following release was issued by the American Democracy Legal Fund regarding their complaint filed yesterday with the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics against twenty-three Members, including Rep. Dan Benishek, Rep. Tim Walberg and Rep. Mike Bishop:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329069_michdem.pdf

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Senators Mike Nofs and Margaret O'Brien deliver memorial statements for Rebecca Rocho

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sens. Mike Nofs and Margaret O'Brien delivered memorial statements on the sudden death of Rebecca Rocho, the assistant superintendent for legislation and education policy with the Calhoun Intermediate School District."*

Source: *Michigan Senate Republicans* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329002_senate.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder proclaims October as Michigan's Cybersecurity Awareness Month

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has proclaimed October as Michigan's Cybersecurity Awareness Month to remind citizens, businesses and governments to protect themselves against cyber attacks."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444327991_gov.pdf

Lori A. Buiteweg Sworn in as State Bar President

"Lori A. Buiteweg, of Ann Arbor, has been sworn in as the 81st president of the State Bar of Michigan. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack presided at the Oct. 8 ceremony, which took place in conjunction with the SBM Annual Meeting at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444326777_sbm.pdf

New study says lack of strong Renewable Fuel Standard policy could put 22,000 Michigan jobs on line

*"LANSING - **Jeff Sandborn**, a Portland farmer and member of the board of the **National Corn Growers Association**, today highlighted a new nationwide study demonstrating the economic impact of ethanol production, noting that ethanol is tied to more than 22,000 Michigan jobs. The study was released by the**National Corn Growers Association** and **National Farmers Union** and highlights the need for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) as net farm income and other agricultural economic indicators decline to their lowest level in years."*

Source: *Michigan Corn* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444326707_ag.pdf

Daniel D. Quick Sworn in as SBM Representative Assembly Chair

"Daniel D. Quick, of Troy, has been sworn in as the chair of the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly for 2015-2016. Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr. officiated at the Oct. 8 ceremony, held during the SBM Annual Meeting at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444325520_sbm.pdf

Rep. Nesbitt bill making roads safer signed into law

"A bill authored by state Rep. Aric Nesbitt allowing drivers to present electronic proof of automobile insurance on a smartphone or other device was signed into law this week by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Rep. Aric Nesbitt* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323933_nesbitt.pdf

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Jones introduces bill banning drones at state Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Rick Jones on Wednesday introduced legislation to make it illegal to fly a drone around the Michigan Capitol building without a permit from the Michigan State Capitol Commission."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323493_jones.pdf

Lighting work to start at M-30 roundabout, occasional closures expected Oct. 14

*"**Lighting work to start at M-30 roundabout, occasional closures expected Oct. 14**"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323439_mdot.pdf

Gov. Snyder Tells Us What We Already Know: His Emergency Manager Poisoned Flint Children

"LANSING – Today, Governor Rick Snyder announced that Flint would switch back to Detroit's water system after more than a year of residents being forced to drink poisoned water following the decision by Snyder's emergency manager to change the city's water source from Detroit to the Flint River in April 2014."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322495_gov.pdf

MDP Statement on Prohibitive FOIA Fees Being Charged by Attorney General's Office

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, regarding the prohibitive fees being charged by Attorney General Bill Schuette's office to request information under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322450_mdp.pdf

Schuette Charges Detroit Man with 2008 Cold Case Rape

*"**LANSING** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today charged Alan Donnell Broadnax, 48, of Detroit, with one count of Criminal Sexual Conduct First Degree for the alleged 2008 rape of a then 18-year-old Metro-Detroit woman, which allegedly took place in Oakland County. This case involves one of the over 10,000 sexual assault kits (SAK) that were left untested for years in a Detroit Police warehouse. It is the first case the*

Attorney General's office has received as a result of the Wayne County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force."

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322346_ag.pdf*

Two Michigan Ag Co-ops Make USDA's Top 100 List

*"**EAST LANSING, Oct. 8, 2015 –** U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan James J. Turner today highlighted the presence of two Michigan agricultural cooperatives in the USDA's annual list of the nation's top 100 agricultural cooperatives by business volume."*

Source: *USDA* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322295_usda.pdf*

MEDICAL MARIJUANA BILLS PASSED MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

"Michigan House of Representatives passed major package of Medical Marijuana bills
More information on attached release"

Source: *National Patients Rights Association* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319663_nara.pdf*

DATA: Senators Who Voted Against Background Checks Received More Pro-Gun Contributions

*"**October 8, 2015 --** This week, Senate Democrats will reportedly unveil new legislation that would block guns from being sold without background checks. The bill, sponsored by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), would close a loophole that allows retailers to sell guns without a background check after 72 hours."*

Source: *Maplight* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319583_maplight.pdf*

Updated to include map - US-31 paving in Acme and East Bay wraps up early

*"**October 8, 2015** -- Thanks to cooperation with contractor Team Elmer's, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) today announced that paving on US-31 from Holiday Road to Brackett Road in Acme and East Bay townships is complete."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319506_mdot.pdf*

US-31 paving in Acme and East Bay wraps up early

*"**October 8, 2015** -- Thanks to cooperation with contractor Team Elmer's, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) today announced that paving on US-31 from Holiday Road to Brackett Road in Acme and East Bay townships is complete."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444317413_mdot.pdf

Peters Remanufacturing Bill Signed into Law by President

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** –President Obama has signed into law legislation introduced by U.S. Senator Gary Peters, the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act, which requires federal agencies to encourage the use of remanufactured parts in federal vehicle repairs when doing so lowers costs, maintains quality and performance and does not compromise safety."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444317191_peters.pdf

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New hunting regulations in Ingham, Clinton and Shiawassee counties due to CWD

"With deer season under way, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there are regulation changes in Ingham, Clinton and Shiawassee counties due to the confirmation of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in Ingham County. A short video has been created to outline these important changes."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444316918_dnr.pdf

National Wildlife Federation Sues Dept. of Transportation over Oil Pipeline Oversight Failures

"ANN ARBOR, MICH. (October 8, 2015)—The National Wildlife Federation today filed a lawsuit against the U.S Department of Transportation for the agency's failure for more than 20 years to protect people, fish, wildlife, and communities from oil pipeline spills in the nation's inland waters, from the Great Lakes to the Yellowstone River."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315181_wildlife.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint

"FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315112_deq.pdf

MDOT weekend construction -MetroDetroit 10/09-10/12/15

"MDOT weekend construction for 10/09-10/12/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315028_mdot.pdf

ADLF CALLS FOR ETHICS INVESTIGATION INTO REPS. BENISHEK, WALBERG AND BISHOP

"The American Democracy Legal Fund has filed a complaint with the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics against twenty-three Members, including Rep. Dan Benishek, Rep. Tim Walberg and Rep. Mike Bishop for violating 31 U.S.C. § 1301 and House ethics rules prohibiting official resources from being used for campaign or political purposes."

Source: *American Democracy Legal Fund* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314894_adlf.pdf

TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

"The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "

Source: *V2 DeVos Learning Center* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314594_v2.pdf

Sparrow News: Sparrow Nurse earns top award from MSU College of Nursing Alumni Association

"Kathleen Bair, Sparrow's Director of Magnet and Nursing Excellence, has been honored with the 2015 Recent Graduate Achievement Award from the Michigan State University College of Nursing Alumni Association. Please read the attached release and contact me with any questions."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314517_sparrow.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint

"FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314317_gov.pdf

Documents Prove Schuette's Office Advises Using FOIA Fees to Discourage Public Seeking Access to Inf

"LANSING — Today at 10 a.m. in Lansing, Progress Michigan will host a media roundtable to discuss documents showing that Attorney General Bill Schuette's office is advising departments to charge exorbitant fees in response to Freedom of Information Act requests in an effort to deny Michiganders' right to access public information."

Source: *Schuette* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314258_schuette.pdf

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Benishek Supports Select Committee on Planned Parenthood

"Washington, D.C. - The House voted today in favor of H. Res. 461 - "Establishing a Select Investigative Panel of the Committee on Energy & Commerce," a bill that would allow the Congress to examine the need for further legislation to protect the lives of the unborn in light of a series of videos which appear to show Planned Parenthood officials negotiating the price of fetal organs for sale. "

Source: *Rep. Benishek* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314073_benisheck.pdf

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Sen. Colbeck Challenges Colleagues to Debate Road Funding

"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, issued a challenge to every state elected official to engage in a public debate on how best to fix our roads. He asserts, "We do not need to increase taxes to fix our roads. If your state elected official believes that tax increases are necessary, encourage them to challenge

me and those who are with me in a debate. If no state elected official accepts this challenge, it is clear that no tax increases are truly needed and that we should fix the roads with existing funds.""

Source: *Sen. Colbeck* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314006_colbeck.pdf

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Peters Joins Senate Small Brew Caucus

*"**WASHINGTON, DC –** U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a member of the Senate Small Business Committee, announced today that he has joined the bipartisan Senate Small Brew Caucus to promote the growth of small craft breweries, a growing industry in Michigan that has a significant impact on the state's economy."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-09-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444313498_peters.pdf

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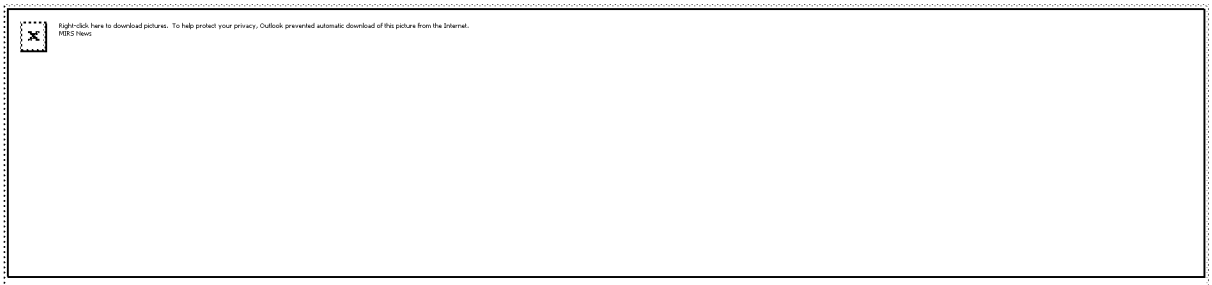
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 9:07 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 9, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 9, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php

SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Lawmakers Not Plotting Plan B If Healthy Michigan Waiver Spike

Key Republican lawmakers say they are so optimistic that the state will get a required federal waiver for its Medicaid expansion program they're not planning a legislative fix if things go awry, which could mean cancelled health coverage for 600,000 Michiganders.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44651

Corrections To Combine 3 Big Health Contracts Into 1 With New RFP

Companies can now bid on a massive new state contract that would cover physical and mental health services -- as well as pharmaceutical services -- for prisoners.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44652

Schuette Feeling 'A Measure Of Anti-Cop' Sentiment

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE said he believes there is a measure of "anti-cop, anti-law enforcement that's out there," and it's taking shape in the form of the presumptive parole legislation now

in the Senate and a second package that will prevent those 17 and under from being placed in adult prisons.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44645

Presumptive Parole Going To Government Ops

House-passed legislation making it easier for prison inmates who have served their minimum sentences to get parole if they keep their noses clean isn't necessarily a dead duck in the Senate.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44647

Poll Has Whiteford 31%, Gamrat 14%, Story 13%

Last year's second-place winner in the 80th District Republican primary is doubling up last year's first place winner, according to Target Insyght polling results released earlier today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44642

Prevailing Wage Still Unresolved In Road Talks

Gov. Rick SNYDER and the legislative quadrant pounded out details to a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to annually funnel $1.2 billion more into the state's roads, but what the Legislature is going to about a likely citizens initiative on a prevailing wage repeal has not been agreed to.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44644

Breathalyzer Bill Blows Into Senate After Debate

Sen. Tonya SCHUITMAKER (R-Lawton) legislation to further regulate a type of breathalyzer for vehicles had some pushback from those that sell and install the devices before moving through the Senate Judiciary Committee earlier this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44649

Recommended Rate Increase For DTE $190M Below What It Asked For

An initial recommendation for how much DTE Energy should raise its electric rates is $190 million less than what the utility requested.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44650

Senate Panel Recommends Bill Defining Franchisees As Employers

A pair of bills stipulating that a franchise owner -- not the franchising company itself -- is the direct employer of its employees was recommended to the Senate floor this week in response to a federal ruling still working its way through court.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4668#44653

Miller Out As Fire Marshall, Deprez Named Acting Fire Marshal

Fire Marshall Richard MILLER resigned from his position, his last day being today, according to the Michigan Bureau of Fire Services. Michael DEPREZ, the deputy director of the state Bureau of Fire Services, was tapped by Gov. Rick to be the interim state fire marshal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44643

Flynn Drops Out Of 10th Congressional Race

Shelby Township Treasurer Michael FLYNN notified federal elections officials this week he is suspending his 10th Congressional District campaign and focusing on a re-election bid in 2016.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44643

Bits And Tidbits

State Releases Detailed Results From Lead Water Testing In Flint

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44656

On This Day In Michigan History

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44654

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|**
(CANCELLED) Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
10:30 AM - **General Government**
Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:00 AM - **STATE DRUG TREATMENT COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE|Amy Ronayne Krause**
Horn, Ken; Rm: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM, BOJI

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015
11:00 AM
Senator Patrick Colbeck October Office Hours
Location: Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154
Contact: Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713
senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
5:00 PM
An Evening with Frank J. Kelley(Sponsored by Michigan Political History Society)
Location: Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Contact: RSVP via telephone 517-371-1400 - OR email
events@kelley-cawthorne.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
5:30 PM
West Michigan Meet the Players(Sponsored by MICPA, State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section, Michigan Women's Taxation Section)
Location: , Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Contact: Shane Barry 248.267.3700
sbarry@micpa.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015
6:30 PM
2015 ACLU of Michigan Annual Dinner(Sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan)
Guest Speakers: Charles M. Blow
Location: , The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124

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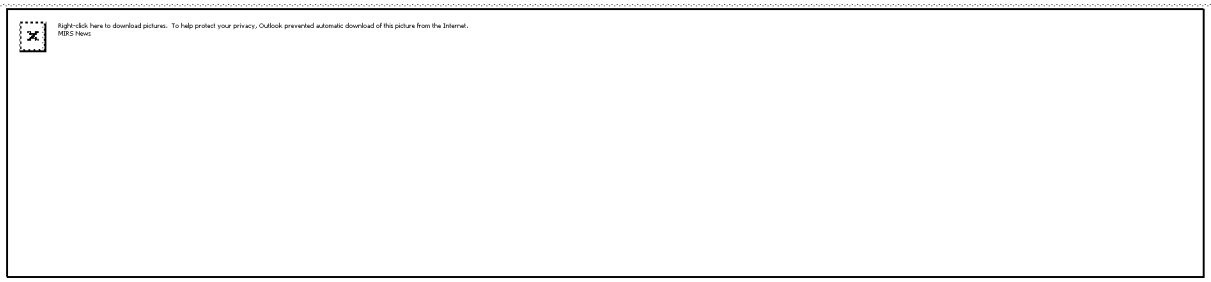
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 10, 2015 10:19 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Schuette calls complaint about campaign ads 'pathetic'

"East Lansing — Attorney General Bill Schuette said Friday a watchdog group's complaint about his political supporters not disclosing the source of $3.6 million in TV ads is a "hollow, pathetic" attempt to smear him ahead of a future election."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/09/schuette-calls-complaint-campaign-ads-pathetic/73672862/

No health care co-op in new FCA deal

"In presenting a new tentative contract described as "one of the richest ever negotiated" by United Auto Workers leaders, union President Dennis Williams sounded confident Friday that negotiators have an agreement that will be ratified this time by its 40,000 members at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/09/new-uaw-fca-deal-increased-wages-different-bonuses/73658884/

Group says high fees used to conceal state records

"LANSING — Did a failed attempt by the Department of Treasury to redact part of an e-mail related to a Freedom of Information Act request expose a state government strategy of charging high fees to discourage requests for public information?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/08/group-says-high-fees-used-conceal-state-records/73580020/*

Analysis: Republicans desperately search for a leader

"WASHINGTON — The Republican Party is in chaos, desperately in search of a leader."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/09/republicans-congress-analysis-walker-boehner-mccarthy-trump-speaker/73671652/*

Roaming Michigan black bear returns to Indiana

"INDIANAPOLIS – A black bear that roamed into Indiana from southwestern Michigan this summer and eventually returned home is back in the Hoosier State, raiding bird feeders and trash cans as it fattens up for winter hibernation, a wildlife biologist said Friday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/09/black-bear-indiana-michigan/73675558/*

Michigan lawmakers propose registry for child abusers

"Wyatt Rewoldt will celebrate his third birthday Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/10/09/child-abuse-registry-michigan-wyatts-law/73652222/*

Michigan bridge to be renamed for fallen U.S. Navy SEAL

"Epoufette, Mich. — Relatives and friends of a U.S. Navy SEAL killed in Afghanistan are expected to attend the dedication of a Michigan bridge renamed after him."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/michigan-bridge-renamed-fallen-us-navy-seal/73723098/*

Wanted: 1,500 Rosies for record-setting riveter pic

"With dark blue work clothes, a polka-dotted head scarf and the slogan "We can do it!", Rosie the Riveter

became an American icon during World War II, representing thousands of women who went to work in manufacturing plants while men were away in the military."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/life/2015/10/09/wanted1500-rosies-record-setting-riveter-pic/73590924/*

Anti-Islam rallies across USA making Muslims wary

"Organizers are planning about 20 anti-Muslim rallies this weekend across the USA, putting officials at many mosques on high alert and prompting many community leaders to urge Muslims to take precautions in case demonstrations turn violent."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/10/09/anti-islam-rallies-across-usa-making-muslims-wary/73672674/*

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80 Detroit IRS jobs slated for relocation to Memphis could be saved

"DETROIT, MI -- Mayor Mike Duggan and U.S. Sen. Gary Peters may have saved 80 Detroit-based IRS jobs."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/80_detroit_irs_jobs_slated_for.html#incart_river

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Judge spikes pipeline lawsuit against U.S. Forest Service, Enbridge

"OSCODA COUNTY, MI — A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit that alleged the federal government improperly renewed a permit for a controversial Enbridge Inc. oil pipeline segment crossing the Huron-Manistee National Forest."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/enbridge_sierra_club_lawsuit.html#incart_river_home

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First warning of rising lead levels in Flint water came 9 months ago

"FLINT, MI -- The first warning that lead was becoming a problem in Flint water was barely noticeable -- not the wail of an alarm."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/first_warning_of_rising_lead_l.html#incart_story_package

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Flint water crisis doesn't change KWA pipeline plan to finish in June or July

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – Flint is dealing with a water crisis, but there are no plans to speed up work on the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline to Flint."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/kwa_crews_still_working_to_bri.html#incart_story_package*

AG Schuette: No comment on state's liability for emergency manager decisions

"FLINT, MI – Attorney General Bill Schuette isn't weighing in on the state's liability for former emergency managers who ran Flint while overseeing the decision to use Flint River water here."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ag_schuette_has_no_comment_on.html#incart_river_home*

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters to visit Bay City to talk tourism, tout waterfront bill

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters is expected to visit Bay City for the first time since taking office, and local leaders have a list of big ideas they hope he takes back to Washington."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us_sen_gary_peters_to_visit_ba.html#incart_story_package*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette on marijuana legalization: Let the voters decide

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, who led the campaign against a successful medical marijuana ballot proposal in 2008, thinks voters should decide whether to legalize recreational use."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_on_m.html#incart_river*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette alleges anti-police sentiment, elitism in presumptive parole legislation

"LANSING, MI -- Attorney General Bill Schuette sees shades of anti-police sentiment in presumptive parole legislation that passed the House last week, he told a panel of reporters on WKAR's "Off The Record" this morning."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_alle.html#incart_river*

Ken Braun: Soaking the rich doesn't need to be so difficult

"U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, the self-avowed socialist running for the Democratic presidential nomination, believes there should be a 90 percent top federal income tax bracket. On the Republican side, regardless of the year, presidential candidates are always talking tax reform. There's an ironic similarity in these messages."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken_braun_soaking_the_rich_doe.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan Political Points: Sponsor sees 'green' on medical marijuana dispensary bill

"LANSING, MI — "Look at all that green," state Rep. Mike Callton said as the House voted on his bill to allow for highly-regulated medical marijuana storefront dispensaries."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_spon.html#incart_river_home*

Protesters urge Ann Arbor officials to call off 'deer massacre'

""Stop the shoot! Save the deer!" That was the message chanted by protesters outside Ann Arbor's city hall Friday night in opposition to the city's plan to hire sharpshooters to kill 100 deer this winter."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/protesters_urge_ann_arbor_offi.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editor's note: Putin filling voids Obama left

"Desperate people turn to strong leaders. So it's not surprising that Iraqi Shiite lawmakers and militia leaders are begging Russia's Vladimir Putin to launch airstrikes on Islamic State encampments in their country."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/08/editor-note-putin-filling-voids-obama-left/73617172/*

TPP unfair to American workers, companies

"Proponents of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement assert it will open new markets for U.S. goods and services, and help the American worker. We conclude the opposite: It's a bad deal for America and should be rejected by Congress."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/09/tpp-unfair-american-workers-companies/73685946/*

Page: Faith matters more than facts in Trump's budget

"Donald Trump would not tell reporters whose advice he received in creating his recently unveiled tax plan, but I hear a familiar voice in its three-and-a-half pages. It sounds like Jeb Bush."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/clarence-page/2015/10/09/page-trump-budget/73686136/*

In teaching versus testing, teaching must win

"In the continuing debate over teaching versus testing, new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Brian Whiston, and the Michigan Department of Education recently came down firmly on the side of teaching."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/09/teaching-versus-testing-teaching-must-win/73528336/*

Accountability needed in Flint water crisis

"Gov. Rick Snyder announced plans Thursday to reconnect Flint to the Detroit's water system, two weeks after a researcher in the area revealed that more children in Flint have elevated levels of lead in their blood."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/09/feedback-flint-water/73677984/*

A proud Mike Ilitch says he is just a part of the community

"A cheerful Mike Ilitch, patriarch of the Little Caesars and two Detroit sports teams, watched his son celebrated Friday by a community that he and his wife, Marian, helped build."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/09/proud-mike-ilitch-says-he-is-just-a-part-of-the-community/73660960/*

Guest commentary To raise student accomplishment, raise student

expectations

"You don't become a Top 10 hitter in the major leagues batting against Little League pitchers."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/to-raise-student-accomplishment-raise-student-expectations/*

There is No Teacher Shortage

"Over the past year there has been a steady stream of claims of a looming "teacher shortage" coming from voices in the public school establishment that Michigan. Generally these are associated with false claims of lower state funding and falling teacher pay rates."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21816*

D.C. Schools Spending Highest in U.S., But Firm Claims It's 'Inadequate'

"Per student spending by public schools in the District of Columbia outstrips that of all 50 states. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, as of 2012, D.C. was annually spending a total of $25,038 per pupil."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21817*

Susan J. Demas: GOP gay marriage fight cost Michigan much more than $2M

"Congratulations, Michigan taxpayers. You've now spent over $2 million so that Republican Attorney General Bill Schuette could have the courage of his convictions in fighting gay marriage."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_gay_marriage_snyder.html

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Press Releases

Dingell Congratulates University of Michigan Research Scientist Named "White House Transportation Ch

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today congratulated University of Michigan Research Scientist Dr. James Sayer for being named a "White House Transportation Champion of Change" for his exemplary leadership and innovation in transportation. Dr. Sayer was selected for the award by the White House and the U.S. Department of Transportation. He has been instrumental in leading and developing the university's vision for introducing connected and automated vehicle technologies, and continues to lead*

the design, development and implementation of Mcity, a facility that will allow the automotive community to test cutting-edge technologies."

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444423807_dingell.pdf

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Rep. Moss' statement on the city of Southfield buying the Northland Center Property

""Northland Center will always have a prominent role in history of the city of Southfield and the metro-Detroit region. Despite its thriving peak decades ago, the property unfortunately struggled to remain a viable shopping center resulting in its closure. Now that the city of Southfield has acquired the property, the redevelopment of Northland presents a tremendous opportunity of economic growth for the city and surrounding communities.""

Source: *Rep. Jeremy Moss* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444422286_moss.pdf

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UPDATED: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Rep. Lawrence proposes new gun violence task force in wake of today'

"UPDATED: Please note changes in lead and second to last paragraph to note the second college campus shooting to occur today. WASHINGTON, D.C. – In the wake of two more deadly college campus shootings Friday, Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) has proposed the formation of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force to End Gun Violence. Members who have said they would join in the task force include, but are not limited to, Reps. Donna F. Edwards (MD-04), Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18), Robin Kelly (D-02), and Donald Payne, Jr. (NJ-10). The task force is being proposed in response to the ongoing epidemic of mass shootings and firearms- related deaths in America."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444422240_lawrence.pdf

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Rep Lawrence proposes task force in wake of gun violence epidemic

"The CBC currently has 18 task forces, however none are focused on gun violence and gun-related deaths in America. Rep. Lawrence has been joined by several CBC Members, including Reps. Donna F. Edwards, Sheila Jackson Lee, Robin Kelly, and Donald Payne, Jr. in taking decisive action amid this ongoing national epidemic."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444421239_lawrence.pdf

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Fraser Trebilcock Receives 'Your Honor' Award for Website Redesign

"Lansing, MI – Fraser Trebilcock is proud to announce that our marketing team took home the top honor for the redesign of our law firm's website, during the Legal Marketing Association Midwest Chapter's annual awards ceremony last week in Chicago."

Source: *Fraser Law Firm* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444421122_treb.pdf

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Representative Stephanie Chang on piles of 'coke breeze' along the Detroit River

""I am asking the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to investigate piles of 'coke breeze,' a byproduct from the manufacturing of blast furnace coke, at the Waterfront Petroleum Terminal Co. property on West Jefferson. It is my understanding that 'coke breeze' is made up of finer particles than petroleum coke (pet coke). I am concerned and would like to know if 'coke breeze' could be more likely to travel in the air and if it could harm people if ingested into their lungs. What are the potential health impacts if 'coke breeze' is ingested? I hope that MDEQ will agree to investigate this and take the appropriate actions if it is discovered that 'coke breeze' is a health hazard.""

Source: *Rep. Stephanie Chang* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444420938_chang.pdf

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ICYMI: Rep. Bishop and Judiciary Committee Members Discuss New Sentencing Reform Legislation

"Washington — A bipartisan bill in Congress would reduce mandatory minimum sentences for prior drug felons and certain firearm offenders — the first in a series of criminal justice reform bills expected in the several weeks, two key lawmakers said Thursday."

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418727_bishop.pdf

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Upton: "This is a win for our economy"

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined the majority of his House colleagues in advancing legislation, H.R. 702 – To Adapt to Changing Crude Oil Market Conditions, that would lift the 40-year-old ban on crude oil exports. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, lifting this ban would generate $1.4 billion in profits to the federal government during the next 10 years from oil and gas leases. Additionally, data from the Government Accountability Office, projects that ending the ban would lower gasoline prices by 1.5 to 13 cents per gallon. It is also expected to supportup to 964,000 additional U.S. jobs."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418628_upton.pdf

New fishing regulations adopted at Thursday's NRC meeting

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission Thursday approved several fishing regulations at its meeting in Cedarville. Many of these regulations immediately went into effect. They will remain in effect for the 2016 fishing season (which begins April 1)."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418550_dnr.pdf

New walleye, yellow perch regulation changes coming to Saginaw Bay

"The Michigan Natural Resources CommissionThursday approved changes to walleye and yellow perch recreational fishing regulations in Saginaw Bay. The new regulations went into effect immediately."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444416489_dnr.pdf

Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected Status

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session on **Wednesday, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
*http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444415848_*

DEIDRA WILSON APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR McLAREN HEALTH CARE

*"**FLINT, Mich.** – Deidra A. Wilson, MPH, has been named vice president of government relations for McLaren Health Care Corporation. She officially began the position on Sept. 21, 2015 and is based in Lansing."*

Source: *McLaren Health Care Corporation* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444413224_mclaren.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Michael Deprez, of Sterling Heights, as acting state fire marshal, after accepting the resignation of current fire marshal Richard Miller."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444412044_gov.pdf

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ICYMI: Cruz in CNN Op-Ed: To Counter Putin in Syria, We Must Shake Free of the Failed Policies of th

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate Ted Cruz today penned an op-ed for CNN regarding how the U.S should approach Russia President Vladmir Putin's involvement in Syria as he seeks to re-establish Russia's influence."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444411580_cruz.pdf

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Michigan LCV: Lead-Contaminated Drinking Water is Shameful Example of State "Leadership"

*"FLINT—**Lisa Wozniak**, Executive Director for the **Michigan League of Conservation Voters** (LCV), released the following statement on the Flint water crisis:"*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444411249_micv.pdf

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Bill Huizenga, The Congressman Who Broke the McCarthy News on Twitter

"It's been a historic week in Washington and Congressman Huizenga has played a unique role in it. I encourage you to read this piece from Roll Call detailing how yesterday's stunning news unfolded from inside the U.S. Capitol, courtesy of West Michigan's own Bill Huizenga."

Source: *Bill Patrick* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410999_huizenga.pdf

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Fraser Trebilcock Welcomes Attorney Paul V. McCord to the Firm

*"**Lansing, MI** – Fraser Trebilcock is pleased to announce that Paul V. McCord has joined the firm as a Shareholder. McCord focuses his practice in the area of federal and state tax litigation, while also counseling individuals and privately held businesses on a broad range of tax, corporate and real estate transactions."*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock Law Firm* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410401_treb.pdf

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GEORGE P. BUSH TO VISIT IOWA TOMORROW

*"**Miami, FL –** Tomorrow, Governor Bush's son, George P. Bush, will visit Iowa. In the morning, he will attend a tailgate hosted by the University of Iowa College Republicans in Iowa City, IA. Later that afternoon, hewill attend the Johnson County Republican Fall BBQ in Tiffin, IA."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410339_jeb.pdf

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Dr. John Lott to testify on Green's pistol-free zone reform

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Mike Green announced Friday that famed economist, political commentator and gun rights advocate, Dr. John Lott, will be testifying in support of Senate Bill 442, Green's legislation creating a general exemption for concealed pistol licenses (CPL) holders in pistol-free zones (PFZ)."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410275_green.pdf

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LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Ingham County

*"**For Immediate Release -** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of an Ingham County family child care home provider, September Darden, License #DF330364861, 1211 Whyte, Lansing, Michigan 48906. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410206_lara.pdf

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Upcoming closures - I-96 and I-94

"On Sunday, October 11, there will be a single lane closure on eastbound I-94 over Jackson Avenue (Exit 172) between 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for bridge scoping. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444406692_mdot.pdf

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LARA Summarily Suspends the Family Child Care Home Certificate of Anita

Tillman

*"**For Immediate Release -** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the child care certificate of registration of Kalamazoo County family child care home provider, Anita Tillman, Registration #DF390322223, at 3081 Crystal Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444405184_lara.pdf

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Gamrat Pushes for Freedom of Information Act to Apply to the Legislature

"On Wednesday, September 29th, while live in studio on the Juke Van Os Show, WHTC Holland, Gamrat announced that if re-elected as State Representative she will commit to entering a bill that would make the legislature subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). "

Source: *Cindy Gamrat* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404866_gamrat.pdf

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Michigan Chemistry Council Calls for Congressional Action to Keep Critical Rail Shipments Moving

"LANSING, MI, October 9, 2015 – The Michigan Chemistry Council (MCC) today urged Congressional action to keep critical rail shipments moving, and thanked U.S. Representatives Fred Upton, Candice Miller, Bill Huizenga, and Dan Benishek for sponsoring legislation to address this important issue."

Source: *Michigan Chemistry Council* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404788_mcc.pdf

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Kowall sponsors Capitol event honoring Vietnam era veterans

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall on Thursday sponsored an event on the Capitol lawn honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Kowall* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404695_kowall.pdf

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M-134 becoming first new Pure Michigan Byway

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) invites the public to the announcement of M-134's designation as a Pure Michigan Byway."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404636_mdot.pdf

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Upcoming closure this weekend - I-496 at US-127 near Trowbridge

"On Sunday, October 11, starting at 7 a.m. westbound I-496, at the split from northbound US-127, will be closed, along with the ramp from Trowbridge Road to westbound I-496. The closure will be in place until 5 p.m. on Sunday and is needed for bridge work. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404587_mdor.pdf

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Lottery to hunt Pierce Road Unit of Sharonville State Game Area during firearm season

"As part of its Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors initiative, the Department of Natural Resources has designated a 600-acre unit of the Sharonville State Game Area as a restricted-access hunt area in order to provide special hunt opportunities. This unit, now referred to as the Pierce Road Unit, consists of the state game area lands south of Sharon Valley Road in Jackson County, in Section 36 of T03S – R02E. "

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404546_dnr.pdf

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Statement on Governor Snyder's Long-Awaited Response to Flint's Water Crisis

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Governor Rick Snyder finally taking steps to address the city of Flint's water crisis: "

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404474_mdp.pdf

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Casperson welcomes Vietnam veterans to Capitol event

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, (far right) is pictured with, from left, state Rep. Scott Dianda; Breitung Township Supervisor Denny Olsen and his wife, Carmel; Dianda's father, Jim Spehar; and Jim Matonich at the "Michigan Says Thanks" event honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era at the Capitol on Thursday."*

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404418_casperson.pdf

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley touts Michigan business opportunities to Indian companies, tours GM Indian ope

"LANSING, Mich – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley is highlighting the strong opportunities available for Indian companies to invest and partner in our state during his week-long trade mission to India, emphasizing Michigan's role as the automotive manufacturing and technology capital of the world."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404367_gov.pdf

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Jackson County awarded brownfield loan to help construction of new runway

"The DEQ today announced a $1 million loan for Jackson County to address brownfield conditions at the Jackson County Airport – Reynolds Field."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404317_deq.pdf

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Divorce and Child Custody Issues for Same-Sex Couples

"HOUSTON, TX (October 9, 2015) - On June 24 of this year, the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution guarantees a right to same-sex marriage. This was a long-sought victory for gay rights activists and there were celebrations across the country. However, one unforeseen bi-product of gay marriage rights is now coming to the forefront: divorce and custody battles in same-sex couples."

Source: *KHA Law Firm* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404270_kha.pdf

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Senator Stabenow Applauds Investment in Mid-Michigan Beginning Farmers Projects

*"**WASHINGTON D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced $1,254,412 for three Lansing-based projects to help train and support beginning farmers. This funding for Michigan State University and the Greater Lansing Food Bank, which comes through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, was authorized by Senator Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill. These projects will benefit hundreds of farmers and help boost Michigan's economy."*

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444400066_stabenow.pdf

New Poll: Cindy Gamrat Running Second in Special Election for 80th District

"

> *According to a new poll released today by Grassroots Midwest, Inside Michigan Politics, and Target Insyght, former nurse and financial consulting firm co-founder Mary Whiteford has a commanding early lead in the special election in Michigan's 80th House District to fill the vacant seat of ex-Rep. Cindy Gamrat (R-Plainwell). Whiteford holds the support of 31 percent of likely Republican primary voters. Gamrat is in second with 14 percent. Allegan County Commissioner and GOP operative Jim Storey is just behind Gamrat with 13 percent.*

"

Source: *Inside Michigan Politics* **Date:** *10-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444400001_ne

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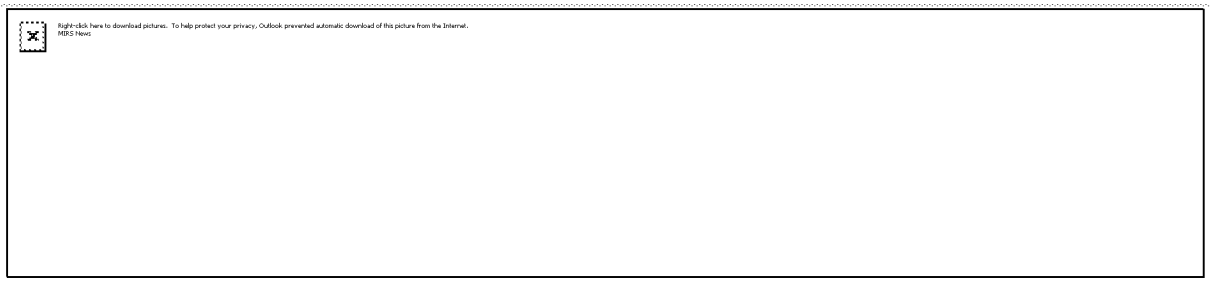

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First lady christens Navy sub named after Illinois

"Groton, Conn. — First lady Michelle Obama has christened a Navy submarine named after her home state by breaking a bottle of champagne against the hull of the USS Illinois."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/10/first-lady-christens-navy-sub-named-illinois/73737802/*

Concerns block Plymouth ordinance to deter bullying

"Plymouth Township — A proposed anti-bullying ordinance has been shelved after concerns about its constitutionality, but township officials said the idea isn't dead."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/10/free-speech-concerns-block-plymouth-anti-bullying-ordinance/73740810/*

Mich. cops seized $24M in 2014 in drug cases

"Michigan police agencies seized some $23.9 million last year from suspected drug traffickers, according to a forfeiture report released by the Michigan State Police."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/10/asset-forfeitures-michigan-police-drugs/73740104/*

Where does the Line 5 oil pipeline go from here?

"A controversial 62-year-old oil pipeline at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac has a future that's up in the air."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/10/line5-enbridge-pipeline-straits-mackinac/73389806/*

Young doc takes on state over lead in Flint water

"Under the steady gaze of a watercolor giraffe and tissue paper butterflies, a Flint pediatrician and mother of two last month forced the state of Michigan to snap to attention."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/hanna-attisha-profile/73600120/*

Allred: Cosby deposition lasted hours; second will be sought

"BOSTON (AP) — The lawyer for a woman who's accused Bill Cosby of sexually abusing her at thePlayboy Mansion when she was 15 says she'll seek a second deposition of the comedian."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/people/2015/10/10/gloria-allred-cosby-deposition-lasted-hours/73748188/*

Barack Obama gives political 'advice' to Kanye West

"President Obama is handing out some free political advice — and wisecracks — for music mogul and potential White House candidate Kanye West."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2015/10/11/barack-obama-gives-political-advice-to-kanye-west/*

Reports: Iran issues verdict in Washington Post reporter case

"Iran issued a verdict Sunday in the espionage trial ofWashington Post reporter Jason Rezaian, according to local media reports."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iran-*

issues-reporter-verdict/73771144/

Supreme Court considers reprieve for kids who kill

"On his 16th birthday, Robert Holbrook tagged along on a drug deal in hopes of making a quick $500. Instead, he became an unwitting accomplice to murder and received a mandatory sentence of life without the possibility of parole."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/supreme-court-juvenile-life-without-parole-murder/73594976/*

Report: Iran test fires long-range missile

"TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's semi-official Fars news agency is reporting the country has successfully test fired a new guided long-range ballistic surface-to-surface missile."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/report-iran-tests-missile/73770628/*

Iraq says it bombed Islamic State leader's convoy

"An Iraqi Air Force has bombed the convoy of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in Iraq's westernAnbar province, the Iraqi military said Sunday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iraq-says-bombed-islamic-state-leaders-convoy/73772608/*

'It's like a disaster scene' says Bay City historian on restoration of items in time capsule

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — When crews opened a time capsule entombed in Bay City earth for 50 years, they expected to gaze upon pristine artifacts from days gone by."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/its_like_a_disaster_scene_says.html#incart_river_home*

Howard Meyerson: Pigeon River returning to its natural flowing state

"VANDERBILT — Anglers who like free-flowing streams got a chance to celebrate in September 2014

when the Song of the Morning Yoga Retreat dam was permanently opened on the Pigeon River allowing it to return to a free-flowing state."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/10/post_11.html#incart_river_home*

Why you should vote yes on the $175M GRPS bond proposal

"Grand Rapids needs a public school system befitting the city's rising reputation. We must, as a community, support efforts to make our city's schools first-rate institutions of learning in any way we reasonably can."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/why_you_should_vote_in_favor_o.html#incart_river_home*

Trust needed for Flint to rebound from water crisis, say those who know

"FLINT, MI – Life has mostly returned to normal nearly two years after a disastrous chemical spill thrust Charleston, W.V., into the national spotlight."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/trust_needed_for_flint_to_full.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Finding funds for road repair not an easy fix

"The Michigan state government has budgeted to spend $53.6 billion in the fiscal year that started Oct. 1."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_finding_funds_for.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editorial: GOP should beg Boehner to stay

"As the song says, sometimes you don't know what you've got till it's gone. If Republicans aren't feeling that way about the departure of John Boehner as their House speaker, they should, after failing spectacularly to elect a successor last week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/editorial-gop-beg-boehner-stay/73739704/*

Finley: Millennials should love GOP

"It's political gospel that young voters are more inclined to be liberal, and thus aligned with the Democratic Party. The hope for Republicans is that they wise up as they grow older, and that families, careers and perhaps business ownership turn them more conservative."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/10/finley-millennials-gop/73739494/*

Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market

"Nearly eight years after Michigan voters overwhelmingly concluded that marijuana should be available to patients whose doctors prescribe it, state lawmakers are finally addressing some of the most egregious defects in Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/michigan-marijuana/73534858/*

Rochelle Riley: State must stop robbing Detroit schools

"To understand the Detroit Public Schools budget, you need a calculator, a ouija board and a Bible — because it takes math, magic and a little prayer."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/10/state-must-stop-robbing-schools-michigan-funding-education-detroit/73223738/*

Growing like a weed: Dispensaries sprout south of 8 Mile

"Drive the Detroit side of 8 Mile Road, and you can't get too far without finding a medical marijuana dispensary — places like Area 51, Reef, Club Medz, House of Dank — more than 30 dispensaries line the south side of the iconic road, the northern border between the city and its suburbs."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/10/growing-like-weed-dispensaries-sprout-south-8-mile/73607020/*

Was Schuette's $2-million lesson a bargain?

"Bill Schuette went to the U.S. Supreme Court, and all Michigan taxpayers got was a bill for $2 million."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/10/same-sex-legal-fees/73574616/*

Mitch Albom: What's in a name? Skin, ethnicity, ego?

"This past week on "The View," a TV host named Raven-Symoné made headlines when she said she wouldn't hire anyone with a name that sounded too black."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/10/10/raven-symone-black-name/73734706/*

Pete Hoekstra, John Boehner often were at odds, but not out to get even

"Raise your hand if you are a good-government-type. That is, you do not believe compromise is a four-letter word and it's OK to work with the other party to get stuff done. If your hand is not up, you may excuse yourself from what follows, for it will surely upset your tummy."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ohio_congressmen_ofte.html#incart_river_home

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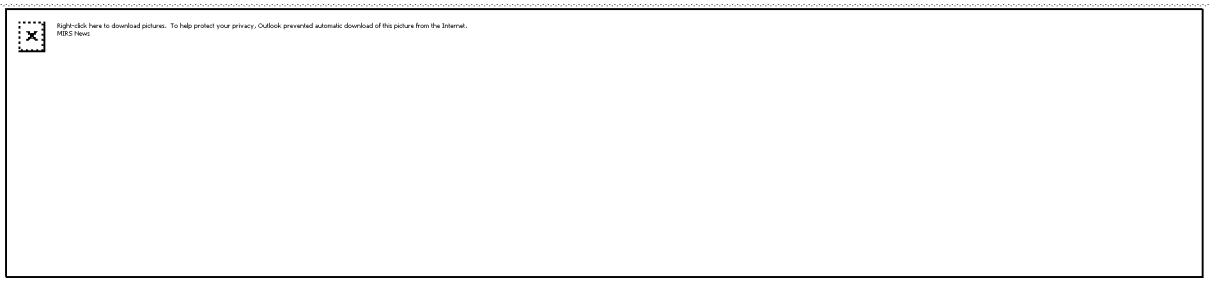
www.mirsnews.com

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 7:49 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Debate: What Clinton, Sanders and the rest need to do

"The only participant at the first Democratic debate of the 2016 presidential campaign with nothing to prove is Sheryl Crow, the singer slated to open the evening by singing the National Anthem."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/11/debate-what-clinton-sanders-omalley-webb-chafee-need-to-do/73776998/*

Through executive orders, Obama tests power as purchaser-in-chief

"WASHINGTON — As he tries to increase the minimum wage, ensure paycheck fairness and provide paid time off for American workers, President Obama is turning to an arcane but powerful tool: the power of the purchaser."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/obama-executive-orders-federal-contractors/22466397/*

Obama says Clinton email server a mistake, but not security threat

"President Obama called Hillary Clinton's use of a private server for official emails during her time as secretary of State a "mistake" in an interview on CBS's 60 Minutes Sunday, but said the political scandal around it has been "ginned up" by her Republican opponents and that it was not a threat to national security."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2015/10/11/obama-says-clinton-email-server-a-mistake-but-not-security-threat/*

Reports: Washington Post reporter convicted in Iran

"Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian — who has been held in Iran for over a year on charges including espionage — has been convicted, a spokesman for the Iranian judiciary said Sunday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iran-issues-reporter-verdict/73771144/*

Major reforms afoot for juvenile offenders

"LANSING – A bipartisan group of lawmakers in the state House of Representatives introduced a package of bills last week which makes major reforms to how juvenile offenders are treated."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/major-reforms-afoot-juvenile-offenders/73728942/*

Michigan House looks at banning microbeads

"LANSING – Since mid-2014, nine states have passed laws that will phase out the manufacture and sale of personal care products, like toothpaste and facial cleansers, that contain plastic microbeads."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/capitol/2015/10/12/michigan-house-looks-banning-microbeads/73799396/*

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8 facts about property assessments and tax rates in Michigan

"The average property-tax rate in Michigan is at its highest point since the passage of Proposal A in 1994, according to data collected by the Michigan Department of Treasury."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/8_facts_about_property_assessm.html#incart_river_home*

Detroit-area law enforcement join AG Bill Schuette to oppose parole reform

"PONTIAC, MI -- Despite support in the state House of Representatives for a law that would increase paroles issued to low-risk Michigan inmates, many Detroit-area law enforcers, and state Attorney General Bill Schuette, are

in opposition.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/detroit-area_law_enforcement_j.html#incart_river_home*

Piles again rise along Detroit River — but not pet coke

"Those black piles that have recently appeared along the Detroit River are not a reprise of the petroleum coke controversy of two years ago. This time it's something different — coke breeze — a coal-based by-product that city officials say was initially stored without permission."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/11/piles-again-rise-along-detroit-river-but-not-pet-coke/73586160/*

Southwest Airlines says tech issues delay some flights

"DALLAS — Southwest Airlines is asking travelers to arrive at least two hours before their scheduled departures as technical issues are forcing it to check-in some customers manually."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/11/southwest-airlines-says-tech-issues-delay-some-flights/73786748/*

Cushingberry wants changes to weed dispensary rules

"Detroit Councilman George Cushingberry Jr. wants to loosen certain aspects of proposed regulations for the city's medical marijuana dispensaries."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/11/cushingberry-wants-changes-weed-dispensary-rules/73743128/*

Chemical testing could have predicted Flint's water crisis

"Chemical tests could have predicted the corrosion in the pipes that is now being blamed for endangering the health of thousands of vulnerable Flint residents by elevating lead levels in their water supply, experts say."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/missed-opportunities-flint-water-crisis/73688428/*

Michigan's Energy Evolution: A Special Report

"Michigan Business Sunday is dedicated this week to the state's energy evolution. With 25 coal-fired power plants to be retired, and utilities required to produce more energy from renewable sources, the state's energy profile is evolving. Read about the pros and cons, the environmental implications, the jobs produced, and the energy debates underway."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/10/11/line-5-enbridge-dte-renewables-michigan-energy-evolution-special-report/73772194/*

UAW steps up social media to avoid another failed vote

"With a new tentative agreement to ratify with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, the UAW has another chance to prove itself to members, some of whom helped kill the first proposal by filling a vacuum of information on social media with criticism and information of varying degrees of accuracy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/11/uaw-steps-up-social-media-avoid-another-failed-vote/73601110/*

Cutbacks in mental health services hit west Michigan

"Holland — J.R. Robinson rubbed his hands together. A hollow sadness sits behind his eyes, punctuating a broken expression."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/wellness/2015/10/11/cutbacks-mental-health-services-hit-west-michigan/73796784/*

ATM fees soar 21% in last 5 years as transactions fall

"If you have an unquenchable thirst for beer but your billfold is empty, think twice before using that ATM in the corner of the bar — it might end up costing you more than your drink."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/10/11/atm-fees-soar-last-years-transactions-fall/73789328/*

6K inmates convicted on drug charges to be freed early

"Washington — A push to overhaul criminal sentencing is prompting the early release of thousands of federal drug prisoners, including some whom prosecutors once described as threats to society, according to an Associated

Press review of court records."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/11/drug-inmates-long-rap-sheets-freed-early/73786652/*

House hardliners would consider Ryan for House speaker

"Washington — Republican hardliners on Sunday said they could support Rep. Paul Ryan for House speaker, opening a potential bridge between bitterly divided GOP factions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/house-hardliners-consider-ryan-house-speaker/73777090/*

State under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder and his administration face mounting scrutiny for Flint's drinking water crisis, which began when a state emergency manager switched the supply source to save money and has culminated with high lead levels in some children."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/11/state-mounting-scrutiny-flints-water-crisis/73774024/*

Lower gas prices make cost of living increase unlikely

"Washington — For just the third time in 40 years, millions of Social Security recipients, disabled veterans and federal retirees can expect no increase in benefits next year, unwelcome news for more than one-fifth of the nation's population."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/11/lower-gas-prices-means-social-security-increase/73778192/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan utilities want to end renewable energy mandate

"LANSING — Since Michigan's energy law was adopted in 2008, billions of dollars have been spent in the state's emerging renewable energy industry — building infrastructure, adding jobs and lowering costs."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/michigan-utilities-want-to-end-renewable-energy-mandate/*

How Much Overtime is There in Detroit?

"A series of Detroit News reports on an internal investigation by the Detroit Police Department on allegations of overtime abuse began last November with a look at the homicide department before moving on to other departments. The newspaper reported that prosecutors filed criminal charges against Sgt. Myron Weathers in May of this year, asserting that he falsified overtime claims. The newspaper reported that Weathers was accused of submitting 29 fraudulent reports related to court appearances."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21820*

Some Detroit Cops Claim They Are Working 16+ Hours a Day, 365 Days a Year

"A Detroit police lieutenant reported that he worked the equivalent of nearly 17.3 hours on all 365 days of the city's most recent fiscal year, according to records obtained from the city."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21819*

Heroes turned gun situation in Saginaw school into 'shining moment' (Guest column)

"According to a news release issued by the City of Saginaw Police Department, at approximately 11:40 a.m. on Monday Oct. 5, students at Thompson Middle School reported that a 15-year-old male student had a gun in the building. Let me say that again: Students reported that a 15-year-old male student had a gun. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/kevin_gregory_guest_column.html

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Prison time, forfeiture and medical pot: Lansing is on a bipartisan roll

"The Michigan Legislature has been on a bipartisan binge lately, passing legislation that not everybody may like, but at least they have found a way to build consensus around three controversial issues."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/prison_forfeiture_and_medical.html#incart_story_package

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Battle is on for control of Michigan\'s marijuana market

"Nearly eight years after Michigan voters overwhelmingly concluded that marijuana should be available to patients whose doctors prescribe it, state lawmakers are finally addressing some of the most egregious defects in

Michigan\'s Medical Marihuana Act."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/michigan-marijuana/73534858/

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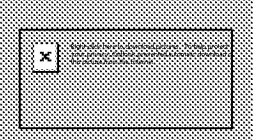

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From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 4:22 PM
To: Budget 6th Floor Staff
Subject: Legislative Update 10/12

Good afternoon,

Here are some highlights of what's happening in the House and Senate this week:

Session this Week: Both the House and Senate will hold session Tuesday through Thursday.

School Aid Supplemental: The Governor has signed SB 134 without vetoes, and it is now PA 139 of 2015.

FY 15 Supplemental (HB 4102): The Senate passed the bill by a 30-5 vote on October 1, and we now hope for House action sometime this week. We should know more about where things stand with the bill, and the supplemental request for Flint, sometime tomorrow.

FY 17 Legislator Outreach: After 8 meetings with individual legislators last week, John and I have only one this week. We meet with Rep. Nancy Jenkins (Chair, Capital Outlay, Chair MDARD) on Tuesday.

Committee Meeting Highlights:

- New committee meeting notices are still being posted.
- House Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. to take up HB 4783 (Pscholka), which increases landfill fines. This bill was up for a hearing a few weeks ago, and I'm trying to determine whether the committee plans to report or just take additional testimony. The committee will also hear a presentation from DNR Director Keith Creigh on hunting and fishing license fee changes.
- Senate Appropriations is meeting at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday to take up SCR 14 (McCready), the secondary road patrol MOE resolution, while also having discussion on boilerplate report benchmarks of new programs funded about $500,000 in the FY 15 budget:
  - Making Michigan a No-Wait State for Senior Home-Delivered Meals and In-Home Services - (Department of Health and Human Services)
  - The Child Welfare Performance-Based Funding - (Department of Health and Human Services)
  - The School Safety Hotline (OK2Say) - (Attorney General's Office)
- Senate School Aid Subcommittee: MDE will be presenting on the GSRP formula. There will also be a presentation on the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative. This meeting is Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
- House Military and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee is holding a hearing on the status of the state's armories this Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

House General Government Subcommittee: Holding a series of hearings on a variety of topics under its purview beginning the week of October 17:

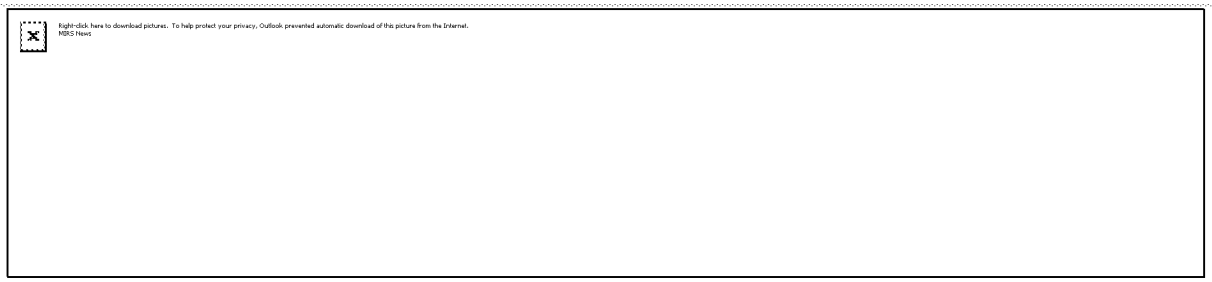
- October 21: BAM
- October 28: IT Investments
- November 4: Sexual Assault Kits

Legislation with Revenue Impact: I'm currently updating this list and will send it around in the next day or so.

Road Funding: Discussions still ongoing.

Hope this helps. Have a great week!

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 6:44 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Ousted Rep. Cindy Gamrat, 6 others set for candidates forum

*"**FENNVILLE, MI** – A full house is expected to hear former Michigan Rep. Cindy Gamrat and six other candidates for 80th District representative at the Allegan County Republican Party's candidates forum Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Fennville High School."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/ousted_rep_cindy_gamrat_6_othe.html#incart_river

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AG Bill Schuette rallies against parole reform, proposes more privatization

"PONTIAC, MI -- Attorney Bill Schuette joined Detroit-area law enforcers Monday to urge the state Senate not to pass a law that Schuette believes puts public safety at risk."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/ag_bill_schuette_rallies_again.html#incart_river

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Midland Rep. Moolenaar votes to de-fund Planned Parenthood, repeal Obamacare

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — A bill that seeks to de-fund Planned Parenthood and repeal much of President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act was passed by the U.S. House Budget Committee Friday, Oct. 9, with a little help from a Republican congressman from Midland."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/midland_congressman_votes_obam.html#incart_river

Concealed guns in schools? Bill gets hearing this week

"LANSING, MI -- A bill that would trade open carry weapons for concealed weapons in areas like schools and day care centers is up for a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee this week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/concealed_guns_in_schools_bill.html#incart_river*

GOP presidential candidate uses UM-MSU football analogy to describe Donald Trump

"CASCADE TOWNSHIP, MI – Ohio Gov. John Kasich compared job skills to the talents of NBA basketball players and talked about how his religious faith motivated him to run for president during a campaign stop this afternoon outside Grand Rapids.

"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/gop_presidential_candidate_use.html#incart_river_home*

GOP's Kasich: Political accomplishments matter

"Grand Rapids — Ohio Gov. John Kasich drew a contrast here Monday with the non-politician front runners in Republican presidential campaign by saying he is "a reformer who's actually gotten things done." during a campaign stop here with auto industry factory workers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/12/kasich-plans-visit-grand-rapids-factory/73819370/*

Lansing's handgun swap will let weapons in schools

"At 3 p.m. Tuesday, the chairman of the state Senate Judiciary Committee expects to see members of the public wearing Glocks and Lugers and other handguns in his hearing room. It's going to be lawmaking, with an authentic frontier ambiance."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2015/10/12/open-carry-causes-controversy/73850854/*

Mich. House may ban bits in soaps that hurt Great Lakes

"LANSING — Since mid-2014, nine states have passed laws that will phase out the manufacture and sale of personal care products, like toothpaste and facial cleansers, that contain plastic microbeads."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/12/michigan-house-looks-banning-microbeads/73508700/

Officials slam bill to automatically parole prisoners

"Citing public safety concerns, several top law enforcement officials are joining forces -- and launching a very public campaign -- to protest legislation that would make it easier for thousands of state prisoners to be released on parole."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/12/officials-slam-bill-automatically-parole-prisoners/73828860/

UAW sets 2-day voting period for new FCA contract

"The UAW has decided to condense the voting process on its new agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles to just two days as it tries to avoid some of the problems that led to the rejection of its first agreement with the automaker earlier this month."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/12/uaw-sets-two-day-voting-period-new-fca-contract/73809086/

Guns in Michigan churches? Bars? Schools? Maybe

"LANSING — A packed hearing is expected at the Capitol today as state lawmakers take up the issue of guns and a bill that would allow concealed-pistol-license holders to carry weapons in places now off-limits, such as schools, churches and taverns."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/michigan-gun-bill-legislature-debate/73819462/

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters makes first Bay City visit since taking office

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — U.S. Sen Gary Peters stood on the back deck at Real Seafood Co., looking over the Saginaw River in a navy blue suit. The sun was shining, and there were a few leftover shrimp tails left on the plate in his hand. "*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us_sen_gary_peters_makes_first.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

What happens to Flint kids poisoned with lead?

""Just take little sips.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/12/what-happens-flint-kids-poisoned-lead/73820368/*

Michigan has no real solution to gun violence

"A slew of Democratic state representatives have introduced a bill that would give schools and other public institutions the ability to ban firearms on their premises; current law allows only individuals, private institutions and public universities to decide who can bring guns onto their premises."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/12/michigan-has-no-real-solution-gun-violence/73440340/*

Press Releases

FINAL BEAM PLACED FOR THE NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum was ceremonially placed on Monday, Oct. 12, 2015. Steven Ford, son of President and first lady Ford, was joined by Rich DeVos, Amway co-founder; Doug DeVos, Amway president and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation trustee; Red Cavaney, chairman of Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation; and Dr. Jim Gardner, National Archives and Records Administration executive for legislative archives, presidential libraries and museum services as steel workers from Grand Rapids based Pioneer Construction secured the 30-foot beam. The topping off ceremony also marked the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. "

Source: *Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444682127_gerald.pdf*

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STAKEHOLDERS OPPOSE PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE REFORMS

"October 12, 2015 (Oakland County, Mich.) Criminal justice stakeholders and law enforcement officials

gathered today to join together in opposition against legislation to allow for presumptive parole in the state of Michigan. Attorney General Bill Schuette, Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard, and Prosecutor Jessica R. Cooper gathered stakeholders together in order to draw attention to their concerns."

Source: *Oakland County Sheriff* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444682001_sheriff.pdf

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CAPPS MEMO: FACT-CHECKING HB 4138: The "Presumptive Parole" Bill

"Opponents of HB 4138, the "presumptive parole bill", are circulating massive amounts of misinformation in an effort to defeat the bill in the Senate. It is unfortunate that prosecuting attorneys and sheriffs upon whom the public relies to enforce the law have not taken the time to carefully read the bill and honestly convey what this law would and would not do. "

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444680990_grassrootsmid.pdf

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Justice Viviano to introduce "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges"

"On Monday, Oct. 19, WMU-Cooley Law School, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) and the Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office will introduce a new resource for Michigan judges and members of the court interested in developing Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs). "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges" is a compilation of best practices to address the special circumstances of veterans confronted with non-violent criminal charges and is designed to serve as a blueprint for the further development of specialty courts for veterans."

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444675965_mich.pdf

LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Kent County

*"**For Immediate Release -** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of a Kent County family child care home provider, Terri Kowalczyk, License #DF410360652, 3584 Leonard Street NW, Walker, Michigan 49534. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444674487_LARA.pdf

JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEW HAMPSHIRE THIS WEEK

*"**Miami, FL –** This week, Governor Jeb Bush will visit New Hampshire. On Tuesday, Governor Bush will deliver a speech on his policy to repeal and replace Obamacarein Manchester, NH. Following the speech, Governor Bush will hold an employee town hall at Smiths Medical in Keene, NH. That evening, he will participate in a town hall in Lebanon, NH. On Wednesday, Governor Bush will tour Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics in Manchester, NH and later hold a town hall in Concord, NH. On Thursday, he will participate in the Domestic Violence Prevention Roundtable at the University of New Hampshire Law Center in Concord, NH. "*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444671546_bush.pdf*

Cruz Raises $1 Million in First 9 Days of Fourth Quarter

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced it raised $1 million in the first 9 days of the fourth quarter. Cruz's impressive haul in just over a week comes off his successful third quarter fundraising, in which he pulled in more than $12 million. The early start in the fourth quarter brings his campaign's total to more than $27.5 million."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444669697_cruz.pdf*

Attorney General Schuette, Genesee County Prosecutor Leyton Joint Statement on Presumptive Parole

*"**PONTIAC** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette and Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton today released the following statement in opposition of HB 4138, legislation calling for the implementation of presumptive parole in Michigan: "*

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444669649_AG.pdf

Nominations sought for Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award; honor recognizes outstanding wor

"LANSING, MI, October 12, 2015 – Nominations are being accepted for the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award honoring exceptional service to Michigan's children."

Source: *Michigan Courts* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444665872_court.pdf

Michigan Veterans Foundation To Unveil Dramatic Plans For New Facility

"SOUTHFIELD, MI - - The Law Offices of Goodman Acker proudly announces their 2nd annual event this

Veterans Day to honor our Veterans, as well as help reduce the problem of Veterans' homelessness. Like many communities around the country, our area has people who are homeless. In Detroit alone, 2 out of 5 of homeless veterans are single and over half are part of a homeless family. Many veterans said they became homeless for the first time since 2012."

Source: *Michigan Veterans Foundation* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444664780_Veterans.pdf

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LARA Summarily Suspends the Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration of Sandra LaFortune

*"**For Immediate Release -** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the child care certificate of registration of Kent County family child care home provider, Sandra LaFortune, Registration #DF410298088, at 122 Wadsworth Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49548. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444664529_lara.pdf

Detroit Man Buys Fantasy 5 Ticket to Change Luck, Wins $100,000 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015** – After struggling through a bad year, a Detroit man bought a Fantasy 5 ticket – only his second Lottery purchase ever – hoping it would bring him some good luck."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444662328_lottery.pdf

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Michigan Inland Lakes Convention set for April in Boyne Falls

"The 2016 Michigan Inland Lakes Convention, "Science and Leadership: A Formula for Successful Lake Protection and Management," will be heldApril 28-30 at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls. This biennial convention is a great opportunity for lake enthusiasts, professionals, researchers, local government officials and others interested in protecting Michigan's water resources."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444662153_dnr.pdf

MITA Organizes Effort to Help Flint Residents with Water Crisis

"The Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association today announced a financial donation to help the citizens of Flint with their water crisis, and they are reaching out to their membership to do the same."

Source: *Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661229_mita.pdf*

Sprinkle Road "Walkabout in the Roundabout": New bridge and roundabouts open to public for a nonmoto

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) are hosting a public event at the new Sprinkle Road roundabouts and bridge over I-94 in Kalamazoo. Residents, business owners and media will be able to walk the roundabouts and bridge to get familiar with the new construction before the barrels are removed."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661161_mdot.pdf*

State Police Training New Motor Carrier Officers

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Yesterday, 21 prospective motor carrier officers reported to the Michigan State Police (MSP) Training Academy for the first day of the 20th Motor Carrier Officer Recruit School."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661105_police.pdf*

Sparrow cardiologist's work is published in New England Journal of Medicine

"Sparrow cardiologist, John Ip, M.D., has been published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine for his role in a groundbreaking study on an innovative new pacemaker. Please read the attached release and contact us with any questions."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661056_sports.pdf*

Consumers Energy Forecasts Lower Winter Heating Costs

"JACKSON, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – Lower heating costs are expected this winter for Consumers Energy's natural gas customers. Total savings could be more than $100 for an average residential customer, depending on weather and actual usage. Business customer savings will depend on their gas usage."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444660990_CONSUMER.pdf*

TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

"The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "

Source: *V2 DeVos Learning Center* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444658601_v2.pdf*

State Representative Jon Bumstead Brunch - TODAY

"State Representative Jon Bumstead's October 13th Brunch."

Source: *Rep. Jon Bumstead* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444657908_jb.pdf*

Cruz Scores Major Upset Among Libertarian Voters

"

HOUSTON, TEXAS - Presidential candidate Ted Cruz continues to shore up his strong support among libertarian voters, earning 51 percent support from voters participating in the straw poll held at the Republican Liberty Caucus in Nashua, NH over the weekend.

"

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444655142_cruz.pdf*

Flint Water Crisis

"If you are outraged over our state government's response to the water crisis in Flint, I am right there with you. The water crisis in Flint is a national disgrace and an abject failure of leadership. ***Children and families are sick and elected officials in Lansing are responsible.****"*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654866_mlcv.pdf*

Mossy Oak Joins Sportsmen's Alliance as Business Partner

"

Mossy Oak Joins Sportsmen's Alliance as Business Partner

Sportsmen's Alliance is proud to announce a new partnership with the iconic outdoor brand. **read more**

"

Source: *Sportsman's Alliance* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654792_sports.pdf

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Ed Bills Ready for Vote?; AFP on OSP; Special Elections Heat Up; DPS Reform Update; Dems Skip Ed For

"K-3 Reading and Teacher Evaluation Bills Ready for Floor Vote
It appears that HB 4822 (Price), the K-3 Reading bill, and SB 103 (Pavlov), the teacher evaluation bill, are both prepped for a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives as early as next week. Behind-the-scenes negotiations and fine-tuning of floor amendments for both bills has been occurring this past week. Stay tuned for more details!!"

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654728_education.pdf

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Upton Statement on EPA WOTUS Court Ruling

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement after the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit issued a nationwide stay to block the Environment Protection Agency's (EPA) enforcement of its final Waters of the United State (WOTUS) rule."

Source: *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654585_upton.pdf

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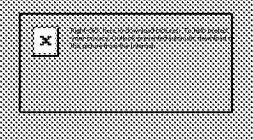

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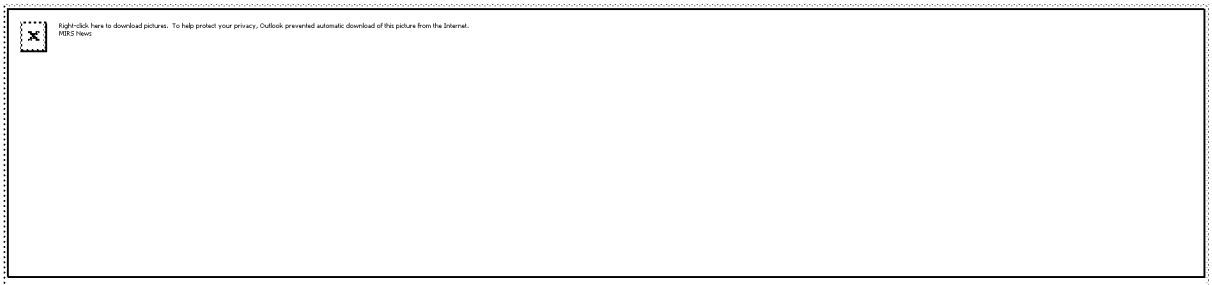
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 12:27 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 13, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 13, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46090

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/849

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/848

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Tax Relief Component Sends Road Talks To 'Impasse'

Leadership discussions on an annual $1.2 billion road funding package hit "an impasse" today over an income tax rollback component Republican leaders want included in the final deal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46090#44070

Bills Allowing Concealed Carry In Schools Head To Senate Floor

The Senate Judiciary Committee today reported two bills on 4-1 votes allowing individuals to carry a concealed firearm in schools and other pistol-free zones while banning concealed carry in those areas.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46090#44075

Consultants See 'Adult Debate' From Democratic Prez Exchange

Tonight's first Democratic presidential debate showed the country why former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON and U.S. Sen. Bernie SANDERS are up big in national polls and why lower-tier candidates

like Lincoln CHAFEE and Jim WEBB are struggling at around 1 percent.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44679

75 MPH Max, Pilot Projects Floated As Compromise For Speed Reforms

Lawmakers have begun floating details of a potential compromise that could help bills to reform how speed limits are set across Michigan motor on through the Legislature.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44678

Committee Not Rushing To Advance D&E Abortion Ban

A proposed ban on a common second-trimester abortion procedure that some have labeled "barbaric" drew heavy debate in a House committee today, but not a vote. And it could be a while before a vote happens, if it happens at all.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44673

MDE: 43% Of Districts Go Their Own Way As Part Of Teacher Evals

Some 43 percent of school districts are still using some sort of locally developed tool -- or some other tool besides four state-embraced models -- as part of their methods to evaluate teachers.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44677

Did The Legislature Mess Up When Creating The MCCA?

If the 1978 Legislature wanted to exempt the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) from the state's freedom of information law, it should have amended the latter law, too, the attorney for a group supporting the state auto no-fault law told the Michigan Supreme Court today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44668

Mandatory Expulsion For Threats Against Teachers Debated In Committee

Former Godwin Heights Public Schools teacher Diane JELKE remembers exactly where she was when a seventh grade student threatened to kill her.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44674

MDP, Progress Michigan Calls For Earley's Firing

The Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) and the progressive action group Progress Michigan today called on Gov. Rick SNYDER to fire Darnell EARLEY from his job as the Detroit Public Schools' emergency manger (EM) for signing off on the Flint water switch as Flint's EM.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44671

SBE Puts Two Cents In On Teacher Evals, 3rd Grade Reading, Flint Water

The SBE today lent its latest thoughts on the third grade reading and teacher evaluation bills as they

move closer to possible action in the House.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44676

Bits And Tidbits

Snyder Congratulates Michigan Legislative Consultants Turning 50

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44672

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 13, 1813, Lewis CASS was appointed the governor of the Michigan territory following the Oct. 5 United States' victory over British and Indian forces "as far as Michigan was concerned" as part of the War of 1812. Cass had been the brigadier general under William Henry HARRISON.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44669

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **General Government**
Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
10:30 AM - **General Government**
Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
2:00 PM - **Appropriations**
Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**
Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015
6:00 PM
How The Courser-Gamrat Story Broke: Presented by the Mid-Michigan SPJ Pro Chapter(Sponsored by Mid-Michigan SPJ Pro Chapter)
Guest Speakers: Chad Livengood, Kyle Melinn, and David Waymire
Location: , Kelly's in Downtown, Lansing, MI 48915

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
11:00 AM
Annual 2015 Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champions Award Ceremony(Sponsored by Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services)
Location:
Contact: Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394
wheatonb@michigan.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
5:00 PM
State Senator Jack Brandenburg Fall Reception
Location: Governors Room

Contact: Jack Brandenburg 586-465-7144
jbrandenburg@sbcglobal.net

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
7:00 PM
Hailing a Solution to Ridesharing in Michigan(Sponsored by Generation Opportunity)
Guest Speakers: State Rep. Brandt Iden, Mike Van Beek, Carla Jacobs, Dr. Ross Emmett
Location: James Madison College Library, 3rd Floor of Case Hall, 842 Chestnut Road, East Lansing, MI 48825
Contact: Kevin Gardner 517-375-9029
KGardner@genopp.org

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
8:00 AM
Senator Steven Bieda Fundraiser(Sponsored by Committee to Elect Steven Bieda Senator)
Location: MI Beer & Wine Wholesalers
Contact: J. Platte
jplatte@comcast.net

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
5:00 PM
Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception
Location: Tavern & Tap
Contact: Scott 517-881-0013
toryrocca@yahoo.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
5:30 PM
Fall for Detroit 2015(Sponsored by Mike Duggan for Mayor Committee)
Guest Speakers: Mayor Mike Duggan
Location: Eastern Market, Shed 3
Contact: Carrie 313-462-0808
carrie@dugganfordetroit.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
5:00 PM
Senator Jim Stamas Reception
Location: Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Holy Tatman 517-267-9012
htatman@sterlingcorporation.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence Birthday Celebration(Sponsored by Brenda Lawrence for Congress)
Location: Tom O\'Shanter Country Club, 5051 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48037
Contact: RSVP to Shannon Salk at 248-262-7502 - OR - by email
ShannonMSalk@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
10:00 AM
Advocacy Training and Legislative Day(Sponsored by Michigan Nonprofit Association)
Guest Speakers: Multiple
Location: Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room
Contact: Joan Bowman 517-230-8110

jbowman@mnaonline.org

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015
6:00 PM
Education Town Hall(Sponsored by Rep. Sam Singh)
Location: Hannah Community Center
Contact: Sam Singh
votesamsingh@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
8:00 AM
Senator Rick Jones Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to 517-420-5417 - OR
smccormick87@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
8:00 AM
Senate Republican Caucus Fall Fundraiser
Location: Governors Room
Contact: Dawn Blakslee 517-371-2006
srcc@misrcc.com

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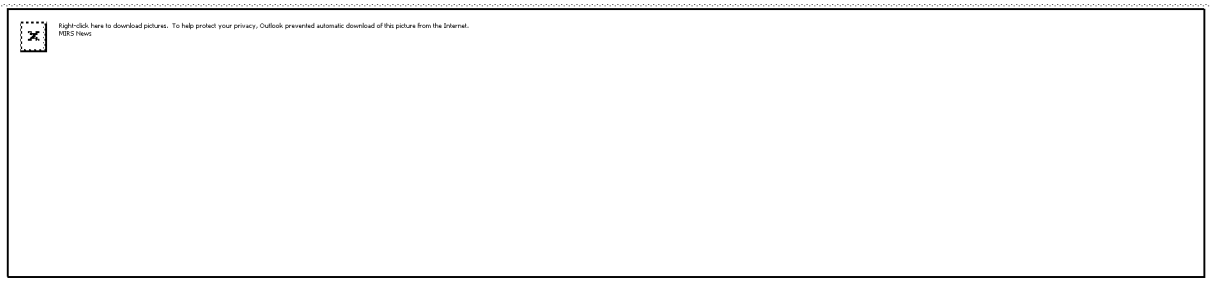
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 6:53 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Ex-emergency manager says he's not to blame for Flint River water switch

"FLINT, MI — Former emergency manager Darnell Earley says he's not to blame for the decision to use the Flint River as the city's source of drinking water."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ex_emergency_manager_earley_sa.html#incart_river*

Powdered alcohol ban passes Michigan House

"LANSING, MI -- A ban on powdered alcohol in Michigan is one step closer to becoming law after winning approval from the House of Representatives on Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/powdered_alcohol_ban_passes_mi.html#incart_river*

Senate panel approves bill to allow concealed guns but stop open carry in Michigan schools

"LANSING, MI — A Michigan Senate panel on Tuesday approved gun bills that would allow concealed carry instead of open carry in schools, moving ahead despite concerns from education officials who fear the proposal will do little to shield students from possible violence."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/senate_panel_approves_bill_to.html#incart_river*

Cindy Gamrat says a Republican lock-out would be a slap in the face

*"**FENNVILLE, MI** – Ousted Michigan Rep. Cindy Gamrat said that if she is re-elected, it would be a slap in the face of Allegan County voters for other lawmakers to try to lock her out of the House Republican caucus."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/cindy_gamrat_says_a_republican.html#incart_river_home*

Rep. Levin aide placed on leave after assault charges

"Washington — An aide to Democratic U.S. Rep. Sander Levin of Royal Oak was placed on unpaid leave Friday after being arrested on charges of beating his boyfriend with a shovel."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/sander-levin-aide-leave-assault-charges/73881322/*

Gun control debate draws voters' attention in Mich.

"Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton went after her main rival Bernie Sanders on gun control during a heated exchange Tuesday in the first Democratic presidential candidates debate."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/gun-control-debate-draws-voters-attention-mich/73905150/*

Treasurer could add $82M to Wayne Co.'s general fund

"Wayne County's Treasurer plans to transfer $82 million from the county's delinquent tax revolving fund to the county's general fund."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/13/treasurer-may-add-wayne-county-general-fund/73906018/*

GM CEO vows further changes ahead of federal monitoring

"Washington — General Motors CEO Mary Barra said she is still trying to change the culture of the Detroit automaker more than 18 months after she took the reins of the company."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/10/13/gm-ceo-vows-changes-federal-monitoring/73890426/*

Snyder: Road fund talks hit dead end

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leaders declared an impasse Tuesday on how to raise an additional $1.2 billion annually to improve Michigan roads despite months of talks."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/michigan-roads/73870236/*

Senate panel OKs concealed guns in 'gun-free' zones

"Lansing — Individuals with special permits would be allowed to bring concealed firearms inside schools and other "gun-free" areas under legislation advanced Tuesday by a Senate committee."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/senate-panel-oks-concealed-guns-gun-free-zones/73889132/*

Different pay for new hires under latest UAW-FCA deal

"The latest four-year tentative agreement between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV includes a different pay structure for some new hires than current employees doing the same work."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/13/different-pay-new-hires-latest-uaw-fca-deal/73905502/*

Michigan to launch lead education effort statewide

"The state — in the wake of the Flint water crisis — is launching an education campaign soon to help schools statewide learn how to get their water tested to determine whether it contains dangerously high levels of lead."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/lead-water-flint-michigan-testing/73871480/*

Road funding talks break down over income tax cut

"LANSING -- Negotiations over a long-sought road funding plan were close to an agreement Tuesday but reached an impasse when Democratic leaders balked at an across-the-board income tax cut proposed by Republican legislative leaders and agreed to in principle by Gov. Rick Snyder, officials said."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/gov-snyder-michigans-road-funding-talks-impasse/73869510/*

Barra: GM will lead self-driving revolution

"WASHINGTON — Despite being one of the oldest names in the car business, General Motors is "among the leaders" in the development of self-driving cars along with Silicon Valley's best — from Apple to Tesla, GM CEO Mary Barra said Tuesday in a wide-ranging interview with USA TODAY."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/13/barra-general-motors-technology-volkswagen--tesla/73892324/*

Michigan Senate panel OKs concealed weapons in schools

"LANSING — Over strong objections from educators, a Senate panel approved legislation Tuesday to allow concealed weapons in schools and other places that are now off-limits for hidden weapons."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/concealed-carry-bills-spark-war-words-mich-senate/73889076/*

Sen. Knezek's bill to protect veterans with service dogs heads to governor's desk

"Legislation authored by State Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) to protect Michigan veterans' use of service dogs in public is on its way to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk to be signed into law."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/10/13/news/doc561c80b46be0b685282489.txt*

Ann Arbor schools chief asks lawmakers to keep concealed guns out of schools

"The Ann Arbor Public Schools superintendent asked Michigan lawmakers to keep schools safe by preventing concealed carry in schools."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/ann_arbor_schools_chief_asks_l.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Advocacy/Opinion

An obscure failure of government

"

Flint water crisis: There's good news: The City of Flint could soon reconnect to the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, a water source that doesn't leach lead from aging pipes into the municipal water supply.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/566430/An-obscure-failure-of-government.html?nav=5052*

Hoffa: Central States shouldn't cut pensions

"Michigan workers and retirees should be allowed to live comfortably in their golden years. But increasingly, nest eggs that everyday people contributed to are being threatened. And retirement security is being taken away."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/hoffa-labor-voices-central-states-pension-cuts/73898620/*

Yanez: Prevailing wage good for Michigan

"There is a great deal of pressure in our state Legislature to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law. My fellow legislators must not cave under the pressure. The reality is that repealing Michigan's prevailing wage law would harm not just those in the skilled trades, but all Michiganders."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/yanez-prevailing-wage-good-michigan/73898686/*

Finley: Court checks EPA water grab

"The federal courts have not been perfect in blocking President Barack Obama's regulatory overreach, but they have been the only limiting force on the expansion of his powers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/13/finley-epa-water-grab/73898154/*

Column: Presumptive parole isn't safe for Michigan

"Public safety is the first responsibility of government. Unfortunately, legislation now being debated by the Michigan legislature could put the public's safety at risk. Last week, the House passed legislation that dramatically changes our criminal justice system, and now the Senate is considering this package of bills. We strongly oppose these bills,

because they will allow the release of violent offenders back onto our streets."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/schuette-leyton-presumptive-parole-unsafe-michigan/73898124/*

For GOP, bloodying unions comes before fixing roads

"The morning after last May's special election, state lawmakers in both parties agreed on one thing: No one should mistake the defeat of the fatally convoluted Proposal 1 as a sign that voters were satisfied with the dismal state of Michigan's roads and bridges."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/14/road-funding-obstacle/73869980/*

Bill Would Ban Advertising to Get More People on Medicaid

"A bill introduced by Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton, would prohibit the state from advertising "Healthy Michigan," which is the title the Snyder administration gave to its adoption of the Obamacare Medicaid expansion."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21821*

Stretch Taxpayer Dollars and Promote Equality in Government: Repeal the Prevailing Wage

"

On Sept. 14, organizers to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law submitted almost 400,000 signatures to the state elections bureau."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21757*

Poll: Michigan voters strongly favor state prison reform

"Michigan residents overwhelmingly support criminal justice reform, and believe the state should invest in efforts to help ex-cons get jobs as a way to lower recidivism."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/poll-michigan-voters-strongly-favor-state-prison-reform/*

‘Clean slate’ law for offenders could be boon for business

"Mike Jardine was convicted of stealing a video projector from Grand Valley State University in 2004. His probation lasted 18 months, but in some ways, his sentence never ended."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/clean-slate-law-for-offenders-could-be-boon-for-business/*

Press Releases

Sen. Casperson welcomes Escanaba native Brian Swift to state Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, welcomed Brian Swift, originally from Escanaba, to the state Capitol last week to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee."*

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444769791_casperson.pdf

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Equality Michigan Announces New Executive Director

*"**DETROIT, MI, October 13, 2015** —Equality Michigan announced today that its Board of Directors has named Stephanie A. White as executive director effective October 19, 2015. Ms. White joins Equality Michigan with 23 years of experience that includes the United States military, as well as political and national non-profit sectors. “This is the perfect time to have Steph White become our next executive director,” said Dave Wait, Equality Michigan board chair. “Steph’s vision, strategic mind, relationship skills, and program execution track record make her the perfect leader for Equality Michigan considering the current political landscape in Michigan and where we are in the equality movement.” "*

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444767686_equality.pdf

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Rep. Jacobsen optimistic after MSP, MDOT testimony on speed limits legislation

"State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee today listened to additional testimony on a bipartisan bill package to ensure the safety of Michigan motorists by increasing speed limits on certain highways."

Source: *Rep. Brad Jacobsen* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444766580_jacobsen.pdf

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Detroit Marijuana Licensing Ordinance Passes City Council

"Detroit, Michigan: The Detroit City Council today adopted a new ordinance, licensing and regulating Medical

Marijuana Centers. Council members expressed strong support for patients who need access to medical marijuana as well as to community groups who are concerned with over-proliferation of the centers. The Council will vote on an additional ordinance in the coming weeks that will address zoning of Medical Marijuana Centers. This will provide safe and convenient access to medicine for patients while simultaneously addressing community concerns. The licensing ordinance adopted today was introduced by Councilman James Tate of Detroit's first district."

Source: *National Patients Rights Association* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444766530_nprа.pdf

Citizens, Elected Officials to Call on U.S. Senate Finance Committee to Commit to Corporate Tax Refo

"LANSING - On Wednesday, October 14, citizen's groups and Representative Henry Yanez will host a press conference calling on the U.S. Senate Finance Committee to commit to ensuring that corporations pay their fair share and to close offshore tax loopholes."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444764829_engage.pdf

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"Detroit, Michigan: The Detroit City Council today adopted a new ordinance, licensing and regulating Medical Marijuana Centers. Council members expressed strong support for patients who need access to medical marijuana as well as to community groups who are concerned with over-proliferation of the centers. The Council will vote on an additional ordinance in the coming weeks that will address zoning of Medical Marijuana Centers. This will provide safe and convenient access to medicine for patients while simultaneously addressing community concerns. The licensing ordinance adopted today was introduced by Councilman James Tate of Detroit's first district."

Source: *National Patients Rights Association* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444765340_nprа.pdf

Colleges and Universities to Participate in Workshop on Online Education Wednesday, October 14 in La

*"**October 13, 2015** – Representatives from Michigan's colleges and universities will gather Wednesday, October 14 at the University Club in Lansing to learn how participation in the Midwestern State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA) can make their school's offering of online distance education more efficient and less costly. Michigan recently joined M-SARA with approval from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact resulting in streamlined regulation and greater student access to quality programs. With M-SARA, students can now be assured of access to, and quality of, their distance education provider, and should there be difficulties, students now have a complaint process available to them through the State of Michigan."*

Source: *Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763988_lara.pdf

Lake sturgeon releases put more than 6,300 fish into Michigan waters

"The Department of Natural Resources and several partners released more than 6,300 juvenile lake sturgeon into various public waters across Michigan this summer and fall in an effort to rehabilitate this culturally significant fish species."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763929_dnr.pdf

Rep. Yonker invites Allegan, Kent county residents to budget town hall

"Budget town hall meeting to inform local residents about the state budget and outline fiscal year appropriations."

Source: *Rep. Ken Yonker* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763881_yonker.pdf

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PPSR Director Retires in 2015; Next IPPSR Director Takes Helm 2016

"Matt Grossmann, a nationally known political scientist and associate professor at Michigan State University, will become the next director of MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research."

Source: *Michigan State University* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444762145_msu.pdf

Eastern Michigan University regents approve more than $54 million in student aid for 2016-2017

*"**Total represents a 130 percent increase over past eight years as EMU maintains commitment to helping students and families afford a college education**"*

Source: *Eastern Michigan University* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444761916_east.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill allowing municipalities to maintain electronic property tax rolls

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation that will allow local governments to maintain electronic property tax rolls instead of requiring them to routinely print lengthy paper copies."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444761863_gov.pdf*

Retirement Planning Events Announced for Securing Mi Financial Future Month

*"LANSING – On October 1, 2015, Governor Snyder proclaimed October as "Securing Mi Financial Future Month" and encouraged Michigan residents to take advantage of free, non-commercial financial education events throughout the month. Spearheaded by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS), the **Securing Mi Financial Future** initiative will be holding several events across the state throughout the month. The second wave of events being offered is called **Reinventing Mi Retirement** and is geared toward residents 49 years and older."*

Source: *Department of Insurance and Financial Services* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444760128_DIFS.pdf

Salmon, trout egg-take efforts recently finished or just starting at DNR facilities

"The Department of Natural Resources has been working hard this fall, and will continue to this winter, to gather necessary eggs to maintain the production of hatchery fish to support management objectives for Michigan's world-class fisheries. Fall egg-takes have been completed or soon will start for wild Chinook and coho salmon and for captive broodstocks of brown, rainbow, brook and lake trout."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444757674_dnr.pdf

UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

*"**Oct. 13, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. –** Students at UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Thursday (Oct. 15) at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444756690_um.pdf

Peters Leads Letter Urging Departments of State and Homeland Security to Improve U.S. Capability to

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced he has joined his colleagues Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT) and Congressman Bill Pascrell (NJ) in leading a letter to the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security (DHS), urging both departments to take immediate action to address the burdensome processes that unnecessarily delay refugee processing in the country. In the letter, Peters and his colleagues commended the Administration's plan to increase the number of refugees brought to the U.S. and also advised the Departments to make changes to the current processing systems to ensure that the greater numbers of refugees*

can be accepted and processed in a timely and effective manner. Joining Peters, Blumenthal and Pascrell on the letter were 11 Senators and 70 Representatives."

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444756645_peters.pdf

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Progress Michigan Echoes Call For Flint Accountability

"LANSING – Today, Progress Michigan is calling on Governor Rick Snyder to hold himself and Emergency Manager Darnell Earley accountable for their decision to use the Flint River as the source of drinking water in Flint. Progress Michigan is calling on Gov. Rick Snyder to fire Darnell Earley from his current job as Detroit Public Schools emergency manager and ban him from working as an Emergency Manager in Michigan. In addition, Gov. Snyder should hold the people of Flint harmless and ensure that the people of Flint do not have to pay for his mistake."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444755883_progress.pdf

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Michigan Announces Regional Managed Care Health Plans

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today announced the Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs) recommended for Michigan's Comprehensive Health Plan contract. The Comprehensive Health Plan contract provides health care services to approximately 1.7 million Medicaid managed care beneficiaries."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750708_mdhhs.pdf

Michigan Operating Engineers Deliver 600 Cases of Water to Flint Families

"FLINT - Over last weekend, Michigan Operating Engineers delivered six pallets of water to Pastor Brian Willingham at Charity United Methodist on Clio Road in Flint. Over 600 cases of water were handed out to 270 Flint families in roughly one hour at the church on Saturday morning, October 10."

Source: *Michigan Operating Engineers* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750548_oper.pdf

Eastern Michigan University shows significant improvement in retention and graduation rates after im

*"**YPSILANTI** – A comprehensive plan to enhance support for student retention and degree completion at Eastern Michigan University is showing significant progress."*

Source: *East Michigan University* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750483_mich.pdf

Pheasant season offers growing opportunities for hunters

"With pheasant hunting just under way, the Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there are a growing number of opportunities to take part in this treasured Michigan tradition."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748494_dnr.pdf

'Ask The DNR' to air Thursday on Lower Peninsula's WCMU

""Ask The DNR" comes to CMU Public Broadcasting (WCMU) Thursday, Oct. 15, at 7:30 p.m. The show will focus on fisheries, wildlife and law enforcement issues in Michigan."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748453_dnr.pdf

Bishop Introduces New Resolution Urging NATO Alliance to Honor Commitment

*"**WASHINGTON** – Last week, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) introduced the bipartisan H. Res. 469, Urging North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member countries to meet or exceed the 2 percent gross domestic product commitment to spending on defense. He issued the following statement in response:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748363_bishop.pdf

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Ottawa County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2015** – An Ottawa County educator who created a program for sixth graders to research a local waterway's ecosystem and helped launch a community science field day has been honored with an Excellence of Education award from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748314_ottawa.pdf

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Oakland County Leaders Propose Oakland County Time to Care Initiative

"OAKLAND COUNTY – In an effort to ensure working people have time to take care of themselves and their families, a group of Oakland County Commissioners have introduced a proposal to expand paid time off to area workers."

Source: *Oakland County Commissioners* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748256_oak.pdf

WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR HONORED WITH 'LEGACY AWARD'

"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – Joseph Kimble, a distinguished professor emeritus at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, received the State Bar of Michigan's John W. Reed Michigan Lawyer Legacy Award on Oct. 7 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan. He is the fourth recipient of the award, which is "given periodically to an educator from a Michigan law school whose influence on lawyers has elevated the quality of legal practice in the state." Also at the state bar's annual meeting, WMU-Cooley Law School graduate and board of directors chairman, Lawrence P. Nolan, was sworn in as the organization's president-elect."

Source: *Michigan State Bar* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748192_bar.pdf

Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in committee hearing via videoconference

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee on Thursday will consider legislation designed to make state government more accountable and act more responsibly by requiring departments to repay the court costs of residents and businesses who prevail against a department in court, said Sen. Tom Casperson, sponsor of one of the bills."*

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444744237_casperson.pdf

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Rep. Hughes announces program to increase school bus safety

"LANSING - State Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, will be discussing a pilot program to help reduce vehicle "pass-bys" of school buses during a news conference on Friday, Oct. 16 in Ravenna."

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444743874_HUGHES.pdf

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Physicians Highlight Patient Needs on Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day

*"**LANSING**—Members of the Michigan State Medical Society commemorate Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day on Tuesday, October 13th by announcing their participation in the It's About Time social media campaign."*

Source: *Michigan State Medical Society* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444743430_msms.pdf*

TOMORROW: Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session **tomorrow, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444742591_dingell.pdf*

JEB BUSH: INNOVATION, NOT MANDATES, WILL BRING DOWN HEALTH CARE COSTS

"Today, I'm rolling out an aggressive plan to repeal Obamacare once and for all and replace it with conservative reforms that lower health care costs. One of the biggest flaws of Obamacare — something that was easily predicted by those who read the bill before it became law — is that it resulted in skyrocketing health care premiums across the country."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444742508_jeb.pdf*

MDP Statement: Those Responsible for Flint Water Crisis Must Be Held Accountable

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, demanding those responsible for the Flint water crisis be held accountable and calling on Governor Snyder to immediately fire former Flint EM, and current EM for Detroit Public Schools, Darnell Earley: "

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741979_mdp.pdf*

I-275 survey feedback results

*"**October 12, 2015 --** The publicanswered theMichigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) call and provided valuable input regarding traffic control options for next year's I-275 project in Wayne and Oakland counties. MDOT ran an online survey Oct. 2 - 9 to gather feedback, receiving 3,765 responses. The department will proceed with the most popular option."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741924_mdot.pdf

Statement on Yesterday's Death of Detroit Highway Construction Worker

"MICHIGAN — The Michigan Laborers' District Council issued the following statement regarding yesterday's tragic highway construction accident that resulted in the death of Rafael Castillo-Saavedra."

Source: *Michigan Laborer's District Council* **Date:** *10-14-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741807_labor.pdf

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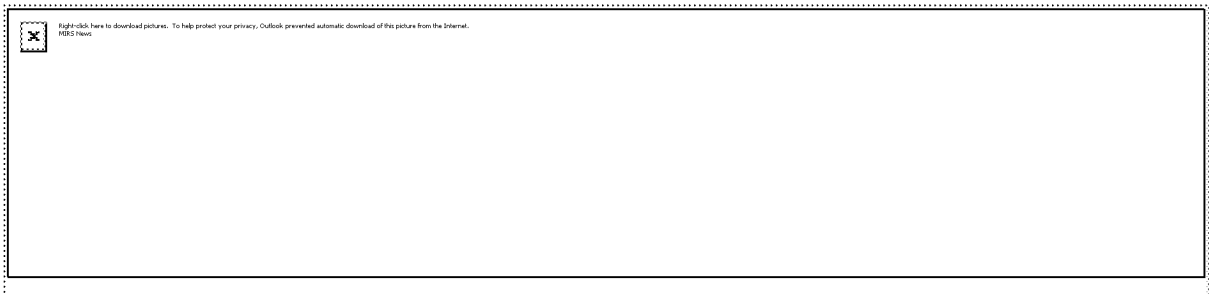
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 11:50 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 14, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 14, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/852

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/851

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Meekhof, Greimel Point At Each Other As Reason For 'Impasse'

Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) said he was surprised when House Minority Leader Tim GREIMEL (D-Auburn Hills) raised concerns Tuesday about the fiscal impact of an income tax rollback attached to a $1.2 billion road funding package.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44688

Dems Push Change To 3rd-Grade Bill That Would Alter Retention Policy

For hours today, the House stood at a standstill as Republican leadership faced a crossroads on a wide-ranging bill to get elementary school students to read at a third-grade level before passing to the fourth grade.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44687

House OKs Flint Water Switch; Move To Senate For Swift Action

With a unanimous 105-0 vote, the House returned to the Senate a supplemental appropriations bill fulfilling Gov. Rick SNYDER's commitment to pick up half the $12 million cost of switching the city of

Flint back to the Detroit water system.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44683

Proposed State Employee Contracts For 1 Year, 1% Raise

The state's employee unions this week have reached tentative deals with the state on new contracts.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44684

Meekhof Advices Schuette To Tone Down Rhetoric On House

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE told reporters last week he sees an "anti-cop sentiment" taking shape in the House-passed presumptive parole legislation and the Senate Majority Leader says the state's top cop's "over-the-top" rhetoric isn't wise.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44682

Can We Afford Even A Triggered Income Tax Cut?

House Appropriations Committee Chair Al PSCHOLKA (R-Stevensville) knows former Sen. Harry GAST agitated former Gov. John ENGLER a number of years ago when he pointed out that cutting the income tax creates a two-to three-year window of "budget tightness."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44691

Civil Rights Unveils 3 Finalists For Director Job

After selecting its candidates to interview for the civil rights director job, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC) has made their names public for the first time.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44687

House Approps Approves Increased Fines For Landfills

Inspired by an odor problem caused by a West Michigan landfill, a bill that would increase financial penalties on solid waste facilities advanced to the House floor today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44692

State Jobless Rate Dips Below U.S. Rate, First Time Since 2000

The state's unemployment rate for September ticked down a tenth of a percentage point to 5 percent, putting it below the national rate for the first time since 2000.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44690

No Promises On State Revenue From Legalized Sports Betting

The idea of legalized sports betting got a committee hearing this afternoon in the House. And while there was no opposition voiced, there were also no promises on how much the state could actually gain

from the proposition.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44684

Gamrat Holding Fundraiser In Courser's District

Former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT is hosting a bowling alley fundraiser this Sunday in the home district of the former House member with whom she had the scandalous affair that sparked the investigation into her expulsion.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44685

Senate Approps Considers Success Of Boilerplate Program Metrics

The Senate Appropriations Committee today embarked on a new mission to discuss the overall success of performance metrics for boilerplate programs funded at or above $500,000 in the state budget.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44686

Michigan Senate Opposes Iran Deal In Partisan Vote

The Senate today voted out a resolution urging Congress to reject the nuclear agreement President Barack OBAMA and his administration reached with Iran over the protests of all but one Democrat.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44680

Talbot Tapped For Full Term As Chief Appellate Judge

Court of Appeals Judge Michael J. TALBOT was reappointed today as the chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals for a two-year term starting Jan. 1, 2016.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44681

Bits And Tidbits

Calley Honored For Encouraging Hire Of More State Workers With Disabilities

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44694

Attention MIRS Subscribers

In the Oct. 13, 2015, edition, as part of "Bits And Tidbits," it should be noted that Stephanie A. WHITE was named executive director for Equality Michigan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44690

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 14, 1922, at a national airplane meet at Selfridge Field (Mount Clemens), Lt. Lester James MAITLAND flew an airplane over 200 miles per hour for the first time in aviation history.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#44696

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4691#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
(CANCELLED) Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**
Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
11:00 AM
Annual 2015 Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champions Award Ceremony(Sponsored by Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services)
Location:
Contact: Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394
wheatonb@michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
7:00 PM
Hailing a Solution to Ridesharing in Michigan(Sponsored by Generation Opportunity)
Guest Speakers: State Rep. Brandt Iden, Mike Van Beek, Carla Jacobs, Dr. Ross Emmett
Location: James Madison College Library, 3rd Floor of Case Hall, 842 Chestnut Road, East Lansing, MI 48825
Contact: Kevin Gardner 517-375-9029
KGardner@genopp.org

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Ken Horn October Office Hours
Location: Fenton Township Office, First Floor Conference Room
Contact: Sen. Horn Staff 517-373-1760
senkhorn@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence Birthday Celebration(Sponsored by Brenda Lawrence for Congress)
Location: Tom O\'Shanter Country Club, 5051 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48037
Contact: RSVP to Shannon Salk at 248-262-7502 - OR - by email
ShannonMSalk@gmail.com

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
7:00 PM
50TH Anniversary NEH/NEA Celebration(Sponsored by Michigan Humanities Council)
Guest Speakers: Multiple
Location: The Wharton Center, Cobb Hall Theatre
Contact: For more information visit the website
go.cal.msu.edu/nehnea

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2015
11:30 AM
Michigan House Democrats Brunch Reception
Guest Speakers: Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and former Congressman John Dingell
Location: Home of Renee & John Greden
events@mihousedems.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
8:00 AM
Senate Republican Caucus Fall Fundraiser
Location: Governors Room
Contact: Dawn Blakslee 517-371-2006
srcc@misrcc.com

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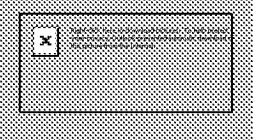

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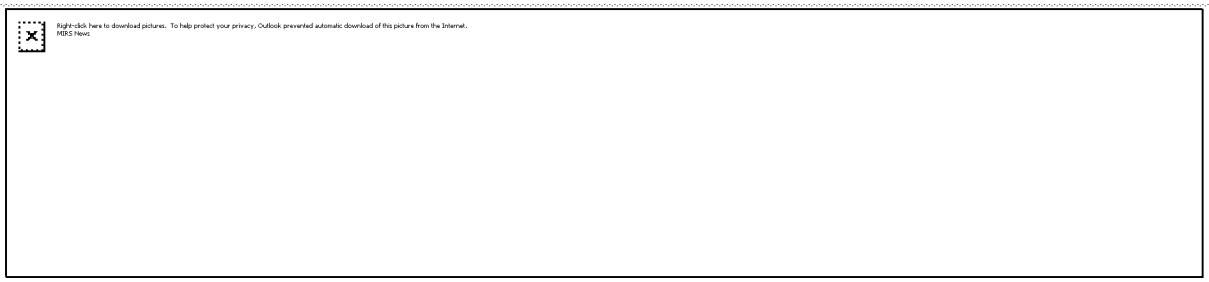
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 6:37 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder backs presumptive parole proposal as AG Bill Schuette leads opposition

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder has long supported "smart justice" but came out specifically in favor of presumptive parole legislation this week, something Attorney General Bill Schuette has been leading the charge against."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/presumptive_parole_gets_a_boos.html#incart_river*

Michigan road funding talks postponed as lawmakers 'cool off' after latest setback

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leaders postponed a scheduled road funding meeting on Wednesday, a day after confirming that bipartisan negotiations had reached an impasse."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_road_funding_talks_po.html#incart_river*

Michigan House OKs $9.35M for Flint water switch, crisis response

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House on Wednesday unanimously approved a $9.35 million spending plan to help Flint switch water sources and address a public health crisis fueled by contaminated drinking water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_oks_935m_for_fl.html#incart_river*

Flint's $2 million share for Detroit water reconnection a done deal

"FLINT, MI – The city of Flint has locked into spending $2 million for a temporary connection to the Detroit water system after approval of a budget amendment Wednesday, Oct. 14, by Flint's Receivership Transition Advisory Board."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_oversight_board_makes_fl.html#incart_river_home*

Right to Life sits out Gamrat, Courser GOP primaries

"Right to Life of Michigan is sitting on the sidelines of the Nov. 3 special primary elections for the Michigan House seats left vacant by the departures of former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/15/right-life-sits-gamrat-courser-gop-primaries/73967146/*

Howes: Roads impasse 'embarrassing' for leaders, GOP

"In Michigan's long-running roads saga, Detroit Democrat Harvey Santana nails it: "People are really starting to look at this Legislature in a negative way because of this issue. It's just embarrassing at this point.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/10/14/howes-roads-impasse-just-embarrassing-leadership-gop/73969784/*

House OKs $9.3M for Flint water switch

"Lansing — The House late Wednesday voted to allocate about $9.3 million in state funding to address Flint's drinking water crisis, including $6 million needed to help reconnect the city to a Detroit system through June."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/house-oks-flint-water-switch/73969886/*

Fed corruption probe targets DPS, EAA officials

"The FBI has launched a corruption investigation involving Gov. Rick Snyder's K-12 reform district and Detroit Public Schools, the latest blemish for districts struggling with low test scores, falling enrollment and funding shortfalls."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/dps-eaa-probe/73967136/

House OKs bill shielding youth who report drug overdoses

"LANSING — People under age 21 could avoid prescription drug-related criminal charges when reporting a medical emergency under legislation advancing in Michigan."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-bill-prescription-drug-overdose/73959086/

Dingell, Conyers urge U.S. to help Yemeni civilians

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Reps. Debbie Dingell and John Conyers were among a group of House members who sent a letter to President Barack Obama on Wednesday urging his administration to work with American allies to limit civilian casualties in Yemen and find a diplomatic solution to the conflict."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/14/dingell-conyers-urge-us-help-yemeni-civilians/73945236/

State jobless rate below national average

"Michigan's economic recovery reached a new high after the unemployment rate in September bested the nation's average for the first time in 15 years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-unemployment-falls-below-national-average/73933978/

Road funding talks enter 'cooling off' phase

"LANSING — After a brief flurry of blame and recriminations when discussions hit an impasse Tuesday, legislative leaders from both parties declared a "cooling off period" in road funding talks Wednesday and expressed confidence a $1.2-billion deal is still within reach."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/14/road-funding-talks-enter-cooling-off-phase/73935602/

Michigan House OKs $9.35M to aid in Flint water crisis

"The state House of Representatives upped the ante on helping Flint pay for solving its water crisis, approving $9.35 million for the beleaguered city."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-house-oks-915m-aid-flint-water-crisis/73932980/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Snyder, Schuette must act now to take oil out of Straits pipeline

"Gov. Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette must act immediately on their legal duty to shut down the oil flowing through the Enbridge Line 5 pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac just west of the Mackinac Bridge."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_schuette_must_act_now_t.html#incart_river*

Gamrat's campaign takes its cue from Kardashians

"Cindy Gamrat's having a fundraiser in Lapeer at a bowling alley next week – in the heart of Todd Courser's once-and-he-hopes-future district, more than a hundred miles from her own."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2015/10/14/gamrats-campaign-takes-cue-kardashians/73967114/*

Cops Retiring in Their 40s While Pension Systems Break Cities' Backs

"A husband and wife who were both Ann Arbor police officers retired within a year of each other. The husband, a lieutenant, retired in 2009 at age 46. His wife, whose job title was telecommunicator, started collecting pension checks in 2010 at age 51."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21822*

Press Releases

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Statement on House Passage of Flint

Water Fix Funding

"LANSING — Following today's House passage of resources that help address the public health crisis in Flint and that appropriates $9.3 million to return the city of Flint to Detroit water, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) issued the following statement: "

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444872340_ananich.pdf

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Former Congressman Bentivolio Nears End of Trek to DC for Vets' Rights

"(Closing in on D.C.) - Former U.S. Representative and decorated Army Sergeant First Class Kerry Bentivolio is coming to the end of the road in a month long journey for justice for his fellow veterans. The 64 year old Congressman and veteran of two wars, Vietnam and Operation Iraqi Freedom departed his home in Milford, MI on the morning of Friday, September 18 and began walking and biking to Washington, D.C."

Source: *Congressman Kerry Bentivolio* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444868588_kerry.pdf

House unanimously approves Rep. Pscholka's 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

"The Michigan House today approved House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville to safeguard individuals under 21 years of age against drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444863693_psci.pdf

Paul Pressler: "Get Behind Ted Cruz for President"

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Today, the Cruz for President released an endorsement video from Judge Paul Pressler, a longtime conservative and evangelical leader and activist."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444860790_cruz.pdf

Sen. Colbeck voices opposition to Iran Deal

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, voiced opposition to Barack Obama's Iran Deal on the Senate flooron Wednesday."*

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444857038_colbeck.pdf

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JEB BUSH, JR. TO VISIT NEW YORK TOMORROW

*"**Miami, FL –** Tomorrow, Jeb Bush Jr. will visit New York. In the morning, he will attend the Hispanic Heritage Month Fiesta at Westchester Community College. Later in the afternoon, he will attend a College Republicans event at New York University."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856329_bush.pdf

Green: Concealed carry legislation moves before full Senate

*"**LANSING, Mich.** —The Senate Committee on Judiciary on Tuesday approved Senate Bill 442 in a 4-1 vote. Sponsored bySen. Mike Green, this legislation would allow individuals holding a valid Concealed Pistol License (CPL) to carry a concealed pistol in pistol free zones (PFZs)."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856179_green.pdf

Michigan United Convention 2015

"DETROIT- Michigan United held its annual statewide convention Saturday in Southwest Detroit. The theatre across from St. Francis D'Assisi church was filled to the rafters with immigrants, faith leaders and union members from the UAW, SEIU, Teamsters and the Michigan Nurses Association. There was also a strong contingent from the Detroit Area Commonwealth, low-income and homeless people fighting for their right to live with dignity. "No one else is working to build a statewide multi-racial organization like ours." said Freddy Polanco, SEIU organizer and Michigan United board member. "No one else is taking on the toughest issues of poverty, racism, and inequality head on. I am so proud to be part of this team.""

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856044_united.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Elaine Didier, of Plymouth, and the reappointment of Judith Houser, of Waterford, to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444855986_snyder.pdf

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Honorable James M. Biernat, Jr., Reappointed Chief Judge

"The Michigan Supreme Court reappointed Judge James M. Biernat, Jr. as Chief Judge of the 16th Circuit, Macomb Probate and 42nd District Courts today, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2015-01. His appointment is effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017."

Source: *Macomb County Probate Court* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444855891_macomb.pdf

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Precision Metalforming Association, MIOSHA Renew Alliance to Advance Workplace Safety

*"**October 14, 2015 –** The East and West Michigan Districts of the Precision Metalforming Association (PMA), a trade association representing the metalforming industry, renewed its formal alliance with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) today to help protect Michigan workers. The MIOSHA program is a part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444854205_lara.pdf

MRP Chairman statement on unemployment rate

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 14, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement regarding Michigan's September unemployment rate of 5 percent, the first time in 15 years the state's unemployment rate is below the national rate."*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444853593_mrp.pdf

Reps. Dingell, Ellison & Lieu Lead Letter to President Obama Expressing Concern over Growing Civilia

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Today, Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12), Keith Ellison (MN-05), Ted Lieu (CA-33), and 10 additional Members of Congress sent a letter to President Obama urging greater efforts to avoid civilian casualties in Yemen and achieve a diplomatic solution to the conflict. Last week, airstrikes conducted by a Saudi Arabia-led coalition struck a wedding reception in Sanban village, killing at least 23 Yemini civilians. The attack comes just over a week after an even deadlier attack on a wedding party in Wahijah village, which killed at least 131 people."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851972_dingell.pdf

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Three Sparrow Medical Group practices earn statewide recognition for quality care in diabetes

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Medical Group (SMG) DeWitt, SMG Holt, and SMG St. Johns received awards for having among the top diabetes care in the state at the recent Michigan Primary Care Transformation (MiPCT) Project Summit."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851863_sparrow.pdf

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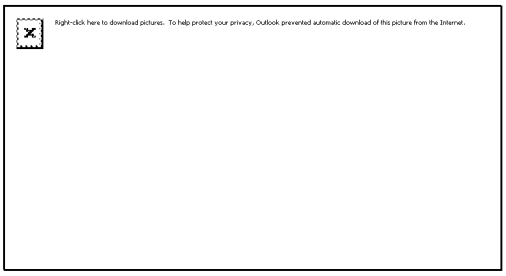
MEDA's The Fall Economic Development Toolbox is Open for Registration

"

Please join us for a day full of

- *Motivation*
- *Case Studies on Crowdfunding, Placemaking and Trade Missions*
- *Ideas on Using Local Resources, Working with Higher Education*
- *Training on Working with Entrepreneurs, Using the Right Marketing Tools, Make the Most of your Time Spent on RFP's*



"

Source: *Michigan Economic Developers Association* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851665_meda.pdf

USDA Announces $5.8 Million to Support Rural Cooperatives

*"**WASHINGTON, Oct. 14, 2015** –Agriculture Under Secretary Lisa Mensah today awarded 30 grants totaling $5.8 million to help rural cooperatives create jobs and support business expansion. The funds are being provided through the Rural Cooperative Development Grant program, which helps fund non-profit groups, such as rural cooperative development centers and higher education institutions."*

Source: *USDA* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848479_usda.pdf*

Michigan Trails Advisory Council to meet Oct. 21 in Roscommon

"The Michigan Trails Advisory Council will hold its next regular meeting Wednesday, Oct. 21, at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, 104 Conservation Drive in Roscommon, Michigan. The public meeting will begin at 10 a.m."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848426_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Unemployment rate drop reflects success as Michigan continues looking forward

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement after the announcement that Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September fell to 5.0 percent – which is below the national average of 5.1 percent. This is the first time Michigan has been below the national average since August 2000."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848367_gov.pdf

Michigan's September Unemployment Rate Declines

"Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September edged downward over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.0 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment increased in September by 10,000 as the number of unemployed decreased by 7,000. The state's workforce rose slightly by 3,000 over the month."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14448548310_dtmb.pdf

Senate approves Zorn's firefighter certification bill

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved Sen. Dale Zorn's legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan."*

Source: *Senator Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14448443625_dz.pdf

Statewide disability hiring successes touted during Investing in Abilities Month

"LANSING, Mich. – Michiganders who work to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities and individuals with disabilities were honored today with Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champion Awards.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14448443221_dhs.pdf

Chief Judges Appointed to Michigan Circuit, Probate, District, and Municipal Courts

"LANSING, MI, October 14, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court today announced the appointment of chief judges for circuit, probate, district, and municipal courts statewide. With the appointment of 50 multicourt chief judges, the number of single court chief judges appointed to lead trial courts has been cut by two-thirds since 2010 (see table below).

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842893_courts.pdf

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Horn announces October office hours in Fenton

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, announced that October office hours are scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

Source: *Senator Ken Horn* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842807_kh.pdf

ICYMI: Gov. Snyder backs evidence-based parole reform

"In case you missed it, this afternoon Gov. Rick Snyder endorsed House Bill 4138, evidence-based parole reform sponsored by Rep. Kurt Heise (R - Plymouth Twp). HB 4138 was reported 7-1 out of the House Criminal Justice Committee, and passed the full House with 67 votes, including majorities of the Republican and Democratic caucuses. "

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842609_grmw.pdf

Major stage change Thurs night 10-15 at I-96 and US-23 in Brighton

"On Thursday, October 15, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., there will be a double lane closure on eastbound I-96 at US-23. In addition, the ramp from southbound US-23 to eastbound I-96 will be closed, with traffic detoured to Grand River Avenue. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842309_mdot2.pdf

Progress Michigan on The Passing of Activist & Educator Bonnie Bucqueroux

"MICHIGAN — The passing of Bonnie Bucqueroux, an activist, journalist and Michigan State University educator, is a heavy loss for progressive activists and her former students around the state."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842270_pm.pdf

CVSC Meeting Cancelled

"

The October 19, 2015, meeting of the Crime Victim Services Commission has been cancelled by the Commission."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842215_cv.pdf

Casperson Update: Committee hearing that was to feature videoconference testimony cancelled

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — Sen. Tom Casperson expressed regret Wednesday that a hearing of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee that was to be held on Thursday has been cancelled."*

Source: *Senator Tom Casperson* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842127_tc.pdf

House Appropriations committee approves Rep. Pscholka bill to crack down on landfill odor violators

"The Michigan House Committee on Appropriations today approved House Bill 4783, legislation introduced by state Rep. Al Pscholka to increase penalties under waste management laws."

Source: *Steve Heikkinen* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840620_pscholka.pdf

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Citizens, Elected Officials Urge U.S. Senate Finance Committee to Commit to Corporate Tax Reform

"LANSING – Today, citizen's groups and Representative Henry Yanez hosted a press conference urging the U.S. Senate Finance Committee to close offshore tax loopholes and commit to ensuring that

corporations pay their fair share."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840563_engage.pdf

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Horn welcomes Saginaw area librarian to Capitol honoring 50 years of service

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Horn welcomes Saginaw area librarian to Capitol honoring 50 years of service ***LANSING, Mich.*** *— State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, welcomed Ruth Ann Reinert to the Capitol Tuesday to celebrate her 50 years of service to the Saginaw community. Reinert has served five decades in the Saginaw library system. Reinert currently serves as the head of Circulation Acquisition and Technological Services at Hoyt Library and was joined by friends and co-workers as her service was honored during Tuesday's session."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840517_hown.pdf

Upcoming double lane closure on NB I-75 in Monroe Co

"I-75, Monroe County This week, there will be an overnight double lane closure on northbound I-75 between Hurd Road and Nadeau Road for a bridge deck pour. The following is the schedule: - Thursday, October 15, double lane closure between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. the following morning - Friday, October 16, double lane closure between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m. the following morning. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840453_mdot.pdf

Ted Cruz's Official "Cruz Crew" Campaign App Tops 2016 Field

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** - The first official campaign app for a presidential candidate to launch this cycle, the "Cruz Crew" app, which is available on the Apple and Android stores, has been downloaded more than 15,000 times in the three months since it was launched, making it the most popular campaign app of 2016."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840400_cruz.pdf

Winning Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Bonus Drawing Ticket Bought in Gladwin County

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 14, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player has won $25,000 in the second*

Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle bonus drawing."

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840361_lottery.pdf

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Car trunk abortion investigation shows abortion industry scrutiny necessary

"On October 13, it was reported that long-time Michigan abortionist Michael Roth is under investigation for human tissue and medical equipment found in his vehicle in West Bloomfield."

Source: *Right to Life of Michigan* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444835348_richt.pdf

U.P. roadside parks set to close for season

*"**October 14, 2015 --** Most roadside parks operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in the Upper Peninsula will close for the season on Monday, Oct. 26. The two parks located in Keweenaw County will close on Monday, Oct. 19.*

"
Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444835285_mdot.pdf

Detroit casino third quarter and September revenues and wagering taxes reported

*"**Detroit** - Aggregate revenue for the three Detroit casinos rose 0.8 percent during the third quarter of 2015 compared with third quarter 2014 results. Year-to-date revenue increased 3.5 percent compared with the same period last year."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444831481_mgcb.pdf

2015 state Christmas tree to come from Wakefield

"LANSING – A 66-foot spruce from the western Upper Peninsula will travel to Lansing this month to become Michigan's 30th official Christmas tree. The tree, which was selected by staff from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, will arrive at the Capitol the morning ofSaturday, Oct. 31."

Source: *Department of Technology Management and Budget* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444831408_dtmb.pdf

DNR showcases cougars in two new displays in Luce County

"

Confirmed reports reach 31 in Michigan

Two cougar mounts recently provided to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources have attracted a lot of attention in Luce County this summer."
Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444831112_dnr.pdf

Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected Status

*"**DETROIT, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session **today, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444829275_dingell.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/13/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828772_courts.pdf

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South M-10 from W Grand Blvd through I-94 mid-day lane closures

"Travel Advisory for Detroit area --- for bridge work."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828674_mdot.pdf

MRP Chairman statement on first Democratic debate

"

> ***LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2015 –*** *Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Tuesday issued the following statement regarding the first Democratic presidential debate:*

"

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828593_mrp.pdf

Cruz Third in New Fox News Poll

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – A new Fox News poll shows Cruz continues to move up in national surveys and has taken sole position of third place behind Donald Trump and Ben Carson. Cruz comes in at 10% in the Fox News poll, affirming results from this week's CBS poll, which also had Cruz in third."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828481_cruz.pdf

CORRECTED Photo Advisory: Sen. Casperson welcomes Escanaba native Brian Swift to state Capitol

"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, welcomed Brian Swift, originally from Escanaba, to the state Capitol last week to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee."

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828319_casperson.pdf

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Sen. Jim Ananich responds to road funding negotiations

"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) issued the following statement about how road funding negotiations in the Michigan Legislature reached an impasse Tuesday:"

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828252_ananich.pdf

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Speaker Cotter on presumptive parole

"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement on House Bill 4138, also known as 'presumptive parole:' "Presumptive parole is a responsible way to reform our broken prison system and protect the rights and safety of Michigan residents. Contrary to many reports, the proposed bill simply requires parole boards to give a compelling reason to deny parole when prisoners with a high probability of success have completed their minimum sentence. "The process is even simplified for parole boards by filtering out prisoners who don't have a high enough probability of success, including repeat offenders and prisoners who face additional charges. Any parole board willing to deny a man his freedom and keep him locked up beyond the court-ordered sentence ought to at least have a reason for doing so.""

Source: *Rep. Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *10-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828093_cotter.pdf

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Jones bill to ban powdered alcohol heading to the governor

"<sp

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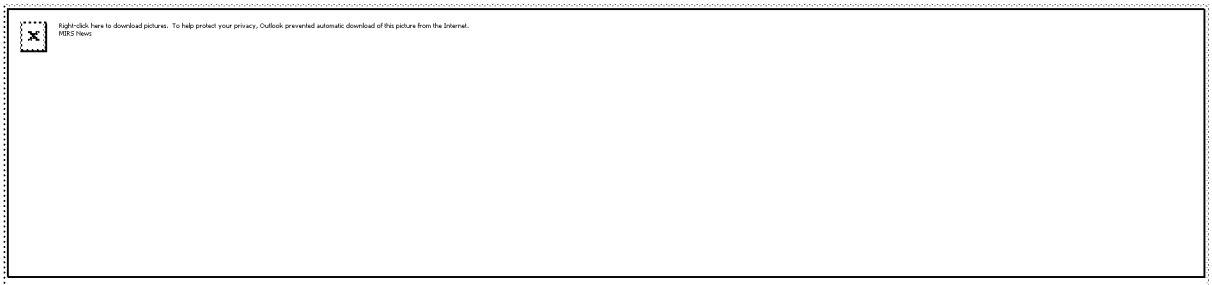
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 11:25 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 15, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 15, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/854

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/853

PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Republicans Find The Votes For 3rd-Grade Reading Bill

Once labeled a bipartisan proposal, a bill to improve reading scores in Michigan schools quickly became partisan this week. But it still made through the House today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44711

Presumptive Parole Blows Up In Senate GOP Caucus

It turns out Senate Republicans spent comparatively little time on the road fix impasse during a closed-door caucus Wednesday, but a bunch of time on the House-passed presumptive parole bill.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44709

Reports Surface Of FBI Investigation Former EAA, DPS Official

At least one official tied to the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) is the subject of an FBI investigation that has been ongoing, but was recently unveiled in the Detroit media this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44706

Some House R's Frustrated With Schuette Over Response To Parole Bill

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44713

First Abortion-Related Bills Sent To Senate Oversight Committee

The newly formed Senate Oversight Committee now has two bills on its docket: legislation from Sen. Phil PAVLOV (R-St. Clair) to codify a ban on compensation for transfers of fetal tissue donations from abortions.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44710

Ed Evaluation Reforms Win Big In House

A long-awaited proposal to set standards for how teachers are evaluated easily passed the House this afternoon.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44712

Snyder Signs Funding Bill For Flint Water Switch

Hours after the Senate unanimously sent along legislation to put up half of the $12 million price tag to switch the city of Flint back to Detroit's water system, Gov. Rick SNYDER signed it.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44707

Gov's Detroit School Bills Coming Soon

Perhaps as early as next week, lawmakers may get a look at Gov. Rick SNYDER's finalized plan to eliminate the Detroit Public Schools (DPS) roughly $500 million debt while revamping the city's public school structure.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44702

New Bill Would Mandate Nurse Staff Ratio

New legislation would mandate the number of nurses hospitals schedule on a given shift as a way to curb what some nurses say is a widespread understaffing problem.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4692#44700

SFA: Sept. Revenues Up $30.8M; Still Down $92.8M For Year

The Senate Fiscal Agency (SFA) reported revenue collections earmarked to Michigan's General Fund (GF) and School Aid Fund (SAF) totaled $2.5 billion in September, a 4.6 percent increase from last September and approximately $30.8 million above expectations.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#44704

ABC To Supremes: Cities Don't Have Power To Set Contract Wages

A lawyer arguing to get rid of Lansing's prevailing wage ordinance and Michigan Supreme Court (MSC) Justice Richard BERNSTEIN went back and forth today over whether cities have the ability to set wages in their construction contracts.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#44703

Bits And Tidbits

Workforce Development Agency Leader Gets New Gig With Feds

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#44708

Gubernatorial Appointments

Gov. Rick SNYDER this week announced the following appointments:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#44701

On This Day In Michigan History

In 1913, John MITCHELL, U.S. Attorney General during the administration of President Richard NIXON, was born in Detroit. Because of his role in the Watergate conspiracy, break-in and attempted cover-up, Mitchell became the first U.S. Attorney General in history to serve a prison sentence.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#44705

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4692#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 326 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY JOINT WITH APPROPS SBCMTE ON STATE POLICE|Reps. Jacobsen and A Miller**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
10:30 AM - **Oversight and Ethics**
McBroom, Ed; Rm: 326 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
(CANCELLED) Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015
10:15 AM - **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT JOINT WITH TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE|**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: SUPERIOR ROOM, THE CISLER CENTER, CAMPUS OF LSSU, 650 W. EASTERDAY AVENUE, SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Ken Horn October Office Hours
Location: Fenton Township Office, First Floor Conference Room
Contact: Sen. Horn Staff 517-373-1760
senkhorn@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting
Location: Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Contact: Barbara Russell 517-482-9413
mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
7:00 PM
50TH Anniversary NEH/NEA Celebration(Sponsored by Michigan Humanities Council)
Guest Speakers: Multiple
Location: The Wharton Center, Cobb Hall Theatre

Contact: For more information visit the website
go.cal.msu.edu/nehnea

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2015
11:30 AM
Michigan House Democrats Brunch Reception
Guest Speakers: Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and former Congressman John Dingell
Location: Home of Renee & John Greden
events@mihousedems.com

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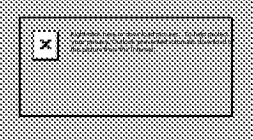

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Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 6:47 AM
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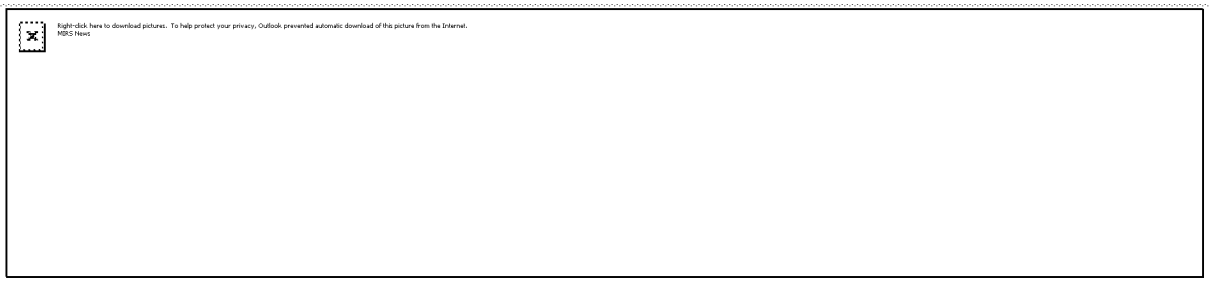

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Former President Bill Clinton to speak at Michigan State University in November

"LANSING, MI -- Former President Bill Clinton will speak at Michigan State University next month and receive the university's first Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/former_president_bill_clinton.html#incart_river*

Mandatory nursing levels would improve patient care, nurses say

"LANSING, MI -- Nurses and a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers gathered Thursday to announce legislation that would establish minimum nurse staffing levels and put a stop to mandatory overtime."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/mandatory_nursing_levels_would.html#incart_river*

Challenge accepted: Michigan Senators to debate road funding, fuel taxes in public forum

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Sen. Curtis Hertel has accepted a public challenge from Sen. Patrick Colbeck, who last week offered to debate \"any state elected official\" who believes it will be necessary to raise fuel taxes or fees to fix the state\'s crumbling roads."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/10/challenge_accepted_michigan_se.html#incart_river

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FBI probes state-run school reform district in Detroit after internal review

"DETROIT, MI -- The governor's office confirmed Thursday that the FBI is investigating the 15-school, state-run education reform district in Detroit, noting that it was an internal review that led to the probe."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/fbi_probes_state-run_school_re.html#incart_river

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Three takeaways from U.S. Sen. Gary Peters' Muskegon visit

"MUSKEGON, MI – U.S. Sen. Gary Peters stopped by the MLive Muskegon Chronicle office Thursday, Oct. 15 to field questions from editorial staff about pressing issues in Michigan, the county and abroad. "

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/10/three_takeaways_from_us_sen_ga.html#incart_river

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Former Detroit high school principal agrees to plead guilty amid EAA probe

"DETROIT, MI -- A former high school principal targeted in an FBI investigation of contracts and a possible kickback scheme at the state-run Education Achievement Authority revealed Thursday afternoon that she plans to plead guilty."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former_detroit_high_school_pri.html#incart_river

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Michigan House OKs 3rd grade reading bill to hold back struggling students, boost intervention

"LANSING, MI — Struggling readers would receive extra and early attention in school but could be held back a year under controversial legislation approved Thursday by the Michigan House."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_approves_3rd_gr.html#incart_river

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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs spending bill with $9.35M for Flint water crisis

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Thursday signed a supplemental spending bill that includes

$9.35 million to address a public health crisis in Flint linked to high lead levels in drinking water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_signs_9.html#incart_river*

Teacher evaluation proposal sails through Michigan House after 'huge improvements'

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House on Thursday approved long-debated legislation that would change state requirements for the way school districts measure teacher effectiveness, sending the modified measure back to the Senate for additional consideration."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher_evaluation_proposal_sa.html#incart_river*

How Michigan helped map path to the Internet

"Back in the Wild West era of computing, Michigan played a crucial role in developing what became the Internet — that all-encompassing link that brings us entertainment, social engagement and a world marketplace. It was 1988, when a disorganized patchwork quilt of computer networks were struggling to communicate."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/14/internet-michigan-nsfnet-douglas-van-houweling-university-michigan-merit/73959878/*

House OKs holding back third-graders behind in reading

"Lansing — Michigan third-graders could not advance to the fourth grade if they lag behind on state reading tests, unless they qualify for an exemption, under literacy legislation the House narrowly approved Thursday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/house-hold-back-third-graders-behind-reading/74023016/*

EAA blasts ex-principal's 'betrayal of trust'

"Detroit — A spokesman for the Education Achievement Authority called a former Mumford High School principal's admission Thursday that she pocketed $58,000 in bribes and evaded taxes a "betrayal of trust.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/15/eaa-blasts-ex-principals-betrayal-trust/74019038/*

Michigan state employees would see raises under deals

"LANSING — Nearly 33,000 state employees are expected to vote in the coming weeks on new contracts that would give them pay raises and freeze their health care costs and benefits."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/michigan-state-employees-would-see-raises-under-deals/73977944/*

House OKs bill to hold back struggling third graders

"The Michigan House today approved a controversial bill that would require students to repeat the third-grade if they're not proficient readers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/teacher-evaluation-michigan-house-third-grade-reading-retention/73928536/*

Road deal: There may still be hope

"LANSING — After a brief flurry of blame and recriminations when discussions hit an impasse Tuesday, legislative leaders from both parties declared a "cooling-off period" in road funding talks Wednesday and expressed confidence a $1.2-billion deal is still within reach."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/14/road-funding-talks-enter-cooling-off-phase/73935602/*

Bill Clinton to speak at MSU next month

"Former President Bill Clinton will be on Michigan State University's campus next month as the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/bill-clinton-speak-michigan-state-university/73990298/*

Senate approves, Snyder signs cash for Flint water fix

"LANSING — Residents of Flint got another step closer to cleaner water Thursday when Gov. Rick Snyder signed a bill sending $9.35 million to help the beleaguered city reconnect to the Detroit water and

sewer system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/senate-gives-quick-unanimous-approval-flint-water-fix/73979168/

Concerns raised about ability to stop Asian carp

"WASHINGTON — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service again confirmed Thursday that small fish may be pulled along by barges going past electrical barriers, reigniting concerns that young Asian carp could be transported into the Great Lakes despite the barriers intended to keep them from migrating north out of Chicago waterways."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/concerns-raised-ability-stop-asian-carp/74002476/

Legal fight could mean longer lines to renew licenses

"GRAND RAPIDS — Michigan drivers could be forced to wait in much-longer lines at Secretary of State branch offices to renew driver's licenses because of a legal fight between the agency and the contractor who built its SOS Express website, the state warned in a court filing that asks a judge to order the contractor back to work."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/16/legal-fight-could-mean-longer-lines-renew-licenses/73994422/

Advocacy/Opinion

The right recipe for transforming Michigan public education

"My friend state Rep. Tim Kelly is right: Dramatic transformation of education is necessary to make Michigan a top education state again. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/the_right_recipe_for_transform.html#incart_river

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Lennox: Presidential politics hangs over Mich. gov race

"The battle for the GOP presidential nomination is turning into a proxy war between Michigan's Republican factions in the nascent 2018 campaign to replace Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/15/lennox-presidential-politics-michigan-governor-race/74023666/*

Lott: Criminals target gun-free zones

"Would you post a sign announcing that your home is a gun-free zone? Would you feel safer? Criminals don't obey these signs. In fact, to criminals, gun-free zones look like easy targets."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/15/lott-gun-free-zones/74023454/*

Our Editorial: Doctors key in haltingpainkiller abuse

"Deaths from legal narcotics in Michigan have increased five-fold over the past 15 years, giving the fight against drug abuse a new twist. Gov. Rick Snyder is targeting the misuse of prescription medicine as part of his campaign to reform all aspects of criminal justice.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/15/editorial-doctors-painkiller-abuse/74023210/

State funding for Flint water is just a down payment

"Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law a measure giving more than $9 million to the City of Flint to fix its water, which has been poisoning its residents, especially its children, for more than year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/15/state-funding-flint-water-down-payment/73977446/*

JACK SPENCER: The road to losing is paved with missed opportunities

"

What's worse; mismanaging information or failing to take advantage of it due to not recognizing its potential value? Voters can't be blamed for leaning one way or another regarding various issues if those who represent opposing views don't offer their best arguments.

"

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/10/15/jack-spencer-the-road-to-losing-is-paved-with-missed-opportunities/

Two-Thirds of Detroit Students 'Chronically Absent'

"Despite a new attendance policy that could see truant students and their parents actually prosecuted in court, more than two-thirds of the students enrolled in the Detroit school district are still classified as "chronically absent." This is defined by the state as missing more than 10 school days in a year."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21824*

Ballot Proposals, Big Labor's Bark, and PO Boxes

"

Fall brings back familiar sights, sounds and smells of autumn in Michigan — the distinct, crisp air flavored with the aroma of burning leaves; the beauty of a fall color tour alongside Michigan's roadways; and the noise of leaf blowers showing the season who's the boss of our lawns."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21762*

Press Releases

Oakland County Democratic Legislators Vote No on Harmful Third-Grade Reading Bill

"LANSING — A bill that would mandate retention without parental consent of third graders who have trouble reading passed the Michigan House of Representatives today, with legislators from Oakland County voting no because the legislation would be harmful to children, and take away local control without providing enough resources to local districts."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942787_dem.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed bipartisan legislation that will direct funding to the City of Flint's emergency water services to reconnect the city's water supply to the Great Lakes Water Authority until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942736_gov.pdf

Detroit Democratic Caucus Votes No on Third-Grade Reading Bill

"LANSING — A bill meant to deal with the issue of third-grade reading was on the floor of the Michigan House of Representatives today, with legislators from the Detroit Caucus voting no due to a retention component of the legislation. Among the provisions of House Bill 4822, one of the most controversial is the mandate that would effectively hold back third-grade students who tested poorly in reading. "

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942356_dem.pdf

Rep. Price's third-grade reading proficiency legislation approved by House

"LANSING – Landmark third-grade reading proficiency legislation to help strengthen the educational development of all Michigan children was approved by the full House today."

Source: *Rep. Amanda Price* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940157_ap.pdf

Marco starts Fourth Quarter with $11 million on hand

"Thanks to smart budgeting and fiscal discipline, Marco Rubio for President started October with more money in the bank than Jeb Bush for President and most other campaigns."

Source: *Marco Rubio* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940106_mr.pdf

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich calls for answers in Flint water crisis

"LANSING, Michigan — Today the Michigan Senate unanimously approved House Bill 4102 that provides $9.35 million to reconnect the City of Flint's water supply to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), and that supports related testing, remediation and public health programs in the wake of the water crisis. "

Source: *Senator Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940064_ja.pdf

Senate approves Jones bill to fight Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan deer

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones' bill that would allow state officials to take steps to address the ongoing problem of Chronic Wasting Disease was approved unanimously on Thursday by the Michigan Senate."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940003_RJ2.pdf

DNR seeks photos for 'Ask the DNR' programs showcasing the Upper Peninsula

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking recent photos from the public to show during broadcasts of "Ask the DNR" – a live, hourlong call-in show produced five times a year and broadcast on WNMU-TV13 from Marquette."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937823_dnr3.pdf

Mason Optimist Club Honors Attorney Gary Rogers as 2015 Volunteer of the Year

*"**Lansing, MI** – The Mason Optimist Club has selected Fraser Trebilcock attorney Gary C. Rogers as its 2015 Volunteer of the Year. The honor is given in recognition of the generous and enthusiastic contributions to the overall well-being of youth in the Mason community. "*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937619_ft2.pdf

MDTC Honors Attorney Graham Crabtree as 2015 Volunteer of the Year

*"**Lansing, MI** – Fraser Trebilcock attorney Graham K. Crabtree has been selected as the 2015 Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (MDTC) Volunteer of the Year. The honor is given in recognition of his generous and enthusiastic contributions to the overall goals and mission of the MDTC. "*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937341_ft.pdf

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons Achievement Honor Roll Awards to be Presented

*"**October 15, 2015** - The Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) will present its annual Achievement Honor Roll Awards to BSBP consumers who are exemplary in achieving their goals for employment and/or independent living after vision loss; community partners recognized for their collaboration with the BSBP in increasing opportunities for people who are blind or visually impaired to achieve independence and/or employment; and employers who have shown leadership*

in hiring people who are blind or visually impaired based on their abilities."

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937215_lara.pdf*

Specialty Crop Grant Awards Announced to Boost Michigan's Food and Agriculture Industry

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan has received $1.9 million in federal dollars to create, enhance, or expand specialty crop agriculture development ventures across the state. The grants will further expand the marketing, research and education of these vital crops to our state's economy.
"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937172_mdard.pdf

The Clock is Ticking

*"Lansing— In just six months, nine coal-fired power plants serving more than a million people will go cold and dark in Michigan because of old age and environmental standards – helping to create a 1.3GW capacity shortfall. Today, Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future launched a "Countdown Clock" ticking down the months, hours, minutes and seconds until that happens at*http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16114*."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444936676_tr.pdf

Rep. Hughes hosts school bus safety news conference on Friday

"LANSING – Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, will host a news conference on enhanced school bus safety measures at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, in the in the Ravenna Public Schools' transportation building, located at 2830 South Ravenna Road in Ravenna."

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933721_hughes.pdf

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Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn accepts U.S. Department of Labor regional admi

*"**October 15, 2015** – Michigan Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn is resigning from her position to become regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training."*

Source: *Michigan Talent Investment Agency* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933673_tia.pdf

Washington Post: Ted Cruz to report $13.5 million cash on hand — at or near the top of the GOP field

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – The Washington Post's Katie Zezima and Tom Hamburger write that Cruz may have more money than any other GOP presidential candidate in the race, spending only 14 percent on non-fundraising operations. Along with donor lists, the use of text messages and direct mail, the campaign has "built a formidable two-pronged fundraising system designed to provide funds through a long campaign," showing Cruz's ability to be competitive in the early primary states and beyond for the long haul to win the nomination. "*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933610_cruz.pdf*

Community Dispute Resolution Program Celebrates 25 Years of Service

"LANSING, MI, October 15, 2015 – As Michiganders mark National Conflict Resolution Day, the Michigan Supreme Court is commending an initiative that has helped resolve conflicts around Michigan for a quarter century. During the month of October, the MSC's Office of Dispute Resolution is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Community Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) – 18 local centers statewide that provide mediation and dispute resolution services to more than 30,000 Michigan residents each year."

Source: *Michigan Courts* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933560_courts.pdf

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Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus: Women Need Equal Pay Now

"LANSING — In the six months since the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus has introduced a plan to make equal pay the law in Michigan, the average full-time working Michigan woman has lost about $6,369 in wages compared to the earnings of the average full-time working man in Michigan. While the Republicans who lead the Michigan House of Representatives continue to deny these bills a hearing, Michigan women are paying the price."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930676_dem.pdf

Tonight, UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

*"**Oct. 15, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. –** Tonight, at UM-Ann Arbor, students will host a screening and panel discussion at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930570_um.pdf

Monday is the Deadline for Reservations to the 2015 Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Awards Dinner

"Lansing, MI—Ten outstanding women were chosen from over 100 nominations to be inducted into the 32nd class of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. The induction will take place at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Awards Dinner & Induction Ceremony on Thursday October 29, 2015 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center (55 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing). The ceremony begins with a reception at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., and the awards presentation at 7 p.m. We gratefully acknowledge the support of our 2015 Platinum Sponsors for this event: Ilitch Holdings, Inc., Message Makers, and UNITE HERE. Reservations are $150 per person and include a one-year membership or $135 for members and can be made on our website, www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org, or by calling (517) 484-1880 x203. Reservations must be made by Monday, October 19."

Source: *Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930476_women.pdf

Jones' court e-filing bill approved by Senate

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to develop and implement a statewide e-filing system to make Michigan's courts more cost efficient and easier for residents."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927995_rj.pdf

Michigan Issues Update on Regional Managed Care Health Plans

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today announced an update to the recommended Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs) in Region 7 for Michigan's Comprehensive Health Plan contract. The MHPs were initially announced on Tuesday based on approved scoring criteria. Since that time, MDHHS has identified and corrected scoring errors that change the award recommendations in Region 7 only.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927257_dhs2.pdf

Schuitmaker legislation would save court users time, money

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Legislation sponsored by state Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker that would establish a statewide electronic filing system for Michigan courts advanced out of the Senate Thursday."*

Source: *Senator Tonya Schuitmaker* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927168_ts.pdf

Successful year so far for all three Pure Michigan Hunt winners

"Every year, three lucky Pure Michigan Hunt winners get to live out their dreams by pursuing elk, bear, deer, turkey and ducks in Michigan's great outdoors."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927133_dnr.pdf

Cruz Campaign Names Sykes and Pilgrim to Lead Faith Outreach Efforts

"

***HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential Candidate Ted Cruz today announced that he is putting in place the talent and organizational structure to further energize the overwhelming support the campaign is receiving from Americans of faith. He has named two senior staff members to lead national faith outreach: E.C. Sykes as Executive Director of the Faith and Religious Liberties Coalition, and Lindy M. "Buddy" Pilgrim as National Director of the Faith and Religious Liberties Coalition. He has also named Sarah Erdos as Director of Faith Grassroots Outreach.*

"
Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927093_tedc.pdf

Progress Michigan to Schuette: Stop Offensive, Misleading Campaign Against Parole Reform

"

LANSING - Today Progress Michigan released the following statement condemning Attorney General Bill Schuette's offensive and misleading campaign against House Bill 4138, a parole reform bill that seeks to reform Michigan's prison system by allowing non-violent offenders a second shot at life.
"
Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926899_pm2.pdf

Sleep Out Helps Area Residents Warm their Homes this Winter

"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.-- Northern Michigan's cold winter season is just around the corner, which means hundreds of area families will face challenges making ends meet during the home heating season."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926862_tc3.pdf

Citizens for Fair Taxes Blast GOP Failure on Road Fix

"LANSING – Citizens for Fair Taxes blasted the Republican-controlled legislature today for their continued failure to move a plan to fix Michigan's roads and bridges and for their repeated demand that Michigan's families pay the costs while letting corporations off the hook. The failure of Republicans to move legislation that would address the state's crumbling infrastructure underscores the urgent need for the Fair Fix ballot proposal."

Source: *Citizens for Fair Taxes* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926803_cft.pdf

African American Conservatives Unite Behind Sen. Ted Cruz for President

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential Candidate U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced statewide leaders for the Cruz for President African-American coalition, including Elbert Guillory, Robin Armstrong, and Bishop Robert Smith as National Co-Chairs."*

Source: *Ted Cruz for President* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926772_tc2.pdf

I-75 north ramp to Ambassador bridge -RAMP closing Sun am for marathon race

"Clarification for I-75 north ramp to Ambassador Bridge -- For the Marathon Race Sunday am, the I-75 NORTH RAMP to Ambassador Bridge is closing Sunday from 3 am to 9 amonly. The I-75 south and I-96 east ramps will remain open to the Ambassador Bridge for access."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444922260_mdot.pdf

Peters Cosponsors Bill Increasing Veterans' Disability Benefits

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced that he is cosponsoring the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act, bipartisan legislation to authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to increase the amounts paid for veterans' disability compensation and other benefits by implementing the same cost-of-living adjustment that recipients of Social Security receive. Michigan is home*

to more than 650,000 veterans."

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444920861_peters.pdf

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Good Cyber Hygiene is Best Protection from Cybercriminals

*"**LANSING.** Already this year, Michigan residents and businesses have lost more than $20 million to cybercriminals, according to data from the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center. With the average loss per victim at $4,500, it's more important than ever to practice good cyber hygiene to safeguard your personal information while online."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919543_police.pdf

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Pass presumptive parole reform to save millions without threatening public safety

"Oakland Press: Pass presumptive parole reform to save millions without threatening public safety

By Barbara Levine, Special to Digital First Media

The Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) spends nearly $2 billion annually; more than $1.6 billion is spent directly operating prisons. If all this spending improved public safety it would be worth it. However, it does not. Taxpayers would be better served if a portion of this money was spent to create safer and healthier communities.
"

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919473_midwet.pdf

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BRIAN DEBANO DEPARTS MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

"LANSING, MI – Effective Thursday, October 15, Brian DeBano, president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA), will depart the Association to pursue new professional opportunities."

Source: *Michigan Restaurant Association* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919417_rest.pdf

Justice Viviano to introduce "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges"

*"**WHAT:** On Monday, Oct. 19, WMU-Cooley Law School, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) and the Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office will introduce a new resource for Michigan judges and members of the court interested in developing Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs). "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges" is a compilation of best practices to address the special circumstances of veterans confronted with non-violent criminal charges and is designed to serve as a blueprint for the further development of specialty courts for veterans. The Veterans Treatment Courts manual will serve as a tool for district and circuit court judges who do not operate a VTC, but wish to develop one in their jurisdiction. In 2013, the Michigan Legislature created a broad set of standards that allowed local courts to establish VTCs as alternatives for veterans accused of certain crimes. Currently, Michigan leads the nation with 22 VTCs. More information about Veterans Treatment Courts and the manual can be found at courts.mi.gov/vetcourts."*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14449193 46_west.pdf

MDOT Metro Detroit weekend construction 10/16-10/19/15

"MDOT Metro Detroit weekend construction 10/16-10/19/15"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-16-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14449165 46_mdot.pdf

Today is National Latino AIDS Awareness Day</

In order to read the MIRS Newsletter, you must have a username and password.

If you need a password or username to access our reports online at: http://mirsnews.com. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to info@mirsnews.com

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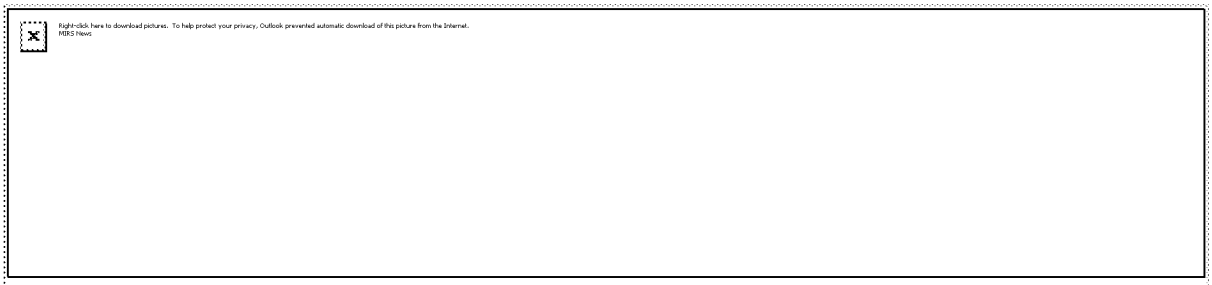
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 9:04 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 16, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 16, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46993

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php

SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

School Leaders: Wide Majority Of Supts Are Against Retention Policy

When the House voted this week in favor of a bill that holds back students who don't read at a certain level by the third grade, lawmakers did it despite immense opposition from school superintendents.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46993#44724

EPA Creates Task Force To Assist State, Flint With Water Switch

A federal agency has convened a task force to lend some "technical expertise" to both Flint and the state as the city moves to reconnect its water back to the Detroit supply.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46993#44720

School Adequately Responded To Threat Against Teacher, Supe Argues

Some of the first public testimony on a bill mandating expulsion for students who threaten to kill a teacher or school employee revolved around a teacher claiming her school district didn't do enough to

protect her when she faced that situation.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44723

State Agencies Combatting Invasive Species Take Less Hands-On Approach

As public awareness about invasive species in Michigan grows, state agencies looking to expand their ability to fight the threat are finding creative ways to do so under budgetary constraints.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44726

Gov Forms Special Ed Reform Team; Advocate Says Timing Right

With the creation of a team to continue work on special education reform, one member and advocate said this is the most optimistic she's been in years to see change.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44725

Supremes Want Appellate Court To Decide If MCCA Is Public Body

The Michigan Supreme Court kicked back to the appellate court today the case over whether the entity that pays the expenses of those catastrophically injured in car wrecks should open its records to the public.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44718

Dem Congressional Challengers Posting Competitive Numbers

The Democrats viewed as the most probable challengers to four Republican congressional incumbents posted notable third-quarter fundraising numbers by the end of Thursday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44719

Bishop A 'Big Fan' Of Paul Ryan

U.S. Rep. Mike BISHOP (R-Rochester) told the Lansing Rotary Club this afternoon he's "a big fan" of U.S. Rep. Paul RYAN (R-Wis.) as the latter continues to be pushed to become the next speaker of the U.S. House.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44717

MSC Issues Stay On Disclosure Of MSU Student-Athlete Names

ESPN may have won the last round in court in its quest for the names of hundreds of Michigan State University (MSU) athletes, but the sports network won't be reaping the fruits of its labor just yet.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4693#44722

Snyder Look-a-Like Visits Lansing

Former Michigan resident Andy Freeburn stepped off the plane from California last weekend en route to

a family church wedding when it hit him.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44714

Legislature Membership Score: MSU 32, U-M 21

Senate session ended Thursday with a hearty "Go Green" from Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake), who had given some other Spartan senators a heads up that the cheer was coming.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44715

Colbeck-Hertel Road Funding Debate Details Set

Last week, Sen. Patrick COLBECK (R-Canton) challenged any state legislator to debate him on why new revenue is needed to pay for the $1.2 billion more the Governor wants annually for roads. One state senator is taking Colbeck up on that challenge.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44716

Attention MIRS Subscribers

In the Oct. 15, 2015, edition, in the story "Gov's Detroit School Bills Coming Soon," it should be noted that Rep. Harvey SANTANA was speaking for himself when he spoke about the "kids who can rap Dr. Dre but can't read Dr. Seuss, and we socially promoted them along the way."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44721

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 16, 1997, the AFL-CIO endorsed East Lansing businessman Larry OWEN for governor nearly 10 months prior to the 1998 Democratic primary. Ten months later, fiery defense attorney Geoffrey FIEGER, of Southfield, won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44727

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 326 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM - **School Aid**

(CANCELLED)Kelly, Tim; Rm: 426 CB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY JOINT WITH APPROPS SBCMTE ON STATE POLICE|Reps. Jacobsen and A Miller**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
10:30 AM - **Oversight and Ethics**
McBroom, Ed; Rm: 326 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Agriculture**
Lauwers, Dan; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015
10:15 AM - **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT JOINT WITH TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE|**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: SUPERIOR ROOM, THE CISLER CENTER, CAMPUS OF LSSU, 650 W. EASTERDAY AVENUE, SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

Capitol Calendar Events

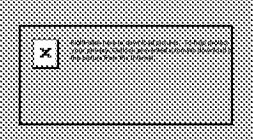
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
8:00 AM
Michigan Pancreatic Cancer Briefing(Sponsored by Celgene Corporation, Hosted by Pancreatic Cancer Action Network)
Guest Speakers: Megan Gordon Don - PCAN; Diane Simeone, M.D., U of M; Rosemary Ireland-Black, Pancreatic Cancer Survivor
Location: Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room, 124 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48909
Contact: RSVP by October 30, 2015 via email
advocacy@pancan.org

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting
Location: Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Contact: Barbara Russell 517-482-9413
mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hour
Location: Espresso Royale
Contact: Rep. Jeff Irwin Staff 517-373-2577
jeffirwin@house.mi.gov

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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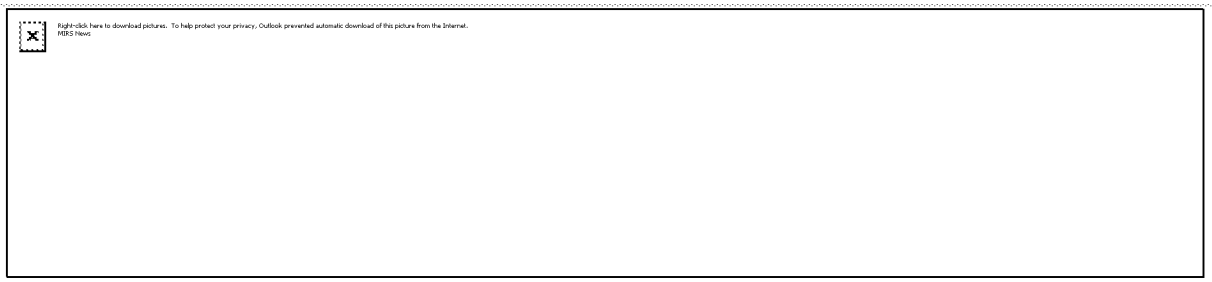
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2015 10:27 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Americans are expected to spend $6.9B on Halloween

"Los Angeles — A Batman bib-and-booties costume for $14.99 caught the eye of Joanna Robles as she searched for something for her months-old son to wear while she holds him as she hands out candy on Halloween."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/retail/2015/10/16/americans-expected-spend-halloween/74089980/*

FBI target in Detroit schools probe loses lawyer

"Detroit — Ex-Mumford High School Principal Kenyetta "K.C." Wilbourn, the target of an FBI corruption investigation, might have a plea deal, but she has lost the lawyer who negotiated it."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/15/eaa-blasts-ex-principals-betrayal-trust/74019038/*

Melissa Gilbert taps Hollywood stars for campaign cash

"Washington — Democratic House challenger and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert has raised $200,000 for her campaign against first-term Republican Rep. Mike Bishop — mostly by tapping high-powered stars for campaign cash."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/16/melissa-gilbert-taps-hollywood-stars-*

campaign-cash/74076750/

GOP opponents seek to quash Courser comeback

"Attica — Todd Courser is trying to make a special primary election next month a referendum on his eight months in the Michigan House of Representatives, while his Republican opponents say it's more about what Courser didn't do in office."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/16/gop-opponents-seek-quash-courser-comeback/74092470/

Flight from Texas to Germany delayed by bees

"GRAPEVINE, Texas — Some unusual travelers caused a delay for one American Airlines flight."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/17/flight-texas-germany-delayed-bees/74120100/

Canada warned of Ambassador Bridge problems in June

"The Canadian government agency with oversight of the Ambassador Bridge found "elements requiring repair" during an inspection in June."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/16/canada-officials-june-inspection-found-bridge-problems/74080592/

Waterspouts likely on Great Lakes; See when, where they may churn

"Waterspouts are likely on the Great Lakes today, October 16, 2015 and tomorrow."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/10/waterspouts_likely_on_great_la.html#incart_river_home

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300-pound bear, elk among trophies for winner of Pure Michigan hunting contest

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Saginaw County business owner and hunter Jason Eurich has been hunting for most of*

his life."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/300-pound_black_bear_bagged_by.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley to lead new task force for special education

"LANSING, MI -- A new Michigan task force on special education will recommend policy changes under the direction of Lt. Gov. Brian Calley."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_lt_gov_brian_calley_t_1.html#incart_river_home*

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43 Michigan hunters bag an elk during summer season

"Michigan's late summer season elk hunt is being deemed a success."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/43_michigan_hunters_bag_an_elk.html#incart_river_home*

Federal task force will advise Flint, Michigan DEQ on city water

"FLINT, MI -- The federal government isn't leaving the quality of Flint's drinking water up to the city or regulators with the state of Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/us_epa_task_force_will_advise.html#incart_story_package*

Flint reconnects to Detroit water, may take 3 weeks to clear all pipes

"FLINT, MI -- Water from Detroit is flowing into Flint again."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/flint_reconnecting_to_detroit.html#incart_river_home*

Paying for fetal tissue donations could be a crime in Michigan

"LANSING, MI -- It would be illegal to accept any compensation for donated fetal tissue under legislation proposed by Sen. Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair, this week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/bill_would_outlaw_taking_money.html#incart_story_package*

Political Points: Jeb Bush group plans first Michigan TV ads of 2016 presidential cycle

"LANSING, MI — Don't look now, but presidential television ads are just around the corner."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/political_points_jeb_bush_grou.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Bandow: America should charge for defending world

"Today the U.S. underwrites the defense of wealthy nations across the globe. Washington should stop using the Pentagon as a global welfare agency."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/16/bandow-america-charge-defending-world/74089390/*

Mitchell: We need leadership to solve road challenge

"We have all seen the struggles here in Michigan to find a solution to fix our roads. Late last year the legislature tried to pass the buck to voters by cobbling together the largest tax increase in Michigan in the last 50 years with much of the money generated earmarked for spending that had nothing to do with the roads. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/16/mitchell-leadership-road-funding/74089114/*

Sheehan: Parents, watch for signs of bullying

"As the excitement of back-to-school now slips into the day-to-day reality of scheduling, homework and afterschool activities, it's an important time to have a conversation with children about bullying, both to protect children from getting bullied, and prevent the bullying of others as well. October is National Bullying Prevention Month, and there are plenty of opportunities to engage children in the conversation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/16/sheehan-parents-watch-bullying/74089670/*

Look for the right solution to curb violent crime

"The media and your social media feed seems convincing: America is awash in unprecedented, senseless gun violence. But did you know that the rate of reported gun homicides in the U.S. has actually plummeted by about half since 1993? Pew Research Center analysis of government data shows the number of firearm homicide deaths in the U.S. has steadily fallen from a rate of seven deaths per 100,000 in 1993 to a rate of 3.6 in 2010."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/17/look-right-solution-curb-violent-crime/73995148/

Repealing prevailing wage a responsible decision

"As Michigan's recovery continues to move forward and our state grows stronger, it is important that the Legislature remain focused on continuing to facilitate that growth."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/16/repealing-prevailing-wage-responsible-decision/73886342/

We've seen what happens without a prevailing wage in Michigan

"Somehow in Michigan, the value of our state's long-standing and valuable prevailing wage law has been turned into a union versus business issue, and has been presented by some lawmakers as something that adds expenses to the ultimate cost of taxpayer-funded state and local construction projects."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/16/weve-seen-what-happens-without-prevailing-wage-michigan/73886856/

Avoid another Flint disaster, clean our waterways

"It's a shame for the people of Flint and their children, who, like all of us, deserve clean drinking water. But after all the finger-pointing and crying about the lack of foresight and concerns of saving money, no one came close to the root of the problem: pollution of our rivers and lakes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/17/avoid-another-flint-disaster-clean-waterways/74074096/

Tax Watchdog Highlights the Millions Some Receive in Pension Benefits

"It began as an idea to drive home for regular people the high cost of government pensions. It has become

an ongoing project in a growing number of communities."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21828*

New pills, better practices can combat Michigan's drug overdose epidemic

"Michigan families are burying loved ones who have died of a drug overdose more often than ever before. According to theMichigan Department of Community Health, 1,533 people lost their lives to a drug overdose in Michigan in 2013, an 18 percent spike over the previous year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/new_pills_better_practices_can.html#incart_story_package

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Susan J. Demas: Clinton's debate dominance reassures Democrats - for now

"Hillary Clinton has been on the defensive for most of her second presidential campaign. But her dominating performance at the first Democratic debate this week has reminded people why she's the presumptive nominee — and still the favorite to win the White House in 2016."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/clinton_debate_biden_sanders.html#incart_story_package

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Trade spat over food labels need not keep information from consumers

"European consumers were aghast several years ago when they learned that the "beef" they had been serving their families was actually horsemeat. Taking advantage of the lack of a labeling law, the meat had been imported, mislabeled and then sold in retail."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/trade_spat_over_food_labels_ne.html#incart_story_package

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Press Releases

House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel Praises Flint Water Rescue

*"LANSING — House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) applauded an emergency measure that will direct about $9.4 million in state funds to restore clean drinking water to families in Flint, take steps to help children who drank lead-contaminated water and ensure this situation does not happen again."*

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445028543_dem.pdf

M-134 is now a Pure Michigan Byway

*"**October 16, 2015** -- The Pure Michigan campaign hit the road today, as a 50-mile stretch of Upper Peninsula highway was officially designated the first new Pure Michigan Byway."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445027867_mdot.pdf

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Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Statement on Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force

"LANSING — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's creation of the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force: "The EPA plays an important role in managing Flint's crisis recovery. We should work closely with them and consider whether they may be able to offer additional support. "I also hope the EPA will be able to help us determine what happened and provide us with a solid oversight framework going forward. It's crucial that we take steps to ensure this never happens again.""

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445020190_ananich.pdf

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Ted Cruz to Host South Carolina Rally for Religious Liberty

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – The Cruz for President Campaign announced today that on November 14, Ted Cruz will host a Rally for Religious Liberty in Greenville, SC. The rally will call attention to recent acts of government-sanctioned religious persecution against Americans of faith, and in particular recent attacks against evangelical Christians. RSVP information for press who wish to cover the event is below. "*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445019126_cruz.pdf

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Zorn bill would expand EX-POW specialty license plate to motorcycles

*"**LANSING, Mich**. – Former prisoners of war (POWs) would be able to purchase a specialty license plate for their motorcycles if legislation introduced by Sen. Dale Zorn on Thursday becomes law."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445017232_zorn.pdf

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MSC Dispositive Orders: Bernstein, DPM v Seyburn Kahn Ginn Bess &

Serlin; & Coalition Protecting Asc

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued dispositive orders in the following two cases that were argued this week:

- *No. 149032, Bernstein, DPM v Seyburn Kahn Ginn Bess & Serlin*
  Find case background and related briefs here.

- *No. 150001, Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault v MI Catastrophic Claims Ass'n*
  Find case backgreound and related briefs here.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445016384_msc.pdf

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Wayne County Community College Administrators' Union Calls for Fair Contract Now

"DETROIT, MI — The members of the Professional & Administrative Association (P&AA), AFT Local 4467, at Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) have been working without a contract since June 30, 2015."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445015934_progress.pdf

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Peters Statement on EPA Formation of the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force

*"**DETROIT, MI** - Below is a statement from U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announcement that they are forming the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force, which will include science and technical experts from the EPA as well as officials from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the City of Flint:*

"

Source: *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445015608_gp.pdf

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Congressman Dan Kildee on the Announcement of the EPA's Task Force

"Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) issued the following statement today after the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the establishment of a task force to provide technical expertise to MDEQ and the city of Flint, which will include onsite consultants:"

Source: *Congressman Dan Kildee* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445012127_kildee.pdf

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Ingham County Bar Foundation 2015 Fellows

"The Ingham County Bar Foundation is pleased to announce its newest Fellows. They are: Hon. Clinton Canady, III, Douglas G. Chalgian, Hon. Joyce A. Draganchuk, James B. Jensen, Jr., Hon. Andrea Andrews Larkin and Steven A. Transeth."

Source: *Ingham County Bar Foundation* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445012015_icbf.pdf

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EPA Establishes Safe Drinking Water Task Force to Provide Expertise to MDEQ and City of Flint

"CHICAGO (October 16, 2015) - Today U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman established the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force to provide the Agency's technical expertise through regular conversations with designated officials from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the City of Flint. The Task Force will be led by the Region 5 Deputy Regional Administrator and will assist with developing and implementing a plan to secure water quality, including measures to optimize corrosion control. Task Force members will be available to consult with MDEQ and the City of Flint on site in Flint. The Task Force will also coordinate as necessary with federal, state and local public health agencies to assist with protection of public health."

Source: *Environmental Protection Agency* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445011932_epa.pdf

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Schuette Announces Conviction of Southwest Michigan Man in Daycare Case

"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced a guilty conviction of Cary Jones, 47, of Three Rivers, on six counts of Criminal Sexual Conduct - Second Degree and two counts of Accosting and Soliciting a Child for Immoral Purposes. The crimes took place at a home daycare, of which he was a resident."

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445011869_ag.pdf

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Emmons, Colbeck to attend presentation of donations for survivors of human trafficking

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Judy Emmons and Sen. Patrick Colbeck will be attending the presentation on Friday of donations collected at Community Choice Credit Union locations for an organization dedicated to*

supporting survivors of human trafficking."

Source: *Michigan Senate Republicans* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445011227_colbeck.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder forms task force to recommend changes in Michigan's special education system

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the creation of a task force led by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley that will recommend reforms for Michigan's special education system to help special needs children reach their full potential."*

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445010495_gov.pdf

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Attorney Brian Gallagher Appointed Employee Benefits Chair

*"**Lansing, MI** – Fraser Trebilcock attorney Brian T. Gallagher has been appointed to serve as Chair of the Employee Benefits Committee of the State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section. The Committee is responsible for analyzing new documents in employee benefits law, preparing employee benefits articles for the Michigan Tax Lawyer, and hosting educational and networking programs for employee benefits practitioners across the State of Michigan."*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445009731_FRASER.pdf

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I-75 north ramp to east University is closing for road work

"Travel Advisory for Auburn Hills - northbound I-75 at University Dr Two lanes will be blocked by a moving sign crew on Sunday, 10/18/15, 10 pm -5 am, Monday. The northbound I-75 ramp to eastbound University Drive is closing 5 a.m., Monday, 10/19 through 10/30/15. Detour is eastbound M-59 to northbound Squirrel Rd to University Drive. Diane Cross MDOT Communications crossd2@michigan.gov"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445008272_mdot.pdf

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Second major stage change at I-96 and US-23 to happen Monday night, Oct. 19

"I-96 at US-23, Livingston County

On Monday, October 19, between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., there will be a double lane closure on westbound I-96 at US-23. In addition, the ramp from northbound US-23 to westbound I-96, and the ramp from southbound

US-23 to westbound I-96 will be closed, with traffic detoured.
"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445006953_mdot.pdf

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TW&N: K-3 Reading Bill Clears House; Teacher Eval bill passes; $25K isn't enough; and more

"Yesterday, the full House of Representatives passed HB 4822 (Price), the K-3 Reading bill, on a largely partisan vote of 57-48. HB 4822 will improve early literacy by focusing on annual screening; parental notification and participation; targeted strategies for struggling readers; and intensive intervention for students reading dramatically behind grade level. The most significant change in the bill was that implementation of potential retention will begin with 3rd grade students in 2019-20, two years later than in the Committee-passed bill. GLEP praised passage of the bill, noting the work of Rep. Amanda Price, Chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as House leadership for moving the bill. Republicans voting against the bill were Representatives Goike, Heise, Hooker, McBroom, Potvin and Somerville (Muxlow was absent); while Democrats voting for the bill were Representatives Santana, Schor and Brinks. Click here to download the House-passed version of HB 4822."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445002868_glep.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 10/15/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/15/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release,
see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445001177_court.pdf

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Sparrow Trauma Center receives reverification from surgeons' association

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Hospital has been reverified as a Level 1 Trauma Center for adult and pediatric Patients through 2017 as it continues to provide the highest level of trauma services in mid-Michigan."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000717_sparrow.pdf

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K-3 Reading Bill Clears House; Teacher Eval bill passes; $25K isn't enough; GLEP at National Reform

*"**K-3 Reading Bill Passes in House***
Yesterday, the full House of Representatives passed HB 4822 (Price), the K-3 Reading bill, on a largely partisan vote of 57-48. HB 4822 will improve early literacy by focusing on annual screening; parental notification and participation; targeted strategies for struggling readers; and intensive intervention for students reading dramatically behind grade level. The most significant change in the bill was that implementation of potential retention will begin with 3rd grade students in 2019-20, two years later than in the Committee-passed bill. GLEP praised passage of the bill, noting the work of Rep. Amanda Price, Chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as House leadership for moving the bill. Republicans voting against the bill were Representatives Goike, Heise, Hooker, McBroom, Potvin and Somerville (Muxlow was absent); while Democrats voting for the bill were Representatives Santana, Schor and Brinks. Click here to download the House-passed version of HB 4822."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000665_lakes.pdf

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International Bridge marks new era of service with toll plaza ribbon-cutting

*"**October 16, 2015** -- The Sault Ste. Marie International Bridge will celebrate the completion of the 16-month-long, $8.9 million (USD) toll plaza project with a ribbon-cutting and a public open house next week. The ribbon-cutting and plaza dedication for invited guests will be from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21. The public open house will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22."*

Source: *International Bridge Administration* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000606_iba.pdf

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M-72 pavement repairs west of Traverse City begin Oct. 22

*"**PROJECT:** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repairing a short segment of M-72 west of Traverse City to address an underground spring that is flowing up through the pavement. Project map: https://goo.gl/maps/H1ZXoCmaCJo"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000538_mdot.pdf

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House passes third grade reading proficiency legislation

"The Michigan House today approved legislation that aims to increase grade level reading proficiency. House Bill 4822, a continuation of an effort started last session, was developed following the publication of recommendations from Gov. Rick Snyder's bipartisan Third Grade Reading Workgroup."

Source: *Rep. Lisa Lyons* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000484_lyons.pdf

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Dingell: Our Seniors Deserve a Raise

*"**DEARBORN, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) expressed strong concern for the tens of millions of American seniors impacted by today's announcement that Social Security beneficiaries would not receive a cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) increase in 2016."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000392_dingell.pdf

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Statement from Rep. Zemke on Voting Against the Third-Grade Reading Bill

" "Today, after much deliberation, I decided to vote against House Bill 4822, the third-grade reading proficiency bill. After having worked on this for a long time, it was a difficult decision for me to make, but I ultimately felt the structure of retention, which Republicans would not comprise on, was too destructive to warrant a yes vote."

Source: *Rep. Adam Zemke* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000342_zemke.pdf

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Yemeni War Refugee Program Helps Families Remain Safe

*"**Yemeni War Refugee Program Helps Families Remain Safe** October 21 workshop at ACCESS for those seeking information and free legal aid DETROIT – Michigan United, the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) and Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) held a telephone press conference Thursday to detail support for families seeking safe haven from the war-torn country of Yemen on the Arabian Peninsula. The country is unsafe and unstable because of air and ground war in a dispute that involves multiple parties. Michigan United's director of legal services, Diego Bonesatti, Susan Reed, the managing attorney of Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, and George Saba, supervisor, Immigration Legal Services, ACCESS detailed legal and human services. "*

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000158_yemeni.pdf

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Bipartisan domestic violence protection package passes House

" The Michigan House today passed a bipartisan bill package that establishes clear and sensible protections for victims or potential victims of domestic violence."

Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000082_house.pdf

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STATEMENT RE: K-3 READING BILL PASSAGE

""This is a great day for school children in Michigan. Passage of HB 4822 is a huge step to providing struggling readers in grades K-3 with the help they need to succeed," said Gary Naeyaert, executive director of the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP). "We extend our deep appreciation to Rep. Amanda Price, the Chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as to House leadership and those 57 members who voted to help kids today," he continued."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445000007_lakes.pdf

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Third grade reading proficiency, teacher evaluation legislation approved by state House

"The Michigan House of Representatives today approved legislation aiming to increase grade level reading proficiency and raise the bar for teacher evaluation standards in our state."

Source: *Rep. Daniella Garcia* **Date:** *10-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444999952_garcia.pdf

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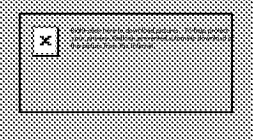

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
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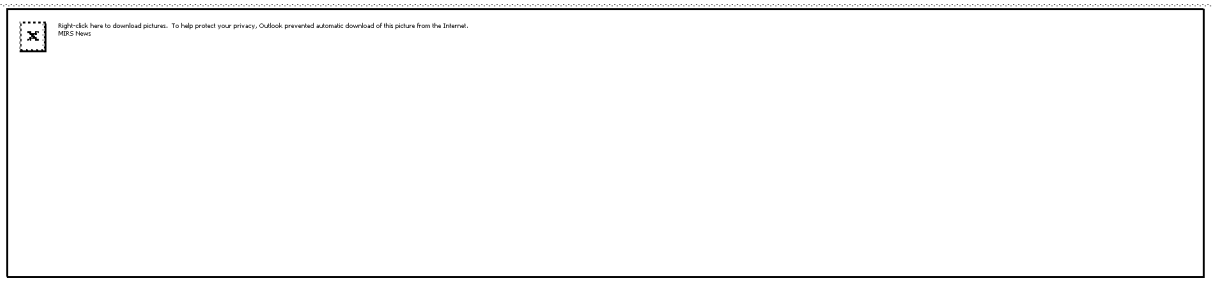
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Benghazi investigation, presidential race to dominate Sunday talk shows

"WASHINGTON — Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's upcoming testimony before the House Select Committee on Benghazi will be one of the main topics on the Sunday talk shows."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/10/17/benghazi-investigation-presidential-race-dominate-sunday-talk-shows/74125560/*

Venomous yellow-bellied sea snake hits California shore

"Rising ocean temperatures and warming climates brought by El Niño may be the reason an exotic and highly-venomous sea snake washed up on a California shoreline."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/17/yellow-bellied-sea-snake-california/74126428/*

Clinton jabs GOP on voting rights, Medicaid in Alabama

"MONTGOMERY, Ala. — In Hillary Clinton's first visit to Alabama as a 2016 presidential candidate, she said exactly what Alabama Democrats wanted to hear."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/17/clinton-jabs-gop-voting-rights-medicaid-alabama/74141538/*

Fight over fracking lingers in New York

"ALBANY, N.Y. — When New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration first said it would ban large-scale hydraulic fracturing, it was hailed as a victory for vocal environmentalists and fracking opponents and a stunning defeat for the natural-gas industry."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/10/17/fight-fracking-lingers-new-york/74136208/*

Trump faces backlash for blaming ex-President George W. Bush for 9/11

"WASHINGTON — Prominent Republicans are condemning GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump for suggesting that former President George W. Bush is partly to blame for the 9/11 terrorist attacks that happened during his administration."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/10/17/trump-faces-backlash-blaming-ex-president-george-w-bush-911/74129434/*

U.S.: Al-Qaeda leader killed in Syrian airstrike

"The top al-Qaeda financial operative has been killed in northwest Syria by a coalition airstrike, the Pentagon confirmed Sunday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/18/us-al-qaeda-leader-killed-syrian-airstrike/74171526/*

Bedlam, death rock Florida ZombiCon fest

"FORY MYERS, Fla. — A manhunt was underway Sunday after a shooting rampage at a zombie-themed festival left one person dead, four wounded and pandemomium on downtown streets."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/18/one-killed-zombicon-shooting/74167508/*

Michigan bills would ban second-term abortion procedure

"Lansing — Michigan anti-abortion advocates are targeting a common second-trimester abortion procedure, pushing bills in the Republican-led Legislature to prohibit what they say is "dismemberment" of

a fetus."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/17/michigan-bills-ban-second-term-abortion-procedure/74144794/*

Michigan gets bragging rights to first heavy snow east of Rockies

"Michigan now has bragging rights to the first heavy snow of the winter, east of the Rockies."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_gets_bragging_rights.html#incart_river*

Flint water crisis is tidal wave issue in city's mayoral election

"FLINT, MI – The city's crisis with lead in drinking water is dominating the mayoral election conversation in Flint, and this isn't happy talk."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/will_water.html#incart_river_home*

For cash-strapped Michiganders, a little help in the kitchen aims to boost healthy outcomes

"None of the women sitting in front of James Hartrick on a recent morning in Detroit look like kitchen amateurs, but he takes nothing for granted."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/health/index.ssf/2015/10/for_impoverished_michiganders.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Michigan policymakers are state's biggest mobility hurdle

"Automakers don't talk just about building great cars and trucks anymore. They increasingly see themselves as "mobility" providers, a broad industry that includes car-sharing services such as Zipcar, taxi alternatives such as Uber and Lyft, self-driving cars and mass transit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_michigan_policyma_1.html#incart_river_home*

Eyes in the sky: Versatile airplane joins Great Lakes rescue training

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI — In July 2014, a Texas mother and two 9-year-old boys tried to kayak from Peninsula State Park on Wisconsin's Door Peninsula to nearby Horseshoe Island and ended up in a dire situation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/traverse_bay_coast_guard_exerc.html#incart_story_package*

Scrapyard in the sky awaits 111-year-old Great Lakes freighter

"DULUTH, MINN. — The John B. Ford survived the Mataafa Storm of 1905 and powered her way though the fury of the Great White Hurricane of 1913. But the oldest active freighter on the Great Lakes has finally lost the battle against time."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/jb_ford_duluth_scrap.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Why fear-mongers are losing the prison reform fight

"For the last decade or so, smart people in both major parties have been looking for ways to reduce the $2-billion bite the Michigan Department of Corrections takes out of taxpayers' wallets each year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/17/dickerson-prison-reform/73984346/*

Every man, woman and child in U.S. should carry a gun

"Annie Martin's first-grade daughter came home from school frightened and confused by a new class drill."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/17/everyone-in-america-should-carry-gun/74041934/*

Time for a new Ambassador Bridge? Maybe

"Manuel (Matty) Moroun and his Detroit International Bridge Company can make you mad enough to spit sometimes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/10/17/time-new-ambassador-bridge-maybe/74061466/*

Letter: Trade schools make bigger impact

"Re: Ingrid Jacques' Sept. 11 column, "Obama promotes a higher ed idea that works": What if I told you that you can go to college for two years, receive real-life job training, graduate with a certificate or degree directly tied to your training, and have less than a quarter of the cost of attending a four-year university? I imagine you would sign up right away for a trade school or an apprenticeship."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/18/letter-trade-schools-impact/74135934/*

Help for suicidal teens is a text message away

"Boston – — With younger generations using cellphones less for actual conversation and more for text messaging, suicide prevention organizations are setting up ways that let distraught youths seek help that way."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/18/suicide-text/74140466/

Our Editorial: Impasse on roads not an option

"Governing is no picnic sometimes. But when things bog down, leaders can't toss up their hands and walk away. The people who elected them to the offices they sought expect them to get the job done."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/17/editorial-road-impasse-option/74135528/

Schuette and Meekhof, top guns in Lansing, trade shots on parole bill

"The folks pushing for prison sentencing reform did not crack open the champagne bottles, but there was reason to celebrate after the Michigan House, on a strong bipartisan vote, popped a bill allowing some inmates to get out of the slammer after serving their minimum sentence."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/schuette_and_meekhof_top_guns.html#incart_river_home

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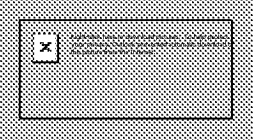

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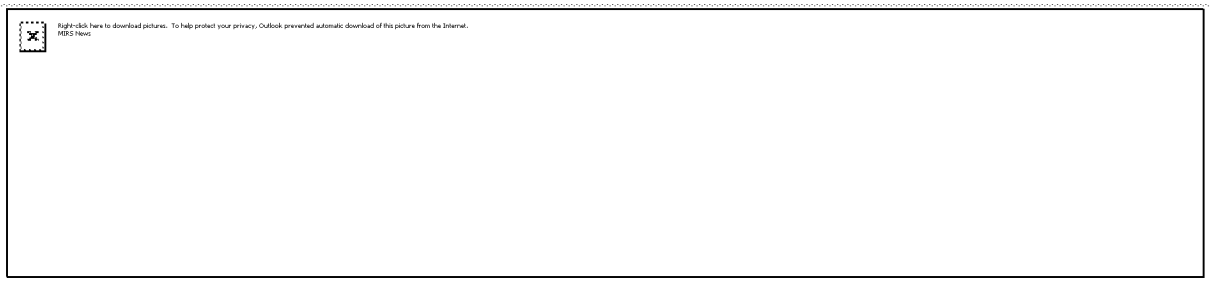

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Survey reveals knowledge gap about Social Security

"Most adults flunked several questions about Social Security in a new survey, but the toughest ones weren't even on the test."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/19/survey-claiming-social-security/73949120/*

Kerry: Foreign presence unneeded at Jerusalem holy site

"Madrid — Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday that a proposed international presence at the Jerusalem holy site at the center of escalating Israeli, Palestinian tension and violence is not needed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/10/19/united-states-mideast-kerry/74204948/*

Gowdy: New Benghazi emails show 'disconnect'

"Washington — A U.S. ambassador in a dangerous country asks the State Department for more security. Washington sends the ambassador a request for advice on talking points. Maybe, the ambassador jokes, he should seek help from another country."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/19/congress-benghazi/74205332/*

Report: Under Clinton, State's cybersecurity suffered

"Washington — The State Department was among the worst agencies in the federal government at protecting its computer networks while Hillary Rodham Clinton was secretary from 2009 to 2013, a situation that continued to deteriorate as John Kerry took office and Russian hackers breached the department's email system, according to independent audits and interviews."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/19/clinton-cyberfailures/74205084/*

Schools face learning curve with SAT prep

"High school juniors across Michigan are in pre-test mode this fall as they prepare to take the SAT instead of the ACT in April."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/10/19/sat-prep/74198516/*

Time to choose: Health insurance plan costs going up

"The enrollment period for health insurance plans of all types — workplace benefits, Affordable Care Act plans and Medicare — has started or is nearly here. And no matter what type of coverage you get, your 2016 plan is likely to be more expensive."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/wellness/2015/10/19/health-enrollment/74198212/*

Michigan DEQ vows changes in Flint water crisis

"Michigan's top environmental official acknowledged the state made mistakes in its handling of Flint's long-running water crisis, and said changes would be made, including reassigning a top official responsible for the safety of drinking water."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/environment/2015/10/18/deq-mistakes/74198882/

Warren mayor proposes medical marijuana regulations

"Concerns over the medical marijuana industry aren't just heating up in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/10/18/warren-medical-marijuana-ordinance/74071106/

Detroit activists say city's poverty is being ignored

"On a sunny Wednesday afternoon this month, a long line of needy people stretched out the door of a church on 14th Street in Detroit, some carrying carts to load up on free food being distributed."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/16/detroit-activists-say-citys-poverty-being-ignored/74056880/

UAW workers more positive heading into FCA contract vote

"A better deal, greater efforts to explain it and negotiations fatigue might be enough to ratify the new tentative agreement between the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/18/uaw-workers-more-positive-heading-into-fca-contract-vote/74010858/

Michigan pot arrests are trending up, and 8 other points about marijuan

"At a time when surveys indicate a majority of Michigan residents support legalizing pot, arrests for marijuana possession or use are increasing — even as arrests for other crimes are going down, according to data collected by the Michigan State Police."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_pot_arrests_are_trend.html#incart_river_home

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Hundreds of Obama bundlers missing from Clinton's elite fundraising ranks

"WASHINGTON — Hundreds of wealthy Democrats who raised money for President Obama's re-election have not yet joined the top fundraising ranks ofHillary Clinton's presidential campaign, raising hopes among some of Vice President Biden's supporters that there remains a path for his late entry into the race."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/2015/10/18/hundreds-obama-bundlers-missing-clintons-elite-fundraising-ranks/74170182/

U.S., Japanese naval forces stage show of strength

"SAGAMI BAY, Japan — Japan and the United States staged a naval show of strength off Tokyo Bay on Sunday as they flashed a pair of powerful, flat-deck warships perhaps just days before the U.S. Navyplans to challenge disputed Chinese claims to territory in the nearby South China Sea."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/18/us-japanese-naval-forces-stage-show-strength-shinzo-abe/74174426/*

Violence unabated, Kerry to meet with Netanyahu, Abbas

"Secretary of State John Kerry said he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas this week as a wave of deadly violence intensified Sunday across Israel and the Palestinian territories."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/18/military-removes-jewish-worshipers-tomb/74169144/*

Treasury will begin issuing Iran sanctions waivers under Obama order

"WASHINGTON — President Obama signed an order Sunday directing his administration to begin issuing waivers to Iran nuclear sanctions — but the waivers will only go into effect once Iran meets its obligations under the agreement limiting its nuclear program."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/18/obama-iran-nuclear-sanctions-waivers-treasury-jcpoa/74146108/*

Republican candidates appeal to religious conservatives

"PLANO, Texas — A half-dozen Republican presidential candidates hit all the hot buttons Sunday while speaking to an influential audience: Religious conservatives, the kinds of voters who could decide many GOP primaries next year."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/2015/10/18/prestonwood-baptist-trump-carson-fiorina-carson-bush-cruz-huckabee-santorum/74175226/*

Benghazi investigator tells GOP lawmakers to 'shut up' on probe

"WASHINGTON — The Republican chairman of the congressional panel probing the Benghazi tragedy is telling

his GOP colleagues to "shut up" about the committee's work because most of them know very little about what the panel is doing."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/18/bengahzi-investigator-tells-gop-lawmakers-shut-up-probe/74177420/*

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2 weekend shark attacks could close Hawaii beaches

"Emergency officials were deciding Sunday whether to close beaches in Oahu, Hawaii, after a pair of weekend shark attacks sent two victims to the hospital with severe injuries."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/18/shark-attacks-hawaii/74177026/*

Police: Pastor shoots, kills attacker in church

"A Detroit church service turned tragic today when a man with a brick went after the pastor, but likely didn't anticipate what would follow: the pastor pulled out a semiautomatic pistol and fatally shot the man, police said."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/18/police-pastor-shoots-kills-attacker-church/74197876/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Three ways to embrace Detroit's resurgence

"Detroit has long been at the center of local, national, and even global conversations on the ability of a once-thriving metropolis to reestablish itself as a hub for innovation and growth."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sponsor-story/walsh-college/2015/10/19/detroit-businesses-things-to-do-in-detroit-investing-in-detroit-/73953376/*

Snyder faces 6 big headaches as his second term unfolds

"The governor may not realize it yet, but he has contracted a severe case of second-term-itis, which may require an extra-heavy booster shot of Relentless Positive Action."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_faces_six_big_headaches.html#incart_river_home*

Press Releases

JEB BUSH TO ATTEND NORTH TEXAS PRESIDENTIAL FORUM

*"**Miami, FL –** Tomorrow evening, Governor Jeb Bush will be in Plano, TX to participate in the North Texas Presidential Forum hosted by the Prestonwood Baptist Church and Faith & Freedom Coalition. "*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445181028_bush.pdf*

Cruz Wins 603 Alliance Selection Caucus

*"**Contoocook, NH** - Presidential candidate Ted Cruz won the 603 Alliance Selection Caucus today, receiving a whopping 72.3% of the vote. The 603 Alliance is New Hampshire's largest gathering of conservative activists, comprised of a broad coalition of Tea Party, Liberty, faith-based, and Republican women groups from all over the state."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445180967_cruz.pdf*

Traffic Advisory - I-69 in Genesee County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete pavement markings on westbound I-69 between Center Road and M-54 (Dort Highway). Beginning Sunday, Oct. 18 crews will close the left and middle lanes to complete pavement markings between 5 and 11 a.m."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445180907_mdot.pdf

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Conservative Leaders Endorse Cruz

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Citing his strong commitment to conservative principles and respect for the Constitution, three prominent conservative movement leaders have endorsed Ted Cruz for President. Sandy Rios, Lori Roman, and Susan Carleson have long careers working to further policies based on conservative principles in areas such as education, religious liberty, welfare, the protection of life, and Social Security."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445180846_cruz.pdf*

Detroit Caucus Members Seek to Correct MIRS Quotation

"LANSING — Members of the Detroit Caucus spoke out against a MIRS article that ran earlier this morning and

contained false information regarding caucus attitudes toward education and Detroit Public Schools (DPS). The article attributed a quote from a different representative as having been given on behalf of the Detroit Caucus, which was not the case."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445180701_detroit.pdf

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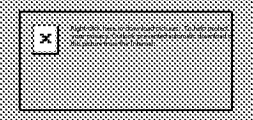
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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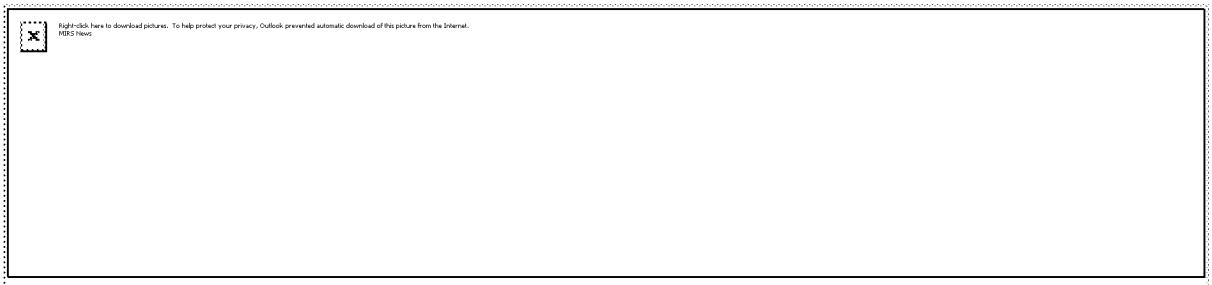
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 9:17 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, October 19, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, October 19, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=46941

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

REGULATORY REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php

CAPITOL CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Snyder: $715M Over 10 Years Needed For Old DPS Debt, New District Costs

(DETROIT) -- Gov. Rick SNYDER today released updated details about his plans to financially stabilize Detroit Public Schools (DPS) that feature a bigger ask from the state and a longer payback period than estimates that had been floated back in April.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44740

DEQ Takes Blame On Flint Water; Ananich Unforgiving

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) top official today admitted his department mishandled the city of Flint's water crisis, pointing to departmental issues with experience and protocol in corrosion control efforts.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44734

Flint Mayoral Election Rests On Who Residents Blame For Its Water

(FLINT) -- The Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) admission of fault in the Flint water crisis may

have come today, but in the city, which is two weeks from a municipal election, the blame game is far from over.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44741

In Wake Of Scandal, Dems Run Against History In Courser, Gamrat Seats

One of David GERNANT's friends volunteered to research a question that came up as Gernant launched his campaign this fall to represent Allegan County in the State House.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44732

House Fiscal: Healthy Michigan Could Cost $117M GF/GP Next Budget

The state's Medicaid expansion program, Healthy Michigan, will cost the state about $117 million in General Fund (GF) dollars in the next budget year, according to numbers from the House Fiscal Agency (HFA) today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44737

How Tennessee Went From Worst To Near The Top In Education

In 2009, no state had worse 8th grade math scores than Tennessee. Only Georgia had worse reading scores.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44736

DPS To Legislators: District Is Making Progress

Even though Gov. Rick SNYDER released his revised blueprint to fix the Detroit schools today (see related story), a behind-the-scenes strategy has been in place for weeks as district leadership conducts one-on-one skull sessions with key legislative leaders trying to drum up yes votes on the deal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44738

Forsmark Working For Courser Opponent

David FORSMARK, the political consultant former Rep. Todd COURSER once fingered as being the person behind harassing text messages earlier this year, is now providing consulting services for one of Courser's Republican opponents in the special 82nd House race (See "Courser-Gamrat Story Takes More Strange Turns," 8/20/15).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44728

Ex-Gov Engler On State Issues

Now the head of the Business Roundtable in the nation's capitol, former Gov. John ENGLER suggests, "I don't get involved in the Michigan political scene anymore," but having said that, he did weight in on two issues now on the state agenda.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44739

FLOW Launched Fundraiser

A Traverse City based special interest group has launched a fundraising effort to advance its agenda of shutting down Enbridge Pipeline 5 underneath the Straits of Mackinac in conjunction with Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44731

Bits And Tidbits

State Nets $980K For Community Behavioral Health Clinics

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44736

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 19, 1903, voters in Kalamazoo voted by an 8-to-1 margin to support construction of the Western State Normal School, later known as Western Michigan University. Kalamazoo was selected as the site because of its central location in southwest Michigan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#44730

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4694#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM - **School Aid**
(CANCELLED) Kelly, Tim; Rm: 426 CB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Agriculture**
Lauwers, Dan; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM
Rep. Scott Dianda Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
curtisaudette@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Chris Greig Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
jjgreening@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
8:00 AM
Michigan Pancreatic Cancer Briefing(Sponsored by Celgene Corporation, Hosted by Pancreatic Cancer Action Network)
Guest Speakers: Megan Gordon Don - PCAN; Diane Simeone, M.D., U of M; Rosemary Ireland-Black, Pancreatic Cancer Survivor
Location: Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room, 124 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48909
Contact: RSVP by October 30, 2015 via email

advocacy@parican.org

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
8:30 AM
Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting
Location: Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Contact: Barbara Russell 517-482-9413
mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
11:30 AM
Rep. Stephanie Chang Lunch Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
ellen.heinitz@gmail.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hour
Location: Espresso Royale
Contact: Rep. Jeff Irwin Staff 517-373-2577
jeffirwin@house.mi.gov

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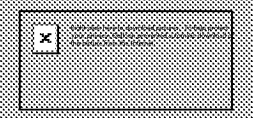

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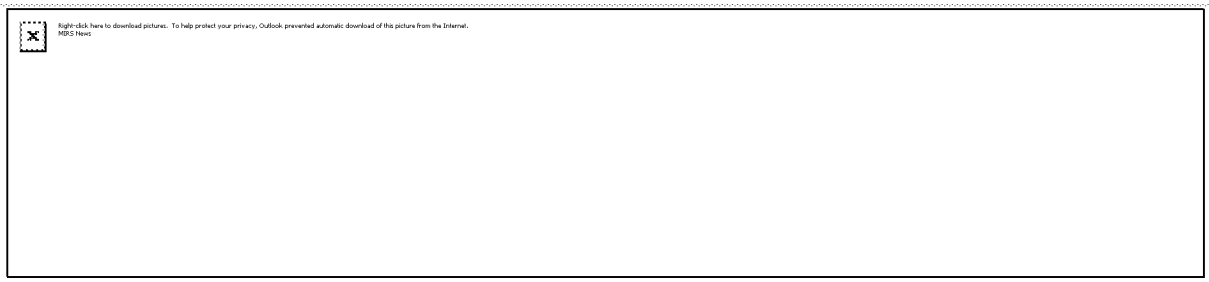
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 6:53 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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How Snyder plans to sell his $715 million plan for Detroit schools to Michigan lawmakers

"DETROIT — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder will ask lawmakers to facilitate his 10-year, $715 million plan to improve education in the state's largest city and help Detroit Public Schools crawl out from under a mountain of debt."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how_snyder_plans_to_sell_his_7.html#incart_river*

Emails show feds warned state in February of leaching lead in Flint

"FLINT, MI — The federal government told the state more than seven months ago that the chemistry of Flint River water was apparently causing transmission pipes to leach contaminants such as lead into city water, according to emails among environmental regulators."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/emails_show_feds_told_state_of.html#incart_river_home*

Harbaugh talks UM-MSU game with Obama

"Washington — Michigan football coach Jim Harbaugh met with President Barack Obama at the White House Monday — and got condolences on a heartbreaking loss on Saturday from the First Fan, who watched the game against Michigan State."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/sports/college/university-*

michigan/2015/10/19/harbaugh-white-house/74211490/

Mich. GOP calls on Gilbert to refund spouse's cash

"Washington — The Michigan Republican Party wants Democratic congressional candidate and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert to refund her husband's $5,400 campaign contribution and put it toward paying the money she owes in back taxes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/melissa-gilbert/74220528/

Snyder defends environmental director on Flint crisis

"Detroit — Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday defended his environmental department director's handling of the Flint water crisis, but said he's asked for a report on how the agency didn't detect lead-leaching corrosion in the city's aging pipelines."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/snyder-defends-environmental-quality-director-flint-crisis/74229710/

Snyder: Unpaid bills could tip DPS into financial chaos

"Detroit — As Gov. Rick Snyder steps up his push for the Legislature to bail out the debt-ridden Detroit Public Schools, his administration is bracing for unpaid vendors to seek court orders that could trigger what he describes as a "chaotic" financial free-fall for Michigan's largest school system."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/19/detroit-education-reform/74207124/*

UAW members to begin voting on new FCA contract

"As 40,000 United Auto Workers members begin voting Tuesday on the latest tentative agreement between the union and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, hostility that fueled an overwhelmingly majority of workers to reject the first four-year deal appears to have been dialed down to a simmer."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/10/19/uaw-members-begin-voting-new-fiat-chrysler-deal/74249718/

U-M's Harbaugh meets with Obama in wake of loss to MSU

"WASHINGTON — Two days after a heartbreaking, last-second loss to Michigan State, Michigan football coach Jim Harbaugh got some face time with President Barack Obama at the White House today, with the commander-in-chief telling Harbaugh that he feels his pain."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/college/university-michigan/wolverines/2015/10/19/jim-harbaugh-white-house-michigan/74214418/*

Federal appeals court hears Ambassador Bridge challenge

"WASHINGTON — A federal appellate court panel on Monday raised doubts about the Coast Guard's claim that it still cannot give the owners of Detroit's Ambassador Bridge a firm timeline for granting or denying a permit for a twin span — some nine years after its initial application was deemed complete."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/19/federal-appeals-court-hears-ambassador-bridge-challenge/74232280/*

State admits mistakes in Flint water switch

"FLINT — The State of Michigan has removed its top drinking water quality official and admitted it botched corrosion control in Flint water pipes, which resulted in elevated lead levels in the city's water system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/19/michigan-official-federal-water-rules-not-followed-in-flint/74207204/*

Charges dropped against Wayne County jail contractor

"In the latest twist to the three-year saga of cost overruns at the Wayne County jail project in downtown Detroit, a judge on Monday dismissed two counts of willful neglect of duty filed against a Bloomfield Township construction consultant."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/19/charges-dropped-against-county-jail-contractor-wayne-county-/74236676/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Lawmakers must stand up for Medicare cancer care in Michigan

"Access to cancer care in Michigan is reaching a crisis point."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/lawmakers_must_stand_up_for_me.html#incart_river*

Column: Teacher evaluation bill lacks mandates experts say are necessary to lift student achievement

"Four years ago, the Legislature embarked on an ambitious and worthy mission to improve teacher effectiveness in Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher_evaluation_bill_lacks.html#incart_river*

Column: Update young offender sentencing

"As legislators, we like to think of Michigan as a forward-thinking state. In many areas of state law, this is true. However, one area that is firmly rooted in outdated ideals and practices is our method of charging and sentencing youthful offenders. Currently, Michigan is one of only nine states that automatically charges and prosecutes 17-year-olds as adults."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/20/column-update-young-offender-sentencing/74253252/*

Howes: Big Three's labor bill ain't what it used to be

"As union members prepare to vote this week on the United Auto Workers' second tentative agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, an influential new study says labor costs Detroit automakers less than it used to — a lot less."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/10/19/howes-detroit-threes-labor-bill-aint-used/74249834/*

Riley: Where's an education plan for Detroit children?

"State Rep. Harvey Santana, whose district includes the west side, took his out-state colleague Rep. Daniela Garcia on a tour of three schools."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/19/riley-wheres-education-plan-detroit-children/74239252/*

Press Releases

Westbound I-69 ramp closures at Center Road for deck sealing Oct. 20-22

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will seal the decks of the ramps from southbound and northbound Center Road to westbound I-69."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445288044_mdot.pdf*

Dingell Invites Students to Celebrate Fall Holidays by "Sending Smiles to Vets"

*"**DEARBORN, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) is inviting local students to participate in the "Sending Smiles to Vets" program this fall by making Halloween, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving cards for local veterans. Since the "Sending Smiles to Vets" program was launched in February, students across Southeast Michigan have pitched in to make hundreds of cards thanking veterans for their service."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445287995_dingell.pdf*

TC Chamber Debuts City Commission Virtual Candidate Forum

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – An online candidate forum featuring candidates in the race for mayor and city commission in Traverse City is available through the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445287856_tc.pdf*

Michigan awarded $980,000 to develop certified community behavioral health clinics

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will be awarded a $982,373 planning grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to develop certified community behavioral health clinics (CCHBC) in the state. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445283268_mdhhs.pdf*

MDP Response to MDEQ Director Dan Wyant's Statement on Flint Water Crisis

"LANSING -The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to a statement released by the Director of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality, Dan Wyant, regarding the DEQ's handling of Flint's water crisis. In Wyant's

statement, he claims "the issue in DEQ is experience and protocol," and that DEQ "staff made a mistake," but they "will learn from' it:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445283217_mdp.pdf

Michigan Faith-based Educators Gather in Detroit

"Michigan's Faith-based educators meet in Detroit, continue focus on individual child, resulting in high student achievement."

Source: *Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445282431_manps.pdf

SBM Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section Commemorates 25 Years

"The State Bar of Michigan Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section celebrated 25 years of membership with a special event on. Oct. 9 at the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting in Novi."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445278361_sbm.pdf

SBAM Small BIZ PAC Announces Endorsements for Nov. 3 Primary

"The Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) Small BIZ PAC has endorsed Mary Whiteford – R in the 80th House District Nov. 3 special primary election and given a Stamp of Approval to Jan Peabody – R and Gary Howell – R in the 82nd House District primary."

Source: *Small Business Association of Michigan* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445275619_sbam.pdf

ICYMI: Full, Unedited Interview: Sen. Cruz Interviews with NBC's Chuck Todd on Meet the Press

"In Case You Missed It...
Full, Unedited Interview: Sen. Cruz Interviews with NBC's Chuck Todd on Meet the Press
Cruz: We need leaders who will honor the promises we made to the men and women who elected us"

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274535_cruz.pdf

JEB BUSH TO ATTEND REGENT UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE FORUM ON FRIDAY

*"**Miami, FL –** On Friday, Governor Jeb Bush will attend the Regent University Presidential Candidate Forum in Virginia Beach, VA. "*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274487_jeb.pdf*

Alternative Supplier with Fraudulent History Now Operating in Michigan

"Lansing— Before Texas-based Ambit Energy expanded into Michigan, it was a defendant in two class-action lawsuits alleging consumer fraud and the use of bait-and-switch tactics. Within months of its expansion into Michigan, Ambit was facing two more class action lawsuits for anti-consumer behavior."

Source: *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274448_cmenf.pdf*

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Statement on MDEQ Not Following Federal Drinking Water Rules

"LANSING — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement after state Department of Environmental Quality officials admitted staff did not correctly apply federal standards for treating water from the Flint River:"

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274157_ananich.pdf*

Statement from Michigan Charter School Authorizers Regarding Gov. Rick Snyder¹s Detroit Education Pl

"Please attribute the following statement to Jared Burkhart, Executive Director, Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers regarding Gov. Rick Snyder's Detroit education plan."

Source: *Michigan Charter School Authorizers* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445271296_charters.pdf*

Detroit Caucus Members Stand United for Detroit Public Schoolchildren

"LANSING – Members of the House Detroit Democratic Caucus responded today to Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to fix the Detroit Public Schools, announced at a press conference this morning, by saying they are ready to work together on a solution but that it must include local control of Detroit's schools."

Source: *Democratic Representatives* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270111_detroit.pdf

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AFT Michigan Statement on Governor's Plan for Detroit Schools

"DETROIT—On Monday, October 19, Governor Snyder presented his plan for the future of Detroit education."

Source: *AFT Michigan* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270047_aft.pdf

Progress Michigan Action Fund Offers Special Election Bumper Stickers

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan Action Fund, the political arm of Progress Michigan, announced that it is offering bumper stickers for sale in "support" of candidates in the 80th and 82nd special elections taking place in November. The bumper stickers say, "Todd's Girlfriend, Republican for State Representative" and "Cindy's Boyfriend, Republican for State Representative" and each includes the line "Not printed with misused taxpayer funds.""

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270002_progress.pdf

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MAPSA Statement on Gov. Snyder's Detroit Education Proposal

"LANSING, Michigan (October 19, 2015) – Gov. Rick Snyder today outlined his plan to reform public education in Detroit. Below is a statement on Gov. Snyder's proposals from Dan Quisenberry, President of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA), the state charter school association."

Source: *Michigan Association of Public School Academies* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445269947_mapsa.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Academic, financial challenges in Detroit's public schools require a new approach

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today discussed a legislative package focused on reversing longstanding problems faced by public schools in Detroit and giving families more quality educational options."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445266580_gov.pdf

Melissa Gilbert should refund husband's $5,400 donation to pay taxes

*"**LANSING, Mich., October 19, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel called on Melissa Gilbert to refund her husband's $5,400 campaign contribution and use that money to pay for her $470,000 in back taxes. Gilbert's tax problems started with a $127,752 lien to the State of California in 2005. In February 2015, the IRS placed a $360,551 tax lien for income taxes owed in previous years. "*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445266047_repub.pdf*

MDHHS urges residents to protect against carbon monoxide poisoning as winter nears

"LANSING, Mich. – With winter months approaching, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is reminding everyone to be safe from the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning during the cold weather and heating season. To bring awareness to the issue, Governor Snyder has proclaimed this week, October 19 – 24, as Carbon Monoxide Safety and Awareness Week in Michigan."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445265262_mdhhs.pdf*

AS PRESIDENT, I'LL END CRONY CAPITALISM

""As president of the United States, I will use all the powers of my office to disrupt the political culture of a dysfunctional Washington, D.C. We need to clean house and it must start by eliminating the crony capitalism that is pervasive throughout the federal government.""

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264258_jeb.pdf*

Sparrow to celebrate Delta Dental Foundation donating 50,000 oral health kits

"What: The Delta Dental Foundation, in partnership with the Sparrow Foundation, is funding an initiative to provide customized oral health kits to every Patient admitted to Sparrow Hospital. About 50,000 pre-packaged kits were funded by a $175,000 grant. Each kit includes a high-quality soft-bristle toothbrush, mouthwash, toothpaste with sodium bicarbonate, alcohol-free antiseptic mouthwash, and a suction toothbrush for Patients who can't spit or swallow. A reception will celebrate this shared commitment to a project that will reduce hospital stays, lower costs, and improve Patient health by helping to reduce cases of hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP), the second most common infection that originates in a hospital."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264216_sparrow.pdf*

Threat of avian influenza returns with wild bird migration

"LANSING – This past spring poultry farmers across the United States were affected by a highly pathogenic avian influenza virus, which has been documented as the largest domestic animal health disaster in U.S. history."

Source: *Department of Agriculture* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264164_mda.pdf

Capital Region transportation needs explored at forum in East Lansing

"How do you get from place to place in the Lansing area? How do your parents get around? If you're unable to drive in five or ten years, how will you travel to work, shopping, medical appointments, and recreational opportunities?"

Source: *AARP Michigan* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264112_aarp.pdf

DEQ Director Dan Wyant issues statement about Flint drinking water

"DEQ Director Dan Wyant today made the following statement as he announced DEQ Chief Deputy Jim Sygo will immediately assume the role of interim chief of the department's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance:"

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264056_deq.pdf

JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEVADA ON WEDNESDAY

*"**Miami, FL –** This Wednesday, Governor Jeb Bush will visit Nevada. In the morning, he will roll out his Western Land and Resource Management Plan at a policy roundtable in Reno, NV. Later that day, Governor Bush will participate in the LIBRE Initiative's policy forum series, "The LIBRE Forum: Unlimited Opportunities in a Free Society" in Las Vegas, NV."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264011_bush.pdf

Senator Stabenow Applauds Investment to Help Michigan Farmers With Disabilities

*"**WASHINGTON D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today applauded the announcement of $189,000 for Michigan State University and Easter Seals Michigan to continue to help Michigan farmers with disabilities overcome the*

obstacles they face. This funding for Michigan's AgrAbility program, which comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, will help develop and implement adaptive strategies and equipment so farmers with disabilities can continue to work in agriculture."

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263934_stabenow.pdf

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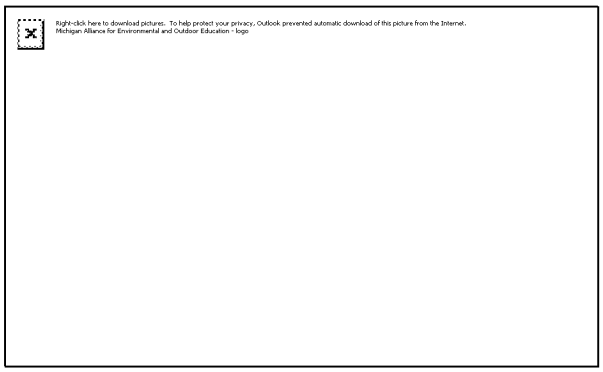
Michigan's top environmental and outdoor educators honored

"The Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education recently honored several Michigan educators for their work in bringing science and nature to students in the classroom and to the publicthrough other creative outlets. The honorees were recognized at the alliance's annual conference in Sault Ste. Marie Saturday, Oct. 10."



Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263834_dnr.pdf

PHP appeals committee recommendation on Medicaid Health Plan

"LANSING, MI – Physicians Health Plan (PHP) has announced it is appealing the recommendation of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Joint Evaluation Committee to discontinue the PHP Medicaid Health Plan in Region 7 (Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties). If the appeal is successful, the Lansing-based health insurer, which has offered Medicaid Managed Care coverage to the mid-Michigan region since 1998, will continue to be an option for Medicaid-eligible individuals and families."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263776_sparrow.pdf

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Cruz Wins North Carolina Statewide Tea Party Caucus

*"**Houston, TX** – In unprecedented fashion, Senator Ted Cruz won the North Carolina Tea Party Constitutional Caucus, receiving just over 50 percent of the vote from conservative activists across the state. Dr. Ben Carson took second place, while no other candidate received more than 4 percent. "*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263687_cruz.pdf

Its Your Choice - a follower or a Leader standing against the liberal on slot

"The Choice is Yours - It has been an absolute honor and pleasure to be your Representative! The Choice is simply between someone who will protect the progressive leadership as they expand taxes/spending/crony capitalism versus someone who will fight every day against the progressive spending/taxing! It is your choice! Peabody/ Howell are the big lobbyist establishment favorites – you can see it by the # of the big glossy flyers being sent to cause you to support them – they know that these candidates will vote lock step w/ the Lansing crony political class against you – which means more taxes/more spending/ and of course more crony capitalism for politically connected corporations! If you want someone who will not flip over and sell your vote and who will not vote for a spending or tax increase then I need your support!"

Source: *Todd Courser* **Date:** *10-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263635_courser.pdf

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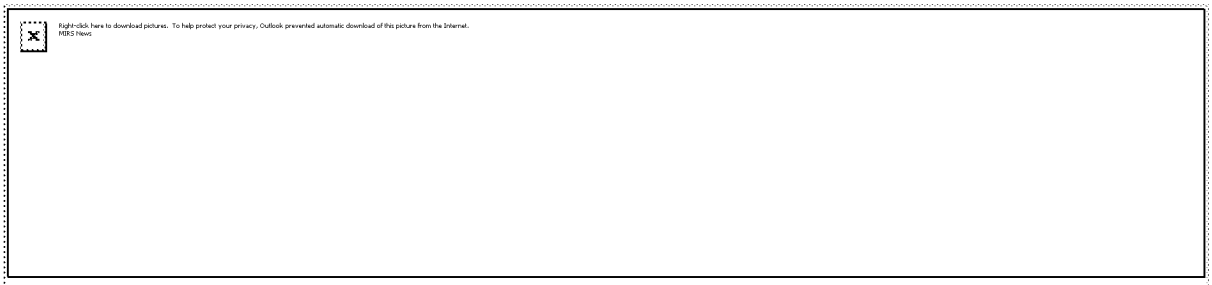
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 9:26 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 20, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 20, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/856

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/855

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Meekhof Calls On House To Vote On 'Last, Best' Road Deal

Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) called today on the House to advance and hold a vote on a $1.2 billion road-funding plan that's been in negotiations behind closed doors for weeks.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44752

Draft Details Of DPS Plan Emerges, A-F Grade Scale Floated For Schools

The proposed Detroit Education Commission (DEC) and its chief education officer (CEO) would evaluate Detroit schools on an A-F grading scale, and have the ability to close, move or restructure schools, according to a draft details of the Detroit education legislation to be introduced soon.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44754

Ananich Suggests Auditor, Oversight Committees Get Involved On Flint

get="_blank">ANANICH (D-Flint) continued his calls to pry deeper into the Flint water crisis today,

suggesting the legislative oversight committees take up an investigation and asking the state auditor general to dig in.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44746

Teacher Evaluation Bill Earns Passing Grade In Senate

A bill creating a state standard in how public teachers are evaluated that once was too political to move out of a House committee went to Gov. Rick SNYDER's desk today after the Senate, like the House, passed it with no commotion.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44750

Colbeck Rolls Back Road Funding Need To $700K In Debate

If Michigan were to adopt new road building technologies, Sen. Patrick COLBECK (R-Canton) today said only $700 million in additional funding is needed to gradually improve the state's roads, which is a number the House and Senate has already agreed to find within the state's existing revenue for the roads.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44742

Shirkey Supportive Of Presumptive Parole But Many Senators Still Leery

Many GOP senators have expressed concerns over the presumptive parole legislation pending in the Senate Government Operations committee, but at least one believes it's something he can get behind.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44753

House Approves Changes To 'Kevin's Law' On Mental Health Care

Changes aimed at boosting a 10-year-old law that outlines criteria for outpatient treatment of adults with severe mental illnesses gained overwhelming support this afternoon from the House.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44745

Steudle: MDOT Is Making Good On Legislature's Asks

Facing further scrutiny from lawmakers today, Kirk STEUDLE, director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), maintained that his department has hit the standards the Legislature has asked it to hit.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44747

Bills Eliminating Dower Law Advance To Full Senate

A bill package removing all references to the state's little-used dower law regarding marital property rights moved to the Senate floor from the Senate Judiciary Committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44749

Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills Into Law

Police would need to follow a higher standard before seizing and permanently retaining a person's property during a criminal investigation under legislation that was signed into law by Gov. Rick SNYDER today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44750

Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization

On Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44744

Senate Ed Hits 'Send' On Ban Student Data Collection For Marketing

Legislation preventing web browsers and online service providers from collecting data on individual K-12 students was unanimously reported from the Senate Education Committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44751

MIRS Expands, Hires Missouri Legislative Service Director

MIRSnews.com, Lansing's leader in Capitol news, has expanded with the addition of Chris GALLOWAY as the company's Director of Legislative Services.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44743

Bits And Tidbits

Snyder Makes Appointments To Oakland County Court

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44755

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 20, 2001, the "Gateway to Freedom" sculptures were dedicated at the Detroit River, commemorating the critical role of Detroit and Windsor in the Underground Railroad.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#44748

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4695#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**
Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Education**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
(CANCELLED)Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
12:00 PM

Rep. Scott Dianda Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
curtisaudette@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Chris Greig Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
jjgreening@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
8:30 AM
Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting
Location: Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911
Contact: Barbara Russell 517-482-9413
mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
11:30 AM
Rep. Stephanie Chang Lunch Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
ellen.heinitz@gmail.com

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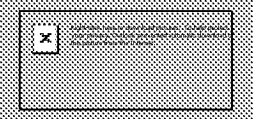

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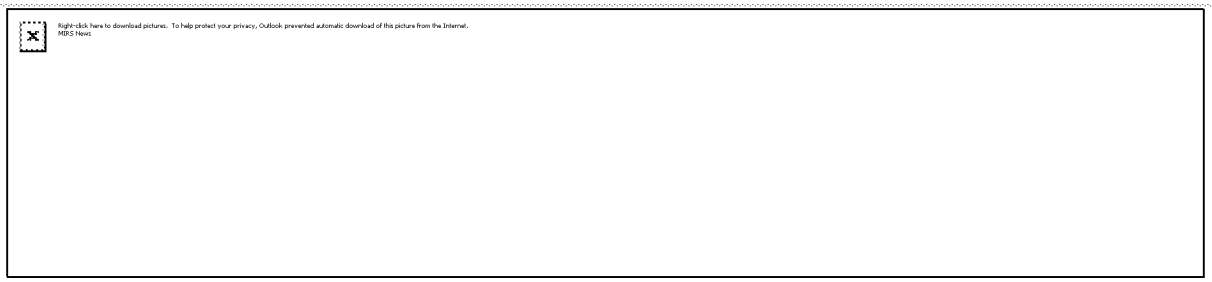
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2015 6:53 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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'Green Tea' Party? Far right Republicans, liberal Democrats aligning on Michigan renewable energy issue

"LANSING, MI — Rep. Jeff Irwin is a proud progressive, and Rep. Gary Glenn is widely considered one of the most conservative Republicans in the Michigan legislature. But they're working together on an energy package that would encourage renewable energy in Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/green_tea_party_far_right_repu.html#incart_river*

Michigan DEQ 'completely failed' Flint residents, says Ananich, calling for water investigation

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality "completely failed" to protect Flint residents from contaminated drinking water, according to Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who is calling for a formal investigation by the Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_deq_failed_flint_resi.html#incart_river*

Meekhof urges action on 'last best deal' for Michigan roads

"LANSING, MI — With road funding talks at a standstill after breaking down last week, Michigan Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof is calling for action on the "last best deal" that leaders had been

negotiating."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/meekhof_urges_action_on_last_b.html#incart_river*

Gov. Snyder says hostile takeover of Perrigo would be devastating

*"**ALLEGAN, MI** – Gov. Rick Snyder says a hostile takeover of Perrigo Co. would be devastating for Allegan County and a setback for Michigan."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_snyder_says_hostile_takeov.html#incart_river_home*

Read state DEQ emails as lead-in-water crisis unfolded in Flint

"FLINT, MI – These emails from the state Department of Environmental Quality supply some of the background to the story of how Flint was allowed to operate its water system for more than 17 months without controlling corrosion."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/read_state_deq_emails_as_flint.html#incart_river_home*

Clinton leads candidates in Michigan 3Q fundraising

"Democrat Hillary Clinton's $2,700-a-person July fundraiser in Grosse Pointe helped her raise more money in Michigan than other presidential candidate during the third quarter, campaign finance records show."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/20/clinton-leads-michigan-fundraising/74291938/*

Senate GOP leader seeks to kick-start road aid talks

"Lansing — Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof challenged House Republican and Democratic leaders Tuesday to schedule a conference committee meeting on a $1.2-billion road funding deal that was close to being clinched a week ago."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/20/senate-gop-leader-kickstart-road-aid-talks/74279486/*

Feds look at bank records in EAA, DPS corruption probe

"The FBI and Justice Department subpoenaed personnel files and bank records or email account information for more than a dozen current and former officials at Gov. Rick Snyder's K-12 Detroit reform district as part of a wide-ranging corruption investigation, The Detroit News has learned."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/20/eaa-records-light-fbi-probe/74297526/*

Gov envisions progress on bridge with Canada's new PM

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said he plans to work with newly elected Canadian Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau in plans for a new bridge between Windsor and Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/20/gov-envisions-progress-bridge-canadas-new-pm/74310074/*

Top Dem calls for hearings, audit on Flint water crisis

"LANSING – A top Democratic lawmaker called Tuesday for legislative hearings and an audit to probe the state's oversight of drinking water issues in Flint, which he described as "extremely troubling.""

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/20/flint-water-crisis-legislature-reaction-ananich/74308996/*

Bill to set new standards for teacher evaluations

"LANSING — A bill setting new standards for teacher evaluations is on its way to Gov. Rick Snyder for his signature after the Senate gave final passage to the bill Tuesday morning."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/20/senate-gives-final-passage-teacher-evaluation-bill/74265726/*

Snyder signs forfeiture reform laws

"LANSING -- Gov. Rick Snyder signed an eight-bill package Tuesday aimed at curbing abuses in the use of civil forfeiture laws, under which police can seize property from people who were never even charged --

let alone convicted -- of a crime."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/20/snyder-signs-forfeiture-reform-laws/74260754/

Lt. Gov. Calley holding fund-raiser in Lansing Thursday

"LANSING — Lt. Gov. Brian Calley has scheduled a fund-raiser in Lansing on Thursday, in the strongest sign to date he is eyeing the governor's office in 2018, when Gov. Rick Snyder must step down because of term limits."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/20/lt-gov-calley-holding-fund-raiser-lansing-thursday/74261016/

Senate calls for fast action on deal to fix state roads

"LANSING Instead of cooling off, talks on a fix for Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges heated up on Tuesday when Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive, challenged the House of Representatives to put up the proposed deal for a vote."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/20/senate-calls-fast-action-deal-fix-state-roads/74276472/

Signs of support for UAW-FCA contract voting

"From Matthew Johnson's perspective, the tentative agreement between the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles is a very good contract. The key question now is whether a majority of Johnson's coworkers share his opinion."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/20/signs-support-uaw-fca-contract-voting/74273468/

Federal probe of EAA eyes officials and vendors

"A sweeping federal corruption probe of the Education Achievement Authority began more than 16 months ago and is focused on current and former top officials as well vendor payments, documents show."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/20/federal-probe-eaa/74297446/

Advocacy/Opinion

Right to Work lawmakers impose their own 'union dues'

"When Republican legislators pushed through a contentious Right To Work law two years ago, they said they were freeing unionized workers from a system that "confiscated" a portion of employee paychecks through union dues."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/right_to_work_lawmakers_impose.html#incart_river

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Flint water crisis exposes Michigan's infrastructure funding problem

"It was great to see the Michigan Legislature come together and put politics aside as they voted unanimously in finding a resolution to the recent Flint drinking water crisis. However, this single incident also exposed a major flaw in a system that should ensure that all residents of Michigan have access to clean drinking water, not water that is treated from polluted rivers and is brought to them through aging, deteriorating pipes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/op-ed_flint_water_crisis.html#incart_river*

Heise: Presumptive parole is safe, smart justice

"By now, you've probably read or heard about the notion of presumptive parole, a proposed reform that would give parole boards the directive to — under their supervision and control — grant minimum-sentence parole to low-danger individuals who meet a series of comprehensive requirements for release."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/20/heise-presumptive-parole-smart-justice/74310786/

Editorial: Fight poverty by curbing teen pregnancy

"Programs to reduce teen pregnancy in Michigan appear to be paying off with a lower rate of expectant teenagers, and that should pay off in a future drop in poverty. Initiatives that work should be supported and expanded.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/20/editorial-fight-poverty-curb-pregnancy/74310728/

Detroit Public Schools Debt Increases By $1 Million Every School Day

"The debt load of the Detroit public school district increases by $1 million every school day, according to the co-chair of a coalition trying to help the financially troubled school district."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21833*

Press Releases

Construction industry veterans call on lawmakers to support prevailing wages in Michigan

"Lansing, MICH. – Veterans from across Michigan today called on lawmakers to support the state's prevailing wage policies, telling how they transitioned from helmets to hard hats and good paying jobs with the help of Michigan's prevailing wage policies."

Source: *Michigan Prevails* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445376126_michi.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bipartisan bills protecting use of service animals for Michigan residents

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan residents who use service animals will have better access to public spaces, such as restaurants, retail stores and health care facilities after Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a bill package to modernize state law and advance the use of these animals. The bills were spurred in part by recent incidents of people being turned away from businesses because they were accompanied by service animals."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445376043_gov.pdf

Rep. Cole: USDA declares 31 Michigan counties natural disaster regions

"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, vice chair of the House Agriculture Committee, is informing residents statewide of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s recent decision to declare 31 Michigan counties as primary natural disaster areas."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445374977_cole.pdf

OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT CHIEF JUDGE NANCI GRANT HONORED BY WJR-AM 760

"County Circuit Court was selected as an honoree of News/Talk 760 WJR's 2015 Class of "Women Who Lead." This program spotlights women across the Great Lakes Region who are leaders in their community and who are making a difference in people's lives."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445374185_oak.pdf

MI Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development Honors Its Outstanding Employees For 2015

"LANSING – Commitment to teamwork, leadership, outstanding customer service and excellence are just a few characteristics describing the winners of the 2015 Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development annual employee awards. Winners are both nominated and selected by their fellow MDARD colleagues."

Source: *Department of Agriculture* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371495_agri.pdf

Smallmouth bass state record broken by catch from Hubbard Lake

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a new state-record catch for smallmouth bass. This marks the sixth state-record fish caught so far in 2015. "

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371455_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Jarbou, Matis to 6th Circuit Court in Oakland County

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Jeffery "Jeff" Matis and Hala Jarbou to the 6th Circuit Court, Oakland County."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371390_gov.pdf

A CLEAR CHOICE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

"In the latest episode of the reality show that is Donald Trump's campaign, he has blamed my brother for the 9/11 terrorist attacks on our nation."

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371344_bush.pdf

Sen. Zorn welcomes Robert Taylor to Capitol for Senate invocation

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — Sen. Dale Zorn, R-Ida, welcomed Robert Taylor of Tecumseh to the state Capitol on Tuesday.Taylor attends Grace Point Evangelical Free Church in Adrian and delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371309_zorn.pdf

OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE COURT ANNOUNCES CHIEF JUDGE APPOINTMENT

"Oakland County, MI (10/20/2015) – The Michigan Supreme Court has appointed Judge Linda S. Hallmark as Chief Judge of the Oakland County Probate Court to a two-year term beginning on January 1, 2016."

Source: *OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE COURT* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371259_court.pdf

Stamas, Pettalia welcome Miss Michigan 2015 to Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Jim Stamas and Rep. Peter Pettalia, R-Presque Isle, welcomed Miss Michigan 2015 Emily Kieliszewski to the Capitol on Tuesday."*

Source: *Sen. Jim Stamas* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445371029_stamas.pdf

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House approves Rep. Lauwers bill aiding agricultural drivers

"The Michigan House today approved legislation introduced by state Rep. Dan Lauwers enabling agricultural drivers to renew their seasonal commercial driver's licenses (CDL) at the start of the planting season.."

Source: *Rep. Dan Lauwers* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445370977_lauwers.pdf

Metro Detroit superintendents praise Sen. Pavlov educator evaluation bill

*"LANSING – Superintendents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties today praised **Sen. Phil Pavlov** for his leadership on teacher evaluation legislation. His legislation, Senate Bill 103, is headed to **Gov. Rick Snyder** for final approval."*

Source: *Tri-County Alliance for Public Education* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445370914_tri.pdf

House OKs Rep. Leonard bill enhancing access to mental health care

"The Michigan House today approved a bill introduced by state Rep. Tom Leonard and backed by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley that bolsters public safety by enabling family and friends to acquire mental health care for those in dire need."

Source: *Speaker Pro Tem Tom Leonard* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445370833_leonard.pdf

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Huizenga, Foster Letter on Fed Dividends Draws Strong Bipartisan Support

*"**Washington, DC –** Today, Monetary Policy & Trade Subcommittee Chairman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) and Congressman Bill Foster (IL-11) sent a letter to Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader McCarthy, Leader Pelosi, and Whip Hoyer calling on leaders in both parties to withhold consideration of any proposals to modify dividend payments on Federal Reserve stock until the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the committees of jurisdiction have had time to study the long-term implications of any such policy change."*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445370735_huizenga.pdf

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MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES RECIPE CONTEST WINNERS

"LANSING, MI –The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce the winners of The Great Michigan Potato, The Great Michigan Pork, The Great Michigan Veal, and The Great Michigan Wheat Recipe Contests. All four contests were conducted as part of the Michigan Restaurant Show, which takes place each October in Novi and is the premier trade show in Michigan for the foodservice industry."

Source: *Michigan Restaurant Association* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445365786_resta.pdf

MDHHS, MSMS, and MOA Urge Residents to Vaccinate Against Flu

"The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, along with the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) and Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA), are hosting a press event onWednesday, October 21 to urge residents to vaccinate themselves and their families against the influenza virus."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445362595_mdhhs.pdf*

Find the perfect fall hunting spot with Mi-HUNT online mapping tool

"With fall hunting seasons under way in Michigan, the Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters and outdoor enthusiasts that Mi-HUNT – a cutting-edge, Web-based, interactive mapping application – can help plan their next hunting or outdoor adventure. Mi-HUNT is available at mi.gov/mihunt."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445360657_dnr.pdf*

STATE SUPREME COURT, MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY AND WMU-COOLEY INTRODUCE MANUAL FOR VETERANS T

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – Oct. 20, 2015 – WMU-Cooley Law School has partnered with the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency and the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) to introduce a new resource for Michigan trial court judges and staff interested in developing Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs). "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges" is a compilation of best practices being used to address the special circumstances of veterans confronted with non-violent criminal charges and is designed to serve as a blueprint for the further development of problem-solving courts for veterans."*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445360605_west.pdf*

House panel OKs Jones bill to help bring jobs to Shiawassee County

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Tuesday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to help a trucking company bring hundreds of jobs to Shiawassee County."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445357690_jones.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder orders flags lowered to honor former conservation officer Arthur Green III

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today ordered U.S. flags within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings to be lowered to half-staff on Thursday, Oct. 22, in honor of Department of Natural Resources conservation officer First Lt. Arthur Green III. F/Lt. Green died in a single-engine plane crash August 9 while en route to a DNR meeting in northern Michigan. The flag honoring date was selected in consultation with the Green family. "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445357066_gov.pdf

Michigan's Children brings Parents to State Capitol for FamilySpeak on Adult Education

"LANSING, MI – Parents who have been able to better assist their kids' education by building their own literacy and other skills will address lawmakers and policymakers at a special Michigan's Children FamilySpeak forum next week."

Source: *Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445357022_mcace.pdf

Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Road Funding

"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) issued the following statement today after Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R–West Olive) called on the Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter to discharge road-funding bills from conference committee:"

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445356464_ananich.pdf

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Teaching Quality Progress a Win for Michigan Students

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (Oct. 20, 2015) – Today Michigan legislative leaders took a major step forward in efforts to make Michigan a top ten education state for learning and improve the quality of teaching for Michigan educators. The state Senate concurred in support of House legislation that is expected to create Michigan's first statewide educator evaluation and support system. The bill now heads to Governor Rick Snyder for his signature."

Source: *The Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445353703_edu.pdf

Progress Michigan: MDEQ's Wyant Needs to Go

"LANSING — In the wake of the Flint water crisis, where children across the city were poisoned with high levels of lead in the drinking water, Progress Michigan is calling for the ouster of the head of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Dan Wyant."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445352985_progress.pdf

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Red Cross blood donation opportunities Nov. 1-15, 2015

"The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood before the holiday season is in full swing. A seasonal decline often occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors get busy with festivities. However, the need for blood doesn't take a holiday."

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445352561_redcross.pdf

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MAC appoints Gorz as governmental affairs associate

"LANSING, MICH. – The Michigan Association of Counties announced today the appointment of Elizabeth Gorz as its new governmental affairs associate."

Source: *Michigan Association of Counties* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445351687_mac.pdf

Enjoy youth waterfowl hunts at managed waterfowl hunt areas

"The Department of Natural Resources encourages waterfowl hunters to bring a young hunter to one of Michigan's managed waterfowl hunt areas in October and November for a memorable hunting experience. Hunters can choose from several dates and locations. Parties with at least one youth hunter will be given priority in the draw at all seven managed waterfowl hunt areas:"

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445351042_dnr.pdf

Michigan Leaders Learn from Top Education States

"Last week, The Education Trust-Midwest brought together education, business, and community leaders, for an opportunity to learn from the architects of leading states' education transformation plans, such as Massachusetts and Tennessee. ***The meeting will bestreamed tomorrow, October 21 at 10 a.m. atEdTrustMidwest.org/Video.***"

Source: *The Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445348201_edu.pdf

Michigan's Children brings Parents, Caregivers to FamilySpeak on Adult Education to State Capitol

"LANSING, MI – Parents who have been able to better assist their kids' education by building their own literacy and other skills will address lawmakers and policymakers at a special Michigan's Children FamilySpeak forum next week."

Source: *Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445346796_macae.pdf

Audit Report Released - DOC, Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility (471-0208-15)

"Performance audit report of the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, Department of Corrections Project number: 471-0208-15"

Source: *Auditor General* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445346334_auditor.pdf

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Audit Report Released - 313-0140-10F - Follow-up, Office of Professional Preparation Services, MDE

"Follow-up report on the performance audit of the Office of Professional Preparation Services, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Project number: 313-0140-10F"

Source: *Auditor General* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445346271_auditor.pdf

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY SETTLES RACE CASE AGAINST YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY

"Paula Scott accepted a non-disclosed settlement to resolve her lawsuit against Swan Creek Mobile Home Community in Ypsilanti Township."

Source: *Fair Housing Center of Southeast & Mid Michigan* **Date:** *10-21-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445346200_fair.pdf

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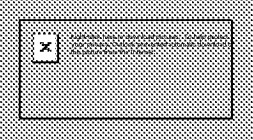

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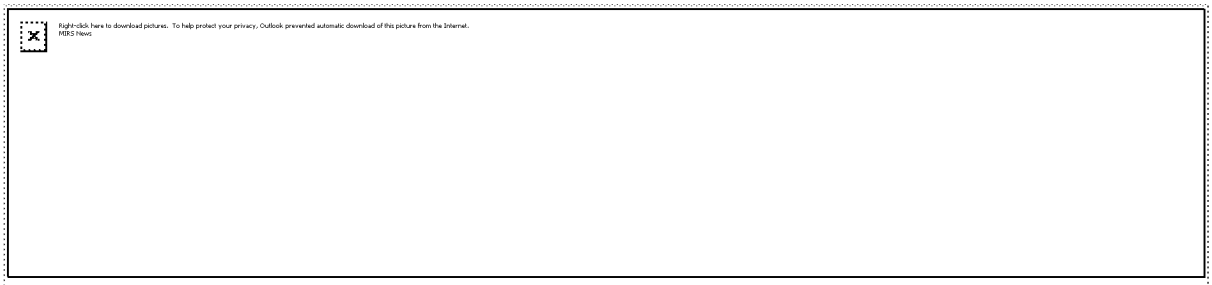
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2015 11:41 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 21, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 21, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/656

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/657

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

House GOP Sends Its Own $1.2B Road Plan To Senate

With negotiations on a bicameral, bipartisan road-funding plan essentially stalled, House Republicans took the wheel tonight, approving their own $1.2-billion transportation proposal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44772

Gov's DPS Plan To Start In Hesitant Senate

If Gov. Rick SNYDER tried to pass his Detroit School reform package in the Senate today, it wouldn't have much chance of passage, based on the observation of key Republican members.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44780

House Forms New Subcommittee Focused On Medicaid

The House is officially forming three new Appropriations subcommittees, including one that will be specifically focused on the state's growing Medicaid program.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44764

Kowall Tossing Around '18 SOS Bid

He's not out of a job yet, but apparently for Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake) it's never too late to contemplate your next assignment, and it looks like running for Secretary of State is an option.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44757

Sikkema, Kolb To Lead Gov's Task Force On Flint Water

Gov. Rick SNYDER today followed up on his call for an independent investigation into actions leading up to the Flint water crisis by announcing the creation of an independent task force to review state, federal and municipal involvement in the situation.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44769

Schuette Chastises Columnist For Reference To Mom

Attack Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE all you want for what he's done for the political and professional choices he's made, but when you go after his late mother, Esther Schuette GERSTACKER, Schuette says you've "crossed the line."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44758

State Reboots Process To Replace Aging Election Equipment

It looks like it's going to take longer to replace the state's decade-old election equipment.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44762

HP, State Agree To Work Together On BAM Transition As Case Continues

The state and Hewlett-Packard (HP) are still at it in court, but have agreed to work out some issues related to the dispute stemming from the Business Application Modernization (BAM) contract.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44761

Biden Properly Read Political Tea Leaves

Vice President Joe BIDEN's Rose Garden announcement that he'd "run out of time" on mounting a viable presidential campaign solidifies former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON's position as the Democrats' likely presidential nominee in 2016, political observers told MIRS today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44759

Pavlov To Hold Hearings On Academically Failing Schools

Starting in November, the Senate Education Committee plans to begin a series of hearings on the state's academically failing schools.

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44763

Dianda Unveils Resolution Calling Steudle Unfit To Lead MDOT

On the same night the House approved a $1.2 billion road plan, Rep. Scott DIANDA (D-Calumet) announced a resolution that asks the House to formally voice a "lack of confidence" in the director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44773

Moroun's Goal Of Building Second US-Canada Bridge Span Edges Closer

The Detroit International Bridge Company (DIBC) was able to celebrate a victory in court today.

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44767

Parole Board Must Consider Prisoners' Cases First, Court Of Appeals Rules

Prisoners do not have to seek approval from the court that originally sentenced them before being considered for parole, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled today.

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44765

Large Dog Breeders Regulated Under Bill Bound For House Floor

A proposal to allow the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to register and license large-scale dog-breeding kennels passed the House Appropriations Committee today.

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44771

Jackson National Unveils HQ Expansion

Jackson National Life Insurance this morning unveiled their new 1,200-person office structure at 8 Corporate Way, which is between Okemos and Mason in Ingham County.

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44770

Bits And Tidbits

Democrat Announces In 52nd

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44766

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 21, 1845, future poet Will CARLETON was born in rural Lenawee County. The Hillsdale College graduate is most famous for his work "Over the Hill to the Poor House."

http://www.mrsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44768

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mlisnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**
Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
9:00 AM - **Education**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Robert Wittenberg – Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP to Ricardo via email
whitericardo240@gmail.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. LaTanya Garrett – Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
cte.latanyagarrett@gmail.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015
7:00 PM
Rep. Sheldon Neeley – 2nd Annual Unity Gala
Location: Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom
Contact: RSVP via email
neeleyrep34@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
kornmoll@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo – Lunch Reception
Location: Kelley Cawthorne
Contact: RSVP via email
quinney.morgan17@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
4:30 PM
Rep. Julie Plawecki Fall Reception and Hard Cider Tasting
Location: Fundraiser, Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Joseph Sullivan 5179172985
jsull86@hotmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
5:00 PM
Rep. George Darany – Annual Fall Reception
Guest Speakers: Former Congressman John Dingell
Location: LaPita Banquet Hall
Contact: RSVP via email
wdrake@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley –Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Kristy Pagan – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
kristy@kristypagan.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
5:30 PM
Rep. Derek Miller – Evening Reception
Location: Warren Fraternal Order of Police Hall
Contact: RSVP via email
ryanbardon@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
11:30 AM
Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright – Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP to Marcia 231-740-8492 - OR -

gregalmcc79@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley –Thanksgiving Brunch
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Tim Greimel – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
hillkipp@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015
4:00 PM
Rep. Erika Geiss –Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music
Guest Speakers: Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe
Location: Geiss Residence
Contact: RSVP via email
electgeiss@electgeiss.com

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
9:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hour
Location: Meridian Senior Center
Contact: Sam Singh
votesamsingh@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Wendell L. Byrd – Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP via email
repwendellbyrd@gmail.com

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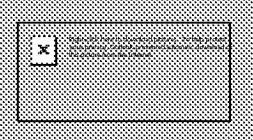
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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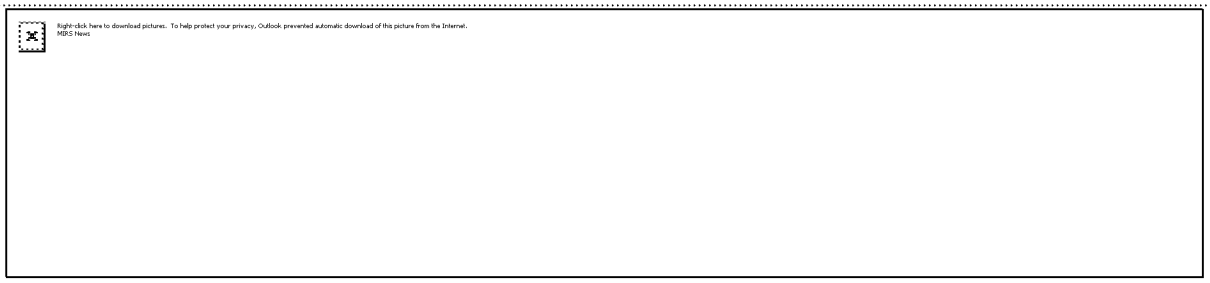

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Meekhof goes 'Back to the Future' in push for action on road funding plan, fuel tax increase

"LANSING, MI — Michigan drivers don't have flying cars or the kind of skyways that "Back to the Future Part II" predicted would commonplace by October 21, 2015."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/meekhof_goes_back_to_the_futur.html#incart_river*

Snyder sports Spartans tie after losing bet on Michigan: 'Now let's all root to beat Ohio State'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder doesn't usually wear neck ties, but he sported a green and white Spartans version on Wednesday after losing a friendly bet with Lt. Gov. Brian Calley."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_rick_snyder_spots_michigan.html#incart_river*

Michigan House approves brand new $1.2B road funding plan in late-night session

"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Republicans jumpstarted a stalled road funding debate Wednesday night by unveiling and approving a new $1.2 billion plan, advancing the nine-bill package with little support from Democrats and without assurances that the Senate or governor are on board."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_approves_new_12.html#incart_river*

Kildee, Ananich call for federal investigation into Flint water crisis

"FLINT, MI – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is being asked to investigate the cause of water problems in Flint by U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint, and state Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/kildee_ananich_call_for_federa.html#incart_river_home

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Gov. Snyder names task force to review actions in Flint water crisis

"FLINT, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed a task force to review "actions regarding water use and testing in Flint" and to make recommendations for future guidelines."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_snyder_names_task_force_to.html#incart_river_home

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Court: Issue Detroit bridge permit or explain denial

"A federal appeals court on Tuesday ordered the U.S. Coast Guard to issue a permit by Jan. 4 needed to build a second span of the Ambassador Bridge or explain why it hasn't done so."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/court-detroit-bridge-permit/74348848/

Snyder becomes tied-up as a Spartan

"University of Michigan graduate Rick Snyder, who also is governor of Michigan, made good on his big game bet with Michigan State University grad Brian Calley, his lieutenant governor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/insider-snyder/74371492/

Kildee calls for federal probe of Flint water crisis

"Washington — Rep. Dan Kildee has requested an investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency into the Flint water crisis, saying the unacceptable lead levels detected in the city's water "were a failure of government at every level.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/21/flint-water-epa-kildee/74326460/

UAW-FCA deal appears headed toward ratification

"The United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV appear to have a new four-year contract, according to voting results compiled by The Detroit News."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/21/ratification-uaw-fiat-chrysler-deal/74355756/

Michigan House passes $1.2B road funding plan

"Lansing — The Michigan House rolled out and narrowly approved a roads funding plan Wednesday night that combines higher fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees with a shift in state funds."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/michigan-house-road-funding-plan/74363288/

Task force appointed to examine Flint water controversy

"LANSING – As Gov. Rick Snyder appointed an independent task force to examine the controversy over Flint's tainted water Wednesday, more lawmakers called for investigations into how the problem went unsolved for so long."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/task-force-appointed-examine-flint-water-controversy/74342628/

Blue alert bill receives final passage in Legislature

"LANSING — First there were Amber Alerts for missing kids. Then came the Silver Alerts to help locate missing senior citizens."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/blue-alert-bill-receives-final-passage-legislature/74347170/

Court: Parole board must consider inmate's release

"LANSING — In an unusual move that attorneys say has implications for a limited number of other Michigan

prisoners, the Michigan Court of Appeals has ordered the state's Parole Board to give consideration to an inmate whose case the board has so far refused to hear."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/court-parole-board-must-consider-inmates-release/74324066/*

General Motors' staggering $8.3-billion North American pre-tax profit through October all but guarantees larger profit sharing checks for 52,700 UAW workers, but it might also raise UAW expectations for a better contract than the deal negotiated with Fiat Chrysler.

"General Motors' staggering $8.3-billion North American pre-tax profit through October all but guarantees larger profit sharing checks for 52,700 UAW workers, but it might also raise UAW expectations for a better contract than the deal negotiated with Fiat Chrysler."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/21/gm-3rd-quarter-earnings/74268904/*

School kickback scheme described in e-mails

"In a series of conversations with her boss in November 2014, Kenyetta (KC) Wilbourn, the former principal of Mumford High School, laid bare the nature of alleged corruption in the Educational Achievement Authority, according to an account contained in hundreds of pages of documents and e-mails released by the EAA this week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/21/ex-eaa-principal-describes-kickback-scheme-vendors/74334094/*

UAW workers approve FCA deal, partial results suggest

"UAW workers in about 16 Fiat Chrysler plants voted in favor of an improved four-year contract based on results that were trickling out Wednesday night and obtained by the Detroit Free Press."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/21/early-results-show-uaw-workers-favor-fca-agreement/74340616/*

House passes sweeping roads plan raising gas tax, fees

"LANSING — In mostly party-line votes, the House of Representatives passed a comprehensive plan to fix the state's roads that includes a gas tax hike, a 40% increase in registration fees and a $600-million shift of

money from the state's general fund to roads."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/21/michigan-roads-repairs-potholes-legislature/74360028/*

Lt. Governor's visit highlights mental health work at Fresh Start Clubhouse

"It can mean a lot to be the member of a club."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/lt_governors_visit_highlights.html#incart_river_home*

Ann Arbor school board member launches campaign for State House of Representatives

"Donna Lasinski, Ann Arbor Public Schools Board of Education treasurer, is running for State House of Representatives."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/ann_arbor_school_board_member_9.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Rep. Miller: Fiorina should be next president

"I am convinced Carly Fiorina is the person who is best prepared to protect both our security at home and our vital national interest across the globe as the next president of the United States."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/21/us-rep-candice-miller-fiorina-president/74366286/*

Editorial: Michigan jobless rate shows economic growth

"At 5 percent, Michigan's unemployment rate has fallen below the national average, currently 5.1 percent, for the first time in a decade and a half. The news is a welcome part of Michigan's effort to recover from the Lost Decade. And although it signals some growth, there's more to do.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/21/editorial-state-jobless-rates/74366542/*

Howes: Is GM as 'vastly different' as Barra claims?

"CEO Mary Barra says "GM is a vastly different company today than just five years ago.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/10/22/gm-earnings-signal-different-company/74372408/*

Number of Michigan Welfare Recipients Declines 70 Percent

"The number of people receiving welfare cash assistance from the state has plummeted since Gov. Rick Snyder took office, partly due to the improved economy but also because the state now enforces a limit on how long beneficiaries could receive cash benefits."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21835*

Press Releases

Michigan House approves '600/600' plan to fund roads and bridges

"The Michigan House today approved a compromise roads plan intended to represent all sides of the state's ongoing funding discussion. The legislation as passed will provide stable annual funding for the maintenance of roads and bridges throughout the state through what is being called the "600/600" plan or "Plan R.""

Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445478099_HOUSE.pdf

Michigan House approves '600/600' plan to fund roads and bridges

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Source: *Michigan House Republicans* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445478048_*

Rep. Hughes bill provides tax relief as part of $1.2 billion road fund package

"LANSING – Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, voted today in support of statewide road funding legislation, a

nine-bill package approved by the state House of Representatives."

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445477393_hughes.pdf

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House Dems Reject Irresponsible, Unworkable Roads Plan

"LANSING – House Democrats resoundingly rejected a warmed-over rehash of the House Republicans' once-failed roads plan when it was brought up for a vote late Wednesday night. House Republicans managed to outdo themselves by making their failed plan from June even worse by adding on tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires while insisting on a plan that demands $600 million be cut from vitally important programs, including public safety, education and health care. The roads plan was voted out of the House late Wednesday night and will head to the Senate for consideration."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445477315_dem.pdf

Speaker Cotter on roads

"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement on the package of bills that will fund Michigan's road and bridge repairs:"

Source: *Rep. Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445477033_cotter.pdf

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Rep. Dianda Says Steudle Unfit to Lead MDOT

*"LANSING – State Representative **Scott Dianda** (D-Calumet) today introduced a House resolution today outlining recent issues, an auditor general's report and other problems in the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) that he believes proves that MDOT Director Kirk Steudle is a poor steward of the taxpayers' dollars and is unfit to lead the department. Dianda's resolution has both Republican and Democratic cosponsors"*

Source: *Rep. Scott Dianda* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445466416_dianda.pdf

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Neeley Stresses Need for Cooperation with Task Force on Flint Water

*"LANSING — State Representative **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint) called for impartiality and cooperation with local and state elected officials today when Gov. Rick Snyder announced a task force that would look into the actions surrounding the management and testing of Flint's drinking water system. According to a press release, the goal of the task force is to investigate what happened and to prevent the kind of problems that*

occurred with Flint's drinking water system in other systems in the state."

Source: *Rep. Sheldon Neeley* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445465589_neeley.pdf

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New Poll Shows Strong Opposition to New Gas Taxes

"Pinckney, Mich. – The Platform Republican Caucus, a grassroots citizen group, released the results of a poll today that show strong opposition to gas tax or registration fee increases. Legislative leaders hope to vote as soon as today on a package that would hike gas taxes by hundreds of millions of dollars. The full poll results are available online at www.platformrepublicancaucus.com."

Source: *The Polling Company* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445462689_poll.pdf

State Recognizes the First MAEAP Verified Woodland

"Warren Suchovsky of Stephenson in Menominee County, became the state's first landowner to achieve the Forest, Wetlands and Habitat System verification under the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program. MAEAP is housed within the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development with local technical assistance for this verification provided by the Menominee County Conservation District."

Source: *Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445461769_mda.pdf

Zorn applauds grant to Morenci to help train workers for $22.7 million private investment project

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Dale Zorn announced on Wednesday that the city of Morenci will be able to help provide necessary job training for a local expansion project thanks to a recently approved state grant."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445461384_zorn.pdf

Peters Applauds Efforts to Invest in Innovation to Drive Economic Growth

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today released the following statement applauding the Obama Administration's Strategy for American Innovation that prioritizes investments in research and development, advanced vehicle technology and other innovations to spur economic growth:"*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445460908_peters.pdf

Michigan Legislature Recognizes October 18th – 24th as National Chemistry Week

"LANSING, MI, October 21, 2015 – The Michigan Senate today adopted SR 108, a resolution to officially commemorate October 18-24, 2015 as National Chemistry Week. The resolution, introduced by Senator Jim Stamas of Midland, recognizes the American Chemical Society's annual celebration of chemistry in everyday life."

Source: *Michigan Chemistry Council* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445460083_mcc.pdf

MDP Statement on VP Biden's Announcement He Will Not Seek Presidency

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the followed statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, regarding today's announcement by Vice President Joe Biden that he will not run for President of the United States:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445459778_mdp.pdf

Independent Women's Voice Statement: Will Paul Ryan Eliminate Congress' Exemption From ObamaCare

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Today Independent Women's Voice (IWV) weighed in on the race for the next Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and highlighted the results of its latest pollthat shows 7 in 10 Americans want the next Speaker to reverse the special Washington exemption from ObamaCare."*

Source: *Independent Women's Voice* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445458615_iwv.pdf

Pavlov announces committee hearings on Michigan's academically failing schools

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair Township, announced Wednesday that the Michigan Senate Education Committee will conduct a series of hearings on Michigan's academically failing schools, beginningWednesday, Nov. 4."*

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445457532_pavlov.pdf

Detroit Regional Chamber to Legislature: Action Needed on Roads Compromise Plan

"After the defeat of Proposal 1, leaders of both parties promised voters a plan to finally fix Michigan's roads and critical infrastructure. Six months later, no agreement has been reached and voters once again read headlines that our elected leaders are at an impasse. "

Source: *Detroit Regional Chamber* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445456732_drc.pdf*

Donna Lasinski Announces Campaign for State Representative from Western Washtenaw County

"SCIO TWP - Today Donna Lasinski announced she is running to succeed Rep. Gretchen Driskell as the next State Representative from the 52nd District, representing western Washtenaw County. "

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445456343_grassroots.pdf*

New National Energy Efficiency Scorecard Shows Michigan's High Ranking Is At Risk

"LANSING—After years of improvement, Michigan is losing ground nationally when it comes to reducing energy waste, according to a new report released today by the ***American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy*** *(ACEEE). This year's report shows Michigan slipping from 12th to 14th nationally, and comes at a time when the Michigan Legislature is considering a repeal of Michigan's energy efficiency standard."*

Source: *Byrum Fisk* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445456290_fisk.pdf*

Volunteer water monitoring conference slated for November

"The MiCorps program, in partnership with the DEQ, will host the 11th annual MiCorps conference for volunteer water quality monitors on Nov. 4-5 at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, Mich."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445456231_deq.pdf*

Rep. Trott Blasts Obama Veto Threat of Military Pay and Benefits

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today urged President Barack Obama to abandon his veto threat of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)--bipartisan legislation that funds America's armed forces and supports the nation's military efforts around the globe."

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445456190_trott.pdf

Section of I-75 to Close in Detroit for Weekend Construction

*"**DETROIT** – M-1 RAIL and the Michigan Department of Transportation announced today that construction crews will be closing a section of I-75 (Fisher Freeway) in Detroit to set bridge beams at Woodward Avenue as part of the M-1 RAIL project. The full closure will begin at 7 p.m. Friday and end by 9 a.m. Sunday. "*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445455554_mdot.pdf

Sen. Zorn welcomes local dysautonomia patients, parents and advocates to Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Dale W. Zorn, R-Ida, welcomed local residents with dysautonomia, their families and awareness advocates to the Michigan Capitol on Wednesday. Zorn presented them with a copy of his resolution commemorating October as Dysautonomia Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. Senate Resolution 94 was adopted by the Michigan Senate on Sept. 29. For more information about dysautonomia, residents can visit www.dinet.org."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453806_zorn.pdf

Today declared Phillip M. Becker Day in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

*"**October 21, 2015** -- The mayor of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., honored longtime manager of the International Bridge by proclaiming today Phillip M. Becker Day in the city."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453756_mdot.pdf

International Bridge officials celebrate toll plaza project completion

*"**October 21, 2015** -- Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority (SSMBA) board members were joined by bridge staff, contractor representatives and local dignitaries today to celebrate the completion of the 16-month-long, $8.9 million (USD) toll plaza project with a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony."*

Source: *Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453697_bridge.pdf

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Rep. Bishop Joins House Wounded Warrior Program

*"**WASHINGTON** – Today, Congressman Mike Bishop announced his office's partnership with the House of Representatives Wounded Warrior Program. Facilitated through the program, applications are now being accepted for a position in his Brighton, Mich., district office."*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453606_bishop.pdf

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MDHHS, MOA, and MSMS Urge Residents to Get Vaccinated Against Influenza Now

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) along with the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) and Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), urge all Michigan residents to protect themselves against influenza (flu) and its potentially life-threatening consequences by getting vaccinated. The MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories has already confirmed the first cases of influenza in the state for the 2015-2016 flu season. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453546_mdhhs.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, of

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the creation of an independent advisory task force charged with reviewing actions regarding water use and testing in Flint and offer recommendations for future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453476_gov.pdf

Connected vehicle program aided by Michigan Virtual University

"Lansing — The State of Michigan Department of Talent and Economic Development through the Skilled Trades Training Fund awarded Capital Communications Inc., a Plymouth-based leader in telecommunications, $30,000 to participate in online and classroom training for the Connected Vehicle Professional program developed by SAE International and Mobile Comply."

Source: *Michigan Virtual University* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445453370_mvu.pdf

Schuette: Seniors Beware of Telemarketing Scams Impersonating Federal, State Government Officials

"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today issued a warning regarding telemarketing scams that impersonate government entities to obtain sensitive personal or financial information from consumers. The scams tend to target Michigan seniors and claim to be from the U.S. Department of Treasury, Michigan Department of Treasury or the Internal Revenue Service. Schuette's Consumer Protection Team advises consumers that neither the State of Michigan nor the federal government will ever contact them via phone to confirm or request personal information."

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445450353_ag.pdf*

MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES FIRST EVER PIZZA CHALLENGE WINNER

"LANSING, MI –The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce Flo's Pizzeria Ristorante from Grand Rapids as the winner of the inaugural MRA Pizza Challenge. The Challenge was held as part of the Michigan Restaurant Show, which takes place each October in Novi and is the premier trade show in Michigan for the foodservice industry."

Source: *Michigan Restaurant Association* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445449565_restaurant.pdf*

JEB BUSH, JR. TO VISIT IOWA THIS WEEK FOR IOWA COLLEGE TOUR

*"**Miami, FL –** This week, Governor Jeb Bush's son, Jeb Bush, Jr., will visit Iowa for a college tour. Tomorrow, he will attend meet and greet events at Iowa State University and the University of Iowa. On Friday, he will attend a meet and greet at Drake University."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445449194_jeb.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder honors rivalry game bet

*"**Photo:** Gov. Rick Snyder, a University of Michigan graduate, is wearing a Michigan State University Spartans tie today to honor a bet he made with Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, a Michigan State University graduate. The wager with Calley was that if Michigan State lost, Calley had to wear a University of Michigan tie for one day this week, and if the University of Michigan lost, Snyder had to wear a Michigan State tie."*

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445448677_gov.pdf*

House unanimously approves Franz' bill to safeguard employment protections for National Guard

"LANSING, MI -- State Rep. Ray Franz' legislation to ensure employment protections for the men and women of the National Guard unanimously passed the House Tuesday in a full floor vote."

Source: *Rep. Ray Franz* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445448177_franz.pdf

Winning Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Bonus Drawing Ticket Sold in Oakland County

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 21, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player has won $25,000 in the third Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle bonus drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445448131_lottery.pdf

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Governor Rick Snyder on MiWeek: The Future of Detroit Education

*"**DETROIT (October 19, 2015) –** On Wednesday, October 21, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder will sit down with the MiWeek team for a half-hour conversation about his new education proposal that he outlined Monday, which includes creating a new Detroit School District devoted solely to teaching the 47,000 students while the current district will exist to address the mounting debt situation currently totaling $500 million. Detroit Public Television (DPTV) will bring you the interview live online starting at 2:30p.m. on www.miweek.org and again on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on WTVS Channel 56."*

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445448082_gov.pdf

MDHHS announces upcoming Invitation to Bid for Primary Care Health Homes Program

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will soon release an Invitation to Bid for provider participation in the MI Care Team health homes pilot program. The purpose of the MI Care Team program is to improve the health of beneficiaries by integrating primary care services, making it easier on the beneficiary to navigate and receive the physical and behavioral health services they need."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445443697_mdhhs.pdf

Michigan Forest Products Council Celebrates National Forest Products Week

"LANSING, Mich., October 21, 2015 —To mark the 55th anniversary of National Forest Products Week, President Barack Obama last week issued a proclamation praising paper and wood-based products for the value they lend in everyday life. Forest products manufactures and organizations through the value chain are joining to Celebrate Forest Products (#CelebrateFP)."

Source: *Michigan Forest Products Council* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445443561_forest.pdf

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Benishek Demands Answers From VA

"Washington, DC - At a hearing of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs today, Rep. Dan Benishek joined a unanimous Committee in voting to subpoena top VA officials to testify on abuses that occurred with relocation incentives at the VA hospital in Philadelphia. An Inspector General report suggested that VA employees were improperly awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in moving expenses, yet still, no one has been prosecuted or fired. "

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445442447_benishek.pdf

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Responsible pet breeding legislation approved by House Committee

"The House Committee on Appropriations today approved House Bill 4898, legislation introduced by State Rep. Mike McCready to provide funding to address and properly regulate large-scale house pet breeding facilities."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445441598_pscholka.pdf

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MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP OPENS SELF-HELP CENTER OF MACOMB COUNTY, THIRD IN METRO DETROIT AREA

"(Mt. Clemens, MI.) People in Macomb County who need information about how to handle simple civil legal matters but cannot afford an attorney have a new place to go for help– the Michigan Legal Help Self-Help Center of Macomb County, located in the James C. Daner Law Library on the 5 Macomb County Court Building at 40 N. Main St. in Mt. Clemens. Here, visitors can access computers and printers, and receive assistance using the Michigan Legal Help website in English or Spanish (www.MichiganLegalHelp.org / www.ayudalegaldemichigan.org). As of October 22, 2015, the center is open to the public on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9:30am - 12:30pm and 1:00pm to 4:00pm.All services at the Self-

Help Center are free."

Source: *Michigan Legal Help* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445441273_mlh.pdf

Catholic Conference Supports Tying Homestead Tax Credit to Inflation

*"(**Lansing, Mich**.) – Legislation voted out of the House Tax Policy Committee this morning to increase the Homestead Property Tax Credit would provide simple tax relief for both low-income residents and senior citizens, Michigan Catholic Conference stated today in support of House Bill 4871. The bill, sponsored by Representative Martin Howrylak (R-Troy) would amend the Income Tax Act so that the Homestead Property Tax Credit would be adjusted annually based on the rate of inflation."*

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445440411_catholic.pdf

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CORRECTION: DEQ postpones public hearing for L'Anse Warden Electric Company permit

"Correction: The earlier version of this news release contained an incorrect date. The postponed hearing was originally scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 29."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-22-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445440253_deq.pdf

Rand Paul for President: 100 Days to Victory

*"**WA***

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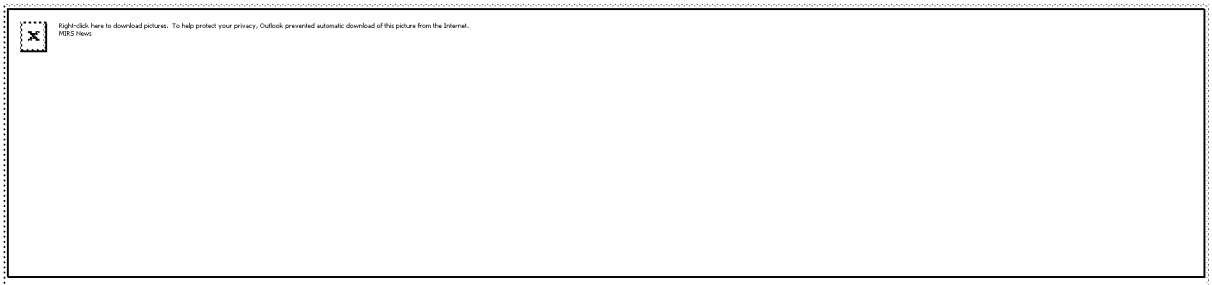
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 7:48 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 22, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 22, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/850

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/859

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Will House Republicans Face Primary Heat For Road Tax Votes?

Fifty-four House Republicans signed off Wednesday night on both a gradual 3.3 percent gas tax and 40 percent driver registration increase, moves that infuriated conservative activists, but left them in a position to do little about it, in the short term.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44775

Senate R's Still Studying House Road Plan, D's Call It A 'Step Backwards'

Senate Republican leadership largely remained pensive on ideas laid out in the House's $1.2 billion road plan that moved out of the chamber late Wednesday night, but several Democrats are unconvinced the plan as written is an effective solution.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44731

Disagreement Rules In House On What To Do About Gun Violence

As Senate Republicans prep a bill that would allow for the concealed carry of guns inside schools and

churches, House Democrats touted their own proposals this morning that would go in a far different direction.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44777

Lawmaker Sees `Child Kidnappers' Bill Of Rights' In Domestic Abuse Bill

One House member said the bill looks out for the best interest of children. Another said it would provide a "Child Kidnappers' Bill Of Rights."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44778

AG: Counties Need Vote Of People To Levy Certain Taxes Past Limit

Counties aren't allowed to levy certain taxes past their constitutional limitations without a vote of the people, according to an opinion issued today by Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44776

Is Flint Water Snyder's PBB Issue?

Some observers in town think Gov. Rick SNYDER's handling of the Flint lead-in-the-water controversy may be analogous to former Gov. William MILLIKEN's PBB challenge back in the `70s.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44782

Amateur MMA Regulation Bills En Route To Governor

Two bills aiming to regulate amateur boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) fights are headed to Gov. Rick SNYDER's desk after several years of back-and-forth on the matter between the House and Senate.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44783

Snyder Appoints Two Judges To Wayne County Courts

Gov. Rick SNYDER announced today the appointments of Adel HARB to the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court and Lawrence PAOLUCCI to the Wayne County Probate Court.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44780

State Must Pay Legal Bill Under Bills

State government would pick up the legal bill of residents who prevail in a regulatory lawsuit against a state agency, under legislation that saw its first hearing in a Senate committee this morning.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4697#44774

Gamrat, Courser Campaign Against House Roads Plan

Within 90 minutes of each other, former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT sent out separate emails this afternoon claiming they would have been no votes on a pair of House bills that propose

raising the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44735

Bits And Tidbits

Candidate For Civil Rights Director Drops Out Ahead Of Interview

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44764

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 22, 1996, funeral services were announced for Rep. Bob DeMARS (D-Lincoln Park) who died suddenly the previous day outside an American Legion Post. DeMars, a 15-year House member, was up for re-election at the time.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44779

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell**
Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Robert Wittenberg – Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP to Ricardo via email
whitericardo240@gmail.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

10:30 AM
Rep. LaTanya Garrett – Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
cte.latanyagarrett@gmail.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015
7:00 PM
Rep. Sheldon Neeley – 2nd Annual Unity Gala
Location: Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom
Contact: RSVP via email
neeleyrep34@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
kornmoll@gmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo – Lunch Reception
Location: Kelley Cawthorne
Contact: RSVP via email
quinney.morgan17@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
4:30 PM
Rep. Julie Plawecki Fall Reception and Hard Cider Tasting
Location: Fundraiser, Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Joseph Sullivan 5179172985
jsull86@hotmail.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
5:00 PM
Rep. George Darany – Annual Fall Reception
Guest Speakers: Former Congressman John Dingell
Location: LaPita Banquet Hall
Contact: RSVP via email
wdrake@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley –Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room
Contact: RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Kristy Pagan – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
kristy@kristypagan.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
5:30 PM
Rep. Derek Miller – Evening Reception
Location: Warren Fraternal Order of Police Hall
Contact: RSVP via email
ryanbardoni@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
11:30 AM
Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright – Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP to Marcia 231-740-8492 - OR -
gregalmcc79@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley –Thanksgiving Brunch
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Tim Greimel – Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
hillkipp@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015
4:00 PM
Rep. Erika Geiss –Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music
Guest Speakers: Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe
Location: Geiss Residence
Contact: RSVP via email
electgeiss@electgeiss.com

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015
9:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hour
Location: Meridian Senior Center
Contact: Sam Singh
votesamsingh@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Wendell L. Byrd – Lunch Reception
Location: Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP via email
repwendellbyrd@gmail.com

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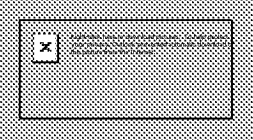

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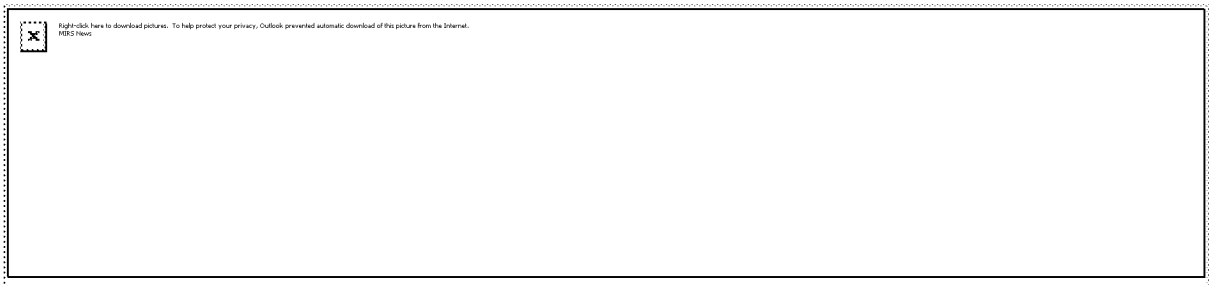
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2015 9:30 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Initiative, voting indicators of local lawmakers' efficacy

"After a late night in the state House on Wednesday, representatives passed a road funding package that has equal chances at success and failure when it makes it to the state Senate."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/story/news/2015/10/23/initiative-voting-indicate-local-lawmakers-efficacy/74280322/*

In one tech-heavy cyber school, a low-tech strategy spurs learning

"From her desk in Okemos, third-grade teacher Kim Roberts welcomes students with a smile and a wave, and describes a book they're going to read together in class."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/in-one-tech-heavy-cyber-school-a-low-tech-strategy-spurs-learning/*

Drones are coming soon to an apple orchard near you, farmers and students hope

"SPARTA, MI – As a whirring drone hovered over an apple orchard last week, about 20 fruit growers and University of Michigan students asked each other: "What can these things do for fruit growers?""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/10/students_test_drones_in_apple.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Economic development growing in walkable urban communities

"We don't walk in Michigan. We live in suburbs, far-out exurbs and rural areas where we drive to the office, shopping centers and soccer practice."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_economic_developm.html#incart_river_home*

All about Ivanka: Trump's daughter, muse and deal-maker

"Washington — Six-year-old Ivanka Trump was furious: She'd gotten a Barbie for Christmas while her two brothers got Legos and an Erector Set."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/25/ivanka-trump-donald-trump-trump/74545650/*

GOP presidential candidates juggle day jobs, campaign

"Columbus, Ohio — As Republican Gov. John Kasich travels the country in a quest for the presidency, his people back home want Ohioans to know that he's still focused on his day job. As his spokesman put it: "his cellphone works just as well in Cincinnati, Iowa, as it works in Cincinnati, Ohio.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/25/gop-president-campaign/74545972/*

Group draws 2,097 in effort to regain 'Rosies' record

"Ypsilanti Township — A group that's preserving a portion of a Detroit-area assembly plant where Rosie the Riveter once worked as a museum may have regained its "largest gathering of people dressed as Rosie the Riveter" record."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/24/group-draws-effort-regain-rosies-record/74552804/*

Detroit Zoo chief's compensation rises 162% in 3 years

"Detroit Zoo director Ron Kagan's compensation has risen dramatically under a beefed-up retirement incentive offered to select zoo executives to help "attract and retain qualified personnel," financial records show."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/10/24/detroit-zoo-chiefs-compensation-rises-years/74544380/*

Bill lets retirees teach, get pension due to lack of subs

"Lansing — Michigan lawmakers are under pressure to let retired teachers return to the classroom because of a shortage of substitutes and not enough full-time teachers in special education, pre-kindergarten and certain subjects."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/24/bill-retirees-teach-get-pension-due-lack/74558154/*

Another week at the Capitol, two more abortion bills

"LANSING — Rarely a week goes by that some sort of legislation regarding abortion — on both sides of the issue — is not introduced in the Michigan Legislature."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/24/another-week-capitol-two-more-abortion-bills/74415746/*

Wayne State doctor: Women pass lead damage to grandkids

"Lead poisoning affects not only a pregnant woman's child, but also her grandchildren decades down the line, new research suggests."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/24/wayne-state-lead-study-poisoning-flint-water/74439922/*

Is emergency manager law to blame for Flint water crisis?

"LANSING — Michigan's emergency manager law, already highly controversial because it was rejected by voters in 2012 but reinstated by Republican lawmakers less than six weeks later, is under fresh scrutiny in light of the lead contamination of Flint's drinking water."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/24/emergency-manager-law-blame-flint-water-crisis/74048854/*

Obama plan limits standardized testing to no more than 2% of class time

"President Obama says students are spending too much time in the classroom taking tests, many of them unnecessary, and urged officials in the country's schools to take steps to administer fewer and more meaningful exams."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/24/obama-schools-test/74536886/*

UAW sets Sunday night strike deadline with GM

"The UAW on Saturday set a deadline of 11:59 p.m. Sunday in its contract talks with General Motors at which point the union could call a strike if a tentative agreement has not been reached."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/24/uaw-sets-sunday-night-strike-deadline-gm/74473858/*

Your guide to an energy efficient life

"Michigan Business this week is dedicated to getting the most out of your energy life. If you want to drive a hybrid or electric vehicle, we've got suggestions."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/personal-finance/2015/10/24/guide-energy-efficient/74541386/*

Help is on the way for lead-exposed Flint kids

"To the panicked parents in Flint: Help is on the way."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/24/flint-lead-exposure-help-water-attisha/74383010/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editorial: Roads plan jammed up behind the barricades

"Michigan lawmakers have been staying up late looking for money to pump into road construction."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/25/editorial-roads-plan-jammed-behind-barricades/74545174/*

George Weeks: Reflections on Michigan and the presidency

"Although Vice President Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids became our nation's 38th president (1974-77), and others have tried, no one from Michigan has been elected president."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.record-eagle.com/opinion/columns/george-weeks-reflections-on-michigan-and-the-presidency/article_b99c1138-7ad6-11e5-a738-ef8a8f0a2fe4.html*

Could Snyder help for Detroit schools spread to all Michigan districts?

"Talk about opening a can of worms. Actually two cans."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/could_snyder_help_for_detroit.html#incart_river_home*

Let's find a clean water solution for Michigan

"It was great to see the Michigan Legislature come together and put politics aside as they voted unanimously in finding a resolution to the Flint drinking water crisis. However, this single incident also exposed a major flaw in a system that should ensure that all residents of Michigan have access to clean drinking water, not water that is treated from polluted rivers and is brought to them through aging, deteriorating pipes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/25/find-clean-water-solution-michigan/74545540/*

Buss: Clinton and Trump race to bottom

"Once upon a time, we punished leaders who lied, thought they were above the law, or deflected responsibility. Nixon felt the brunt of that standard, Reagan skirted by on Iran-Contra, Bush 41 was ousted for lying about raising taxes, and Bill Clinton was impeached for deceit under oath."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/25/clinton-trump-race-bottom/74545140/*

Editorial: Snyder's DPS fix faces several tests

"Gov. Rick Snyder's latest iteration of a plan to fix Detroit schools calls for sweeping legislative changes, and he's going to have to get buy-in from state leaders and the public to finance the $715 million projected cost over 10 years. That's a tall order."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/24/editorial-snyders-dps-fix-faces-several-tests/74545454/*

Follow the money trail in campaign donations

"Money talks in politics."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/10/24/follow-money-trail-campaign-donations/74408150/*

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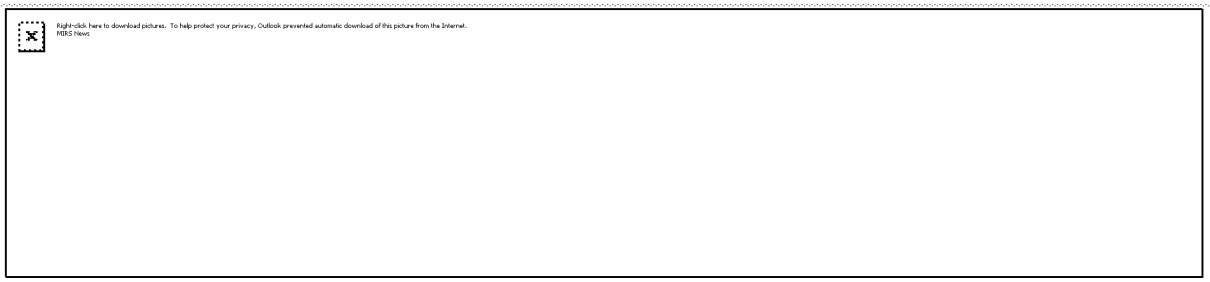

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Harsh conditions are foiling Russian jets in Syria

"WASHINGTON – Russian warplanes sent to Syria to back the regime of Bashar Assad are breaking down at a rapid rate that appears to be affecting their ability to strike targets, according to a senior Defense official."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/25/russia-vladimir-putin-ash-carter-syria/74586002/*

Biden: No truth to stories of Beau's dying wish

"It was a heart-rending story with an emotional impact capable of fundamentally shifting the race for the nation's highest office."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2015/10/26/biden-no-truth-to-stories-of-beaus-dying-wish/*

Aging Supreme Court energizes Republicans more than Democrats in 2016 race

"WASHINGTON — Wedged between the Republican and Democratic national conventions next July will fall an event of greater long-term significance for the future of the republic: Supreme Court JusticeAnthony Kennedy's 80th birthday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/25/supreme-court-president-age-80-election/74003698/*

USGS: Magnitude 7.5 earthquake strikes Afghanistan

"A powerful earthquake struck northern Afghanistan on Monday, with tremors being felt in India and Pakistan."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/26/earthquake-strikes-pakistan/74611896/*

Detroit blight overseer past violator of nuisance rules

"Detroit— The new manager hired to oversee Detroit's nuisance abatement program was himself sued under the same program last year for violating the rules in fixing up a blighted property of his own, The Detroit News has learned."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/26/detroit-blight-overseer-past-violator-nuisance-rules/74606794/*

School water seldom tested in urban Michigan districts

"Unhealthy levels of lead may be in the drinking water of Michigan's urban public schools beyond Flint as a result of gaps in federal testing requirements that leave those facilities unprotected."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/wellness/2015/10/26/school-water/74606636/*

Detroit to take stage at world's top architecture show

"In a cultural coup for Detroit, the U.S. State Department has chosen the Motor City to be the entire focus of the American pavilion at the 2016 Venice Biennale, the world's premier exhibition of architectural innovation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/25/detroit-venice-biennale-architecture-design-cities-um/74340160/*

Two vie for Southfield mayor, face empty Northland mall

"In a Southfield election marred by racist and anti-gay graffiti on campaign signs as well as scurrilous flyers thrown from car windows — the worst election season in memory, according to City Clerk Nancy Banks — voters will pick Nov. 3 between two mayoral candidates each trying to succeed a charismatic mayor who went to Congress."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/10/25/gay-racist-homophobic-southfield-northland-election-oakland-county/74510562/*

Pass or fail for EAA in Detroit?

"First, the principal of Burns Elementary-Middle School in Detroit suddenly went on leave this month. Then, the office secretaries were replaced."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/25/pass-fail-eaa-detroit/72022584/*

UAW and General Motors reach agreement; avert strike

"The UAW and General Motors reached a tentative agreement late Sunday said to include "significant wage gains and job security commitments," averting a strike minutes before the midnight deadline."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/25/uaw-and-general-motors-reach-agreement-avert-strike/74604950/*

Korean War veteran surprised to receive his medals 63 years late

*"**SAGINAW TOWNSHIP, MI** — Dennis Williams still has the government-issued U.S. Army combat boots he received in 1951, when he was drafted to fight in the Korean War."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/korean_war_vet_receives_medals.html#incart_river_home*

Uninsured population shrinks in Michigan, and 8 more points on health-care coverage

"The number of Michigan residents with health insurance grew by a quarter million during the first year of Obamacare, according to data recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/number_without_insurance_shrin.html#incart_river_home*

Oil-laden Lake Erie shipwreck prompts emergency leak investigation

"TOLEDO, OH — A sunken barge that's considered by authorities to be the worst potential polluting shipwreck in

the Great Lakes is believed to be threatening Lake Erie with up to 4,700 barrels of petroleum."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/argo_shipwreck_lake_erie.html#incart_river_home*

GOP voters: Trump most electable

"Washington — Republican voters view Donald Trump as their strongest general election candidate, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll that highlights the sharp contrast between the party's voters and its top professionals regarding the billionaire businessman's ultimate political strength."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/25/gop-voters-trump-electable/74601642/*

Officials select next Michigan civil rights chief

"LANSING – The Michigan Department of Civil Rights has a former member of its commission in place to lead the agency."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/25/michigan-civil-rights-chief/74591522/*

Duggan to announce RecoveryPark deal on land

"In a big step forward for urban agriculture in Detroit, Mayor Mike Duggan is expected to announce a deal Monday to transfer about 40 acres of city-owned land near Eastern Market to the RecoveryPark farming project."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/25/duggan-wozniak-recoverypark-farming-agriculture-detroit-economy-jobs-addiction-urban/74464952/*

Pioneer in Arab-American Muslim community dies at 95

"Michael Berry, a Dearborn attorney who was the former chairman of the Wayne County Roads Commission and a political pioneer in the Arab-American Muslim community, died Saturday. He was 95."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/25/pioneer-arab-american-muslim-community-dies-95/74590966/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Netanyahu's outrageous lie: Column

"Two months ago my father, Eugene Elsner, a Holocaust survivor, passed away at age 97 and was buried in Israel. As his generation increasingly departs the scene, I am very aware that the responsibility of bearing witness now passes to my generation, the second generation — the children of survivors."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/10/26/netanyahus-outrageous-lie-palestinian-grand-mufti-hitler-column/74487550/*

Jacob J. Lew: Honor our obligations, raise the debt limit

"Our economy has made remarkable progress since the Great Recession. American businesses havecreated 13.2 million jobs since early 2010, jobless claims are at 40-year lows, consumer confidence remains healthy and small businesses are planning further increases in their payrolls."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/10/25/jack-lew-debt-limit-column/74585584/*

Health care CEO revels in Detroit's challenges

"Nancy Schlichting, CEO of Henry Ford Health System (HFHS), has been bucking conventional wisdom ever since she came to Detroit in 1998 from a smaller hospital in Ohio."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/10/25/schlichting-writes-book/74266922/*

Proposed state bill has doctors, nurses at odds over who can give anesthesia

"LANSING — Once a week, Mike Dosch typically works out of an operating room at Dearborn's Beaumont Hospital, formerly Oakwood Hospital, delivering anesthesia to his patients."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/proposed-state-bill-has-doctors-nurses-at-odds-over-who-can-give-anesthesia/*

Pension debt could give new Detroit Schools a stumbling start

"LANSING — Even if Gov. Rick Snyder succeeds with his plan to spin off a new school district from debt-laden Detroit Public Schools, the new district would have a structural funding problem before its first school bells ring."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/pension-debt-could-give-new-detroit-schools-a-stumbling-start/*

No School Funding System Adequate to Manage Large Student Declines

"The leader of a key Michigan House budget committee said it's time to take a look at how public schools are funded in Michigan. In a story posted on the MLive news site, Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville, was apparently pointing to Benton Harbor Area Schools as evidence of shortcomings in the Proposal A school funding system that was approved by Michigan voters in 1994."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21844*

Press Releases

Dingell Invites Students to Attend Military Service Academy Information Sessions

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) invites 9-12th grade students from Michigan's 12th District, families, high school counselors, veterans and servicemembers to attend Military Service Academy information sessions **today, Saturday, October 24th** and Saturday, November 7th. The events will provide an opportunity for students, parents and counselors to meet with representatives from the service academies and learn more about the nomination process through Dingell's office."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445819252_dingell.pdf

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DNR conservation officer rescues Gladwin County woman

"A 46-year-old Gladwin County woman was rescued Friday morning by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officer after she had been reported missing the previous night."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-26-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445800882_dnr.pdf

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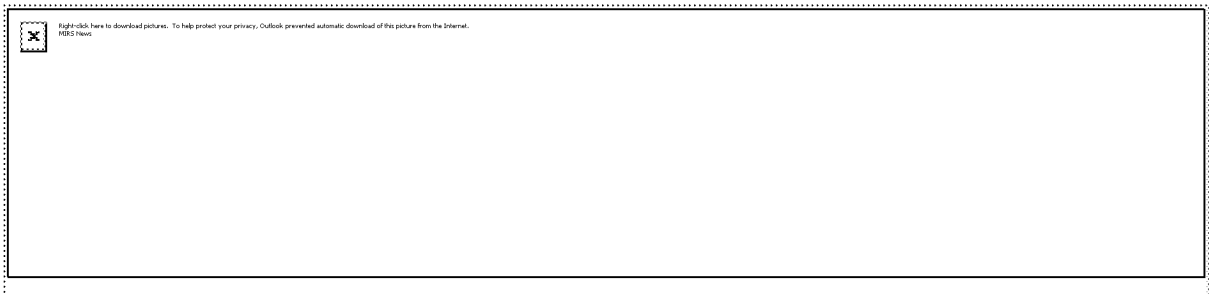

MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 27, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700

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HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/863

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/862

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

House Road Funding Plan Stuck In Senate Traffic Jam

Senate Republicans were not able to pull together enough support to vote out a road funding plan approved by House Republicans last week, with leadership pointing to proposed increases in registration fees as the primary holdup.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44827

State Treasurer: 'Inaction Is Not An Option' On DPS

State Treasurer Nick KHOURI described the theme of his comments to a House panel this morning as "inaction is not an option" when it comes to the financial crisis facing Detroit Public Schools (DPS).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44824

Worst Case For Medicaid Is A $1B Hole By FY '18

If the Legislature passed no laws addressing the state's Medicaid program in the next three years, lawmakers would be starring at close to a $1 billion in costs by Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 that aren't being paid today, according to numbers presented to a new House panel this morning.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44817

State On First-Ever M-STEP Results: Not As Bad As We Thought

No better than half of the state's students in grades 3-8 and the 11th grade are proficient in any subject at any grade level, according to results of the new statewide assessment released publicly today by the Department of Education.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44815

Earley Declares Clean Hands On Flint Water Decision

Former Flint Emergency Manager Darnell EARLEY was in charge when Flint left the Detroit water system, but today he absolved himself of any role in the decision, which eventually resulted in the city's current lead contamination problem.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44818

Pscholka Hints At Prop A Reboot

The far-reaching school reform/property tax cut plan known as Proposal A has not been reviewed since it's inception in 1994. Former Gov. Jennifer Granholm promised to "tweak" it when she was elected but it was never done.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44823

Snyder Order Will Consolidate Oversight Of State Retirement Systems

Gov. Rick SNYDER today moved to consolidate oversight of three state retirement systems under one board via the executive order.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44821

DHHS Reports $2.4M In Savings From Lease Changes

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) saved $2.4 million, including about $1 million from the General Fund, by rearranging the leases of 15 of its offices, state officials told a House committee today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44814

Strategic Fund Pulls Some Funding Away From Battery Manufacturer

The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) today voted to yank some funds back from an advanced battery manufacturer that hasn't come through on the number of jobs it projected it would create.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44820

Courser Files FOIA For Info On 'Extortionist'

Former Rep. Todd COURSER on Monday filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) with the Michigan State Police (MSP) in which he asks for public records related to the telephone number from which text

messages arrived threatening to reveal information about his affair with Rep. Cindy GAMRAT if he didn't resign.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4700#44823

Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization

On Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4700#44816

Bits And Tidbits

Tilley Announces In 96th District

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4700#44825

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 27, 1972, Pontiac became the first Michigan city to ban lead-based paint, which can cause brain damage if eaten by children. The Pontiac ordinance forbid the use or sale of lead-based paints and required corrective action on existing homes.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4700#44822

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4700#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
10:30 AM - **Financial Services**
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
10:30 AM - **Elections**
Lyons, Lisa Posthumus; Rm: 308 HOB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**
Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
2:30 PM - **Finance**
(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
2:00 PM - **Insurance**
Hune, Joe; Rm: 100 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**
(CANCELLED) Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
8:30 AM - **Commerce**
Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015
2:00 PM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 110 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

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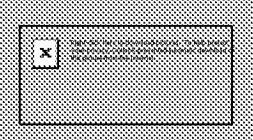

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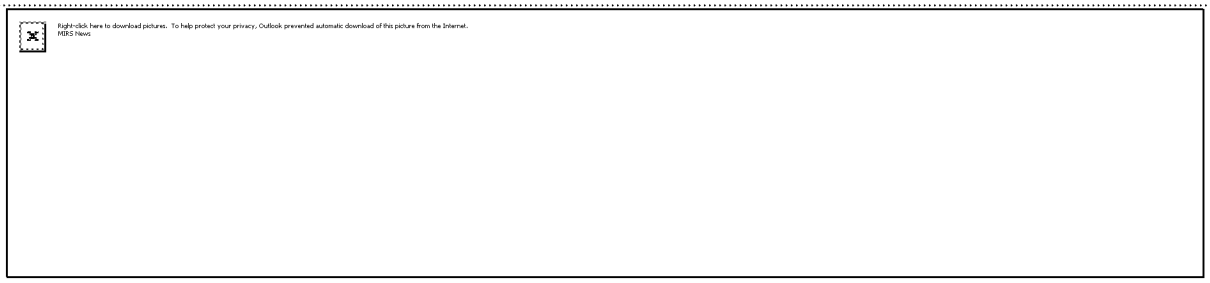

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U.S. Rep. Kildee holding telephone town hall on Flint water

"FLINT -- Congressman Dan Kildee is holding a telephone town hall for Flint residents featuring experts who can discuss the city's water problems."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/28/town-hall-flint-water/74727228/*

Student debt at Michigan colleges up 57% since 2004

"Michigan's college students are leaving school deeper in debt than their peers did a decade ago — by almost 60% on average."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/27/student-debt-michigan-colleges-up-57-since-2004/74671784/*

Tough new state exam stumps Michigan students

"Most of the students who took the state's tough new exam in math and English language arts failed it — a stark reminder of just how far Michigan students need to go to meet rigorous new standards."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/27/tough-new-state-exam-stumps-michigan-students/74650964/*

Barge, shipwrecked on Lake Erie in 1930s, leaking oil

"An oil barge that sank on western Lake Erie in 1937 and was only discovered last August is apparently leaking oil into the lake."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/27/barge-shipwrecked-lake-erie-1930s-leaking-oil/74685112/*

Son of state school superintendent killed in Waterford crash

"Ryan Whiston, the 32-year-old eldest son of state Superintendent Brian Whinston, died in a crash in Waterford Monday morning."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/son_of_state_school_superinten.html#incart_river*

See Todd Courser explain why he should be re-elected after resigning seat

"LAPEER, MI – With the special primary election just one week away, Republican Todd Courser faces an uphill climb to win back the 82nd District House seat he resigned earlier this year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/see_todd_courser_discuss_why_h.html#incart_river_home*

World's largest craft distributor announces $33M expansion in Michigan

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI --The world's largest creative arts distributor is getting bigger."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/10/worlds_largest_craft_distribut.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan Senate, at standstill, considers changes to House road funding plan

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate has been at a standstill so far Tuesday as lawmakers consider a $1.2 billion road funding plan approved last week by the House."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_senate_at_standstill.html#incart_story_package

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No deal: Road funding plan hits another snag in Michigan Senate

"LANSING, MI — Another day, another road funding delay in the Michigan Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/no_deal_road_funding_plan_stal.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan's autism fund will run out of money in November, officials say

"LANSING, MI -- A fund designed to help insurers pay for autism coverage the legislature mandated in 2012 will run dry by November, according to the Department of Insurance and Financial Services."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigans_autism_fund_will_run.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan lawmakers spar on export subsidy bank

"Washington — A bipartisan coalition of House lawmakers on Tuesday pushed through a bill to reopen the government agency that subsidizes U.S. exports, despite opposition from conservatives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/27/michigan-lawmakers-spar-export-subsidy-bank/74711080/*

Ex-Rep. Courser: Wife endorses state House candidacy

"Former state Rep. Todd Courser kept it all in the family Tuesday as he said his wife, Namfon, endorsed his bid to win back the 82nd House District seat from which he resigned on Sept. 11."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/27/ex-rep-courser-wife-endorses-state-house-candidacy/74711204/*

Farm Bureau joins suit against waterways rule

"The Michigan Farm Bureau this week joined a lawsuit challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's water rule protecting small streams, tributaries and wetlands from pollution and development,

saying those features should be regulated by the states."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/27/farm-bureau-joins-suit-waterways-rule/74721630/*

DPS could be insolvent by spring, state treasurer warns

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder's state treasurer and Detroit Public Schools' emergency manager painted a dire picture of the district's finances Tuesday during the first legislative hearing on the governor's plan to rescue debt-ridden DPS."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/27/detroit-school-debt-relief-legislature/74687854/*

Planking being installed under Ambassador Bridge

"Officials for the Ambassador Bridge confirmed Tuesday they were installing wooden planking under the span after falling debris caused the closure of several Windsor streets under the 86-year-old bridge."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/27/planking-installed-ambassador-bridge/74692498/*

House registration fee hike trips up Senate road talks

"Lansing — Road funding negotiations will resume Wednesday morning, a day after Senate efforts to pass a long-term financial repair plan collapsed under objections to a proposed 40 percent vehicle registration fee increase."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/27/michigan-roads/74668626/*

Detroit worst in math, reading scores among big cities

"For a fourth straight time, Detroit students have scored the lowest among big-city districts in math and reading proficiency, according to national test results released Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/28/national-assessment-educational-progress-detroit-math-reading-results/74718372/*

Ilitches to build Wayne State a new business school

"A $40 million Wayne State University business school named after Mike Ilitch will be built near the new Red Wings arena, a stunning coup for the university and the billionaire Ilitch family, which aims to reshape 45 blocks near downtown."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/27/ilitch-wayne-state-business-school/74710962/*

Road project upends Rochester Hills family

"Rochester Hills — The Penberthy family finds itself in a fight with City Hall that has become a personal nightmare without an end in sight."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/10/28/rochester-hills-family-homeless-road-work-damages-home/74719138/*

Advocacy/Opinion

A small victory for regional transit in metro Detroit

"If you're riding a bus up Woodward from Detroit to the suburbs, you shouldn't have to switch or transfer -- but for years in southeast Michigan, during most times of the day, that has been a staple of our dysfunctional transit system. "

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/27/small-victory-regional-transit-metro-detroit/74699400/*

Now who needs an emergency manager?

"The ongoing fiasco regarding fixing Michigan's roads suggests the need for an "emergency manager" for the Governor's office as well as the Michigan House and Senate. The members of the Senate and House have not only wasted time, they have also wasted the millions spent on their salaries during the past several years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/28/now-needs-emergency-manager/74707672/*

Raising the talent level of Michigan workers

"Michigan's unemployment rate for September was 5.0 percent. That was better than the national rate (5.1

percent) for the first time in 15 years."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/raising-the-talent-level-of-michigan-workers/*

Michigan is the dark money capital of American politics

"Here's an observation about the presidential election campaign: It is necessary to have a candidate campaign committee that can raise a lot of money – but probably not sufficient. "

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/michigan-is-the-dark-money-capital-of-american-politics/*

A Closer Look: Michigan Radio Columnist Calls for Shuttering Charter Schools

"Jack Lessenberry, a columnist for Michigan Radio, wrote an Oct. 23 column that called for shutting down all of Michigan's charter schools."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21849*

Should Michigan keep the same old judges past 70? Maybe

"Judges around the state face mandatory retirement once they plop 70 candles on their birthday cake. Given the fact that folks are living longer and more productive lives, some have made the case that they can serve beyond that age."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/should_michigan_keep_the_same.html#incart_river_home

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Column: Increase Social Security retirement age

"Bumping up the Social Security retirement age is fair and reasonable. It can help shore up the program's shaky solvency without saddling younger generations with excessive payroll taxes. That's why the idea attracts broad, bipartisan support. The need to curb the growth in Social Security spending grows with each passing year. The program has run cash-flow deficits for five consecutive years now. Absent policy changes, the deficits will only get worse."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/27/opinion-raise-retirement-age/74714738/*

Editorial: Rules deny small investors advice

"New rules offered by the Obama administration to protect investors from unscrupulous stockbrokers and financial advisers will likely end up depriving many savers of any guidance in managing their Individual Retirement Accounts and 401(k) plans."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/27/editorial-small-investors/74714746/

Press Releases

Gov. Rick Snyder: Forward momentum on roads solution

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement today on latest legislative efforts to ensure preservation of Michigan's infrastructure:"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445993744_gov.pdf

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Rep. Lawrence drops bill to provide federal funds for mental health services for school children

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence on Tuesday introduced legislation to provide federal funding for counseling services for American school children."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445981950_lawrence.pdf

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Marleau bill would create Michigan Health Care Transparency Act

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Sen. Jim Marleau will introduce Senate Bill 590 on Wednesday to create the Michigan Health Care Transparency Act, providing public access to the cost and quality of health care."*

Source: *Sen. Jim Marleau* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445978985_marleau.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Consolidating retirement system administration optimizes service, brings efficienc

"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder today issued an executive order creating the State of Michigan Retirement Board, which will consolidate the administration and oversight of the State Employees'

Retirement System Board, the Judges' Retirement System Board and the Military Retirement Provisions. "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445977686_execorder.pdf

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MDP Chair Slams Earley Op/Ed; Reiterates Call for Snyder to Fire Former Flint EM

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to an op/ed by Darnell Earley, and once again calling on Governor Snyder to fire the former Emergency Manager for Flint and current Emergency Manager for Detroit Public Schools. In his op/ed, Earley claims the decisions that brought about the Flint water crisis were not his and it was not his responsibility to question them."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445977498_mdp.pdf

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Nonmotorized Advisory Workgroup to meet Nov. 3

"The Nonmotorized Advisory Workgroup will hold its next scheduled meeting Tuesday, Nov. 3, via conference call. To join the meeting, dial 877-336-1831 and enter access code 9388547. The public meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445977451_dnr.pdf

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Don Tilley Announces Campaign for State House

"BAY CITY - Today Don Tilley launched his campaign for the 96th state House district. Don is a lifelong union member and educator who has served on the Bay County Commission since 2006."

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445976119_tilley.pdf

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Truscott Rossman Continues to Grow Staff Across Michigan, Adds Three New Hires and Promotes Project

*"**Lansing –** Truscott Rossman announced today several staffing moves that will contribute to the firm's growing presence across the state. The strategic communications firm announced the addition of two new account executives, Daniel Olsen and Tranéy Thames, the addition of receptionist Lacie Hill, as well as the promotion of Wendy Larner as project manager."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445975998_rossman.pdf

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Emmons applauds community development grant for Sheridan

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Judy Emmons announced on Tuesday that the village of Sheridan will be able to remove a blighted, vacant structure in danger of collapsing thanks to a recently approved state grant."*

Source: *Sen. Judy Emmons* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445974747_emmons.pdf

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Detroit Physician Summarily Suspended

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a medical doctor of Timothy Eugene Whiteus, M.D., based on his felony convictions in the 30th Judicial Circuit Court, Lansing, Michigan."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445973483_LARA.pdf

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HEATHER SPIELMAKER RECEIVES NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS OUTSTANDING LAW STUDENT AWARD

*"**LANSING, MICH.,** – Oct. 27, 2015 – WMU-Cooley Law School student Heather Spielmaker has been chosen as a 2015 National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) Outstanding Law Student. Each year, NAWL presents the awards to graduating law students who have demonstrated academic achievement, exhibited motivation, tenacity and enthusiasm; contributed to the advancement of women in society; promoted issues and concerns of women in the legal profession; and earned the respect of the dean and law faculty."*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445968741_west.pdf

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Port Huron-I-69 BL/Military St reopens

"Traffic Advisory – Military St, I-69 Business Loop, in Port Huron is reopened after closing for few hours to do repairs to the hydraulic shed underneath the bridge."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445965066_mdot.pdf

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Uncle John's Cider Mill Old Fashioned Apple Cider potentially contaminated

with E. coli

*"**LANSING** – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development today issued a consumer advisory for Uncle John's Old Fashioned Apple Cider produced by Uncle John's Cider Mill located at 8614 US-127 in St. Johns, MI, because it has the potential to be contaminated with Shiga-toxin producing E. coli bacteria. Consumers who have purchased this product at Uncle John's Cider Mill are urged not to consume it and dispose of the product immediately."*

Source: *Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445960336_mda.pdf

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DNR reminds hunters there's still time for fall turkey hunting

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that spring is not the only time to hunt turkeys – a majority of counties are open for fall turkey hunting."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445960100_dnr.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: International company Arauco to build manufacturing facility in Grayling Township

"LANSING, Mich. – About 250 jobs will be created when a new facility manufacturing particleboard is built on a 600-acre Grayling Township site, bringing a major boost to the north-central Michigan regional economy while diversifying the state's multi-billion-dollar forest products industry."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445959420_gov.pdf

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M-STEP RESULTS RESET THE ACADEMIC BAR OF HIGHER EXPECTATIONS FOR MICHIGAN STUDENTS

"LANSING – Michigan has reset the bar on learning with the release of the rigorous M-STEP statewide student assessment results taken last spring."

Source: *Department of Education* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445958472_edu.pdf

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Oakland University names Kunselman chief operating officer

"Oakland University President George W. Hynd has announced the appointment of Scott G. Kunselman to the newly created position of chief operating officer (COO)."

Source: *Oakland University* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445958411_oak.pdf

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Oakland County Woman Wins $194,168 Fantasy 5 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 27, 2015** – Winning a $194,168 Fantasy 5 jackpot left an Oakland County woman feeling that she was living in a dream."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445956524_lottery.pdf

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Michigan Assessment Results Show Continued Need for Improvement Focus

"New results from the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) show the continuing need for Michigan to focus on improving student learning through research-based policy improvements, thoughtful implementation, and strategic investments. A deep commitment from everyone – from state leaders to district leaders to parents –is needed to accelerate progress for our students and transform Michigan into a top ten education state."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445956473_edu.pdf

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Michigan Assessment Results Show Continued Need for Improvement Focus

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (Oct. 27, 2015) – New results from the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) show the continuing need for Michigan to focus on improving student learning through research-based policy improvements, thoughtful implementation, and strategic investments. A deep commitment from everyone – from state leaders to district leaders to parents – is needed to accelerate progress for our students and transform Michigan into a top ten education state for all students."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445955064_edu.pdf

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Michigan Supreme Court Oral Argument Cases Scheduled for November 4 and 5

"LANSING, MI, October 27, 2015—The Michigan Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments November 4 and 5 on the sixth floor of the Michigan Hall of Justice beginning at 9:30 a.m. The cases involve a wrongful discharge claim, contract and tort claims, medical malpractice, criminal issues, felony conspiracy, and prevailing party attorney fees."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445954528_supreme.pdf

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Secretary Johnson encourages voters to cast ballots in local Nov. 3 elections

"LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson is encouraging all eligible voters to cast their ballots in local elections Tuesday, Nov. 3."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445952471_sos.pdf

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Design and schedule changes made for 2016 M-66 Lake City project

*"**October 27, 2015** – Based on internal review and suggestions raised during a public meeting this spring, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has made several changes to the design and schedule of the reconstruction and widening of M-66/M-55 in Lake City next year."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445952338_mdot.pdf

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Darrin Camilleri Raises Over $21,000 for State House Race

"BROWNSTOWN, MI — Darrin Camilleri raised $21,093 for his state house race over the course of the latest fundraising period that ended on October 20. Camilleri reported 191 contributions for his campaign in the 23rd House District."

Source: *Darrin Camilleri* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445952286_darrin.pdf

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Senator Curtis Hertel Jr. Issues Statement on Failed Prevailing Wage Drive

"LANSING, Michigan – Senator Curtis Hertel Jr. (D–Meridian Township) issued the following statement regarding Protecting Michigan Taxpayers' failure to produce enough qualified signatures to repeal prevailing wage legislation:"

Source: *Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr.* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445952232_hertel.pdf

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Sen. Zorn applauds public safety communications cost savings

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Dale Zorn announced on Monday that the 36 Monroe County public safety agencies that use the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) will see savings due to a recent restructuring of the system's subscriber user fee."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445952173_zorn.pdf

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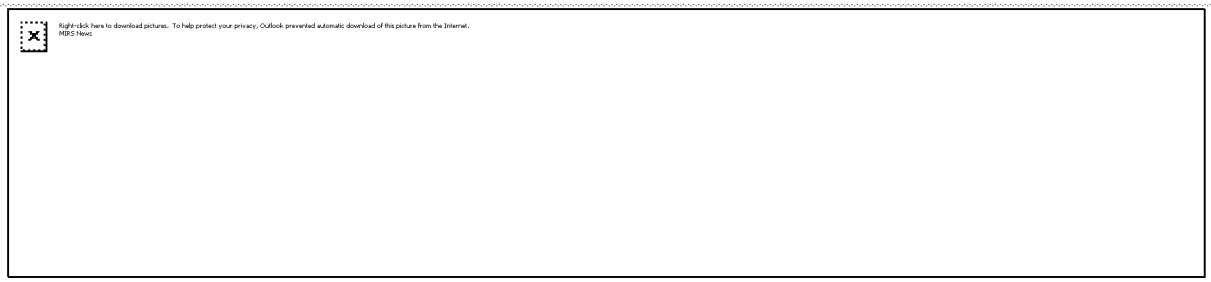

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In Macomb, Armada, Romeo schools seek OK for upgrades

"Voters in Macomb County on Tuesday will decide races for mayor and city council in several cities, including Warren and Sterling Heights, as well as bond issues for Armada and Romeo schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/macomb-county/2015/10/28/macomb-county-local-elections/74765058/*

In Oakland, pot, sewers, school funding on area ballots

"Voters in 31 Oakland County communities will go to the polls Tuesday to decide local races and ballot issues ranging from multi-million dollar expenditures for sewers, public safety and schools to term limits and legalizing marijuana."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/oakland-county/2015/10/28/oakland-county-local-elections/74755024/*

Wayne Co. retirees not happy about new health insurance

"At 65 and a retired postal worker, Freida Webster is thinking of going back to work."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/28/wayne-retirees/74764080/*

Debate takeaways: Rubio-Bush rumble, Trump quiet

"Boulder, Colo. — Celebrity businessman Donald Trump was again center stage as the Republican presidential field gathered Wednesday night for the third debate of the 2016 campaign, but for the first time, the billionaire seemed reduced to the role of a supporting cast member."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/28/debate-takeaways-rubio-bush-rumble-trump-quiet/74784216/

Uncle John's apple cider deemed safe, sales resume

"ST. JOHNS — Uncle John's Cider Mill in St. Johns will resume apple cider sales today after samples of cider produced between Oct. 22 and Oct. 27 tested clean for E. coli bacteria, according to a statement on the cider mill's Facebook page."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/28/uncle-johns-apple-cider-mill/74766496/

Oil spill exercise to test St. Clair River readiness

"A 2016 emergency response exercise will simulate a 200,000-gallon oil spill from an Enbridge pipeline into the St. Clair River."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/28/st-clair-river-oil-spill-exercise-enbridge/74766634/

Statewide events remember sinking of Edmund Fitzgerald

"Dashed by giant waves in Lake Superior, the 729-foot iron ore carrier Edmund Fitzgerald went down on Nov. 10, 1975."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/28/edmund-fitzgerald-sinking-great-lakes-lore-remembered/74747814/

Detroit to hold public hearing on new marijuana rules

"The Detroit City Planning Commission is holding a public hearing on proposed medical marijuana zoning

regulations at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Ave."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/28/medical-marijuana-detroit-city-council-regulation-hearing/74764022/*

Mich. farmer with cancer gets no prison in marijuana case

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- A Newaygo County farmer who let his 160 acres of corn be planted with marijuana reluctantly agreed to the arrangement to help pay a dizzying array of bills for his cancer treatments, according to court records and investigators."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/28/michigan-marijuana-farmer-leukemia-prison-sentence/74775256/*

Detroit bankruptcy judge tackles VW emissions scandal

"After guiding Detroit out of debt in the nation's largest municipal bankruptcy case, retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes is taking on another monumental task: overseeing settlements involving Volkswagen's emissions scandal."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/2015/10/28/detroit-bankruptcy-judge-tackles-vw-emissions-scandal/74761802/*

Court: Evangelists' pig's-head slurs deserved protection

"Marching around with a pig's head on a pole while telling Dearborn Muslims they would "burn in hell" may have been loathsome and intolerable — but the First Amendment still protects and allows such activity, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/28/court-evangelists-pigs-head-slurs-deserved-protection/74755074/*

On roads plan, will Snyder give us straight talk or lipstick?

"There's a little more haggling ahead, but Michigan's Republican legislative majority is poised to send Gov. Rick Snyder a road-funding plan that violates virtually everything Michigan's accountant-in-chief purports to stand for."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/28/michigan-roads-deal/74685008/*

GM workers get sweeter deal than FCA

"The UAW's deal with General Motors matches wage increases reached in a contract with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles; doubles the signing bonus and includes other enhanced payouts while preserving current health care and profit sharing plans."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/28/uaw-gm-workers-get-larger-signing-bonus-than-fcas/74736310/*

Ananich blasts former emergency manager for Flint water switch 'fairy tale'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich had harsh words on Tuesday for former Flint Emergency Manager Darnell Earley, who has denied any culpability for the city's switch to Flint River water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/ananich_blasts_flint_water_fai.html#incart_river*

Snyder sees 'strong momentum' for road funding deal despite Senate delay

"LANSING, MI — Four years and one day after he first called for a major increase in road funding, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday cited "strong momentum" for a deal despite the latest delay."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_sees_strong_momentum_fo.html#incart_river*

No breakout performers at undercard GOP debate: Takeaways

"BOULDER, Colo. – The four Republican presidential candidates who aren't in the top 10 in an average of national polls took the stage Wednesday ahead of the third prime-time GOP debate of the 2016 campaign. It's the third time South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and former New York Gov. George Pataki have been part of the so-called undercard."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/10/no_breakout_performers_at_unde.html#incart_river*

Who won the Republican presidential debate? Results from CNBC GOP presidential debate 2015

"At times, the 2016 CNBC Republican presidential debate seems to be a standoff between the GOP

candidates and moderators Carl Quintanilla, Becky Quick and John Harwood. Still, we did learn a little more about Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Marco Rubio, Carly Fiorina and the rest of the Republican field. Here's tonight's winners, losers and people we forgot were there."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/10/who_won_the_republican_preside.html#incart_river

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Third 2016 GOP debate highlights differences between insiders, outsiders

"BOULDER, Colo. -- Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio fought for control of the Republican's establishment wing in Wednesday night's third GOP debate, as insurgent outsiders Donald Trump and Ben Carson defended the seriousness of their White House bids, underscoring the volatile two-track fight for the party's presidential nomination."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/10/third_2016_gop_debate_highligh.html#incart_river

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Nov. 3 election is referendum on Cindy Gamrat in Michigan House's 80th District

*"**ALLEGAN, MI** — For weeks, Cindy Gamrat has said the people of Allegan County and not the Michigan House should decide whether she should represent the House's 80th District."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/nov_3_election_is_referendum_o.html#incart_river

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Michigan AG Bill Schuette says some Washtenaw County taxes are illegal

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Scheutte has issued an opinion that—if followed—would invalidate three taxes passed by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners in 2015."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_says.html#incart_river_home*

Paying candidates to run would be illegal under bill that harkens back to party-switching scandal

"LANSING, MI -- More than two years after former House Speaker Jase Bolger and former Rep. Roy Schmidtwere cleared of any illegality in a party-switching scandal, legislation in the House would make ethical reforms addressing similar situations."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/paying_political_candidates_to.html#incart_river_home*

Powdered booze dies before it ever flies in Michigan

"LANSING, MI -- Lt. Gov. Brian Calley on Wednesday signed a bill banning powdered alcohol, shutting down the product before it ever entered the state."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/powdered_booze_dies_before_it.html#incart_river_home*

Gale warnings for all of Michigan's Great Lakes, 15-foot waves expected

"MICHIGAN - Gale warnings are in effect for all of Michigan waters of the Great Lakes for Thursday, October 29, 2015."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/10/gale_warnings_for_all_of_michi.html#incart_river_home*

Vietnam War veteran to receive military's highest decoration for daring rescue of 8 soldiers

"The daring rescue was something off of a movie screen – the type of war flick where one thinks "That was cool, but there's no way it ends like that in real life.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/ypsilanti_vietnam_veteran_to_r.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Berman: Show me a hero to save Michigan's roads

"What do you do when you're not doing the one thing you're supposed to?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2015/10/29/berman-show-hero-save-michigans-roads/74776970/*

Editorial: State police dragnet should be stopped

"The Michigan State Police for a decade has had secretive cellphone tracking technology that was purchased with funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and with the intent to help track down suspected terrorists."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/28/editorial-stop-state-police-dragnet/74775696/*

Finley: Don't fight another P.C. war in Syria, Iraq

"After months of assurance from President Barack Obama that the United States would not commit combat troops to directly engage with Islamic State forces in Syria and Iraq, the first American soldier was killed last week during a hostage rescue."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/28/finley-fight-another-pc-war-syria-iraq/74775644/*

Fish farms don't belong in the Great Lakes

"Multiple proposals to put fish farms in our shared Great Lakes waters are under consideration by state officials."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/25/dont-let-fish-farms-pollute-great-lakes/32493371/*

Effort to ban fluoride in drinking water makes little headway in Michigan

"Readers of a certain age may recall a once-ubiquitous accessory in their grandparents' bathroom: The vessel that held grandmother's teeth at night. Dentures were so common they were thought to be unavoidable past a certain age."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/effort-to-ban-fluoride-in-drinking-water-makes-little-headway-in-michigan/#.ViH7g66rTUo*

Improved smiles for some low-income Michigan children

"To the annals of great salesmanship, add Dr. Rebekah Sheppard, DDS, who is selling a filling to a 4-year-old as though it's more fun than a trip to an amusement park."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/improved-smiles-for-some-low-income-michigan-children/#.ViH7X66rTUo*

Interview with Ohio Sen. Bill Seitz

"Michigan Capitol Confidential spoke to Ohio Sen. Bill Seitz, R-Green Township, on Oct. 21. Seitz is one of the lawmakers in the Ohio General Assembly who back a two-year suspension of the wind energy mandates

currently imposed on utilities in the state. Excerpts of that interview follow."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21857*

Ohio Moves Closer to No More Windmills

"A two-year suspension of government wind energy mandates imposed on Ohio utilities will become permanent if the September recommendation of a bicameral legislative panel there is followed. The primary reason cited for the decision was uncertainty over President Obama's Clean Power Plan."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21856*

Press Releases

Upton Statement on Bipartisan Budget Deal

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined the majority of his House colleagues in advancing H.R. 1314, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015. The legislation was advanced by a bipartisan vote of 266-167."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446078268_upton.pdf

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Rep. Trott Votes Against Irresponsibly Raising the Federal Debt Limit

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after voting against federal spending legislation that raises the debt limit:"

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446070138_trott.pdf

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Bishop Expresses Concern over Budget, Votes No

"WASHINGTON – Congressman Bishop issued the following statement after voting against today's budget deal, H.R. 1314:"

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446070088_bishop.pdf

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Emmons applauds jobs coming to Montcalm County

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Judy Emmons on Wednesday applauded the announcement that a Rockford-based business will be building a new manufacturing facility and collaborative workspace in Montcalm County."*

Source: *Sen. Judy Emmons* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446070033_emmons.pdf

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Huizenga: Why Are We Eliminating Opportunities To Cut Spending?

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after voting against legislation that increases spending and fails to address our nation's budgetary concerns:"*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446067892_huizenga.pdf

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Sen. Booher welcomes Pastor Paul Weissenborn

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — State Sen. Darwin Booher, R-Evart, is pictured with Pastor Paul Weissenborn (right) on Wednesday, Oct. 28. Weissenborn, of Evart, who is the pastor at Crossroads Community Church, delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

Source: *Sen. Darwin Booher* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446067201_booher.pdf

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House approves Cole's bill ensuring aircraft safety

"The Michigan House of Representatives approved today state Rep. Triston Cole's legislation ensuring aircraft safety by requiring all weather towers be marked with orange and white alternating stripes to safeguard pilot visibility. Rep. Cole, R-Mancelona, was joined on the House floor today during session by his wife, Stacy Cole, right, as the House voted overwhelmingly to pass House Bill 4727. HB 4727 will further safeguard Michigan's farmers and crop dusters by eliminating the possibility of a collision with one of these meteorological towers."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446066721_test.pdf

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Benishek, Dingell Introduce Bill to Recognize Burt Lake Band

"Washington, DC - Representative Dan Benishek, along with Rep. Debbie Dingell, will introduce today legislation to support the efforts of the Burt Lake Band to become recognized by the federal government as an official tribe. The Burt Lake Band is a Cheboygan County based group of Native Americans who have been seeking federal recognition for many years."

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446065337_benishek.pdf

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Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board's inaugural meeting sets path for action

"LANSING, Mich. -- The Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board conducted its first meeting today, setting a path for future action to ensure the safety, upkeep and transparency of issues related to Michigan's network of pipelines. "

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446065294_deq.pdf

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Ranking Member Stabenow Applauds Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research Decision to Create Rap

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today applauded the decision by The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research to create a new rapid response program to help protect farmers and consumers from threats to our food supply."*

Source: *US Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446065253_agri.pdf

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Snyder Should Dump Oil Executives From State Pipeline Board

"LANSING—Sierra Club told a new state pipeline board that met for the first time today that oil industry executives who are participating as public officials weighing the future of Enbridge's Line 5 through the Straits of Mackinac are compromising its work."

Source: *Sierra Club* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446065190_sierra.pdf

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Safety Zone and Anti-Poaching Bills Pass House

"Legislation to deter poaching and enhance hunting access passed the Michigan House of Representatives today! SB 244-246 and HB 4239 were Camo at the Capitol priority issues in September and enact 2015 MUCC policy resolutions. "

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446065016_mcc.pdf

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Bishop, Walberg, Moolenaar seek timely resolution to fill Lansing, D.C. direct route

"Attached is a letter, led by Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) with the support of Congressmen Tim Walberg (MI-07) and John Moolenaar (MI-04), to Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx today seeking "a timely resolution" to continue non-stop service between the Lansing, Mich. airport (LAN) and Washington, D.C. (DCA). The service, which is no longer being provided by Sun Country Airlines as of Oct. 1, 2015, has up to a $16 million impact on the Lansing region. Please see attached, and let us know if you have any questions."

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446063552_bishop.pdf

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New joint report shows Michigan cyber charter schools outperform other states in math and reading

*"**Lansing, Mich.** – A new joint report shows that Michigan cyber charter school students are outperforming their counterparts in other states. According to the study of online charter schools in 18 states – conducted by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University (CREDO), Mathematical Policy Research, and Center on Reinventing Public Education (CRPE) at the University of Washington – Michigan online students showed more growth in reading and math than their peers. "*

Source: *Michigan Council for Charter School Authorizers* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446062621_charter.pdf

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Cancer Prevention Caucus Recognizes October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Congressman Tim Murphy (PA-18), co-chairs of the Congressional Cancer Prevention Caucus, introduced a bipartisan congressional resolution declaring "October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month." H. Res. 498 seeks to encourage Americans to observe the month by promoting breast cancer prevention awareness and education activities."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446061262_dingell.pdf

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MEC: Pipeline panel must work quickly to find alternative for Straits of Mackinac

"As the state's new Pipeline Advisory Council meets for the first time today, the Michigan Environmental Council urged the panel and the Snyder administration to move urgently in crafting a long-term plan to protect Michigan's freshwater resources, local communities and tourism economy from Enbridge's Line 5 and other pipelines across the state."

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446060713_mec.pdf

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Traffic Advisory - Zilwaukee Bridge lane closure Oct. 29

"Traffic Advisory – Saginaw County The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete barrier wall repairs on the Zilwaukee Bridge Thursday, October 29. Motorists should expect closures along the inside northbound lane of I-75 between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. This work is weather dependent."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446060659_mdot.pdf

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Upton, Subcommittee Advance Legislation to Help Rural & Small Community Water Systems

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, joined the majority of his colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy in advancing S. 611, Grassroots Rural and Small Community Water Systems Act. The legislation advanced by a voice vote and will now move to the full Energy and Commerce Committee for consideration."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446059633_upton.pdf

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Upcoming lane closures on US-127 and I-94 in Jackson Co

"US-127, Jackson County There will be a nightly single-lane closure on northbound US-127, between Boardman Road and Springport Road, for paving. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446059560_mdot.pdf

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Guest Column by State Representative Ray A. Franz

"Fix the roads! That has been the mantra for the last couple of years, but in reality, it is been repeated for decades. As they say, "you might be from Michigan if you have only two seasons: Winter and Construction." It is the nature of living in a state with a high water table that freezes and thaws. Mostly it is an excuse to get more money, because apparently nearly $4 billion a year isn't enough. "

Source: *Rep. Ray Franz* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446058809_Franz.pdf

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USDA Announces $72,735 to Repair Rural Michigan Housing

"WASHINGTON, Oct. 28, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced today that USDA is investing $3.7 million to help rural families repair and rehabilitate their homes. The funds are being awarded through the Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program in 46 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to support the renovation of 1,147 units. "

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446058226_usda.pdf

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Double lane closures at EB I-96/Spencer Rd Fri and Sat night

"Eastbound I-96 at Spencer Road, Livingston County"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446057446_mdot.pdf

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Horn Hometown Tours: Michigan Sugar

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn continued his Hometown Tours series with a stop in Blumfield Township Friday for an inside look at Michigan's sugar industry."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446057407_horn.pdf

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Lt. Governor Brian Calley honors Michigan's World Champion Special Olympians in Lansing

"On Wednesday, Lt. Governor Brian Calley welcomed Michigan's Special Olympics World Champions and..."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446056380_gov.pdf

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Michigan Lottery Players Club Winners Announced

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 28, 2015** – Five lucky players have won big prizes playing giveaway contests from the Michigan Lottery's Players Club."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446056262_lottery.pdf

Nighttime I-75 closures for bridge work Nov. 2-3

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Nighttime I-75 closures for bridge work Nov. 2-3

COUNTY: *Bay* ***HIGHWAY:*** *I-75* ***CLOSEST CITY:*** *Bay City*
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: *8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, 2015*
ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE: *6 a.m. Wednesday. Nov. 4, 2015"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446055835_mdot.pdf

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U.S. Forest Service, DNR sign Good Neighbor Authority agreement

"EAST LANSING, Michigan (Oct. 28, 2015) – In a move that will boost collaborative management of Michigan's forest lands, the U.S. Forest Service today signed a Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) master agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR)."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446055682_dnr.pdf

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Sen. Jones' bill banning powdered alcohol signed into law

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to make powdered alcohol illegal in Michigan was signed into law by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley on Wednesday."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446052245_jones.pdf

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Bishop Supports House Education and the Workforce Committee Passage of Bill to Protect Local Busines

*"**WASHINGTON** – Congressman Mike Bishop, a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, issued a statement today following the committee's markup and passage of the Protecting Local Business Opportunity Act, H.R. 3459:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446052205_bishop.pdf

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National Wildlife Federation Launches Michigan Film Tour Highlighting Oil Pipeline Threat to Great L

"(ANN ARBOR, MICH.) — The National Wildlife Federation today announced a new Michigan film tour with documentary filmmaker Spencer Chumbley, whose film "Oil & Water" highlights the threat oil pipelines under the Straits of Mackinac pose to the Great Lakes. The three-city film tour comes as the State of Michigan wrestles with what to do about the pipeline, which is owned and operated by Enbridge, the company responsible for spilling more than 800,000 gallons of oil into the Kalamazoo River—the largest inland oil disaster in U.S. history."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446052167_nwf.pdf

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Michigan agribusinesses call for energy efficiency standards in letter to legislators

*"LANSING—In a letter sent today to **Sen. Mike Nofs** and **Rep. Aric Nesbitt,** agribusiness leaders from across Michigan are calling for mandatory energy efficiency standards within the state's energy policy. As the Michigan Legislature continues work on renewing Michigan's energy policy, agribusiness leaders have urged lawmakers to maintain the state's energy efficiency standard."*

Source: *Michigan Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446046717_maba.pdf

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Michigan State Capitol Commission Starts Search for New Capitol Facilities Director

"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan State Capitol Commission announced today that it is beginning a search for a new Capitol Facilities Director following the retirement of Dan Brocklehurst. Brocklehurst was responsible for building management, maintenance, preservation and restoration of the 136 year old Capitol and its grounds."

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446046516_truscott.pdf

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Winning Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Bonus Drawing Ticket Bought in Midland County

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 28, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player has won $25,000 in the second Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle bonus drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446044274_lottery.pdf

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NRC's Richardson talks deer hunting, other topics on 'The Ryan Report'

"Michigan Natural Resources Commission Vice Chairman J.R. Richardson of Ontonagon will be the guest of program host Don Ryan on Sunday's7:30 a.m. broadcast of "The Ryan Report" on WLUC-TV6 in Marquette."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446044122_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf*

Troy Physical Therapist Summarily Suspended

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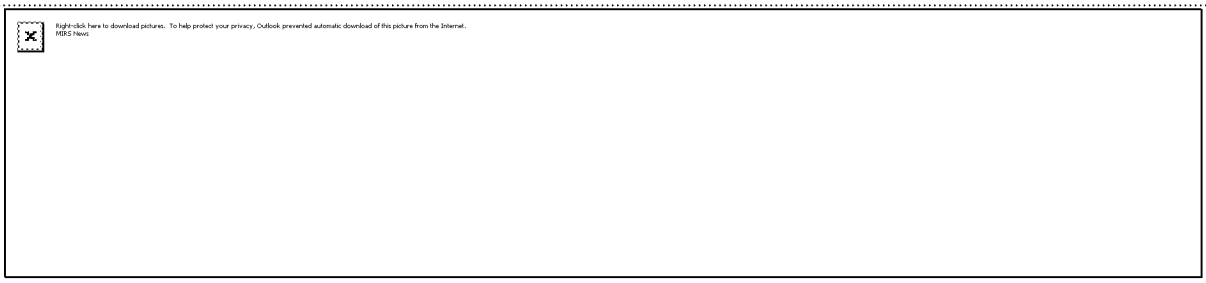

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First batch of Clinton emails since Benghazi testimony to be released

"WASHINGTON — The State Department is due Friday to release the first round of emails from Hillary Clinton's private server since she testified last week in a marathon hearing before the House Benghazi panel."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/30/hillary-clinton-emails-state-benghazi/74807608/*

As criticism mounts over missed votes, Marco Rubio shows no sign of resigning

"WASHINGTON – He says he's frustrated with the job, and he hardly bothers to show up to vote."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/29/criticism-mounts-over-missed-votes-marco-rubio-shows-no-sign-resigning/74814770/*

Senate approves two-year budget deal that prevents default on debt

"WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a two-year budget deal early Friday that would prevent the U.S. government from defaulting on its debts next week and help avert a potential government shutdown in December."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/10/30/senate-votes-advance-two-year-budget-deal-prevents-default-debt/74828952/*

Bing questions rising blight costs under Duggan

"Former Detroit Mayor Dave Bing on Thursday questioned the reasons behind huge increases in the cost of blight removal under his successor, Mike Duggan, and defended his administration's record of demolishing nearly 9,000 houses."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/29/bing-questions-rising-blight-costs-duggan-detroit/74829634/*

Demolition of Pontiac Silverdome to begin in spring '16

"Detroit Lions running back Billy Sims galloped for huge gains and high-stepped in the end zone, Elvis split his jumpsuit pants before more than 60,000 on New Year's Eve 1975 and WrestleMania in 1987 hit its apex before a frenzied crowd of 93,173 — then the largest recorded attendance for a live indoor sporting event in North America. Months later, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/10/29/demolition-pontiac-silverdome/74834576/*

Power line workers are hot commodity in Michigan

"A shortage of power line workers, largely due to baby boomer retirements and hiring slowdowns during the Great Recession, has utility companies and contractors scrambling for workers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/10/29/michigan-power-line-workers/74845772/*

Pot legalization group stops collecting signatures

"Lansing — A group seeking to put recreational marijuana legalization on the November 2016 ballot abruptly stopped collecting signatures at the end of September, prompting a competing pro-pot group to speculate the other campaign is faltering."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/29/pot-legalization-efforts-michigan/74838104/*

Mike Ilitch School of Business could nab key approval

"Images of the planned Mike Ilitch School of Business for Wayne State University, a $40 million donation,

show it on a tree-lined Woodward Avenue and next to the new $532 million home of the Detroit Red Wings."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/29/wayne-state-illitch-school-business-red-wings/74799678/*

Whitmer/Richardville 2018? Former Senate GOP leader open to bipartisan gubernatorial run

"LANSING, MI — Former Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville and former Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer were on the opposite side of many a political battle at the Michigan Capitol, but could they join forces to return?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/whitmerrichardville_2018_forme.html#incart_river_home*

For Michiganders, \'Obamacare\' health exchange plans will be more expensive this year

"LANSING, MI -- Health insurance on the federally-run health exchange will be more expensive for Michiganders this year, but the state\'s increase is still below the national average."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/for_michiganders_obamacare_hea.html#incart_river*

Michigan State Police forward Todd Courser text message investigation to prosecutor for review

"LANSING, MI — Michigan State Police have concluded an investigation into extortion claims by former state Rep. Todd Courserand forwarded findings to the Lapeer County Prosecutor for review and possible charges."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_state_police_forward.html#incart_river*

Michigan offers hotline for veterans to call for help

"Michigan veterans in need of help for just about anything can call a special hotline staffed by fellow veterans and get assistance."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_offers_number_for_vet.html#incart_river*

DNR says future 'not awesome' for Lake Michigan Chinook salmon fishery

"BEULAH, MI — The table chart posted on the office window at the Platte River State Fish Hatchery visitor center in Benzie County tells a tale of two salmon runs."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/chinook_salmon_lake_michigan.html#incart_river_home*

Jeb Bush looks to steady campaign after dismal debate

"PORTSMOUTH, N.H. — Jeb Bush emerged from the third Republican debate as a candidate in crisis, with supporters struggling to understand why he keeps underperforming and advisers promising a turnaround before it's too late."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/10/jeb_bush_looks_to_steady_campa.html#incart_story_package*

Why Michigan education officials aren't freaking out over dismal scores on new M-STEP test

"LANSING, MI — Michigan students scored poorly on the state's new standardized test, but Department of Education officials are happy with the assessment."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/why_michigan_education_officia.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan DNR to handle some national forest timber sales

"LANSING, MI — A unique pilot program between the state and federal government will allow Michigan to handle some timber sales on national forest land."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_good_neighbor_authori.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Government messed up in Flint water crisis, what next?

"We know what happened in Flint:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/29/flint-water-crisis-government/74736590/*

How You Can Win in Court Against the Government But Still Lose

"Imagine that your family or business suffers a loss due to some error or misdeed by a state agency. You go to the risk and expense of suing the agency, win the case, and the judge orders the state to pay not just the damages, but also the legal costs and fees you incurred."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21860*

Letter: Benghazi Committee accomplishes nothing

"The GOP always complains about government waste. A prime example is the Benghazi Committee. This group has squandered $4.5 million but achieved nothing. Nothing was proven, nothing was learned and nothing was done except waste 11 hours for nothing. The hearing lasted so long that even Shakespeare wrote about it. He called it "Much Ado About Nothing.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/29/letter-benghazi-committee-accomplishes-nothing/74836054/*

Jacques: Reformer fired for suggesting radical change

"Greg Harris, the state director of StudentsFirst in Ohio, decided to weigh in on the Detroit school reform debate. And now he's the former state director."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/10/30/ingrid-jacques-education-reformer-fired/74835966/*

Our editorial: Anybody but Courser, Gamrat

"Voters have a chance to put an exclamation point on the end of the political careers of Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat. They should send a very loud message Tuesday to these tone-deaf former lawmakers that there is no room for them in a state Legislature they so thoroughly embarrassed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/29/editorial-courser-gamrat-reelection/74834416/*

Susan J. Demas: GOP roads plan could kill Snyder's signature 2011 tax reform

"If there's one thing we know about our CPA governor, he's a fiscal nerd."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_snyder_michigan_roads_tax.html#incart_story_package

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Press Releases

Update: Nighttime I-75 closures for bridge work moved to Nov. 4-6

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will set bridge beams on eastbound US-10 over I-75. Project map: http://bit.ly/1PGkNnH"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446152629_mdot.pdf

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Sen. Colbeck welcomes Pastor Scott Sessler to state Capitol to lead invocation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** —Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, welcomed Pastor Scott Sessler to the Senate on Wednesday to lead the invocation before Senate session. Pastor Sessler (right) is the pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia."*

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446152059_colbeck.pdf

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State Police Encourage Michiganders to make Winter Emergency Preparedness a Priority; Winter Hazards

*"**LANSING –** With winter weather rapidly approaching, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is encouraging Michiganders to make winter emergency preparedness a priority. "*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446150494_police.pdf

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Progress Michigan: Time to Fact-Check Bill Schuette's Parole Reform Fearmongering

"LANSING — All month, Attorney General Bill Schuette has used his Twitter account to attack parole reform

efforts in the legislature. However, on Wednesday, one of his fear-mongering tweets alleged that "Thousands of sex offenders not in compliance with the registry, some since 2004. Presumptive Parole wants more out." "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446148576_progmich.pdf

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Dingell Statement on TIGER Grant Announcement

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today after the U.S. Department of Transportation announced recipients of the seventh round of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446147464_dingell.pdf

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Peters, Stabenow Call for Extension of Perkins Student Loan Program

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today joined a bipartisan group of Senators in sending a letter urging Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Minority Leader Harry Reid to take up and pass a one-year, no-cost extension of the Perkins Loan Program, which expired on October 1st. The Perkins Loan Program provides low-interest loans to help students with exceptional financial need pay for their education. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a one-year extension on September 28th, but the Senate has yet to take action to extend the program."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446145305_peters.pdf

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Michigan a leader among 8 Midwestern states to receive federal grant for truck parking tracking syst

*"**October 29, 2015 --** Michigan expects to receive $3 million from a $25 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant awarded to the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO)."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446141650_mdot.pdf

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Schuette Charges Southeast Michigan Official for Embezzling Property Tax Payments to Pay for Persona

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette and the Michigan State Police today announced embezzlement charges against Augusta Township Deputy Treasurer Brendan Humeniak, 21, of Willis.*

Humeniak is charged with three counts of Embezzlement by a Public Official, Agent, or Servant, over $50, a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison."

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446141600_ag.pdf

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Huizenga: Paul Ryan Is The Speaker We Need In The House

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after voting in support of Paul Ryan becoming the next Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives."*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446139923_huizenga.pdf

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Senate approves Zorn resolution urging safe, permanent nuclear spent fuel storage

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved Sen. Dale Zorn's resolution calling for the completion of federal facilities for safe storage of spent nuclear fuel."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446139619_zorn.pdf

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Rep. Trott Statement on Paul Ryan's Election as Speaker of the House

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after Rep. Paul Ryan was elected the Speaker of the House of Representatives:"

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446135315_trott.pdf

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Bipartisan Promise Zone expansion passes Senate

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint, on Thursday praised the Senate's swift approval of legislation to expand and improve Michigan's Promise Zone program. The initiative, based off the extremely successful Kalamazoo Promise, allows local communities to pool resources and utilize tax increment financing to help all students afford a college education."*

Source: *Michigan Senate* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446134646_senate.pdf

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New research indicates bipartisan initiatives are the way to electoral success

"New research published in PS: Political Science and Politics shows that partisan actions hurts the election prospects of parties, while initiating bipartisan actions helps them to get ahead."

Source: *American Political Science Association* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446134586_apsa.pdf

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Upton Statement on Election of Paul D. Ryan as Speaker of the House

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement following the election of Congressman Paul D. Ryan, R-Wisconsin, to the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446133212_upton.pdf

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Cruz Campaign Tops 77,000 Volunteers

"

HOUSTON, Texas – Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced 77,190 volunteers have signed on to help Ted Cruz become the next President of the United States. Volunteers have signed up in all 50 states and five territories, including 5,927 in the first four primary and caucus states.

"

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446133009_cruz.pdf

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Rep. Bishop: Speaker Ryan is the right leader to get Congress on track

*"**WASHINGTON** – In response to Speaker Paul Ryan's successful bid for Speaker today, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) issued the following statement: "*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132916_bishop.pdf

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M-231 opens to traffic tomorrow, weather permitting

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), in partnership with Ottawa County and the townships of Robinson and Crockery, will open the new M-231 route to traffic this Friday, weather permitting. Crews are applying the necessary finishing touches, which includes weather-sensitive pavement marking. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132568_mdot.pdf

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"Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" A free seminar presented by the Oakland County Probate Co

"Oakland County, MI (10/29/2015) – On Friday, November 13, 2015, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" at the Royal Oak Senior Center in Royal Oak from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This program is designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens and their families so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process. The Royal Oak Senior Center is located at 3500 Marais in Royal Oak."

Source: *Oakland County Michigan* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132149_oakland.pdf

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Michigan Hospitals Selected for New Baby-Friendly Maternity Care Improvement Program

"LANSING, Mich. — Breastfeeding plays an important role in infant and maternal health, which is why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is pleased to announce that four Michigan hospitals have been selected to join the EMPower Initiative to enhance their maternity care practices and work toward achieving Baby-Friendly USA© designation. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446131214_mdhhs.pdf

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Bipartisan Promise Zone Expansion Passes Senate

"LANSING, Michigan — Sen. Goeff Hansen (R–Hart) and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) on Thursday praised the Senate's swift approval of legislation to expand and improve Michigan's Promise Zone program. The initiative, based off the extremely successful Kalamazoo Promise, allows local communities to pool resources and utilize tax increment financing to help all students afford a college education."

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446130901_ananich.pdf

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Scare Off Frightful Fire Hazards this Halloween

*"**October 29, 2015 -** Keep Halloween scary and safe this year by taking simple precautions to lower fire risk and avoid burn-related injuries. Have fun in flame-resistant costumes, trick-or-treat with flashlights or glow sticks, and use extreme caution if using candles to ensure a spooktacular good time."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446128271_lara.pdf

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Michigan Education Savings Program ranked among nation's best

"LANSING – The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) was again a top performer in Morningstar Inc.'s annual ratings of 529 college-savings plans, retaining its "Silver" rating for the fourth consecutive year."

Source: *Michigan Education Savings Program* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446128153_mesp.pdf

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Michigan DNR Director, Keith Creagh Receives Tuebor Award

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Forest Products Council (MFPC) announced yesterday at the Governor's Second Forest Products Summit that Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director, Keith Creagh received the annual **Tuebor Award** from the MFPC's board of directors."*

Source: *Michigan Forest Products Council* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446126289_mfpc.pdf

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Red Cross introduces online health history for blood donors

*"**LANSING**, Mich. (Oct. 26, 2015) — American Red Cross blood and platelet donors can now help save lives in less time by using the new Red Cross RapidPass online health history system."*

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125582_redcross.pdf

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MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 10/30-11/2/15

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 10/30-11/02/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)**"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125525_mdot.pdf

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Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services Offers Tips to

Michigan Consumers When Shopp

"(LANSING) Many Michigan consumers across the state will begin the process of shopping for health coverage when the Health Insurance Marketplace (Marketplace) opens this Sunday, November 1, 2015. The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) is offering Michigan consumers tips on shopping for health coverage for the 2016 plan year."

Source: *Department of Insurance and Financial Services* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125486_difs.pdf

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MDOT says "Fall Back" means be alert for pedestrians and bicyclists

*"**October 29, 2015** -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) reminds motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians that the return to standard time, which takes effect at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1, means it will get dark one hour earlier. It is important to watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists on the drive home, as they will be much less noticeable after the time change goes into effect. Research from the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute confirms that pedestrians are more at risk of serious injury from a motor vehicle crash in the weeks following a return to standard time. The most dangerous time is the first hour of darkness."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125410_mdot.pdf

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Statement on the third Republican presidential debate

*"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 28, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement regarding the third Republican Presidential Primary debate:"*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *10-30-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125307_repub.pdf

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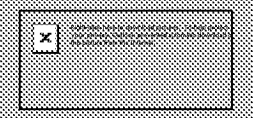

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Sent: Friday, October 30, 2015 7:05 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 30, 2015

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http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php

SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

LGBT Civil Rights Ballot Proposal Being Launched

Advocates pushing for a constitutional equal protection amendment for women and the LGBT community are filing a campaign committee today for the November 2016 ballot.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44856

Experts: 50-Year Roads Theoretically Possible, But Costly In Michigan

The idea of setting aside funding to study and eventually implement longer-lasting roads has returned as the Senate continues road-funding talks, but experts aren't sure the added expense the concept would entail is feasible for Michigan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44864

Prevailing Wage Repealers Starting From Scratch On Ballot Initiative

The group pushing for a prevailing wage repeal ballot initiative, Protecting Michigan Taxpayers (PMT), announced today it's starting over on gathering signatures.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44861

Tesla Driving To Change MI's Dealership Law

Tesla, the California-based luxury electric car manufacturer, is revving up its legislative presence in Lansing in an attempt to sell its made-to-order cars from Michigan storefronts through its current business model as soon as next year.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44857

Doctors, Pharmacists In Tug Of War Over Handling New Medicines Types

With dozens of interest groups taking sides and watching closely, two bills before a House committee this fall lay out different paths for how to handle new medicines that could eventually save Americans billions of dollars.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44862

1st District Chair, Alpena Chamber Prez In For GOP In 106th

Two Republican candidates who've known each other since kindergarten are both planning to run for an open House seat representing a swing Northern Michigan district.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44860

Canoeist Denied Grand River Shore Access Can't Sue

A nonprofit environmental group had the right to deny a canoeist access to its shoreline property to test for contamination in Grand River sediments near Jackson, the Court of Appeals has ruled.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44858

Auditor General To Look Into State's Flint Response

At Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH's (D-Flint) request, the Auditor General said he would dive into the state's response to the Flint water crisis.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44859

Bits And Tidbits

Aguilera Pitching For Clinton

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44863

On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 30, 1956, 52 boys at Romeo Community High School faced a deadline to either trim their Elvis Presley-like hairstyles or leave the school. The superintendent of Romeo Community High School imposed the deadline after teachers complained the students' sideburns and ducktail haircuts spawned defiant behavior. Barbers offered free haircuts to boys who could not afford them. All 52 boys reportedly

complied with the deadline.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44865

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
3:00 PM - **Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**
Afendoulis, Chris; Rm: 424 CB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
11:45 AM - **Financial Liability Reform**
Somerville, Pat; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
10:30 AM - **Financial Services**
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
9:00 AM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**
Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
8:30 AM - **Government Operations**
Meekhof, Arlan B.; Rm: 402-403 CB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015
1:00 PM
Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court(Sponsored by Oakland County Probate Court (this is a free seminar))
Guest Speakers: Probate Register Jill Koney Daly and Attorney Michael Witzke
Location: Royal Oak Senior Center
Contact: Karen Koshen 248-858-0296
koshenk@oakgov.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
1:00 PM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Bakers
Contact: Jim Runestad 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2015
8:30 AM
Delegate Training Session(Sponsored by 13th & 14th District Democrats)
Location: Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyers, Detroit, MI 48235
info@14thDistrictDems.org

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Dave and Amys
Contact: Jim Runestad 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
10:00 AM
Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour
Location: Colasantis Market
Contact: Jim Runestad 517-373-2616
JimRunestad@house.mi.gov

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015
5:00 PM
Young Professionals Town Hall(Sponsored by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence)
Location: Bootleggers Pig and Whiskey Bar, 15412 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
info@14thdistrictdems.org

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
11:30 AM
Issues & Ideas Forum - Why Can\'t Tesla Sell Cars in Michigan? (Sponsored by Mackinac Center for Public Policy)
Guest Speakers: Daniel Crane, University of Michigan Law School
Location: Radisson Lansing at the Capitol - Michigan II & III, 111 North Grand Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Kimberley Fischer-Kinne, Event Manager 9896981905
events@mackinac.org

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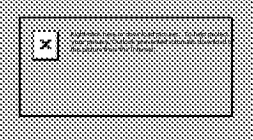

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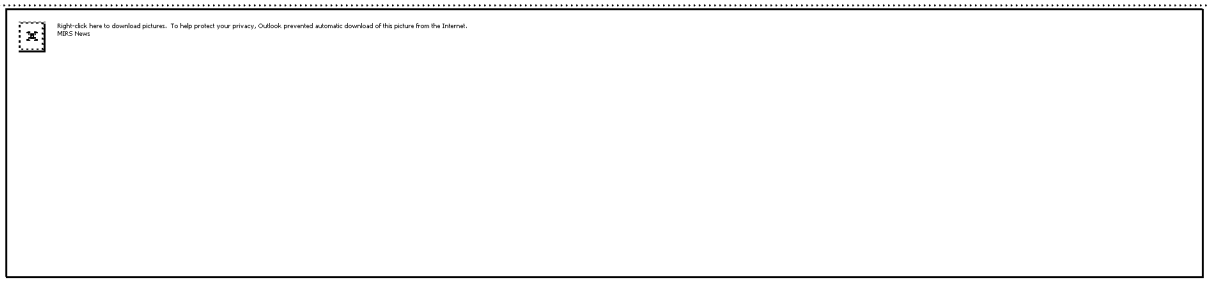

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16 times Obama said there would be no boots on the ground in Syria

"WASHINGTON — Since 2013, President Obama has repeatedly vowed that there would be no "boots on the ground" in Syria."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/10/30/16-times-obama-said-there-would-no-boots-ground-syria/74869884/*

Report: 1 in 14 kids has a parent in prison

"Three years ago, the little girl would hide under a table when confronted with reminders that both her parents were in prison."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/31/inmates-children-prisons/74911654/*

DPS unions: Include labor contracts in Snyder overhaul

"Detroit — A group of school unions Friday called on Gov. Rick Snyder to include teachers and their collective bargaining agreements in his plan to overhaul Detroit Public Schools, though the governor's office says it does just that."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/30/detroit-school-overhaul-unions-snyder/74908048/*

Groups hit GOP challengers in Gamrat, Courser races

"Lansing — Outside groups have stepped up their efforts to influence two closely watched special Republican primaries in Lapeer and Allegan counties to fill the Michigan House seats left vacant by the scandalous departures of former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/30/courser-gamrat-votes-michigan/74907064/*

DPS unions: Include labor contracts in Snyder overhaul

"Detroit — A group of school unions Friday called on Gov. Rick Snyder to include teachers and their collective bargaining agreements in his plan to overhaul Detroit Public Schools, though the governor's office says it does just that."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/30/detroit-school-overhaul-unions-snyder/74908048/*

Some in Detroit fear recovery is pricing them out

"Detroit — Gritty residents and business owners who stuck with Detroit through the economic bad times fear they could be priced out during the city's slow recovery as property values and rents tip-toe up."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/30/getting-priced-detroit-revival/74906016/*

Offer at Westland school: Improve your grades, get $200

"Westland – How much is an improved grade point average worth? How about $200 a semester?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/30/offer-westland-school-improve-grades-get/74891350/*

Not all workers paid equally under UAW-GM deal

"Not all workers would be paid equally under a new tentative agreement being voted on by 52,600 United Auto Workers members with General Motors Co."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-*

motors/2015/10/30/workers-paid-equally-uaw-gm-deal/74904590/

Detroit lawmakers say keeping school board top priority

"Preserving a locally elected school board remains a top concern for key Detroit lawmakers ahead of next week, when bills to overhaul education in the city are expected to be introduced in Lansing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/30/detroit-lawmakers-keep-school-board/74886394/

More than 355 pounds of marijuana seized in Thumb Area

"LAMOTTE TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Members of the Sanilac County Drug Task Force discovered more than 355 pounds of dried marijuana plants and plant remnants and 10.5 pounds of processed marijuana during an investigation in Lamotte Township on Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/31/hundreds-pounds-marijuana-seized-thumb-area/74936036/

Michigan state parks see banner year for camping

"Low fuel prices and an improved economy have helped boost the number of nights spent camping in Michigan's state parks and recreation areas past 1 million for 2015."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/30/state-park-camping/74900102/

Courser-Gamrat special elections to cost thousands

"When voters in Allegan and Lapeer County go to the polls on Tuesday to select their favorite candidate to fill two vacant seats in the state House of Representatives, they'll also be on the hook for a hefty, and unexpected, bill — likely well into the six figures."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/30/special-elections-costly-lapeer-allegan-counties/74889456/

White Boy Rick appeals to Michigan Supreme Court

"Despite repeated blows from the courts, one-time notorious drug dealer White Boy Rick isn't giving up on his fight for freedom, this time seeking intervention from the Michigan Supreme Court."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/30/white-boy-rick-appeals-michigan-supreme-court/74899292/*

Russian plane crash in Egypt kills all 224 people aboard

"All 224 people aboard a Russian airliner were killed early Saturday when the Airbus A-321 crashed in Egypt's Sinai peninsula shortly after takeoff from a popular Red Sea resort town, officials say."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/10/31/russian-plane-crash-egypt/74934010/*

Michigan DEQ audit expanded to include Flint water response

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Auditor General Doug Ringler is expanding an ongoing review of the Department of Environmental Quality's water division to include response protocols related to lead contamination in Flint drinking water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_deq_audit_expanded_to.html#incart_river*

Cindy Gamrat says she is 'confident' going into Tuesday's election

*"**PLAINWELL, MI** — After weeks of being in the headlines for a sex-and-coverup scandal that led to her expulsion from the state House, Cindy Gamrat says she didn't know what kind of reception she would get from voters while going door to door asking them to return her to office."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/cindy_gamrat_says_shes_confide.html#incart_river*

No more money: Michigan autism fund runs dry as its architect calls for reconsideration

"LANSING, MI -- A fund designed to incentivize companies to cover autism treatments is running dry, but some of its original supporters are urging the legislature to take another look."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/no_more_money_michigan_autism.html#incart_story_package*

Michigan gay rights ballot initiative planned by attorney who won marriage case

"LANSING, MI — A group looking to make an equal rights amendment to the Michigan Constitution has filed paperwork with the state in advance of a planned petition drive and 2016 ballot initiative."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_anti-discrimination_b.html#incart_river*

Daylight saving time has 'no rational basis,' Michigan legislator says

"MICHIGAN -- As much of the nation prepares to turn the clocks back an hour Sunday, a Michigan legislator wants the state to dump daylight saving time."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/daylight_saving_time_has_no_ra.html#incart_river*

Petition to repeal prevailing wage in Michigan folds under signature scrutiny, starts effort anew

"LANSING, MI -- A legislative initiative to strike down Michigan's prevailing wage law is withdrawing its petition due to an unusually high number of invalid signatures but doubling down on its efforts."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/petition_to_repeal_prevailing.html#incart_river*

Michigan Political Points: Money flows to judges, gov prospects and Courser/Gamrat opponents

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's 2014 state Supreme Court election was the most expensive in the country, with three open seats drawing eight candidates, $4.98 million in campaign fundraising and $4.53 million in outside cash."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_mone.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Jacques: Reformer fired for suggesting radical change

"Greg Harris, the state director of StudentsFirst in Ohio, decided to weigh in on the Detroit school reform debate. And now he's the former state director."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/10/30/ingrid-jacques-education-reformer-fired/74835966/*

Nevshehir: Cuba is a new frontier for U.S. companies

"In light of the recent normalization of relations and restoration of diplomatic ties between the U.S. and Cuba, many local companies have expressed interest in exploring business opportunities in Cuba. And while there certainly are opportunities, companies must consider the challenges they will face in what is still a very Communist nation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/30/nevshehir-cuba-us-companies/74918632/

Pannebecker: Prevailing wage bad for Michigan

"The effort to allow workers in Michigan the freedom to decide for themselves whether to join and financially support a union was won in 2012, and became law in 2013. Michigan is now enjoying the job creating benefits of that reform, and is better off for it. The union bosses claimed that this freedom would destroy unions and dramatically reduce wages and benefits. That argument has been proven false, but the union bosses and the Democratic Party are trying to use it again to prevent the prevailing wage law from being repealed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/30/pannebecker-prevailing-wage-law/74918214/

Help college students get their money's worth

"A college degree is the most important vehicle for economic success in our country. Two-thirds of all U.S. jobs will require a postsecondary education by 2020, up from 28 percent in 1973. And college graduates take home, on average, 60 percent higher annual earnings than their high school graduate counterparts, which adds up to about $830,000 more income over a lifetime."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/help-college-students-get-their-moneys-worth/*

Beware 'Wimpy' Tax Cut Promises

"Both the Michigan House and Senate have included a provision in their competing road funding proposals to

cut the state income tax in 2019, but only if the amount of revenue deposited in the state general fund increases at a rate faster than inflation."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21652*

Expand electricity choice to help Michigan schools, economy (Guest view)

"Michigan's economy is damaged by an arbitrary 10-percent cap on electricity users who are allowed to buy from an alternative energy provider, guaranteeing Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison a 90-percent monopoly."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/expand_electricity_choice_to_h.html

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Ken Braun: CNBC's clumsy handling kept real issues out of presidential debate

"CNBC was once the place where economic news was the only subject. While the hosts on other news channels stumbled into shout fests over social issues, CNBC was to dollars and cents what ESPN gave me for first downs and touchdowns — reliability. When they hosted the GOP presidential debate on Wednesday night, I expected what the title advertised: "Your Money, Your Vote: The Presidential Debate on the Economy.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken_braun_here_are_the_real_is.html#incart_river

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Press Releases

Introducing more women to fun, camaraderie of hunting

"Back in 2012, Scott Brosier, a dog trainer and hunting enthusiast, said he wanted to introduce newcomers to bird hunting, but he didn't want to do it like everyone else."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446235108_dnr.pdf

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M-STEP Results Released; Detroit Worst City on NAEP; K-3 States Improve; Detroit Ed Reform; MPSERS a

*"**M-STEP Results Show Less Than 50% of Michigan Students Proficient***
On Tuesday, MDE released results from the 2015 M-STEP test, the new state assessment for students in grades 3-8. Considered a more rigorous test than the MEAP, this new test is aligned to our college-and-career-ready standards and requires more critical thinking over multiple choice answers. As expected,

students performed less proficiently than on the MEAP, and the stats are alarming when you consider that less than 50% of students in the state are proficient in Math and English Language Arts. MDE only released statewide aggregate numbers this week, and other breakdowns and details will be released this fall via mischooldata.org."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446234422_glep.pdf

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Sierra Club Statement on Wolverine Power's Wind Energy Investment

"LANSING, Mich. -- Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative, Inc. announced yesterday that it has entered into a 20-year power purchase agreement with Exelon Generation for 153 megawatts (MW) of new wind generation in Michigan. This agreement will move the cooperative to a total of 350 MW of wind generation when the project begins operation in late 2016. Wolverine's investment will also mean that Michigan's energy cooperatives will get 30 percent of their power from renewable sources."

Source: *Sierra Club* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446232993_sierra.pdf

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Summit continues discussion on adding value to Michigan's forest products industry

"The Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit, held Wednesday in East Lansing, Michigan, brought together 150 representatives from industry, government, the financial sector and academia to continue actions started at the Governor's 2013 Forest Products Summit to encourage growth of wood-using industries in the state."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446232198_dnr.pdf

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Rep Lawrence statement on bipartisan budget agreement

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – [WASHINGTON, D.C.] – Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence on Wednesday voted with 265 other Democratic and Republican Members of Congress to pass H.R. 1314, a bipartisan budget agreement that moves America forward in the effort to create more jobs, protect seniors, affirm the full faith and credit of the United States, and invest in our future."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446232162_lawrence.pdf

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Horse racing fans can see 30 weekends of live racing next year at Detroit-area tracks

*"**Detroit** – Michigan horse racing fans can see 30 weekends of live racing from mid-March through early October 2016 under race meeting orders issued today by the Michigan Gaming Control Board."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446230784_mgcb.pdf

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Rep. Jim Runestad October E-newsletter

*"**Hospitals will have lower electric costs under Rep. Runestad bill** Hospitals will benefit from reduced energy costs under a bill introduced by state Rep. Jim Runestad that increases energy choice and competition in the state."*

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446227719_runestad.pdf

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State should heed science panel's findings, keep fish farms out of Great Lakes

"State reports issued this week on proposals to farm fish in Michigan's public waters make it clear that commercial aquaculture has no place in the Great Lakes, environmental and conservation groups say."

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446224688_enviro.pdf

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USDA Celebrates Groundbreaking for Frankenmuth Farmers Market

*"**EAST LANSING, Oct. 30, 2015 –** U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan James J. Turner today joined local officials to break ground for the Frankenmuth Farmers Market."*

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446223656_usda.pdf

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Senate committee to take testimony 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

"The Senate Judiciary will take testimony on House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing certain prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency. The legislation passed the House on October 14 with unanimous approval."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446221702_pscholka.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee on New American Prisoner Taken by Iran

"Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) issued the following statement today after it was reported that Iranian security forces had arrested another American in Tehran:"

Source: *Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446219101_kildee.pdf

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New SBAM Connectivity human resources administration member benefit launched

" The Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) has launched SBAM Connectivity, powered by benepay Technologies. The new member-only benefit helps small business owners manage payroll, time and attendance, employee benefit administration, as well as compliance with the Affordable Care Act, ERISA and other human resources regulations."

Source: *Small Business Association of Michigan* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446218920_sbam.pdf

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Construction on I-75 in Oakland Cty causing delays this weekend 10/30-11/2/15

"Traffic Advisory for I-75 in Oakland County – 10/30/15 - 11/02/15 Major weekend construction expect to cause delays:"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446218439_mdot.pdf

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Ten Questions about House Bill 4138: The "Presumptive Parole" Bill

"Ten Questions about House Bill 4138: The "Presumptive Parole" Bill"

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446217862_dnr.pdf

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DNR seeks outdoor recreation partners and sponsors for 2016

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources currently is seeking support from partners and sponsors for

2016 outdoor recreation events and initiatives. Opportunities include sponsoring statewide event campaigns, creating co-promotional products for distribution, and donating to projects such as the Iron Belle Trail, the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit and the upcoming 2019 Centennial Celebration of Michigan State Parks."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446217810_dnr.pdf

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Capac Rest Area Closing two weeks

"The Capac Rest Area in St. Clair County is closing for approximately six weeks for replacement of the sanitary system."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446216767_mdot.pdf

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Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries Sunday, Nov. 1

*"**October 30, 2015 -** As you set clocks back one hour and "fall back" to daylight saving time this weekend, adopt the life-saving habit of also changing the batteries in your smoke alarms. Eastern Standard Time officially begins on Sunday, November 1, at 2 a.m."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446216727_lara.pdf

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Michigan LCV Endorses David LaGrand in Special Election

*"GRAND RAPIDS – The **Michigan League of Conservation Voters** (LCV) today endorsed **David LaGrand** in his bid to represent the 75th State House District in the upcoming special election. House District 75 consists of much of the City of Grand Rapids and was held by Rep. Brandon Dillon until July, when he resigned to become Michigan Democratic Party Chair."*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446214613_micv.pdf

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Scare Off Frightful Fire Hazards this Halloween

*"**October 29, 2015 -** Keep Halloween scary and safe this year by taking simple precautions to lower fire risk and avoid burn-related injuries. Have fun in flame-resistant costumes, trick-or-treat with flashlights or glow sticks, and use extreme caution if using candles to ensure a spooktacular good time."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446214575_lara.pdf

M-20 reopens at Leaton Road in Isabella County, two weeks ahead of schedule

*"**October 30, 2015** -- Today, crews will complete installing signs and pavement markings along M-20 from Summerton Road to Leaton Road, marking then end of a $3.8 million safety project, two weeks ahead of schedule."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446213990_mdot.pdf

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Disability Mentoring Day provides career guidance, opportunities for youth, adults

"LANSING, Mich. – Michiganders with disabilities are being mentored and are participating in activities during October as part of the state's ongoing efforts to encourage inclusive work environments and opportunities for all residents."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446213757_dhhs.pdf

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Updated Blue Water Bridge toll system

"A new tolling system is now installed at the Blue Water Bridge incorporating more technology and convenience for bridge customers. New equipment has been installed, including proximity card readers, exit gates, and electronic fare displays."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446212895_mdot.pdf

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Peters Offers Assistance with Applications for SBA Disaster Recovery Loans

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today encouraged small businesses across Michigan that have been affected by excessive rain and cooler than normal temperatures that began on April 1, 2014 to contact his office if they need help applying for a disaster assistance loan through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Currently, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans program is available to eligible Michigan farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of these weather changes."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446212619_peters.pdf

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 10/29/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/29/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446210735_court.pdf*

Audit Report Released - LARA, Self-Insurers' Security Fund (641-0101-15)

"Report on internal control, compliance, and other matters of Self-Insurers' Security Fund, Workers' Compensation Agency Funds Administration, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs for the calendar year ended December 31, 2014 Project number: 641-0101-15"

Source: *Auditor General* **Date:** *10-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446210684_audit.pdf*

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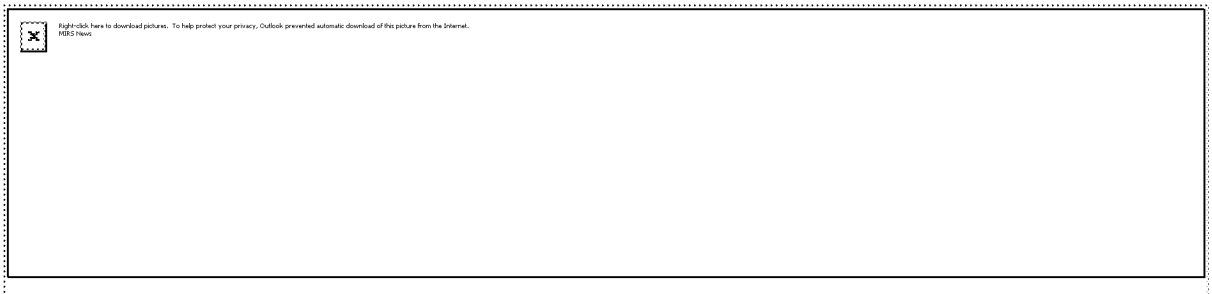
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 1:45 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 3, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 3, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Snyder Says He's 'Ready' To Sign $1.2B Road Plan Into Law

Holding up a pen during a press conference tonight, Gov. Rick SNYDER announced that he's "ready" to sign the Legislature's $1.2 billion road funding plan into law.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44687

Howell, Whiteford Advance By Knocking Off Courser, Gamrat

The curtain closed on former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT's strange melodrama tonight when both former state representatives failed in their individual bids to return to a state House that chased them away two months ago.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44684

Mayoral Incumbents Unseated In Flint, East Lansing

A political newcomer in Flint with less than a fifth of her rivals' funding won 55 percent of the vote. And in East Lansing, former mayor Mark MEADOWS is back on city council after the current mayor, Nathan TRIPLETT, lost.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44685

Nesbitt's New Energy Plan Yields Same Claims From Choice Advocates

A new proposed substitute to House Energy Policy Chair Aric NESBITT's (R-Lawton) energy reform bill circulated around town today on the eve of a potential committee vote, but the arguments coming from

those following the issue are anything but new.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44882

Voters Approve 56% Of Local Road Requests, New Money Asks Go 67%

On the night lawmakers passing a statewide road funding plan, local road millage proposals were rejected almost as much as they were accepted.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44880

Bombs Being Lobbed Early In 8th

The way the bombs are flying in the budding 2016 8th Congressional District race, you'd think the district made up of Ingham, Livingston and northern Oakland counties was a 50/50 seat.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44876

Compromise, Desire To 'Solve Roads' Helped Gather Votes For Funding Plan

There were multiple closed-door caucus meetings and about 11 hours of session today. But in the end, House Republicans were able to find the needed votes for a $1.2 billion transportation funding plan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44889

Ohio Voters Snuff Out Recreational Marijuana

Ohio voters today voted almost 2:1 against a proposal to legalize marijuana in its state.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44885

Detroit Pastor Demands Snyder Recall, Citing Flint Water 'Tragedy'

A Detroit pastor is seeking to mount a recall campaign against Gov. Rick SNYDER, pointing to the Flint water crisis and what he said is the Governor's alleged culpability for it.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44881

Former Senate Republican Leader, GCSI Founder Robert VanderLaan Dies

Robert VANDERLAAN, a longtime state senator, former Senate Majority Leader and co-founder of the lobbying firm Governmental Consulting Services, Inc. (GCSI), died Sunday at 85 years old.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44883

New Cop Killer Alert System Signed Into Law

A federal program designed to track at-large suspects who have injured or killed a police officer will be created in Michigan under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick SNYDER.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44886

Priebus Heralds MRP's 2-Year-Old Detroit Office

Republican National Committee Chair Reince PRIEBUS was in Detroit today celebrating the 2-year birthday of the Michigan Republican Party's (MRP) Detroit office off Livernois Avenue.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44878

Michigan Small Towns Fall Average In Middle Of National Survey

A national survey released today listed Allen Park as the Michigan small city with the best mix of "quality of life" and affordable living costs. Pontiac was Michigan's worst small city based on 22 metrics ranging from school system quality to the number of restaurants per capita.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44877

Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization

At noon on Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44880

On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 3, 1930, the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel between Michigan and Canada officially opened to car traffic. The world's only international subaqueous tunnel made it possible to "pass from one great country to the other in the short space of three minutes," according to Windsor Mayor Frederick JACKSON.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44879

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
3:00 PM - **Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**
(CANCELLED) Afendoulis, Chris; Rm: 424 CB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **Energy Policy**
Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
10:30 AM - **AGRICULTURE, JOINT MEETING WITH APPROPS: AGRICULTURE AND RURAL**

DEVELOPMENT|
Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
9:00 AM - **Education**
Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
9:00 AM - **Appropriations**
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM - **Government Operations**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**
(CANCELLED) Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
2:00 PM - **Appropriations**
Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fennville City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:30 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Plainwell City Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
2:00 PM
Military Service Academy Information Session(Sponsored by U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell)
Guest Speakers: Reps. from the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy
Location: Taylor Sportsplex, Room C
Contact: Hannah Smith 202-315-8446
Hannah.smith@mail.house.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Antwerp Township Hall
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
10:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Mugshots Coffeehouse
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015
11:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Paw Paw District Library
Contact: Deb Shields 269-303-5564
DShields@senate.michigan.gov

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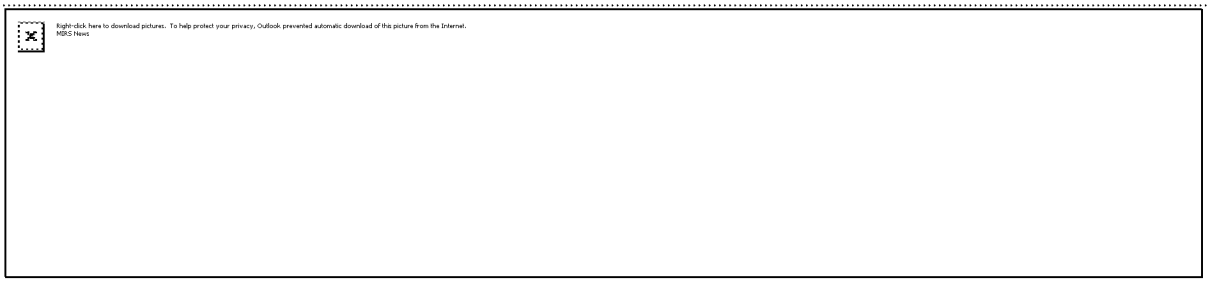
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 6:58 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Two years after opening Detroit office, Republicans still eyeing long-term gains in Democratic stronghold

"DETROIT, MI -- The Republican Party is still trying to gain ground in the firmest of Democratic strongholds, and its leaders are promising long-term commitment to consistent, face-to-face engagement with voters in the Motor City."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/two_years_after_opening_detroi.html#incart_river

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ABC's '20/20' filming Cindy Gamrat as election results come in

*"**PLAINWELL, MI** -- A videographer for ABC's '20/20' news is at the home of Cindy Gamrat tonight, as she and her supporters watch election results come in."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/abcs_2020_filming_cindy_gamrat.html#incart_river

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Deal: $1.2B road funding plan heads to Michigan Gov. Snyder's desk after legislative approval

"LANSING, MI — Four years after Gov. Rick Snyder first called for a major funding bump to combat crumbling roads, Michigan's Republican-led Legislature has sent a long-term plan to his desk."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/12b_road_funding_plan_heads_to.html#incart_river*

In re-election defeat, ex-state Rep. Todd Courser says he's 'walking corpse'

"LAPEER COUNTY, MI – Todd Courser's bid for re-election to the 82nd House District Representative seat has come to an end in a resounding defeat."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/former_state_representative_to_1.html#incart_river

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Mary Whiteford beats Cindy Gamrat, 6 others in 80th House race

*"**ALLEGAN, MI** – In one of the most-watched races in Michigan tonight, former Rep. Cindy Gamrat failed in her attempt to regain her seat weeks after she was expelled by her state House colleagues."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrat_allegan_county_80.html#incart_river_home

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Cindy Gamrat: 'I'm at peace with how it turned out'

*"**PLAINWELL, MI** -- Crushed in her attempt to reclaim her seat in the state House, Cindy Gamrat said Tuesday night that she is "at peace with how it turned out, because it was the voters' decision.""*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrat_im_at_peace_with.html#incart_m-rpt-2

U.S. EPA will conduct 'full review' of Flint water crisis

"FLINT, MI – Flint's water crisis is getting a review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the results are expected to be known by the end of this week."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/us_epa_tells_kildee_it_will_ca.html#incart_river_home

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Todd Courser defeated in re-election to seat he resigned amid sex scandal

"LAPEER COUNTY, MI -- Todd Courser was heading for defeat in his bid to regain the 82nd House District Representative position he resigned two months ago."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/todd_courser_appears_headed_fo.html#incart_river_home

Ex-DPS official 'steered' $40M deal, feds say

"A former Detroit Public Schools administrator worked to "fraudulently steer" a $40 million contract from the district to a textbook publisher where she once worked, an FBI agent alleged in a federal court filing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/11/03/ex-dps-official-contract-investigation-houghton-mifflin-harcourt/75117392/*

Carson taps Mike Shirkey to chair Mich. campaign

"Retired neurosurgeon and Detroit native Dr. Ben Carson has appointed state Sen. Mike Shirkey to chair Carson's presidential campaign in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/03/carson-taps-mike-shirkey-chair-mich-campaign/75100370/*

Levin wants inquiry into crash of Malaysia Flight 17

"Washington — Lawmakers including Rep. Sander Levin, D-Royal Oak, are urging Congress to investigate the circumstances surrounding the crash of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/03/levin-inquiry-malaysia-flight/75125510/*

Mich. plan to cut algae relies on past measures

"Michigan has rolled out its plan for cutting the amount of phosphorus that reaches Lake Erie and helps generate harmful algal blooms. That plan will require little new action for the state to meet its goals."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/environment/2015/11/03/michigan-plan-cut-algae/75125442/*

Slight majority support GM-UAW deal so far

"With about one-third of ballots cast, voting on General Motors Co.'s tentative agreement with the UAW is close, with a slight majority of workers supporting the deal."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/11/03/gm-toledo-production-employees-approve-uaw-pact/75091580/*

Gamrat, Courser lose bids for political comebacks

"Lansing — Former state Reps. Cindy Gamrat and ex-Rep. Todd Courser were defeated in two special Republican primaries Tuesday that were triggered by their scandal-plagued departures two months ago from the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/03/courser-gamrat-legislature-election/75094528/*

Snyder says he's ready to sign $1.2B road fund package

"Lansing — State lawmakers finally ended years of debate over road funding Tuesday when they narrowly approved a $1.2-billion plan that calls for $600 million in higher taxes and $600 million in budget shifts or cuts."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/03/michigan-road-funding/75095360/*

Former Reps. Courser, Gamrat defeated in comeback tries

"LANSING — Two former Republican state representatives who lost their seats in September amid a sex and cover-up scandal were soundly defeated Tuesday in their special primary bids to regain their seats."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/03/courser-gamrat-house-michigan/75084202/*

Everything we know about the Senate roads plan

"On Tuesday, the Michigan Senate narrowly passed a $1.2-billion road-funding plan that's similar to one the state House passed earlier but includes some important differences."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/03/everything-we-know-senate-roads-plan/75118144/*

Road funding bills pass Michigan House, Senate finally

"LANSING — Michigan motorists would typically pay about $20 more for their vehicle registration fees and spend about $1.17 more for a 15-gallon fill-up under fee and tax increases passed by the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives Tuesday, as part of a $1.2-billion road-funding plan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/03/road-funding-talks-continue-capitol/75087586/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan brings transparency to civil forfeiture

"Here's a $270 million question: When will Michigan stop seizing private property from individuals who have done nothing wrong? With Gov. Rick Snyder's signature on a package of bills, the answer may be "soon.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/04/michigan-civil-forfeiture-transparency/75127470/*

Wozniak: Campaign against clean air is embarrassing

"Attorney General Bill Schuette joined a lawsuit last week to block the first-ever limits on carbon pollution from power plants in Michigan — his latest disappointing move to challenge common-sense protections for our land, air and water."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/04/clean-power-plan-bill-schuette/75127476/*

Berman: UAW is neglecting workers

"The United Auto Workers (UAW) has been negotiating new labor contracts with the Detroit Big Three since July. In that time, much has been made of what's on the table: a $17 starting hourly wage for entry-level workers, $3,000 signing bonuses, and a revamped benefits structure."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/04/uaw-union-decertification-employee-rights-act/75127626/*

Michigan continues its dark money streak

"Well, Michigan, we did it again. A new report from the Brennan Center, Justice at Stake and the National Institute for Money in State Politics reveals that the 2014 Michigan Supreme Court election campaign was the most expensive and least transparent in the nation. This is the third election cycle in a row that we've had that distinction and that's a hat-trick that shouldn't be a point of pride."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/03/michigan-campaign-finance/74779754/*

Lawmakers fail LGBT in Mich., who deserve civil rights

"It's a conundrum: Same-sex couples can now get married in Michigan, but only at the risk that prospective employers or landlords will punish them for exercising that hard-won right — or even for acknowledging an attraction to others of the same sex."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/03/gay-rights-referendum/75039066/*

Michigan road funding bill: How we got to a bad deal

""When we elect politicians who hate the government we end up with a government that we hate.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/04/michigan-road-funding-bill-how-we-got-bad-deal/75136578/*

Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else

"Irresponsible, reckless, shortsighted, ill-advised, wrongheaded ... we're running out of adjectives to describe Lansing's latest plan to fix our terrible roads."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/03/michigan-roads-funds/75115240/*

Michigan Road Spending Near an All-Time High

"It may seem that Michigan is spending less and less money on roads. State spending on roads this year ranks near the all-time high and is at the same level it would have been had voters approved Proposal 1 in May."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21867*

Keeping Government Entities on Track

"With the right tools and the right people, sound government can be an achievable goal. Consider the case of the Traverse Area District Library. About 10 years ago, during the housing boom, the library was flush with cash. That sounds like a desirable problem, but it was not."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21862*

New state teacher evaluation standards are no magic bullet

"It took four years to build Michigan's teacher evaluation policy."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/new-state-teacher-evaluation-standards-are-no-magic-bullet/*

Universities want more money. Snyder wants more innovation.

"With college costs rising and Michigan near the bottom nationally in higher education funding, the state is at a crossroads. The divide over how to fix the problem was epitomized by competing remarks Monday by state political and education leaders at a Lansing education conference."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/universities-want-more-money-snyder-wants-more-innovation/*

The fight for teacher evaluation reform

"The complicated process by which policy makes its way into law is often referred to as "insider baseball". It might be confusing and often boring, and it certainly won't get big headlines, but it shouldn't ever be overlooked. Effective insider baseball wins lots of ball games."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/the-fight-for-teacher-evaluation-reform/*

Press Releases

Gov. Rick Snyder: transportation plan will make roads and bridges safer and Michigan stronger

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement after the state House and Senate approved a comprehensive plan to address Michigan's infrastructure challenges."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446610550_GOV.pdf

Road-funding package heads to Gov. Snyder (LYONS STATEMENT)

"State Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons, R-Alto, today made the following statement regarding the Legislature's passage of the "600/600" infrastructure funding proposal:"

Source: *Rep. Lisa Lyons* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609960_lyons.pdf

MRP Chairman's statement on primary elections in 80th and 82nd House districts

*"**Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel released the following statement Tuesday regarding the special primary elections in the 80th and 82nd House Districts:"*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609592_republican.pdf

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SBAM salutes passage of road funding measure

"The Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) today thanked lawmakers for passing a road funding bill and sending it to Gov. Snyder."

Source: *Small Business Association of Michigan* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609371_sbam.pdf

CHAMBER APPLAUDS MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE ON PASSAGE OF LONG-TERM ROADS FIX

*"**Grand Rapids** – The Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce applauds the Michigan Legislature on the passage of a long-term solution for Michigan's roads and additional reforms that will put Michigan on a path to a dependable infrastructure network. The passage of this legislation is the culmination of years of work and weeks of legislative negotiating to reach a compromise."*

Source: *Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609333_rapids.pdf

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House Democrats Reject Republican Road Funding Plan

"LANSING — House Democrats resoundingly rejected a roads plan that will head to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk after passing the Republican-led Legislature on Tuesday. In the new plan, $400 million will come from a gas tax increase with $200 million coming from higher registration fees. The other half of the $1.2 billion needed will be found only by cutting needed services such as public safety, education and health care funding. The roads plan was voted out of the Senate on Tuesday afternoon after a week of vote gathering."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609289_dem.pdf

Rep. Daniela R. Garcia comments on the passage of Michigan's roads plan

"State Rep. Daniela R. Garcia, R-Holland, today made the following statement regarding the Legislature's passage of the "600/600" or Plan R infrastructure funding proposal:"

Source: *Rep. Daniella Garcia* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609221_garcia.pdf

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Rep. Jason Sheppard on passage of Michigan's road plan

"State Rep. Jason Sheppard, R-Temperance, today made the following statement regarding the Legislature's passage of the "600/600" or Plan R infrastructure funding proposal:"

Source: *Rep. Jason Sheppard* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446609026_shepp.pdf

Rep. Al Pscholka comments on the passage of Michigan's roads plan

"House Appropriations Chair Rep. Al Pscholka today made the following statement regarding the Legislature's passage of the "600/600" or Plan R infrastructure funding proposal:"

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446608871_pscholka.pdf

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Road Funding Plan Is No Solution

"LANSING – Today, representatives in the Michigan legislature passed a road-funding plan that shifts income tax revenue from the state budget general fund to transportation and does not specify what areas of the budget will be cut in the process."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446608813_PROGRESS.pdf

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Progress Michigan - You Call This a Roads Plan?

"LANSING — The $1.2 billion roads plan passed by the GOP-controlled legislature doesn't generate the needed revenue for critical infrastructure fixes for several years and asks working families to continue to shoulder the majority of the responsibility for the needed investment."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446608574_michigan.pdf

Detroit Regional Chamber on Roads Legislation

*"**DETROIT, November 3, 2015:** Today, Detroit Regional Chamber Vice President of Government Relations **Brad Williams** issued the following statement on the Legislature's passage of road funding bills. "Michigan motorists deserve to have their roads fixed before 2017, but this appears to be the best this Legislature can do. It's time to move on and hope the long-term sustainability issues with this plan can be addressed in the future.""*

Source: *Detroit Regional Chamber* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446608524_detroit.pdf*

GLEP-Endorsed Mary Whiteford Wins Allegan House Primary

*"**Lansing, MI –** Mary Whiteford (R-Casco Township), endorsed and supported by the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP), was successful in today's special primary election to fill a vacancy in the 80th State House district. Whiteford came out on top of 8 Republican candidates to earn the nomination in the Allegan County seat."*

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446603620_glep.pdf*

Sen. Horn supports passage of comprehensive roads plan

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, issued the following statement Tuesday after the Senate passage of a comprehensive road plan:"*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446590255_horn.pdf*

Senate passes comprehensive road plan

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Michigan Senate on Tuesday passed a seven-bill road funding package that would ensure a fair and responsible plan for Michigan's roads and bridges in order to repair, maintain and improve the state's crumbling transportation system."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Nofs* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446589785_nofs.pdf*

Colbeck rejects politics-as-usual tax increase road solution

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The state Senate voted Tuesday on a road funding package that featured tax and fee increases totaling $600 million, plus another $600 million from existing funds for a total of $1.2 billion in additional*

funding for roads."

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446589327_colbeck.pdf*

Knollenberg applauds passage of comprehensive roads plan

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Marty Knollenberg, R-Troy, issued the following statement on the Senate passage of a comprehensive road plan:"*

Source: *Sen. Marty Knollenberg* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446588706_knollenberg.pdf*

Zorn supports comprehensive road funding plan

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Dale Zorn, R-Ida, issued the following statement following the passage of a comprehensive road funding plan:"*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446587290_zorn.pdf*

Senator Ananich on Republican Roads Plan Passing in the Senate

"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement regarding the passing of the Republican roads plan:"

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446583950_ananich.pdf*

Latest roads plan jeopardizes schools and public safety, perpetuates roads problem

"LANSING — The Michigan League for Public Policy issued the following statement on the road funding plan passed by the Michigan Senate today:"

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446582964_mlpp.pdf*

Board of State Canvassers to meet Nov. 13

"The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 10 a.m., Nov. 13 in room 426 of the state Capitol in Lansing."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446582652_sos.pdf

Stamas: Senate passes comprehensive road solution

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The state Senate on Tuesday approved a responsible, long-term solution to maintain and improve Michigan's roads and bridges, require competitive bidding and provide tax relief in the form of expanding the Homestead Property Tax Credit and future income tax rate rollbacks, said Sen. Jim Stamas."*

Source: *Sen. Jim Stamas* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446582597_stamas.pdf

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GOP Road Bill Won't Actually Fix Roads

"LANSING – The Michigan AFL-CIO released the following statement today from President Ron Bieber commenting on the latest Lansing Republican road bill:"

Source: *Michigan AFL-CIO* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446581903_aflcio.pdf

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OAKLAND COUNTY JUDGES LINDA S. HALLMARK AND JOAN E. YOUNG RECEIVE RECOGNITION FROM THE STATE BAR OF

"Oakland County, Michigan (October 30, 2015) – The Family Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan recently presented banners to the Honorable Linda S. Hallmark and the Honorable Joan E. Young to commemorate more than 15 years of service in the Circuit Court - Family Division."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446581647_oak.pdf

Media Advisory: More than 40 health professionals to call for defeat of Nesbitt energy plan

*"LANSING—On **Wednesday**, **Nov. 4**, more than 40 health professionals from across the state will hold a press conference calling for the defeat of Rep. Aric Nesbitt's energy plan, which redefines renewable energy to include burning hazardous waste, tires and railroad ties. The burning of this waste creates dangerous pollution that threatens the health of Michigan children, families and seniors. Rep. Nesbitt is expected to hold a hearing on the legislation this week.*

"

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446577367_bf.pdf*

DEQ announces 2016 kickoff for Recycle by Design Challenge

"The DEQ today announced a Feb. 15, 2016 kickoff for a new team challenge to develop innovative strategies to increase the state's residential recycling rate.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446575104_deq.pdf

"House energy plan will increase costs for Michigan families, businesses"

"LANSING—Ahead of the House energy hearing, leaders from the ***Michigan Conservative Energy Forum****(MCEF) and* ***Christian Coalition of Michigan*** *today called on House Energy Committee Chairman* ***Aric Nesbitt*** *to expand Michigan's commitment to renewable energy and energy optimization to decrease costs for Michigan ratepayers."*

Source: *Michigan Conservative Energy Forum* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446573333_mcef.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill creating state Blue Alert for suspects who injure or kill law enforcemen

"LANSING, Mich. – A federal program designed to track at large suspects who have injured or killed a police officer will be created in Michigan, under bipartisan legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446570346_gov.pdf*

Consumers Energy Upgrading Buoys on Rogers Pond

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Nov. 3, 2015 – Consumers Energy is upgrading its buoy system in the Rogers Pond, with installation expected next week."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446567721_ce.pdf

Macomb County Clerk announces plan to require committees to file donors and expenses electronically

"

Committees that are required to file campaign finance reports with the Macomb County Clerk's office may soon file those reports electronically, under a plan by Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh.

"

Source: *Macomb County Clerk* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446565849_mcc.pdf

Dingell Invites Students to Attend Military Service Academy Information Session

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) is inviting 9-12th grade students from Michigan's 12th District, families, high school counselors, veterans and servicemembers to attend a Military Service Academy information session on **Saturday, November 7th from 2-4 p.m. in Taylor**. The event will provide an opportunity for students, parents and counselors to meet with representatives from the service academies and learn more about the nomination process through Dingell's office."*

Source: *U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446564572_dd.pdf

Heartland Institute Education Experts React to the Dropping NAEP Test Scores

"NAEP, the Nations Report Card, released its 2015 test scores last week. These tests are conducted every two years and measure of the state of K-12 education across the country."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446562371_heartland.pdf

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St. Clair County Leaders Unite to Back Phil Pavlov for Congress

"ST. CLAIR—Community and grassroots leaders from across St. Clair County united today to back state Senator Phil Pavlov as the next Congressman from the 10th District."

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *11-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446562201_pavlov.pdf

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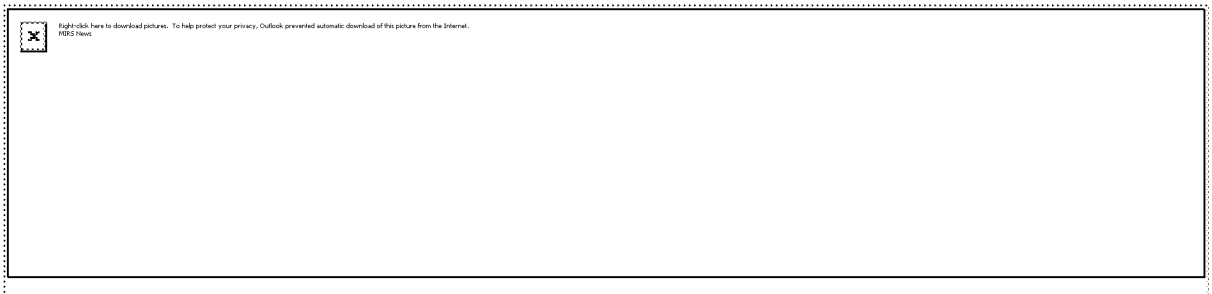
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2015 10:44 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, November 5, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, November 5, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/874

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/875

PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Juiced-Up Energy Efficiency, Renewable Goal Added To House Energy Bills

A stronger energy efficiency program and a goal that 30 percent of the state's power comes from renewable sources by 2025 were two of the major changes made to legislation that cleared the House Energy Policy Committee this evening after a stop-and-start, six-hour meeting.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44917

Snyder Considers Floating Bonds For Roads

Gov. Rick SNYDER is considering selling bonds to start repairing roads next year while he waits for the higher gas tax and registration fees to kick in starting in 2017.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44905

Both Sides Maintain They're The Winner In Road Funding Politics

In Facebook posts and press conferences, the battle to frame Tuesday's votes on a $1.2 billion road-

funding plan is on, and both sides think they're going to win.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44913

Elections Director Suggests Review Of Failed Prevailing Wage Repeal Petition

Both the state elections director and a union-backed group called for further review into what went wrong with the prevailing wage repeal group's petitions and the number of signatures found to be invalid.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44914

Lawmakers Call For Hearing On Grand Rapids Veterans Home

Amid allegations that a contractor that helps staff the Grand Rapids Veterans Home isn't providing enough workers to offer adequate care, lawmakers called today for a hearing on the facility's operations.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44916

Ananich Requests Legislative Hearings On Flint Water Fallout

As various groups continue to investigate the state's role in exposing Flint residents to unsafe levels of lead in their water, Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) has called for the Legislature to conduct its own review.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44911

Carson Beats Clinton But Clinton Beats Trump In Michigan

Republican presidential candidate Ben CARSON beats Democrat Hillary CLINTON, 46 to 40 percent in an Oct. 25 and 31 EPIC-MRA survey of 600 Michigan voters for The Detroit Free Press and a number of TV stations.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44909

Supremes Ponder If McCotter Staffer Committed Felony Conspiracy

The Michigan Supreme Court (MSC) dove into the weeds about what constitutes "committing a felony conspiracy," as the high court heard oral arguments in a case involving a staffer for former U.S. Rep. Thad McCOTTER (R-Livonia).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44915

Teamsters Warn That Public Will Pay For Higher Diesel Tax

Lawmakers have been trying for years to increase the state's 15-cent diesel tax to match the 19-cent gas tax, which would have truckers paying the same state tax as motorists.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44907

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Bill

Public school teachers will be evaluated through a state standard based 40 percent on how well their students perform on standardized test data, under legislation Gov. Rick SNYDER signed into law today.

http://www.mitsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4707#44908

Senate Votes To Do Away With 'Archaic' Dower Law

An obscure legal concept giving women some claims on their husband's property would be struck from state statute under legislation approved by the full Senate today.

http://www.mitsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4707#44910

Bill To Extend Commercial Rehab Tax Incentive Advances

A bill that would extend the sunset on a tax incentive to improve vacant commercial properties advanced out of the House Government Operations Committee this morning.

http://www.mitsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4707#44909

On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 5, 1975, voters in four communities around the Upper Peninsula voiced their opposition in margins of up to eight to one against a U.S. Navy proposal to build an enormous low-frequency transmitter in the Upper Peninsula.

http://www.mitsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4707#44912

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mitsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4707#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015
12:00 PM - **Local Government**
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM - **Government Operations**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
8:00 AM - **Energy Policy**
Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**
LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 326 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
8:15 AM - **Financial Services**
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**
Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:30 PM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:00 PM - **Education**
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**
Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
3:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Robert Wittenberg Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP to Ricardo via email
whitericardo240@gmail.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015
7:00 PM
Rep. Sheldon Neeley 2nd Annual Unity Gala
Location: Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom
Contact: RSVP via email
neeleyrep34@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Pam Faris Lunch Reception
Location: Governors Room
speruski@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015

10:30 AM
Rep. LaTanya Garrett Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: LaTanya Garrett
cte.latanyagarrett@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
8:00 AM
6 for \'16(Sponsored by Callton Action Fund)
Guest Speakers: Rep. Mike Callton with Special Guests: Reps. Barrett, Bizon, Howrylak, Hughes, Iden and Sheppard
Location: Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to James Klein 313-399-1342 - or via email
jameskiein44@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
Contact: RSVP via email
kornmoll@gmail.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2015
11:00 AM
Senator Patrick Colbeck November Office Hours
Location: Civic Park Senior Center
Contact: Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713
senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Kristy Pagan Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
kristy@kristypagan.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
7:30 AM
Rep. John Kivela Yooper Breakfast
Location: Michigan Restaurant Association
Contact: Craig Brunet
craig.a.brunet@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Rep. Tim Greimel Breakfast Reception
Location: Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Contact: RSVP via email
hillkipp@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
10:30 AM
Rep. Winnie Brinks Brunch Reception
Location: Michigan Municipal League
eric@winniebrinks.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015
4:00 PM
Rep. Erika Geiss Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music
Guest Speakers: Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe
Location: Geiss Residence
Contact: RSVP via email
electgeiss@electgeiss.com

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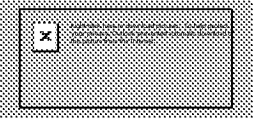

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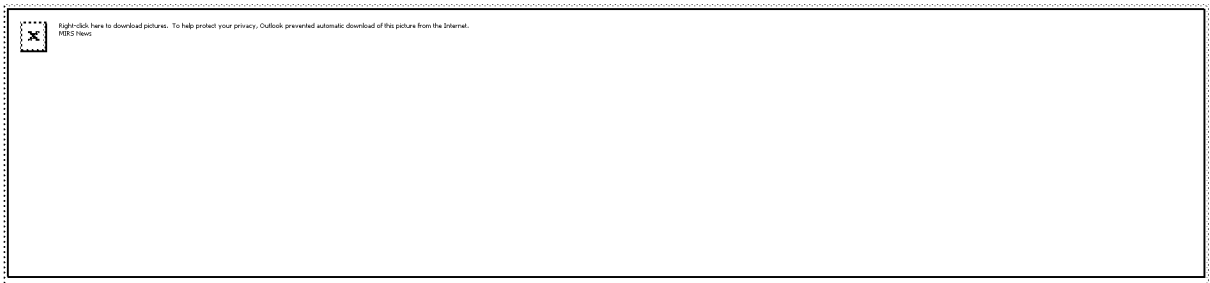
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2015 6:41 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Politics at the pump: Will Michigan road funding deal help or hurt House Republicans in 2016?

"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Republicans hadn't even started to vote on a new road funding plan when Democrats began to fundraise off the pending vehicle registration fee and gas tax increases."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/politics_at_the_pump_will_road.html#incart_river*

Snyder signs Michigan teacher evaluation overhaul into law

"LANSING, MI — Michigan school districts will have new rules for evaluating teacher performance under a new law signed Thursday by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder_signs_michigan_teacher.html#incart_river*

Ananich seeks subpoena power in call for legislative hearings on Flint water crisis

"LANSING, MI — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Thursday formally requested legislative hearings on the Flint water crisis and response by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/11/ananich_seeks_subpoena_power_i.html#incart_river

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Failed prevailing wage repeal petition drive prompts calls for investigation, prosecution

"LANSING, MI — A group seeking to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law turned in an estimated 161,781 invalid signatures, prompting rejection by the Board of State Canvassers and calls for investigation, prosecution and a review of circulator laws."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/failed_prevailing_wage_repeal.html#incart_river*

Legislators call for investigation into altered Flint lead report

"FLINT, MI – Two state representatives are pushing for a federal investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/legislators_call_for_investiga.html#incart_river_home*

House approves new auto safety provisions

"Washington — The U.S. House approved a six-year $325 billion transportation bill Thursday on a 363-64 vote that would require automakers to fix recall defects for 15 years — up from the current 10 years —and bars rental car companies from lending unrepaired recalled vehicles."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/05/auto-safety/75216782/*

Snyder signs law setting teacher evaluation standards

"Lansing — Michigan teachers and school administrators will work within a new evaluation system based partly on students' improvement on standardized tests under a law signed Thursday by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/11/05/teacher-evaluations-michigan/75225822/*

Rep. Lawrence to campaign for Clinton in S.C.

"Democratic U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence is headed to South Carolina this weekend to be a campaign surrogate for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's White House bid."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/brenda-lawrence-campaign-hillary-clinton-south-carolina/75247418/*

Mich. lawmakers want Canada nuke waste facility blocked

"Washington — Twelve members of Michigan's congressional delegation have written to the new Canadian prime minister urging him to block plans for an underground storage facility for nuclear waste near Lake Huron in Ontario."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/michigan-lawmakers-canada-nuclear-waste-facility-block/75248820/*

Experts: Water health dangers don't subside in Flint

"Local health officials and the federal government are warning Flint residents that the danger from their tap water has not subsided even though the city has reconnected to Detroit's water system."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/experts-water-health-dangers-subside-flint/75255704/*

Detroit school rescue plan hits resistance

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder's quest for a $715 million state rescue of Detroit Public Schools is running into trouble in the Legislature even before the legislation has been introduced."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/detroit-school-financial-rescue-plan/75242694/*

Ford says trade deal doesn't address currency manipulation

"WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama specifically mentioned Michigan automakers as being helped by a Pacific Rim trade deal which was released in detail on Thursday, but at least one — Ford Motor Co. — complained it still doesn't go far enough to address currency manipulation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/05/ford-says-trade-deal-doesnt-address-currency-manipulation/75215304/*

Flint lawmaker wants hearings on water controversy

"LANSING — There are already at least three investigations into the Flint water crisis — one by a task force appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder, another by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and a third by the state's auditor general."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/flint-lawmaker-wants-hearings-water-controversy/75224762/*

Trudeau urged to reject Lake Huron nuclear waste site

"WASHINGTON — Michigan's two U.S. senators and most of its members of the U.S. House on Thursday asked newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to reject the approvals needed for a proposed underground nuclear waste facility to be built less than a mile from Lake Huron's shores in Ontario."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/05/trudeau-urged-reject-lake-huron-nuclear-waste-site/75231344/*

Poll: Michigan voters favor Ben Carson for 2016

"Perhaps it's his Detroit roots or his quiet demeanor, but retired pediatric neurosurgeon Ben Carson is a hit among Michigan voters, according to a poll of 600 likely voters taken by EPIC-MRA last week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/michigan-voters-favor-detroit-native-ben-carson-2016/75171072/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Why are lawmakers balking at ban?

"With looming issues like the state's inadequately funded road maintenance budget and the future of energy production in Michigan still unsolved, you'd hope that a clear-cut, seemingly obvious solution to one problem would be adopted and lawmakers would move on to the next."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**

http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567243/Why-are-lawmakers-balking-at-ban-.html?nav=5052

Immigration reform would help Detroit

"As the pressure mounts on the United States to aid refugees worldwide, Gov. Rick Snyder and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan are busy preparing Michigan to step up with resettlement efforts. Except for Germany, few European countries are recognizing the economic benefits that refugees and migrants can add to society. In Detroit, immigrants can jumpstart an underpopulated city's economy with new skills and resources. Political hurdles, however, are keeping the welcome mat form being rolled out."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/05/immigration-reform-detroit-column/75254548/

Jacques: In Detroit schools debate, listen to parents

"Francie Kennedy chose to send her child to University Prep Academy in Detroit for several reasons, most notably safety and small class sizes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/05/jacques-detroit-schools/75254690/

How success of Snyder's DPS plan may land in voters' hands

"Early last week, Gov. Rick Snyder re-introduced his plan to address the longstanding financial and academic crises in Detroit Public Schools. The plan involves a number of structural changes to the district's current governance, management and educational systems. The governor now turns his attention to selling lawmakers and the public on his plan. Although the plan appears designed to avoid the need for a state appropriation for what some may consider a bailout, such an appropriation may still be necessary for the completion of the plan if Detroit voters do not approve a local tax renewal before 2022."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/how-success-snyders-dps-plan-may-land-voters-hands/74771534/

Cotter: Michigan roads plan gets the job done right

"The people of Michigan want a long-term plan to fix our state's crumbling roads and bridges. They want it to be fair, they want it to be affordable, and they want it to result in higher-quality roads. On Tuesday night, your state Legislature delivered that plan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/michigan-roads-deal/75233050/*

Michigan Home Price Rise Among Fastest in the Nation

"Michigan is in the midst of a real estate market rebound, with only six other states and Washington D.C. seeing larger increases in home prices over the past five years, according to a report from theFederal Housing Finance Agency."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21870*

JACK SPENCER: Catching on to MEDC sleight of hand

"

Magicians distract the audience's attention from what really takes place on the stage. In a similar fashion the Michigan Economic Development Corporation fosters an illusion that its accomplishments are substantive when they are primarily hokum. One would think at some point those who should know better, especially members of the news media, would figure this out.

"

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/11/05/jack-spencer-catching-on-to-medc-sleight-of-hand/*

The graying of Michigan farmers, and what they will leave behind

"MASON – Jeff Oesterle may be the new face of farming, even though that face is 65 years old."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/the-graying-of-michigan-farmers-and-what-they-will-leave-behind/*

Detroit students unfairly pay the price for the district's debts

"The Detroit Public Schools district (DPS) is facing very serious challenges. It was recently reported that DPS ranked last in academic achievement (4th and 8th graders) among large urban districts nationally on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as the Nation's Report Card. This was the fourth time in a row that DPS ranked at the bottom. Also, the district is grappling with major financial problems, including annual operating deficits and massive legacy debts. Both sets of problems, academic and financial, are interrelated and require immediate attention in order to halt

the "death spiral" in which the district currently finds itself.'"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/detroit-students-unfairly-pay-the-price-for-the-districts-debts/*

Press Releases

Flint Legislators Call for Investigation Into Altered Lead Report

*"LANSING — State Representatives **Phil Phelps** (D-Flushing) and **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint) are pushing for a federal investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) after a story came out today claiming the DEQ knowingly dropped two lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard. Had these tests been counted, action could have been taken earlier on the water crisis in Flint."*

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446760718_dem.pdf*

Schuitmaker Photo Advisory: Senate adopts resolution honoring former lawmaker

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The state Senate on Thursday unanimously adopted a resolution honoring the life and legacy of a former West Michigan lawmaker."*

Source: *Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446760597_schuitmaker.pdf*

Statement on Board of Canvassers Vote to Reject Anti-Prevailing Wage Petition Drive

*"LANSING - Today **Dan Cortis, CEO of Cortis Brothers Trucking**, gave the following statement in response to the Board of Canvassers' vote to reject the petitions from the anti-prevailing wage ballot drive: "*

Source: *Operating Engineers of Michigan* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446759443_oe.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder updates Pipeline Safety Advisory Board

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today, announced the addition of Homer A. Mandoka, chairperson of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi to the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.

"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446757697_gov.pdf

Rep. Lawrence introduces legislation to enforce existing federal firearms laws

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) today introduced a resolution on the House floor urging the enforcement of existing federal firearms laws and that all appropriate resources be allocated to ensure that the flood of unlawfully purchased firearms into our communities ends."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446756496_lawrence.pdf

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'Inventing the Outdoors' opens Saturday at Michigan Historical Museum

"The Michigan Historical Museum's new special exhibit, "Inventing the Outdoors," will open to the public Saturday, Nov. 7. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on opening day."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446756232_dnr.pdf

Heartland Institute Experts Comment on House Highway Bill that Reauthorizes Export-Import Bank

"The U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday voted 363–64 to approve $325 billion in spending on highway projects. The bill also reauthorizes the Export-Import Bank and approves selling off part of the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The U.S. Senate approved a similar spending bill earlier this year, and now the two bills will be combined into one bill in conference."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446755507_heart.pdf

Weekend lane closures on EB I-96 at Dorr Road

"I-96 at Dorr Road, Livingston County On Saturday, November 7, there will be lane closures on eastbound I-96 at Dorr Road for concrete pavement repairs. The right two lanes will be closed between 2 a.m. and 9 a.m. Then, starting at 9 a.m., there will be a single lane closure for concrete curing until Sunday, November 8, until approximately 3 p.m. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446754981_MDOT.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee, Senators Stabenow, Peters Call for Newly Elected Canadian Prime Minister to

"WASHINGTON – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) today urged newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to take action to stop nuclear waste from being buried less than a mile from Lake Huron."

Source: *Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446754052_kildee.pdf

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Upton Votes to Advance Key Infrastructure Legislation

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement on the passage of the highway bill, a multi-year surface transportation bill that reauthorizes and reforms federal highway, transit, and highway safety programs. The legislation was advanced by the House by a strong 363-64 bipartisan vote."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753984_upton.pdf

Domestic Violence Survivors Will Benefit from Earned Paid Sick Time

"MICHIGAN — Today, the MI Time to Care Coalition is highlighting a recent report by the Michigan League for Public Policy titled: Survivors of Violence and Sexual Assault Need Earned Paid Sick Time. The report highlights the need for survivors to be able to gain financial stability as they seek to move on from abusive relationships."

Source: *Michigan Time to Care Coalition* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753575_ttc.pdf

New Michigan Historical Museum exhibit pays long-overdue tribute to Upper Peninsula's greatest inven

*"**GLADSTONE, Mich.** — A resolution to be introduced by **s**tate Sen. Tom Casperson would declare Nov. 15 – the start of the Michigan's firearm deer hunting season – as "Webster L. Marble Day" in the state in tribute to the man recognized as the Upper Peninsula's greatest inventor and founder of Gladstone-based Marble Safety Axe Company."*

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753090_*

Bishop & Walberg Vote to Pay Michigan Workers Less

"LANSING – Last night, in Washington, D.C., Michigan Republican Congressmen Mike Bishop and Tim Walberg voted to pay Michigan highway workers less when they voted to prohibit enforcement of prevailing wage requirements in the Davis-Bacon Act."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446752610_mdp.pdf

Senate panel OKs Jones bill to keep sex offenders away from schools

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to restore a law prohibiting sex offenders from working or living within 1,000 feet of a school."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446747626_jones.pdf

Upton Statement on Passage of NDAA

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives voted to advance S. 1356, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA Conference Report that previously had passed the House and Senate was adjusted to match the spending levels set forth in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 but retains the policies as passed by Congress."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446746330_upton.pdf

Senate Judiciary Committee approves 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

"The Senate Judiciary Committee today unanimously approved House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing certain prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446747145_*

Dingell: TPP Text Even Worse Than Expected

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today after the Administration published the text of the secretive Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446741189_dingell.pdf

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State to host Great Lakes aquaculture meeting Nov. 19

"

Public session in Gaylord will focus on commercial net-pen proposals, state science panel findings

State leaders today announced an upcoming meeting in Gaylord, Michigan, to review and discuss the issues around net-pen fish farming in the Great Lakes."
Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740750_dnr.pdf

'Novembeard' healthy hunter event blends beards, bucks, blood pressure checks

"

Free health screenings and shopping incentives offered Nov. 10 in Gaylord

Just in time for the start of deer firearm season and in honor of No Shave November, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is encouraging male hunters traveling north on I-75 next week to set their sights on better health, too. The DNR, Jay's Sporting Goods, Otsego Memorial Hospital and Blue Cross Blue Shield have partnered to offer free health screenings Tuesday, Nov. 10, as part of their "Novembeard" campaign."
Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740782

UPDATED: Stamas participating in 'No-Shave November' to raise awareness of men's health

"UPDATED: Please use this updated release. The previous version did not include a photo of Sen. Stamas taken on Day One of his participation in No-Shave November.
***LANSING, Mich.** — For the next four weeks, Sen. Jim Stamas will grow awareness for key men's health issues by participating in "No-Shave November.""*

Source: *Sen. Jim Stamas* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740636

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bipartisan measure implementing research-based evaluations for Michigan educa

"LANSING, Mich. – Teachers statewide will have better opportunities for continuous professional growth through new legislation strengthening and clarifying teacher evaluation systems, Gov. Rick Snyder said."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739694_gov.pdf

Historic coalition gathers for Pavlov education bill signing

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder on Thursday signed a bill sponsored by Sen. Phil Pavlov that creates new educator evaluation standards, establishes Michigan as a preeminent state for teacher quality and positions the state to once again lead the country in student performance."*

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739325_pavlov.pdf

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Labor-Backed Candidates Sweep Lansing City Council Races

"LANSING – This Tuesday, all four labor-backed candidates swept to victory in races for Lansing City Council. The Greater Lansing Labor Council and the Capital Area UAW CAP Council jointly endorsed Carol Wood, Patricia Spitzley, Jody Washington, and Adam Hussain."

Source: *Michigan AFL-CIO* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739091_aflcio.pdf

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Progress Michigan Statement on Schuette Bailout

"MICHIGAN — This week, the House Appropriations Committee voted on Legislative Transfer Request 2015-8 to transfer funds to Attorney General Bill Schuette's office to pay for his failure in the marriage equality case. Schuette's fight against equality cost Michigan taxpayers $2 million in legal fees."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738919_progmich.pdf

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Let's end the harmful state ID policy

"Like anyone else, I want — no, I need — for the ID I carry to be an accurate reflection of who I am. And yet the State of Michigan makes this virtually impossible for me — and countless other transgender women and men in Michigan — thanks to an arbitrary, transphobic and mean-spirited Secretary of State ID policy that needlessly exposes transgender women and men to potential harm. This is why I'm one of six plaintiffs in Love v. Johnson, an ACLU lawsuit challenging the policy."

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738883_aclu.pdf

Statement on Enactment of Key Law to Improve Teaching and Learning in Michigan

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (November 5, 2015) – This morning, Governor Rick Snyder signed Senate Bill 103 (Pavlov - R) into law, which will help establish a critical framework for providing Michigan educators with high-quality feedback and support to help improve teaching and learning for Michigan students."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738401_etm.pdf

The Capital Area Salvation Army Hosts Red Kettle Campaign Kickoff Event on Nov. 12

"LANSING, MI – The Capital Area Salvation Army is officially kicking off its 2015 Red Kettle Fundraising Campaign with a special holiday event that is sure to excite the spirit of the season. The event will take place on the steps of the Capitol building at noon onThursday, Nov. 12. New this year, WILX-TV anchor, Ann Emmerich will be the Red Kettle Campaign honorary chairperson for the 2015 season. "

Source: *Salvation Army* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738362_salvationarmy.pdf

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Stamas participating in 'No-Shave November' to raise awareness of men's health

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — For the next four weeks, Sen. Jim Stamas will grow awareness for key men's health issues by participating in "No-Shave November.""*

Source: *Sen. Jim Stamas* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740900_*

Superintendents commend new evaluationi laws

"LANSING, MI - The Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) announced their support of the new educator evaluation law today, and expressed appreciation to Governor Rick Snyder for signing this important legislation. "

Source: *Michigan Association of School Administrators* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446735323_masa.pdf*

MDOT metro Detroit weekend construction 11-06-15

"MDOT weekend construction for 11/06-11/09/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446733364_mdot.pdf*

MDOT invites public to webinar to discuss revising the state long-range transportation plan

*"**November 5, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to engage the public in a discussion of how Michigan will meet its transportation challenges over the next 25 years. MDOT is hosting a webinar on Thursday, Nov. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT to discuss the information, forecasts and strategies contained in the current 2005-2035 plan, known as MI Transportation Plan: Moving Michigan Forward, and revisions to extend the planning horizon to 2040."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-06-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446732114_mdot.pdf*

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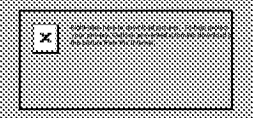

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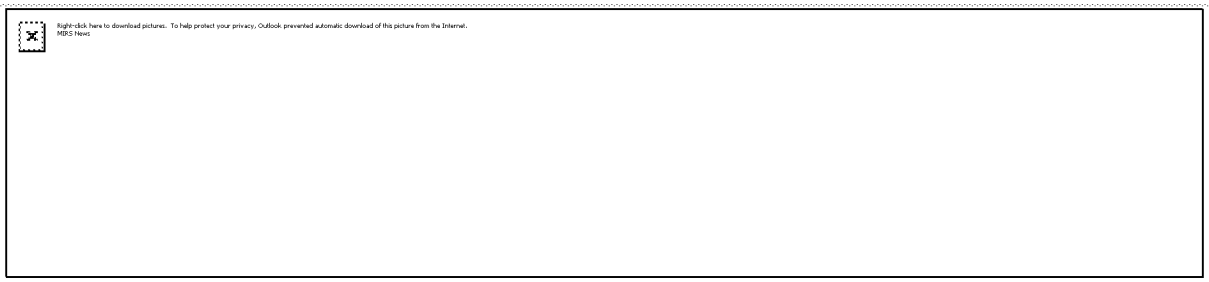

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Edmund Fitzgerald memorials stretch from Minnesota and Michigan to Ohio

"MICHIGAN -- The 40th anniversary of the Edmund Fitzgerald's sinking is Tuesday and the passage of time hasn't lessened the famous shipwreck's legacy."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/a_guide_to_remembrance_events.html*

The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

"Whitefish Point, Michigan - For decades, Fran Gabor harbored a nagging guilt that intensified whenever she heard "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," Gordon Lightfoot's ballad about the maritime tragedy whose hold on popular culture is surpassed only by that of the Titanic."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://content-static.detroitnews.com/projects/fitzgerald/storymap.htm*

Gordon Lighfoot sings 'The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald'

"Gordon Lightfoot sings his haunting song of the freighter the Edmund Fitzgerald and the loss of her 29 crewmen on Oct. 17, 2015, weeks before the 40th anniversary of the disaster. Daniel Mears"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/videos/news/local/michigan/edmund-fitzgerald/2015/11/06/75345574/*

Michiganians of the Year: Here's to Detroit's revival

"What a difference a couple years can make. When Detroit filed for bankruptcy in 2013, it was widely thought the process could only do harm — stripping the Detroit Institute of Arts of its treasures, impoverishing city retirees, and further soiling the Motor City's shaky reputation nationwide."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/michiganians-of-year/2015/11/05/michiganians-year-detroits-revival/75268420/

Carson's Westmoreland story doesn't match records

"Carlisle, Pa. — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson's published account of having dinner with a top commander in the Vietnam War after marching in a Memorial Day parade in 1969 as a high school ROTC cadet in Detroit does not match historical records."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/06/carsons-westmoreland-story-match-records/75328960/

U.S. gov't adding air security amid crash probe

"Washington — The Homeland Security Department announced Friday a series of new security efforts aimed at international airports in the wake of the crash of a Russian jetliner over Egypt's Sinai Peninsula."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/06/us-govt-adding-air-security-amid-crash-probe/75304654/

Hiring surge makes Fed rate hike likely

"Washington — U.S. hiring swelled in October by the largest amount all year, and unemployment dropped another notch to 5 percent, making a Federal Reserve interest-rate increase next month a near certainty."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/11/06/economy/75282936/

Senate leader opposes bonds to accelerate road fixes

"Lansing — The leader of Michigan's Senate opposes pledging future increases in fuel taxes and vehicle

fees toward bonds to accelerate road construction projects next summer."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/06/road-bonds/75295568/*

Hamtramck elects first majority-Muslim City Council

"Saad Almasmari ran for a seat on the Hamtramck City Council this year with a simple yet powerful goal in mind."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/06/hamtramck-elects-first-majority-muslim-city-council/75272654/*

UAW, Ford reach deal; GM hits snag

"Even as ratification of General Motor Co.'s tentative agreement was delayed because of rejection from skilled trades workers Friday, Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers reached their own tentative agreement that is the richest among the Detroit three automakers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/07/uaw-ford-reach-deal-gm-hits-snag/75336830/*

Michigan animal sanctuary slammed with USDA violations

"A Brown City animal sanctuary that has been the target of animal activists was slammed with more violations by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in October."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/06/summer-wind-sanctuary-michigan/75281616/*

Veterans parade, festival today in Detroit

"An annual parade honoring those who served in the military is taking place in Detroit today as part of two weeks of events around Veterans Day."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/07/veterans-parade-festival-detroit/75359896/*

Record Siberian snow could bode ill for Northeast

"There is a theory about snow in Siberia during the month of October: If there is a lot, it can mean a particularly wicked winter in the northeast United States."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/07/record-siberian-snow-could-bode-ill-northeast/75224060/*

Gov. Snyder joins Bangladeshis in opening BanglaTown

"Greektown and Mexicantown have been well known to metro Detroiters for decades."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/07/governor-snyder-joins-bangladeshis-opening-banglatown-hamtramck/75306854/*

Hear Michigan Supreme Court justices discuss Saginaw nurse firing case

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — A Saginaw man's wrongful termination case that he has been fighting since 2008 went before the Michigan Supreme Court this week."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/more_out_of_saginaws_case_in_t.html#incart_river*

Michigan presidential poll: Carson tops Clinton, but Clinton and Sanders both top Trump

"LANSING, MI — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson topped Democrat Hillary Clinton in a new Michigan poll."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_presidential_poll_car.html#incart_river*

Michigan AG Bill Schuette targeted by national PAC for Clean Power Plan lawsuit

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is fighting the federal Clean Power Plan in court, something that will be highlighted as part of a four-state, eight-figure advertising buy from former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Independence USA PAC."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_targ.html#incart_river*

Three tornadoes confirmed in Michigan

"UPDATED: 5:45 p.m. - A third tornado in St. Clair County has been confirmed."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/11/two_tornadoes_confirmed_in_mic.html#incart_river_home*

Gov. Rick Snyder backs committee-approved House energy plan for Michigan

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder on Friday issued a statement in support of the House energy plan approved by the House Energy Policy Committee this week, saying the bills would be a victory for Michiganders."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/gov_rick_snyder_backs_committe.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan Political Points: Tough-vote fatigue, buyers remorse in wake of road funding deal

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Legislature finally got a roads deal done, which could clear the deck for other big action — if Republicans aren't too worn out from putting up tough votes that could come back to bite them in future elections."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_political_points_vote_1.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Honor veterans with support and services

""I saw things no man should ever see — and did things no man should ever do.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/honor-veterans-support-services/75327854/*

Lennox: New church leader faces tough times

"A new leader took the helm of the Episcopal Church during an elaborate service in the iconic neo-Gothic

Washington National Cathedral on Sunday. Episcopalians under new Presiding Bishop Michael Curry face the dire reality of demographic extinction. To put it in perspective, the Detroit-based Diocese of Michigan reported a 37 percent decline in baptized membership from 2000 to 2013."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/dennis-lennox-episcopal-church-michael-curry/75328184/*

Can Ryan lead with civility? On one day he did

"It was a day when dozens of new members converged on Capitol Hill."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/can-ryan-lead-civility-one-day/75328166/*

Cotter: Michigan roads plan gets the job done right

"The people of Michigan want a long-term plan to fix our state's crumbling roads and bridges. They want it to be fair, they want it to be affordable, and they want it to result in higher-quality roads. On Tuesday night, your state Legislature delivered that plan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/michigan-roads-deal/75233050/*

Michigan Moves to Ban Red Light Ticket Cameras

"While the debate over road funding has been a prominent story in news outlets lately, few people have noticed that cameras on highways and at traffic lights could be a way for governments to take in more money from motorists. While governments may financially benefit from the cameras, the companies that lease them to governments lobby heavily for their use."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21875*

Susan J. Demas: Angry Michigan voters will hate the GOP roads plan

"Gov. Snyder, call your office. Your brand is in crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_snyder_michigan_roads.html#incart_river*

We can\'t go on paying the real cost of burning fossil fuels

"There still appears to be little political will in the U.S. for addressing the effects of our consumption of carbon fuels. Is this because the climate effects of burning fossil fuels do not impact us directly? Are clean energies like wind and solar more expensive than coal and oil? The answer to both questions is no."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/we_cant_go_on_paying_the_real.html#incart_river

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Full investigation needed at every level in Flint water crisis

"It's clear that the Flint water crisis was a failure of government. Residents are rightfully angry, and I'm angry over the lack of immediate action to address unsafe lead levels in the city's water."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/full_investigation_needed_at_e.html#incart_river

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Ken Braun: American workers can't afford our corporate taxes

"Former Michigan Gov. John Engler, now president of the Business Roundtable, believes it's long past time for reforming the worst corporate tax code in the developed world."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken_braun_american_workers_can.html#incart_river_home

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Press Releases

Michigan Capitol Online Virtual Tour Will Be First in The Country

"At the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, the Michigan State Capitol Commission will unveil an online, virtual tour of Michigan's Capitol building. The Michigan State Capitol is the first in the country to develop its own tour using Google's Streetview technology. It will be integrated with 360-degree YouTube videos and an interactive, 3-D tour of the Governor's office."

Source: *Michigan State Capitol Commission* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446847072_mscc.pdf

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Showcasing the DNR: Coho salmon going strong at Platte River hatchery

"Some years back, when Michigan's Chinook salmon program was in its greatest glory, some anglers suggested the Department of Natural Resources abandon raising the smaller, less spectacular coho salmon and put more emphasis on the kings. The DNR demurred, preferring a multispecies approach."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446846755_dnr.pdf

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JURY CONVICTS GRAND BLANC TWP. MAN OF KILLING HIS WIFE LAST FALL

"FLINT -- A jury has convicted a Grand Blanc Township man of murdering his wife last October at the couple's home, according to Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton."

Source: *Genesee County Prosecutor* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446846662_geneseeco.pdf

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Tarnished: Criminal Investigation Into DeVos-Funded Anti-Prevailing Wage Group Needed

"LANSING — Progress Michigan is joining the call for an investigation into the DeVos-backed, anti-prevailing wage group, Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, after it was revealed the group turned in tens of thousands of fraudulent and redundant signatures, in their effort to cut workers' wages for state construction projects."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446844382_progress.pdf

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Fraudulent proposal signatures spark calls for investigation, reforms

"LANSING, Mich. — Today State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D–Meridian Twp.) highlighted Protecting Michigan Taxpayers' (PMT) botched petition drive to repeal prevailing wage as a prime example of why voter protections are necessary."

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446843246_ananich.pdf

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MI Catholic Conference Responds to SCOTUS Decision to Hear HHS Cases

*"(**Lansing, Mich.**) – This afternoon the United States Supreme Court announced it has agreed to hear arguments from non-profit religious organizations opposed to the mandated requirements of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to include morally objectionable services – including abortifacients and contraceptives - in their employee health benefit plan. As a separate litigant against the federal government on this matter, Michigan Catholic Conference offered the following response to today's news from the Supreme Court:"*

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446842672_micathconf.pdf

Ingham and Clinton counties receive state economic development grants

*"**November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants that will support 417 new jobs and help retain 73 jobs in Ingham and Clinton counties. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants totaling $1,854,000 will leverage $56,554,926 in combined private investment, at a private/public ratio of more than 30 to 1. "*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840433_mdot.pdf

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Transportation economic development grants help bring 281 new jobs to Kent County

*"**November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling $2,548,784 in Kent County that will support the creation of 281 new jobs and help retain 80 jobs. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will help leverage $99,443,400 in private and university investment, at a private/university-to-public ratio of 39-to-1."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840222_mdot.pdf

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Transportation economic development grant will support 750 new jobs in Branch County

*"**November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding a state transportation economic development grant that will support 750 new jobs in Branch County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling $2,590,699 will leverage $255 million in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 98-to-1."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840167_mdot.pdf

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Whiteford & Howell Win in Special House Elections

*"**Mary Whiteford** (R-Casco Township), endorsed and supported by the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP), was successful in Tuesday's special primary election to fill a vacancy in the 80th State House district. Whiteford came out on top of 8 Republican candidates to earn the nomination in the Allegan County seat. The special primary election was necessary due to the expulsion of former Representative Cindy Gamrat on September 11. Also, **Gary Howell** won the special primary election in the 82nd District, a seat vacant due to the resignation of former Representative Todd Courser. GLEP supported Jan Peabody, who came in 2nd among 11 Republican candidates in this Lapeer County seat. The general election for both*

of these safe Republican seats will be held on March 8, 2016."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840099_lakes.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts React to President Obama Rejecting Keystone XL Pipeline

"President Barack Obama today announced he has rejected construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, a project of TransCanada that would bring crude oil from Alberta to American refineries. The Canadian government and the company have been urging approval of the pipeline for seven years."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446837358_heartland.pdf

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MRP Chairman congratulates Linda Lee Tarver

"

> ***LANSING, Mich., Nov. 6, 2015 –*** *Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel issued the following statement on Linda Lee Tarver's election as President of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan (RWFM):*

"

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446836376_repub.pdf

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Dispositive Order: In re Wangler/Paschke, Minors

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued a dispositive order in No. 149537, In re Wangler/Paschke, Minors, that was argued on October 15, 2015."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446835960_supreme.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: House energy legislation would help Michigan meet its needs long into future

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement regarding the state House Energy Policy Committee's approval of a package of legislation that will help Michigan meet its energy needs long into the future:"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446834921_gov.pdf

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Rep. Bishop Comments on Rejection of Keystone XL Pipeline

*"**WASHINGTON** – Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement after President Obama announced he will reject the Keystone XL Pipeline:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446834095_bishop.pdf

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Michigan Department of Education Press Release

"LANSING – The Michigan Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children has begun its work to support over 3,600 children of active military members in Michigan."

Source: *Department of Education* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446834052_mde.pdf

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Natural Resources Commission approves special Lake Gogebic walleye regulations

"At Thursday's regular meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, commissioners unanimously approved special walleye sportfishing regulations for the Upper Peninsula's Lake Gogebic. The new regulations, which take immediate effect, will allow anglers the option of keeping two smaller walleyes — from 13 inches up to 15 inches — within their five-fish daily possession limit. The proposed rule change, however, will not require anglers to keep fish smaller than 15 inches."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831747_dnr.pdf

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Huizenga: The Obama Legacy Is Politics Before Policy

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after President Obama announced his rejection of the Keystone Pipeline.*

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831676_bh.pdf

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Benishek Reacts to Keystone Decision

"

Washington, D.C.: Following the announcement by President Barrack Obama to reject the Keystone XL pipeline, Rep. Dan Benishek, a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, released the following statement:

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831593_db.pdf

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WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ELECTS PRESIDENT AND PRESENTS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SERVICE

*"**LANSING, MICH.,** – Nov. 6, 2015 – On November 4, 2015, Patrick Griffin was re-elected the Alumni Association president for a second term and Lawrence J. Kish was presented the Distinguished Alumni Service Award during WMU-Cooley Law School's Alumni Association annual meeting."*

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446829679_wmu.pdf

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New fishing regulations adopted at Thursday's NRC meeting

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission approved several fishing regulations Thursday at its regular meeting in Lansing. All regulations immediately went into effect and will remain in effect for the 2016 fishing season (which begins April 1)."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446828408_dnr.pdf

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Green announces November office hours in Tuscola County

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green has announced that November office hours have been scheduled for Tuscola County."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827943_green.pdf

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Nofs: 2015 Hunting Update released

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** With the start of the regular firearm hunting season approaching, Sen. Mike Nofs, R-*

Battle Creek, announced that he has several resources for hunters on his Senate website."

Source: *Sen. Mike Nofs* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827706_nofs.pdf

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Potato Day at the Capitol showcases Michigan's modern, growing potato industry

"LANSING – Michigan's potato growers are known around the world for a high-quality, nutritious product, and the state's growing potato industry is creating more jobs than ever. On Wednesday, November 4, the ***Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc. (PGMI)****teamed up with the* ***Michigan Potato Industry Commission (MPIC)*** *and showcased these benefits for policymakers during "Potato Day at the Capitol." "*

Source: *Potato Growers of Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
*http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446828700_*

Jefferson Road lane shifts to accommodate bridge repairs over US-10 Nov. 11

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete joint repairs to the deck surface on the northbound side of the Jefferson Road bridge over US-10."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827377_mdot.pdf

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In Advance of Veterans Day, Dingell, Peters & Stabenow Introduce Legislation to Award Long-overdue M

*"****WASHINGTON, DC*** *– Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Debbie Stabenow (MI) today introduced legislation that would allow Major Charles S. Kettles of Ypsilanti to be awarded the Medal of Honor. The bill was introduced following a request from the Ypsilanti Rotary Veterans History Project to review Major Kettles' actions during the Vietnam War. Upon review, Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter determined that Major Kettles' actions merited the nation's highest military honor, but because the statute of limitations has passed, Congressional action is required. The legislation waives the time limitation and allows the President to make the final decision."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell; Sen. Gary Peters; Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827341_dingell.pdf

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In Advance of Veterans Day, Dingell, Peters & Stabenow Introduce Legislation to Award Long-overdue M

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Debbie Stabenow (MI) today introduced legislation that would allow Major Charles S. Kettles of Ypsilanti to be awarded the Medal of Honor. The bill was introduced following a request from the Ypsilanti Rotary Veterans History Project to review Major Kettles' actions during the Vietnam War. Upon review, Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter determined that Major Kettles' actions merited the nation's highest military honor, but because the statute of limitations has passed, Congressional action is required. The legislation waives the time limitation and allows the President to make the final decision."

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell; Sen. Gary Peters; Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827315_dingell.pdf*

House panel approves sweeping energy plan for Michigan's future

"State Rep. Aric Nesbitt today praised members of the House Committee on Energy Policy for working together to approve a landmark energy plan that will provide reliable, affordable energy for Michigan families for decades to come."

Source: *Rep. Aric Nesbitt* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825199_nesbitt.pdf*

Progress Michigan Calls on U.S. Attorneys to Investigate Flint Water Crisis

"LANSING — In the wake of accusations made against the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality by water researchers that the department "knowingly dropped lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard," Progress Michigan is calling on Michigan's United States Attorneys to investigate."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825112_progress.pdf*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/5/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/5/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825068_court.pdf*

Consumers Energy Teams Up with Food Banks to Distribute 71,000 Energy-Efficient Light Bulbs to Mich

"COMSTOCK PARK, Mich., Nov. 6, 2015 – Consumers Energy and its employees are teaming up with two

Michigan food banks to help families save energy and money, providing 71,000 energy-efficient light bulbs to over 20,000 families through local food pantries."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825025_consumer.pdf

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Sparrow Children's Center Patients to receive books from Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive

"LANSING, MI – Barnes & Noble customers can help make the holidays a little brighter this year for pediatric Patients at Sparrow Children's Center by donating a book."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824965_sparrow.pdf

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Tesla V.P. James Chen to Keynote Michigan EIBC Energy Innovators Gala in East Lansing Tuesday

"LANSING – James Chen, Tesla Motors' vice president of Regulatory Affairs based in Washington, D.C., will be the keynote speaker at the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council's (EIBC) annual Energy Innovators Gala at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on Tuesday, November 10. Also addressing the gala will be Valerie Brader, executive director of the Michigan Agency for Energy who will offer opening remarks. The sold-out event begins at 6 p.m."

Source: *Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824840_meibc.pdf

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Mackinac Bridge tokens and anniversary posters available for holiday gift-giving

*"**November 6, 2015 --** If you've got a Mackinac Bridge fan in the family, the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) has anniversary posters, commemorative tokens, and medallions available for purchase by mail or in the authority's administration building in St. Ignace."*

Source: *Mackinac Bridge Authority* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824777_mba.pdf

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Blue Water Bridge exit ramp repairs

"The Blue Water Bridge (BWB) westbound exit ramp to I-94 is in need of moderate deck repairs, which will require closing the ramp. This will affect Canadian traffic entering the U.S. exiting to I-94."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824720_mdot.pdf

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Freedom Fund: Side with Working Families, Not Monopoly Utility Providers

"LANSING, MI, November 5, 2015 – Michigan Freedom Fund President Terri Reid issued the following statement today following the House Energy Policy Committee's passage of HB 4298:"

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824666_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf

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Statement from Liesl Eichler Clark, Michigan EIBC President, on the House Energy Policy Committee's

"Statement from Liesl Eichler Clark, Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council President, on the House Energy Policy Committee's Recent Passage of Amended HB 4297."

Source: *Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council* **Date:** *11-07-2015* **Link:** http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824614_meibc.pdf

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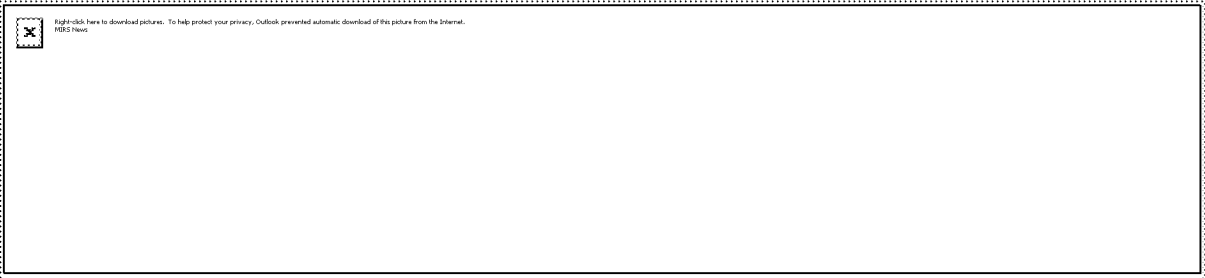
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 9:10 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, November 9, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, November 9, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

REGULATORY REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php

CAPITOL CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

On The Ground In Detroit, Lawmakers Hear Of Schools' Hurdles, Needs

(DETROIT) -- Light shines in through the glass storm door of Rep. Harvey SANTANA's (D-Detroit) home as his living room begins to fill up with state lawmakers.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44951

State's `F' Grade on Gov't Accountability A `National Embarrassment'

When it comes to state government transparency and accountability, Michigan fails.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44950

Casperson Announces Congressional Run In 1st District

Sen. Tom CASPERSON (R-Escanaba) formally announced plans for a Congressional run in the 1st District this morning in a bid to replace U.S. Rep. Dan BENISHEK (R-Crystal Falls).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44937

Testing Shows Flint Lead Limited To Buildings/Faucets

Tests from over 400 individual homes and businesses released by the state today suggest the Flint water lead issue is tied to individual buildings and or water fixtures.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44946

Dems Want Super PAC Donors Disclosed, Lower Contribution Limits

House Democrats today announced their push for campaign finance reforms that include disclosing information about donors to super political action committees (PACs) as well as rolling back the campaign contribution limits that were increased in 2013.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44944

Anderson Economic Group Study Pegs MI As 4 And A Half Leaf State

If Michigan voters ultimately decide to approve of the recreational use of marijuana, Michigan would rank would have one of the top ten markets for the product according to a study expected to be released this week by Anderson Economic Group.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44943

Schuette Touts Environmental Record In Response To Bloomberg Ad

Responding to an ad that said he sided with polluters, Attorney General Bill today ticked off what he described as his "very strong record on the environment."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44945

New Report Follows Energy Industry Contributions

The Michigan Campaign Finance Network has turned its attention to the energy lobby. The non-profit released a report detailing the contribution from what Rich ROBINSON deemed "prominent energy companies" from Nov. 2014 to Oct. 2015.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44935

69 Percent Oppose Open Carry In Schools EPIC Survey Finds

According to new polling results released today, nearly seven out of ten Michigan voters oppose open carry pistols in schools with 27 percent supporting.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44940

Rob Blackshaw Named Capitol Facilities Director

Rob BLACKSHAW will replace Dan BROCKLEHURST as the new Capitol Facilities Director later this month, the Michigan State Capitol Commission determined today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44936

Ananich to Governor: Fire DPS-EM

If the Senate Minority Leader had his way, Darnell EARLEY would be fired and not be any part of Gov. Rick SNYDER's to push through a state aid package for the financially stressed Detroit Public Schools.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44941

Who Likes Sanders in Michigan?

Democratic presidential candidate and self-described democratic socialist U.S. Sen. Bernie SANDERS (D-VT) enjoys more favorable ratings in Michigan than former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44939

Bits and Tidbits

Jones Honored By Probate Judges

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44943

On This Day In Michigan History

On November 9, 1913, the most devastating storm in Great Lakes history began with winds blowing hurricane-force for 16 straight hours. When the storm finally rolled eastward after three long days, it had sunk 40 ships and killed 235 seamen.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44942

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
8:15 AM - **Financial Services**
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
(CANCELLED) Leonard, Tom; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 402 AND 403 CB

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
7:30 AM
Senator Marty Knollenberg Breakfast Reception
Location: Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: RSVP to Mike Murray via email
contact@murrcomm.net

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
6:00 PM
55th Anual Philip A. Hart Dinner(Sponsored by Oakland County Democratic Party)
Guest Speakers: Former Michigan Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer
Location: UFCW Banquet Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071
chair@ocdp.org

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception - 8:45 AM
Location: Governors Room
Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 8:45 AM
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015
7:00 AM
2nd Annual Caring for Our Homeless Veterans Walk/Run and Collection Drive(Sponsored by Goodman Acker, P.C.)
Guest Speakers: PLEASE NOTE TIME 6 AM TO NOON
Location: Detroit Tough Gym

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email heather.ricketts@gmail.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015
4:30 PM
Special Screening of the Film \'Suffragatte\'(Sponsored by Jill Faber-Bramson, Planned Parenthood Advocates of MI, League of Women Voters, Northland Family Planning Centers, MI Lead, Oakland/Macomb Co. NOW)
Guest Speakers: Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer, PPAM CEO Lori Carpenter, and League of Women Voters President Judy Karandjeff
Location: The Maple Theater, 4135 W. Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
Contact: Tickets at website below
themapletheater.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015
8:00 AM
Veterans Day Ceremony(Sponsored by Holland Community and U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga)
Guest Speakers: Gunnery Sergeant David Pizana, West MI Veterans and Congressman Bill Huizenga - special tribute to Staff Sergeant Andrew Seif
Location: West Ottawa High School, North Gymnasium
Contact: Brian Patrick 202-225-4401

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015
3:30 PM
Free Viewing for Veterans of Movie \'Unbroken\"(Sponsored by Senator Jim Marleau)
Location: AMC Theater, Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, 4000 Bladwin Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Contact: Sen. Marleau Staff 248-724-2442
jimmarleau@senate.michigan.gov

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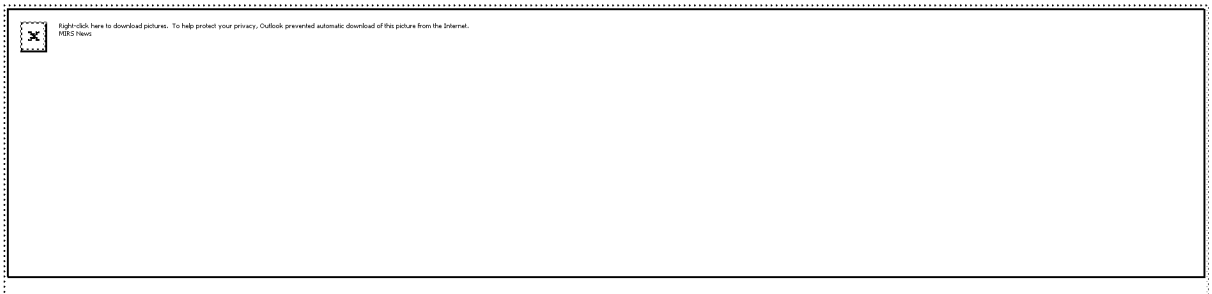
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 6:40 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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What Mayor Mike Duggan called 'No. 1 risk to Detroit's recovery'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan thanked Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell for a good working relationship and congratulated mayor-elect Rosalynn Bliss during an Economic Club luncheon this afternoon.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/detroit_mayor_mike_duggan_econ.html#incart_river*

Gov. Rick Snyder launches statewide tour to promote skilled trades

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder gazed out into an audience of around 250 Kent Career Tech Center students Monday, Nov. 9, and said he was looking at Michigan's economic future and it is bright."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/governor_snyder_launches_state.html#incart_river_home*

Jeb Bush to visit Grand Rapids for town hall Thursday

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush will be in Grand Rapids this week for a town hall meeting."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/jeb_bush_to_visit_grand_rapids.html#incart_river_home*

Casperson enters U.S. House race

"

ESCANABA - State Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) has confirmed he will enter the race for U.S. Congress.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567374/Casperson-enters-U-S--House-race.html?nav=5003*

Michigan backers plan fundraiser for Kasich

"Michigan supporters of Ohio Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign are planning a Nov. 23 fundraiser in downtown Detroit for the Republican White House hopeful, according an invitation obtained by The Detroit News."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/kasich-michigan-fundraiser/75467240/*

Casperson runs for Congress, gets attacked by tax votes

"State Sen. Tom Casperson on Monday became the first Republican to launch a campaign for the northern Michigan congressional seat being vacated next year by retiring U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/tom-casperson/75451628/*

Rick Santorum goes speechless in Michigan

"Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, the Pennsylvania Republican who finished a close second to Mitt Romney in the 2012 Michigan primary, is speechless."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/rick-santorum-cancels-ottawa-county-michigan-speech-laryngitis/75470436/*

Michigan's public disclosure laws slammed

"Lansing — Michigan has the country's weakest laws requiring public disclosure of information that

would allow citizens to understand what interest groups are doing to influence state policy-making, according to the results of an annual national report released Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/michigan-public-disclosure-laws-criticized/75474340/*

GM could face punitive damages in ignition switch suits

"General Motors Co. may face and be liable for certain punitive damages in lawsuits related to the ignition switch recall, according to a bankruptcy court judge's ruling Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/11/09/gm-punitive-damages-ignition-switch-lawsuits/75468034/*

State Sen. Tom Casperson announces congressional run

"WASHINGTON — As was widely expected, state Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, will run for the nomination to replace U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek in Congress, announcing his decision Monday morning."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/tom-casperson-us-house/75449766/*

Snyder to sign road funding package Tuesday

"LANSING – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is to sign into law a controversial $1.2-billion road funding package on Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/snyder-sign-road-funding-package-tuesday/75472388/*

Advocacy/Opinion

M-STEP scores may shock, but don't shoot the messenger

"Five long years ago, Michigan and more than 40 other states adopted tough new standards in reading and math, setting dramatically higher expectations for students in elementary and secondary schools. Now we've reached a critical milestone in this effort, as the public just got to see for the first time the scores on the new tests aligned to the standards. The news was sobering. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/m-step_scores_may_shock_but_do.html#incart_river*

Road deal not great but good enough

"

The road bill passed by the Legislature this week is the least possible deal they could have crafted, but at least, after four years of struggle, they finally found a majority.
"
Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567361/Road-deal-not-great-but-good-enough.html?nav=5052

Bensten: Why the Common Core tests are collapsing

"Common Core is the latest in a series of failed federal education reforms. The goal was for individual states to adopt these national academic standards and tests."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/09/bensten-common-core-column/75490502/

Our Editorial: Keep momentum on rape kit testing

"Wayne County will give $1 million to the ongoing testing and investigation of backlogged rape kits discovered six years ago in a Detroit police facility. It's the right move for the county, past mismanagement of which no doubt contributed to the kits' neglect.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/09/editorial-momentum-rape-kit-testing/75490170/

Michigan Legislature, heal thyself

"Since convening 10 months ago, the current Michigan Legislature has cracked down on local minimum wage requirements, authorized commercial quadricycles to serve alcohol, and even addressed (however inadequately) the chronic underfunding of state roads."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/10/michigan-legislature-ethics/75458878/

Press Releases

Michigan Army National Guard unit training exercises benefit local and state multiuse trails in Iron

"As we honor our military veterans this week, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources salutes the efforts of the 1432nd Engineer Company of the Michigan Army National Guard."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105446_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Skilled trades provide job skills for the future

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – To showcase the opportunities for skilled trades careers in Michigan, Gov. Rick Snyder today kicked off a road show at the Kent Career Tech Center in Grand Rapids. Snyder toured the tech center's campus and lab facilities to see the innovative projects being worked on by students and instructors. Following the tour, he joined Stephanie Comai, director of the Michigan Talent Investment Agency, Jay Dunwell, president of Wolverine Coil Spring in Grand Rapids, to talk with students about in-demand skills that can lead to successful, well-paying careers."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105394_go.pdf

Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

"As part of Gov. Rick Snyder's action plan for Flint drinking water, the DEQ today released water testing data from nearly 400 homes and businesses in Flint as well as comprehensive sampling results from Freeman Elementary School. "

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105337_deq.pdf

University Dr Bridge reopens Tuesday afternoon in Auburn Hills

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), in partnership with the City of Auburn Hills, is reopening the I-75/University Drive interchange in Auburn Hills. This new type of interchange, called a diverging diamond interchange (DDI), allows for safer driving on and off the freeway, as it eliminates conflict points, such as left turns."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105293_mdot.pdf

Mary Free Bed at Sparrow celebrates completed rehabilitation unit

"LANSING, MI – The renovation and expansion of the Mary Free Bed at Sparrow rehabilitation unit is now fully complete, as leaders unveiled 40 private Patient rooms and two state-of-the-art therapy gyms at an open house today."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105252_sparrow.pdf

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Groups Call for Reform After Michigan Receives Failing Grades in Fighting Corruption

"MICHIGAN — Common Cause of Michigan and the Michigan Campaign Finance Network are calling for reforms after the release of a report showing Michigan is dead last in fighting corruption with strong ethics and transparency laws. The report released today gave 11 states failing grades but ranked Michigan as the worst state in the nation."

Source: *Common Cause of Michigan* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447098536_comcause.pdf

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Still time to enter the Wetland Wonders Challenge

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there's still time to enter the Consumers Energy-sponsored Wetland Wonders Challenge this waterfowl season. The contest began Oct. 10 and runs until Jan. 31, 2016. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096328_dnr4.pdf

Unemployed Workers Can Claim Benefits on Veterans Day

"

November 9, 2015 *— Although the State of Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 11 to observe Veterans Day, unemployed workers can still contact the Agency's automated systems to report their eligibility for unemployment benefits."*

Source: *Talent Investment Agency* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096294_tia.pdf

Sen. Jones honored by Michigan probate judges

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones was presented on Thursday with the Michigan Probate Judges Association's Legislator of the Year award by Clinton County Probate Judge Lisa Sullivan."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096251_rj.pdf

ADVISORY: Huizenga To Join Holland Community In Honoring Staff Sgt. Andrew Seif, West Michigan Vets

*"**Washington, D.C. –** On Wednesday, Congressman Huizenga (MI-02) will join students, faculty, and members of the community to honor West Michigan veterans at West Ottawa High School. The event kicks off at 8 AM with a veterans' breakfast followed by an assembly to honor the men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces.*

"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096207_bh2.pdf

MDOT looks for volunteer "Road Watchers" in U.P.

*"**November 9, 2015** -- How was your ride? The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to know. For the second year, the Road Watchers program will give motorists a chance to tell MDOT how well it's maintaining highways in the Upper Peninsula this winter.*

"

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096162_mdot3.pdf

Bottom of the Barrel: Michigan Worst in Transparency/Ethics Under Snyder

"LANSING — A new report being released today shows that Michigan is the worst in the country when it comes to having an accountable government when measured by open records laws and financial disclosure requirements."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096131_pm.pdf

Bills introduced to remove antiquated agriculture laws

"State Rep. Dan Lauwers, chair of the House Committee on Agriculture, was among 11 lawmakers to introduce a legislative package removing archaic laws that have not been enforced in years."

Source: *Rep. Dan Lauwers* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447095099_dl.pdf

Senator Hopgood and Representative Roberts Urge New Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau: Halt Nuke Stora

"LANSING, Michigan — State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D–Taylor) and State Representative Sarah Roberts (D–St. Clair Shores) have asked new Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to halt plans for a permanent underground nuclear waste storage site near the shores of Lake Huron."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447095953_hopgood.pdf

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DNR Bear Forum to meet Dec. 9 in Mackinac County

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will hold a public meeting of the state's Bear Forum next month in St. Ignace to begin discussions on possible future bear hunting regulation changes."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447092422_dnr2.pdf

ADVISORY: Common Cause MI & MI Campaign Finance Network Call on the Governor & State Legislators

"MICHIGAN — Today at 2:00 p.m., Common Cause Michigan & the Michigan Campaign Finance Network are holding a conference call urging on the Governor and State Legislators to bring transparency and accountability to state government to fight secrecy, corruption and conflict of interests in state government."

Source: *Common Cause & the Michigan Campaign Finance Network* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447092384_cfn.pdf

Residents reminded to eat nutritiously, exercise during Diabetes Awareness Month

"LANSING, Mich. – An estimated 10.4 percent of Michigan adults 18 years and older have been diagnosed with diabetes. That's why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is highlighting Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month with an event at the Michigan Capitol Building

onThursday, November 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Capitol Rotunda. The event is jointly sponsored by the American Diabetes Association and the Diabetes Partners in Action Coalition."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087659_dhhs.pdf*

Deer hunters, don't forget to apply for Pure Michigan Hunt

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds deer hunters, while buying their deer licenses this year, to take a moment to purchase Pure Michigan Hunt applications, because there is still plenty of time to make 2016 the hunt of a lifetime."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087567_dnr.pdf*

Linda Lee Tarver elected President of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan

"On Saturday, October 24th, at their bi-annual convention, the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan (RWFM) elected Linda Lee Tarver as their new State President. President-elect Tarver will begin her official duties on January 1, 2016. Ms. Tarver will be the first African-American elected to this office in the 90-year RWFM history."

Source: *Republican Women's Federation of Michigan* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087167_repub.pdf*

Common Cause of Michigan Statement on Center for Public Integrity Report

"DETROIT — Common Cause of Michigan released the following statement following the release of a report by the Center for Public Integrity showing that Michigan ranks dead last in ethics and transparency laws."

Source: *Common Cause of Michigan* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447086800_comcause.pdf*

House Dems: Clean Up Campaign Finance System

*"LANSING — State Representatives **Jon Hoadley** (D-Kalamazoo) and **Vanessa Guerra** (D-Saginaw) held a press conference today to introduce a new package of bills aimed at reforming campaign finance issues in Michigan. The six-bill package seeks to address problems ranging from striking 'dark money' from elections to the way fees for late campaign filings are administered and lowering contribution*

limits."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447085948_mdp.pdf

Tom Casperson Wrong for U.P. and Northern Michigan Working Families

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, issued the following release today in response to Tom Casperson's announcement that he will run for Michigan's 1st Congressional District: "

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447085280_mdp.pdf

Safety First: Consumers Energy's Hunting Policy Works to Protect Employees and Neighbors

"JACKSON, Mich., November 9, 2015 – Consumers Energy is reminding hunters making plans to tag a deer on Michigan's Nov. 15 firearm opener that hunting is not allowed on its property, with the exception of its hydro properties in the northern Lower Peninsula."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447082428_consumer.pdf

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Tom Casperson Announces Run for U.S. House of Representatives

*"**ESCANABA, MI** — Surrounded by the kind of big rigs and logging equipment that have defined his working life, State Senator Tom Casperson this morning announced his decision to run for the U.S. House of Representatives. "*

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447078128_casperson.pdf

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Hagerstrom: Enough Tax-Hiking Republicans

"Lansing, MI—Conservative activist Scott Hagerstrom announced the formation of an organization "Tax-Hiking Republicans" dedicated to ensuring conservatives are elected to Congress and other elected offices from Michigan."

Source: *Scott Hagerstrom* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447076222_hagerstrom.pdf

Consumers Energy Commemorates Final Freighter Delivery to B.C. Cobb Plant

"MUSKEGON, Mich., Nov. 8, 2015 – Consumers Energy today highlighted nearly 70 years of service and looked ahead to continued commercial shipping for the Port of Muskegon as the final Great Lakes coal freighter arrived at the B.C. Cobb Plant."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *11-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447076110_cons.pdf

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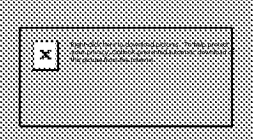
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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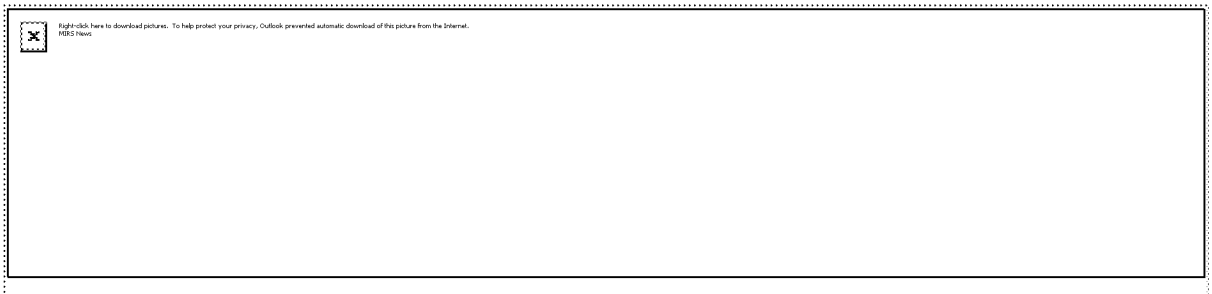
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:01 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 10, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 10, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/878

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/877

PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Snyder Signs Long-Awaited Road Funding Plan Into Law

The long-desired plan to eventually inject $1.2 billion into the state's roads was officially made law today, thanks to the stroke of Gov. Rick SNYDER's pen.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44959

Straight Ticket Voting Repeal Fast Tracked Out Of Senate

An amended version of a bill to do away with straight ticket voting in Michigan was fast tracked out of the Senate today over protests from Democrats and some officials in charge of local elections.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44955

After Compromise, Biosimilars Bill Passes House

A bill that outlines how new types of medicines will be handled in Michigan passed the House this

afternoon after a compromise with supporters of a competing proposal.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44967

Bill To Ban 2nd Trimester Abortion Procedure Reported To House Floor

A proposal that would ban what many consider to be a common second trimester abortion procedure advanced to the House floor this morning.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44964

Bills Prohibiting Union Leave Time On Public Dime Pass Senate

Legislation preventing paid leave time for union officials on union business from being a part of collective bargaining conversations passed out of the Senate today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44963

Senate OKs Oakland County Executive Election Switch

A controversial bill to switch Oakland and Bay counties' executive elections to gubernatorial years starting in 2018 easily sailed off the Senate floor today -- but not without dispute from Democrats.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44958

State Ed Board OKs Science Standards, Social Studies Under Further Review

The State Board of Education (SBE) approved new statewide standards for science today, but the state officials again delayed the timeline to approve social studies standards after receiving a flurry of input on them.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44956

Kivela Arrested For Drunken Driving, Plans To Seek Treatment

Rep. John KIVELA (D-Marquette) revealed today that he was arrested late Monday night for operating a vehicle under the influence.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44953

Khouri: `Very Remote' Chance Of EM Or Bankruptcy For Wayne County

It's not producing nearly as many headlines nor producing as much angst as the Detroit bankruptcy story, as efforts to slice the Wayne County deficit appear to be on track with Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration giving good marks to County Executive Warren EVANS for getting there.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44952

House Panel Looking Into Changes To Teacher Retirement System

The House Appropriations School Aid Subcommittee is diving into a new round of discussions on changes that could be made to save money on the Michigan Public School Public Employees

Retirement System (MPSERS).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44966

EPA Audit Of DEQ Joins Flint Water Investigations

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today it would be auditing Michigan's drinking water program in the wake of the Flint water crisis.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44960

Robinson To Depart As Head Of Campaign Finance Network

There will soon be someone new digging for dark money and poring through state campaign finance records, as Rich ROBINSON said he's stepping aside as the executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network (MCFN).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44957

Bills Defining Franchisees As Employers Passes Senate

A pair of bills stipulating that a franchise owner -- not the franchising company itself -- is the direct employer of its employees in response to a federal ruling still working its way through court today cleared the Senate floor.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44964

Bits And Tidbits

Mielke Announces Campaign In Competitive 99th

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44965

MIRS Subscribers Please Note

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44962

On This Day In Michigan History

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#44961

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4710#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
12:00 PM - **Health and Human Services**
VerHeulen, Rob; Rm: 352 HAR

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
8:15 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
9:00 AM - **Insurance**
(CANCELLED) Leonard, Tom; Rm: 521 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**
(CANCELLED) Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015
9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**
Robertson, David B; Rm: 110 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
8:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception - 8:45 AM
Location: Governors Room
Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 8:45 AM
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015
7:00 AM
2nd Annual Caring for Our Homeless Veterans Walk/Run and Collection Drive(Sponsored by Goodman Acker, P.C.)
Guest Speakers: PLEASE NOTE TIME 6 AM TO NOON
Location: Detroit Tough Gym

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015
8:00 AM
Veterans Day Ceremony(Sponsored by Holland Community and U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga)
Guest Speakers: Gunnery Sergeant David Pizana, West MI Veterans and Congressman Bill Huizenga - special tribute to Staff Sergeant Andrew Seif
Location: West Ottawa High School, North Gymnasium

Contact: Brian Patrick 202-225-4401

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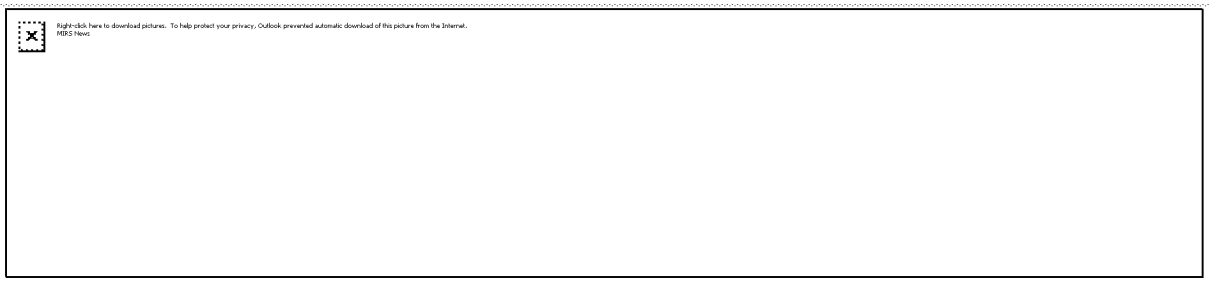
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2015 6:35 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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'Dismemberment abortion' ban advances from House committee

"LANSING, MI -- A bill to ban what anti-abortion advocates refer to as "dismemberment abortion" advanced from the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday without the support of Democratic members."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/dismemberment_abortion_ban_adv.html#incart_river*

Snyder signs long-term road funding plan: 'It's about investing in Michigan's future'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan motorists will pay more taxes and the state will re-prioritize spending under a long-term road funding deal signed into law Tuesday by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder_signs_long-term_road_fu.html#incart_river*

Governing magazine names Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy among Public Officials of the Year

"DETROIT, MI -- Governing magazine has named Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy to its 2015 list of Public Officials of the Year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/governing_magazine_names_wayne.html#incart_river*

Michigan lawmaker arrested for drunken driving; seeking treatment for alcohol dependence

"LANSING, MI — Michigan state Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette, was arrested late Monday near Lansing for driving under the influence of alcohol, according to a statement released on his behalf."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_lawmaker_arrested_for.html#incart_river*

Straight-ticket voting ban speeds through Michigan Senate with shield against repeal

"LANSING, MI — Michigan voters would lose the ability to cast a straight-ticket ballot for candidates of a single political party under fast-tracked legislation approved Tuesday evening in the state Senate."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/straight-ticket_voting_ban_spe.html#incart_river*

Panel OKs bills banning 2nd trimester abortion practice

"Lansing — A Michigan House committee advanced legislation Tuesday that would expand Michigan's ban on partial birth abortions to outlaw a common second-trimester procedure opponents say amounts to "dismemberment" of the fetus."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/house-panel-bans-partial-birth-abortion-procedure/75521354/*

County school leaders cautious on DPS rescue plan

"The leaders of intermediate school districts in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties said Tuesday they don't want a rescue of Detroit Public Schools to come at the expense of other districts."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/10/county-leaders-cautious-dps-rescue-plan/75535462/*

Senate votes to end straight-party voting

"Lansing — The Michigan Senate voted along party lines Tuesday in favor of eliminating the straight-party

voting option on the state's general election ballots — a move that would tend to hurt Democrats."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/straight-ticket-voting-michigan/75509924/

Gov. Rick Snyder signs $1.2B road funding package

"ALAIEDON TWP. — Gov. Rick Snyder capped a four-year effort Tuesday when he signed into law a $1.2-billion road funding package that will hike fuel taxes and registration fees and also take $600 million a year from the state's general fund to fix and maintain Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/gov-snyder-signs-12b-road-funding-package/75510548/

Lawmaker arrested for drunk driving near Lansing

"LANSING — A lawmaker from the Upper Peninsula says he will seek help for an alcohol problem after he was arrested Monday night for driving under the influence."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/lawmaker-arrested-drunk-driving-near-lansing/75524716/

Gloves off as Senate OKs ban on straight-ticket voting

"LANSING — In moves political observers said were directly related to the recent resolution of the protracted road funding issue, Senate Republicans on Tuesday advanced a raft of election and union-related measures that enraged Democrats."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/panel-approves-elimination-straight-ticket-voting/75509026/

EPA to audit Michigan's oversight of water safety

"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will audit the state of Michigan's drinking water safety program in the wake of Flint's water crisis, which found lead in the city's water system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/10/drinking-water-audit-michigan/75522044/

Sen. Green hopes road package means $650k for Bay City bridges

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — With a road funding package in place, state Sen. Mike Green says he feels more confident in legislation he authored that would see the state pick up maintenance costs for two of Bay City's four bascule bridges."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/sen_green_hopes_road_package_m.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

How much are your teeth worth to you? How much would they be worth to the random stranger idling next to you on Pine Grove Avenue waiting for the signal to turn green?

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday signed into law a series of new road funding laws that will raise taxes by $600 million a year and eventually re-prioritize another $600 million in state spending."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/what_michigans_new_road_fundin.html#incart_river*

Hoffa: TPP a punch to the gut of U.S. workers

"The much-awaited text of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) was finally released for public consumption last week. But sunshine and scrutiny of the pact isn't making the deal look any brighter for workers in Michigan or around the country."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/10/hoffa-trans-pacific-partnership-us-workers/75555086/*

Justice system supports vets

"Earl "Gunny" Christensen couldn't celebrate Independence Day after returning home from active duty because the fireworks "sounded like incoming enemy fire.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/10/justice-system-veterans-treatment-courts/75555128/*

Hillary Has It Wrong: Low Income City Doesn't Mean Low Income Schools

"Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton recently said in an interview that politicians don't fund schools in poor areas."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21882*

Tracking progress in Detroit police response times a fool's errand

"When state-appointed Emergency Financial Manager Kevyn Orr first pleaded with a federal bankruptcy court to help Detroit in July 2013, he made his case with sobering statistics: the city's high levels of poverty, blight and abandonment, its declining population and tax revenues, and its insane crime rate."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/response-time/*

Road deal made by politicians who won't face the consequences

"Nearly a quarter of a century ago, the Michigan Constitution was amended to impose term limits on those elected to govern our state. A governor may now only serve two four-year terms."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/road-deal-made-by-politicians-who-wont-face-the-consequences/*

Press Releases

MRP Chairman statement on violent threats against Republican candidate at Clinton campaign event

*"**Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel released the following statement Tuesday regarding Hillary Clinton laughing off a threat to Republican Presidential candidate Carly Fiorina:"*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447197351_mrp.pdf

Jones' trucking length bill sent to the governor; Legislation would help bring 300 jobs to Shiawasse

"LANSING, Mich. — The governor could soon sign legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to help a trucking company bring hundreds of jobs to Shiawassee County. The measure was sent to the governor by the Senate after the House unanimously approved the bill earlier on Tuesday."

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447197284_jones.pdf

New MVAA ad campaign promotes one call, one agency

"LANSING, Mich. – As Michigan celebrates Veterans Month and the more than 660,000 veterans who served, new statewide radio and digital ads highlight how one simple call can connect them with federal, state and local benefits they've earned."

Source: *Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447196214_mvaa.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee Introduces Legislation to Help Curb Veteran Suicides

"FLINT – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) today announced new legislation he has introduced to direct the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) and the military to provide more effective mental health resources to veterans and active duty personnel at high risk of suicide."

Source: *Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193798_kildee.pdf

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Senate approves Knollenberg bills eliminating taxpayer-funded union lobbyists

*"**LANSING** — The state Senate on Tuesday passed legislation that would prevent union lobbyists from misusing taxpayer money."*

Source: *Sen. Marty Knollenberg* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193730_knollenberg.pdf

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Upton Adds Long-Time Community Leader to his District Office Staff

"ST. JOSEPH, MI – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today formally announced the addition of Mike Ryan to his St. Joseph/Benton Harbor District Office as District Representative/Project Coordinator."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193659_upton.pdf

Small Business Group Applauds Senate Passage of Franchise Protections

"November 10, 2015 (Lansing) – The state's leading small business organization, the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), praised the Michigan Senate today for passing two bills that would clarify the relationship between franchisor and franchisee employees. Senate Bills 492 sponsored by Senator Jack Brandenburg (R-8) and 493 sponsored by John Proos (R-21) amend the Franchise Act and the Workers Disability Act to clarify that franchisors and franchisees are treated as separate businesses under Michigan law."

Source: *National Federation of Independent Business* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192397_NFI.pdf

Reps. Pscholka, Pagel, VerHeulen introduce facility care option for medically frail prisoners

"State Reps. Al Pscholka, Dave Pagel, and Rob VerHeulen today introduced a legislative package that would grant the state parole board the ability to parole low-risk, medically frail inmates to a licensed care facility in order to complete their sentence.

"

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192338_RE.pdf

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20 Michigan businesses urge Rep. Upton to extend federal energy tax credits, amid uncertainty of sta

*"**Lansing, MI** – Today, 20 renewable energy companies with a significant presence in Michigan urged U.S. Representative Fred Upton to support timely extensions of the Production Tax Credit (PTC) and Investment Tax Credit (ITC) in a letter to his office. Renewable power projects have attracted over $3 billion in new investment to the state, and extensions of the PTC and ITC, the two primary federal incentives for renewable power development, are expected to come up for a vote later this fall."*

Source: *A Renewable America* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192263_RENAM.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder honors Michigan's veterans

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement in honor of Veterans Day. Click here to watch the video.

"

Source: *Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447191724_GOVSN.pdf

THURSDAY: Detroit, Flint House, Senate Members to Hold Water Quality, Affordability Press Conference

*"LANSING – State Representatives **Stephanie Chang** (D-Detroit), **LaTanya Garrett** (D-Detroit),**Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint), **Julie Plawecki** (D-Dearborn Heights) and state Senator **Bert Johnson** (D-Detroit) will announce the introduction of a bipartisan, bicameral package of bills to address the water affordability and quality issues that are occurring in Detroit, Highland Park and Flint at a press conference on **Thursday, Nov. 12, at 11:30 a.m. in Rooms 402-403 of the state Capitol in Lansing.** The representatives will be joined by Melissa Mays, a Flint mother, and Nicole Hill from Detroit. The women will explain their individual experiences with Flint's unsafe drinking water and Detroit's water shut-offs. Also joining the representatives to show their support will be representatives from groups that have worked with families and homeowners in these cities."*

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447191291_DET.pdf

One-stop shopping for Secretary of State and County Clerk coming to Shelby Township

"A partnership between Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson allows citizens the opportunity to one-stop shop. The clerk's office will be in the Secretary of State's Shelby Township branch office at 50640 Schoenherr, just South of 23 Mile Road, in Shelby Township on Thursday, November 19th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m."

Source: *Macomb County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447189220_sabaugh.pdf

U.P. Focus: DNR launches "Keep the U.P. CWD Free!" campaign

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has launched a public information and education campaign to try to keep chronic wasting disease from reaching the Upper Peninsula."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447189155_dnr.pdf

Detroit Casinos Revenues and Wagering Taxes Reported for October 2015

*"**Detroit** – The three Detroit casinos' aggregate revenue fell 0.5 percent during October compared with the same month last year. However, year-to-date aggregate revenue rose 3.1 percent through October compared with the casinos' revenues for the first 10 months of 2014."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447185771_mgcb.pdf

Progress Michigan Statement on EPA Audit of Michigan Water Oversight

"LANSING — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it would audit how Michigan oversees public water supplies. The audit is in response to the Flint water crisis caused by the indifference of Gov. Rick Snyder, emergency managers in Flint and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to the suffering of the residents in Flint due to austerity measures that put lead in the drinking water."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447185710_progmich.pdf

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Seniors, hard-working families benefit with Rep. Hughes bill signed into law

"OKEMOS – Key legislation authored by Rep. Holly Hughes to expand the Homestead Property Tax Credit was signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder at the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association headquarters today."

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184702_hughes.pdf

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Statement on 5th Circuit Court Decision on President Obama's Immigration Programs

"New Orleans, Louisiana - The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against the Obama Administration's Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) and expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA+) on Monday, allowing the case to move forward to the Supreme Court. The decision ends 4 months of politically motivated stalling by the court."

Source: *Michigan United* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184644_michunited.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill package implementing long-term funding plan for safer Michigan roads and

"OKEMOS, Mich. – Michiganders will have safer roads and stronger bridges to travel on, after Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a seven-bill package implementing the state's legislative solution to infrastructure funding."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184339_gov.pdf

Dems Launch New Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan

"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats launched a wave of radio and online ads blasting Lansing Republicans for ramming through a so-called "roads plan" that sticks middle class and working families with the bill but doesn't fix the problem. The ads, which are one piece of a broader accountability campaign, will debut on radio and online in targeted districts this week. The ads call out the GOP for passing a 'reckless and irresponsible' plan that hits Michiganders with a new birthday tax by raising registration fees 20%, raises the gas tax drivers pay at the pump by $400 million, cuts schools and police and fire but doesn't even fix the roads until 2021, if ever."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447182629_dem.pdf

MDP Statement on Republican Plans to Strip Voters of Straight-Ticket Option

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the followed statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Republican plans to strip Michigan voters of the right to vote straight-ticket on their ballots:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447180824_mdp.pdf

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CALLEY AND OTHERS TO ADDRESS DRUG ADDICTION AND RECOVERY AT WMU-COOLEY PARADIGM

"On Thursday, Nov. 12, WMU-Cooley Law School will present "Paradigm Shift: Changing Law and Education to Better Support Addiction Recovery." This unique and comprehensive conference will focus on improving addiction recovery support within our criminal justice and educational systems, and will feature nationally recognized speakers, including Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley; Craig DeRoche, former Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives and executive director of the Justice Fellowship in Washington, D.C.; Ivana Grahovac, executive director of Transforming Youth Recovery; and Michael Johnson, founder of the Justice/Quade Recovery Institute."

Source: *Western Michigan University* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179257_west.pdf

MCUCA Update Moves out of Committee

*"**Lansing, MI (Nov. 10, 2015)** – Legislators on the House Financial Services Committee unanimously approved a six-bill package to update the Michigan Credit Union Act (MCUA) for the first time in more than*

a decade."

Source: *Michigan Credit Union League & Affiliates* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179212_mcula.pdf

Progress Michigan Statement on Gov. Snyder Signing Failed Roads Plan

"LANSING — Today, Governor Rick Snyder signed a package of roads bills aimed to give Republicans political cover in the November 2016 elections. The package of bills was passed under the cover of darkness last Tuesday by one-vote margins in both the State House and State Senate. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179140_prog.pdf

Road Funding Plan Hurts Michigan Residents, Communities

"LANSING – Today, Governor Rick Snyder signed a road-funding plan that shifts income tax revenue from the state budget general fund to transportation and does not specify what areas of the budget will be cut in the process. The plan will not be fully implemented until 2021."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179068_prog.pdf

Dems Launch New Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan

"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats launched a wave of radio and online ads blasting Lansing Republicans for ramming through a so-called "roads plan" that sticks middle class and working families with the bill but doesn't fix the problem. The ads, which are one piece of a broader accountability campaign, will debut on radio and online in targeted districts this week. The ads call out the GOP for passing a 'reckless and irresponsible' plan that hits Michiganders with a new birthday tax by raising registration fees 20%, raises the gas tax drivers pay at the pump by $400 million, cuts schools and police and fire but doesn't even fix the roads until 2021, if ever."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447176324_dems.pdf

Casperson Speaks with Thousands on Monday about Bringing Northern Michigan Values to Washington, D.C

*"**MANISTEE**—Tom Casperson spoke with more than 5,000 northern Michigan residents on Monday evening about bringing their values to our nation's Capital. After announcing during the day his decision to run for the U.S. House of Representatives at stops in Escanaba and Traverse City, Casperson hosted two*

tele-town halls where he was able to connect with more than 5,400 1st District voters about their concerns."

Source: *Sen. Tom Casperson* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447176052_casperson.pdf

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I-675 ramp closure for crash barrier repair Wednesday, Nov. 11

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will repair a crash barrier at Exit 3 (Davenport) on northbound I-675. Crews will begin work at 9 a.m. and expect to reopen the ramp by 2 p.m."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447175330_mdot.pdf

Entertainment Express Limousine and Party Bus loses operating authority over safety violations

*"**November 10, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is advising consumers not to book any transportation with Entertainment Express, Inc. and Entertainment Limousine, which operate out of Dearborn Heights as one entity under the advertised name "Entertainment Express Limousine and Party Bus." This company's vehicles have failed several MDOT safety inspections and were subsequently cited multiple times by the Michigan State Police (MSP) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division along with local law enforcement for operating a bus or limousine without a valid safety inspection. "*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447175272_mdot.pdf

Sen. Hansen welcomes Ravenna pastor to Senate session

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, welcomed Dan Smith (center) and Smith's wife Nancy to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Smith is pastor of Jibson Immanuel Baptist Church of Ravenna and gave the invocation before the start of Senate session."*

Source: *Sen. Goeff Hansen* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447173372_hansen.pdf

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Dems Oppose Method Ban Bills in Criminal Justice Committee

"LANSING – Democratic legislators on the House Criminal Justice committee came out in opposition today of a package of bills that would severely limit a woman's access to safe abortions. The Democratic committee members pushed the fact that substandard care should never be the practice in any health situation, and questioned legislation that would put women who choose to end a pregnancy at risk."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447173321_house.pdf

Helpful reminders for firearm deer season, starting this Sunday

"This Sunday, Nov. 15, tens of thousands of Michigan residents and nonresidents will take to the fields and forests to enjoy deer hunting. The Department of Natural Resources would like to share a few helpful reminders with those who will be heading out to hunt."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447172287_dnr.pdf

Michigan Chemistry Council - News of the Day…November 10, 2015

*"**MCC News of the Day…November 10, 2015 Articles of interest to our industry…**"*

Source: *Michigan Chemistry Council* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169781_mcc.pdf

Time Running Out to Purchase Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Tickets

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 10, 2015** – Michigan Lottery players are running out of time to buy tickets for the Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle. The game's jackpot is more than $1.1 million and growing with each ticket purchased."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169722_lottery.pdf

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Senate Republican Committee Punishes Voters for Voting Against Republicans

"LANSING — Today, the Michigan Senate Elections Committee voted along party lines to end straight ticket voting. The bill, SB 13, is a direct response to voters rejecting Republican candidates for statewide school board elections."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169187_prog.pdf

M-100 closed in Potterville this coming weekend for the bridge slide

"On Friday, November 13, starting at 7 p.m., M-100 in Potterville will be closed so crews can undertake an

innovative construction technique called a bridge slide. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447168863_mdot.pdf

Consortium of Michigan Veterans Educators Receives $500,000 Kresge Foundation Grant

"LANSING, Mich. – The Consortium of Michigan Veterans Educators (CMVE) received a $500,000 grant from The Kresge Foundation that will bolster the group's efforts to help Michigan veterans navigate their higher education pathways as they seek education and training to re-enter the civilian workforce."

Source: *Michigan Community College Association* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447166497_mcca.pdf

Health Leaders Fellowship seeks doctors, nurses and other health professionals for 2016 class

"November 10, Ann Arbor, MI – Today the Ecology Center opened the application period for the 2016 Health Leaders Fellowship program. Since 2014, this innovative fellowship program has educated health professionals across Michigan about the links between the environment and human health. Through this program fellows learn critical civic engagement skills along with a community of likeminded peers. The program is entering into its third year and opened the application process to select the 2016 cohort of fellows."

Source: *Ecology Center* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165475_eco.pdf

Gov. Snyder Signs Law to Help Students, Teachers Improve

"Last week, Governor Rick Snyder signed Senate Bill 103 into law, which will help establish a critical framework for providing Michigan educators with high-quality feedback and support to help improve teaching and learning for Michigan students."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165423_edu.pdf

Carson Leads Clinton, Clinton leads Trump in latest Denno Research poll

"In the latest survey quarterly survey of Michigan voters conducted by Denno Research, Ben Carson has a two point lead over Hillary Clinton, 38%-36%. When the choices were Donald Trump v. Hillary Clinton, Clinton had an eight point lead, 42%-34%."

Source: *Denno Research, LLC* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165367_denno.pdf

Outage Alerts Keep Consumers Energy Customers Informed

"JACKSON, Mich., Nov. 10, 2015 – With stormy weather predicted later this week, Consumers Energy is introducing automatic outage alerts for its 1.8 million residential and business electric customers to provide them with accurate, up-to-date information during a power outage."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *11-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165303_consumer.pdf

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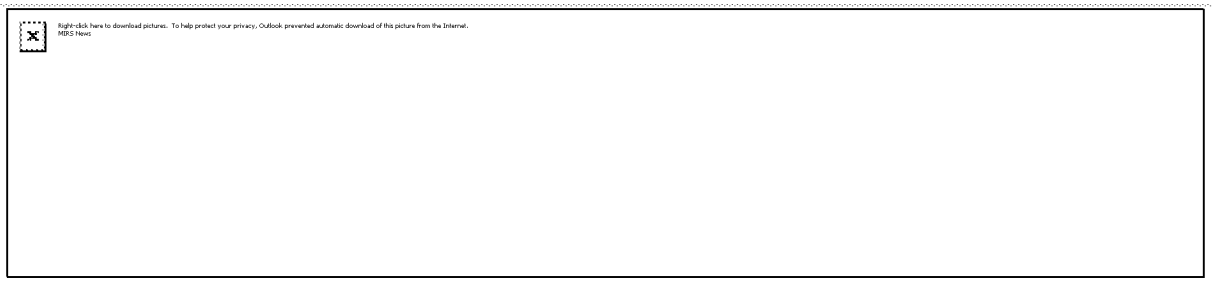
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 6:51 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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What Michigan's new road funding rules mean for you, your taxes and your roads

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday signed into law a series of new road funding laws that will raise taxes by $600 million a year and eventually re-prioritize another $600 million in state spending."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/what_michigans_new_road_fundin.html#incart_river*

Why Michigan's proposed 30 percent clean energy goal may not be as impressive as it sounds

"LANSING, MI -- Democrats won a clean energy amendment to a package to overhaul Michigan energy policy as it advanced from committee last week, but advocates say 30 percent by 2025 isn't as impressive as it sounds."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/why_michigans_proposed_30_perc.html#incart_river*

Michigan police propose changes to medical pot dispensary bill, end of caregiver model

"LANSING, MI — Michigan law enforcement officials are not fully backing plans to overhaul the state's

medical marijuana system, but unlike last year, they aren't standing in the way of proposed legislation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_cops_seek_changes_to.html#incart_river*

Democrat to seek Speaker Cotter's seat representing 99th District

*"**MOUNT PLEASANT, MI** — A Union Township trustee and Mount Pleasant small business owner plans to, for a second time, run to represent the area in the Michigan House of Representatives."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/democrat_to_seek_speaker_cotte.html#incart_river*

Michigan Democrats run 'birthday tax' ads blasting Republican road funding plan

"LANSING, MI — While Gov. Rick Snyder was signing a long-term road funding plan into lawTuesday, the Michigan Democratic Party was launching a series of ads targeting Republican lawmakers who voted for it."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_democrats_run_birthda.html#incart_river*

Group says Clarkston teacher forced to pay union fees in right-to-work violation

"CLARKSTON, MI – A national group that advocates against mandatory union membership claims a Michigan teacher's union and school district have violated the state's right-to-work law."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/group_says_clarkston_teacher_f.html#incart_river*

Work remains before money from new tax can help homeless families

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI —** Now that a tax to assist homeless families in Kalamazoo County is on the books, leaders who worked to win its approval need figure out how to put the money to use."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/homeless_tax_1.html#incart_river_home*

GOP rivals Bush, Rubio differ in tactics in Michigan

"Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush arrives in west Michigan Thursday in search of new supporters of a presidential campaign dogged by the ascendance of U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, his chief challenger for Republican votes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/11/gop-rivals-bush-rubio-differ-tactics-michigan/75625424/

Michigan announces net reduction of 2,100 rules

"LANSING — An office created by Gov. Rick Snyder to make government more efficient reports hitting a milestone — the net reduction of more than 2,000 state rules and regulations over four years, including a requirement that child care workers smile."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/12/michigan-reduction-rules/75633812/

Advocacy/Opinion

Guns in schools, open carry or not, roundly rejected in Michigan poll

"You may not believe this, but 52 percent of National Rifle Association members in Michigan do not favor the open carry of weapons in schools. That opinion persists whether they own a shotgun, rifle or handgun."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/guns_in_schools_open_carry_or.html#incart_river

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Hendrix: Coming together to build our energy future

"It's rare in today's politics that there are issues that can bridge the divide between Republicans, and Democrats, labor unions and business groups, rural farms and urban industry."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/11/hendrix-energy-future/75627034/

Pavlov: Michigan needs more jobs, not handouts

"The greatest bipartisan achievement of the 1990s was welfare reform, and it was also the most successful social and economic experiment of the post-war era. In fact, Michigan and then-Gov. John Engler were national leaders for reform at the time. You'll probably remember that liberals protested

furiously and claimed that if we insisted people work for their welfare benefits that thousands would be starving and freezing to death in the streets — even in the summer! But contrary to their predictions, people got off welfare, got jobs, joined the middle class, and we had a strong, growing economy that worked for everyone."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/11/pavlov-michigan-jobs-handouts/75626986/*

Jacques: Lawmakers reluctant on fixing Detroit schools

"The Legislature finally got a road funding proposal finished. But even with that hurdle behind it, lawmakers are showing great reluctance to take up the next major project: fixing Detroit schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/11/jacques-fixing-dps/75626426/*

Our Editorial: Auto pacts place pay over jobs

"The UAW made remarkable economic gains in this year's negotiations with the Big Three automakers, largely by gradually eliminating the second wage tier imposed on them eight years ago. The two-tier system helped then-struggling automakers save on labor costs, but drastically reduced the earnings expectation of newly hired autoworkers.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/11/editorial-uaw-pay-trumps-growth/75627066/*

Thompson: Flint mayor sees hope, challenges ahead

"Karen Weaver, the newly elected mayor of Flint, speaks with pride and confidence about the city that raised her, giving the impression her job is going to be easy. She beams as she talks about her heritage: how her mother, Marion Coates Williams, was the first African-American teacher in Flint; her father, the late T. Wendell Williams, the first black elected to the Flint Board of Education."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/2015/11/11/new-flint-mayor-hope-challenges/75625196/*

Jacques: Lawmakers reluctant on fixing Detroit schools

"The Legislature finally got a road funding proposal finished. But even with that hurdle behind it,

lawmakers are showing great reluctance to take up the next major project: fixing Detroit schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/11/jacques-fixing-dps/75626426/*

Lawmaker: Give Flint $50M to replace lead water pipes

"State Rep. Sheldon Neeley, D-Flint, who has been raising concerns about his city's water since his days as a city councilman, plans to hand Gov. Rick Snyder a bill this morning."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/11/12/flint-water-sheldon-neeley-michigan-legislature/75610846/*

Veterans made the world a better place, make a difference in our communities (Guest view)

"This Veterans Day, we celebrate with the men and women who have defended our country over the decades. With their service they have made the world a better place and they continue to make a positive difference in our communities today."

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/veterans_have_made_the_world_a.html#incart_river_home*

Press Releases

Pundits Agree, "Ted Cruz Wins the Night"

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – By almost all accounts Presidential candidate Ted Cruz was one of – if not the – big winner from last night's Republican Presidential Debate in Milwaukee. Below is a sample of what people are saying:"*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447271691_cruz.pdf

AFPD announces new Director of Government Relations

"AFPD welcomes Dan Papineau as the new Director of Government Relations West Bloomfield, MI. (NOV.11, 2015) – AFPD announced Dan Papineau as AFPD's new Director of Government Relations. Papineau had previously worked for five years in the legislature for Senator Brandenburg."

Source: *AFPD* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447271503_afpd.pdf*

Upton Statement on Veterans Day

"ST. JOSEPH, MI – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement on the occasion of Veterans Day."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447271286_upton.pdf

MARY BOARDWAY JOINS THE MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION AS VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIO

"LANSING, MI –The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce that Mary Boardway has joined the organization as Vice President of Finance & Administration. Boardway started at the MRA on November 2."

Source: *Michigan Restaurant Association* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447271232_rest.pdf

Rep. Lawrence introduces legisation to benefit military members facing civil litigation

"WASHINGTON, D.C. –Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) this week introduced HR 3976 to link available pro bono legal assistance to junior enlisted personnel, and their dependents, in connection with personal, civil legal affairs in honor of the estimated 34,141 veterans who live in the 14th District, and of all U.S. veterans living and serving worldwide."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447258309_lawrence.pdf

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Honoring America's Veterans

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate Ted Cruz released the following statement in observance of Veterans Day:"*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447257275_cruz.pdf

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/10/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/10/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447253721_court.pdf*

Dingell Honors Veterans Day

*"**DEARBORN, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement in honor of Veterans Day."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447253678_dingell.pdf*

Peters Statement Honoring Veteran's Day

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today released the following statement in recognition of Veteran's Day and the proud men and women who have bravely served our nation:"*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447253635_peters.pdf*

CTR STATEMENT AND WORD COUNT: REPUBLICANS BLUFF, THEN FOLD ON AMERICA'S MIDDLE CLASS

"Washington, DC — At tonight's debate, all eight Republicans on stage showed us their playing cards. Instead of offering any new economic proposals to aid middle-class and working families, the Republicans still have the deck stacked in favor of those at the top."

Source: *Correct the Record* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447253588_record.pdf*

Rand Paul Stands Out and Roars Bac

*"**MILWAUKEE, WIS.**- Tonight, Senator Rand Paul dominated the GOP field with his passionate defense of liberty. His strong, factual answers and specific policy proposals to reform government distinguished him as a leader with a vision rooted in common sense solutions. "*

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447253525_paul.pdf*

Ted Cruz has been Leading the Fight for Simple, Fair Tax Reform

*"**MILWAUKEE, WI** - Presidential Candidate Ted Cruz rolled out his Simple, Flat Tax Plan in a Wall Street Journal Op-Ed. The Simple Flat Tax will effectively abolish the IRS and dismantle the Washington Cartel. Under Ted Cruz's Simple Flat Tax, Americans in all income brackets will see double-digit after-tax wage growth, and giant corporations will be unable to use loopholes to avoid paying taxes."*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14472534B1_cruz.pdf

Cruz in National Review Op-Ed: Five for Freedom

*"**HOUSTON, Texas** – Today, Presidential candidate Ted Cruz published an op-ed inNational Review outlining his plan to eliminate four federal departments and the IRS, and get government spending under control. The details of the full plan can be found here. "*

Source: *Ted Cruz* **Date:** *11-12-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/14472534B6_cruz.pdf

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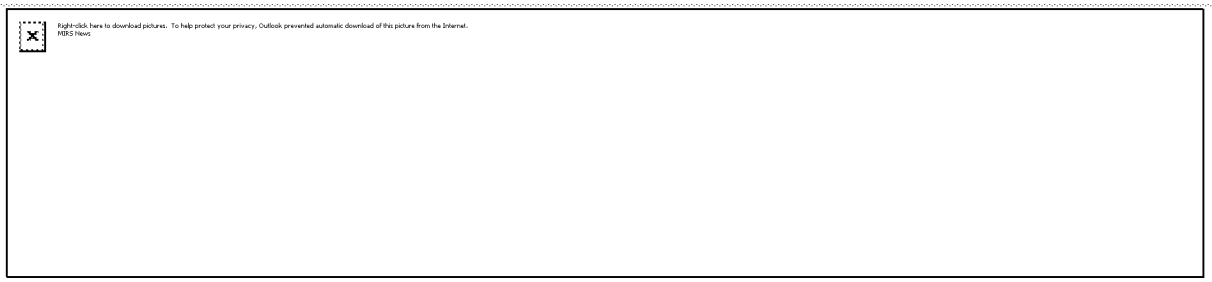
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 6:43 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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If feds don't approve a second Healthy Michigan waiver, there is no plan B

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan has added nearly 600,000 people to its expanded Medicaid program, but will swiftly drop them if the federal government doesn't approve a second waiver the state needs by Dec. 31."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/if_feds_dont_approve_a_second.html#incart_river_home*

Pay to play: How Michigan makes it hard to fight for property seized by police

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Shantrese Kinnon knew her husband was getting back into drugs, and she was trying to keep her distance when police raided their Grand Rapids rental house last year and found the 19 marijuana plants he was growing."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/pay_to_play_how_michigan_makes.html#incart_river_index*

'Water is a human right,' Democrats say with new bills addressing Flint crisis, Detroit shutoffs

"LANSING, MI — Flint mom Melissa Mays believes her three sons are starting to struggle in school because they drank contaminated city water, and she's worried the full effect of lead poisoning, which can cause irreversible brain damage, will not be known for years."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/water_is_a_human_right_democra.html#incart_river_index*

'I know how to do this,' Jeb Bush says in Grand Rapids

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Speaking to a crowd of right-leaning voters, many of whom are comfortable at this point with any number of Republican presidential hopefuls, Jeb Bush hit hard on President Obama for presiding over what he called a \"broken\" government in the eight years since his brother left the White House.

"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/jeb_bush_grand_rapids.html#incart_river_index*

What likely Republican voters said at Jeb Bush town hall

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Jonathan TenElshof reserved tickets online two at a time so his students at Plymouth Christian High School could get a seat for a campaign visit by Jeb Bush. Their classroom on Thursday, Nov. 12, was a town hall meeting with the presidential candidate at the Kent County Republican Party headquarters.

"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/jeb_bush_grand_rapids_republic.html#incart_river_home*

Lansing — House School Aid Subcommittee Chairman Tim Kelly said Thursday it's unlikely state lawmakers can approve by the end of this year the overhaul Gov. Rick Snyder wants for the troubled Detroit Public Schools.

"Flint officials may have failed to follow federal guidelines for water testing — standards that might have alerted them, as well as the public, to the scope of the lead problem in city water much earlier."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/12/flint-lead-federal-water-testing-rules/75671550/*

Detroit school overhaul unlikely by end of year

"Lansing — House School Aid Subcommittee Chairman Tim Kelly said Thursday it's unlikely state lawmakers can approve by the end of this year the overhaul Gov. Rick Snyder wants for the troubled Detroit Public Schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/12/detroit-school-overhaul-aid/75657686/*

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http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/12/bills-seek-assure-clean-affordable-water-all/75650332/

"Grand Rapids — Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's ailing presidential campaign couldn't catch a break Thursday as he got hung up in storm-ravaged Iowa and missed a chance to appeal personally to a roomful of influential Republicans who remain neutral in the race."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/12/jeb-bush-fix-grand-rapids-fundraiser-friend/75667554/*

Bills seek to assure clean, affordable water for all

"LANSING Lead contamination of drinking water in Flint and large-scale shutoffs of tap water in Detroit have prompted a package of bills that lawmakers say will ensure clean and affordable drinking water for all Michigan residents."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/12/bills-seek-assure-clean-affordable-water-all/75650332/*

Candidates set for 2016 Michigan presidential primary

"Fourteen Republicans and three Democrats will appear on the March 8 presidential primary ballot."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/12/2016-michigan-presidential-primary/75659534/*

Dingell touts legislation to keep guns out of hands of abusers, stalkers during Ann Arbor visit

"U.S. Rep. Debbie Dingell, D-Dearborn, speaks openly about her childhood experiences with domestic violence."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/dingell_touts_legislation_to_k.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Real change should accompany state funds granted (Guest column)

"Although it's a distant second in potential price tag, the situation involving a possible financial bailout of Detroit

Public Schools (DPS) is no less important than the road funding package for our state's future."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/real_change_should_accompany_s.html#incart_river_home*

Lawmakers fail those who deserve civil rights

"

It's a conundrum: Same-sex couples can now get married in Michigan, but only at the risk that prospective employers or landlords will punish them for exercising that hard-won right - or even for acknowledging an attraction to others of the same sex.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567488/Lawmakers-fail-those-who-deserve-civil-rights.html?nav=5052*

Editor's Note: State improving; still must grow

"Michigan's business climate continues to rebound strongly from its Lost Decade at the start of this century. A new report from Business Leaders for Michigan confirms the state is becoming more competitive in a number of key areas. Some examples:"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/12/editor-note-state-improving-still-must-grow/75626366/*

Williamson: Let's transform Detroit schools

"Sometimes it is just confounding to read the news about schools and education. Currently we are reading about the governor's efforts regarding the Detroit Public Schools. We are also reading about the FBI investigation of corruption in the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) and the plea bargain agreements of some of the education reform fraudsters involved."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/12/detroit-schools-transform/75685064/*

Editor's Note: Court offers a victory for vouchers

"School choice earned a big win this week, when a federal appeals court upheld a voucher program in Louisiana."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/12/court-victory-vouchers/75685090/*

Dickens: Enforce Detroit pot laws with care

"Seven years after the passage of the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA), the Detroit City Council is currently considering regulation of medical marijuana facilities within its city limits."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/12/detroit-marijuana-law-enforcement/75684638/*

Our Editorial: Michigan growing, but not fast enough

"Michigan has regained 400,000 jobs over the past five years, roughly half what was lost during the Lost Decade at the start of this century. Its economy is growing along with employment, and its business climate ranking has strengthened.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/12/michigan-growing-fast-enough/75684584/*

Michigan Gets D-Minus Grade for Forfeited Property Profit Mongering

"Even though Michigan took steps this year to restrict civil asset forfeiture and require more disclosure of the practice, an authority in the field says the state has not gone nearly far enough. The just-released second edition of the "Policing for Profit" report by the Institute for Justice gives Michigan a grade of D- and ranks it 44th in the nation for practices it uses under a state-federal forfeiture program."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21689*

Headaches of Road Funding and Courser-Gamrat Scandal Now Blowing In the Wind

"The two stories that most dominated Michigan politics in 2015 were, to a large extent, simultaneously resolved last week. Gov. Rick Snyder and the Republican-controlled Legislature reached agreement on a $1.2 billion road funding package. On the same day the package passed, Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, the lawmakers forced out of the House over allegations they abused their power to cover up a sex scandal, lost their bids to return to office via special elections."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21690*

How one plucky Michigan town is rebuilding its housing market

"At age 27, Sarah DeNoyer found herself tired of renting and ready to take the next step into adulthood. But a housing search in her native Ferndale, near Detroit, left DeNoyer feeling dispirited. Nothing she liked was in her price range, and the affordable options weren't even close to what she wanted. So she did what homebuyers do all the time: Looked elsewhere. Which led her to the adjacent community of Hazel Park, and a starter home she fell in love with."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/how-one-plucky-michigan-town-is-rebuilding-its-housing-market/*

College affordability will shape Michigan's future economy

"We all believe a college degree should provide our students with opportunity, and we know that having one helps ensure future earnings and success."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/college-affordability-will-shape-michigans-future-economy/*

Press Releases

Dems Bring GOP Accountability Campaign to Flint, Blast 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan

"FLINT – Today Democratic leaders blasted Representative Joe Graves and his fellow Republican lawmakers for ramming through a so-called "roads plan" that forces working families to pay more, but then doesn't actually fix the roads. The Democrats' visit comes amidst a statewide ad blitz launching this week, calling out the GOP for passing legislation that unfairly hits Michigan families with a new birthday tax by increasing registration fees 20%, raises the gas tax drivers pay at the pump by $400 million, cuts schools, police and fire, but doesn't even fix the roads until 2021, if ever."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447362609_mdp.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder makes reappointments to the Health Endowment Fund Board

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the reappointments of Cindy Estrada, of Whitmore Lake, and Sue Jandernoa, of West Olive, to the Health Endowment Board."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447361442_gov.pdf*

MYCA Recruiting to host an event in Battle Creek

"The Battle Creek VA Medical Center is the site for the next recruiting event for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy. This event is set for Wednesday, November 18th, 2015, with a start time of 2:00 PM. The address is 5500 Armstrong Rd. (Bldg.138), Battle Creek, MI 49037. Cadet Representatives (current MYCA Students) assist in the presentation, which is followed by a Q&A. Recruiting events finish with applicant interviews. Attendees should arrive 20 minutes early. The main purpose of each recruiting event is to identify the best qualified applicants; those who possess the necessary abilities to become an MYCA graduate."

Source: *Department of Military and Veterans Affairs* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447361177_dmva.pdf*

Heartland Institute Leads Contingent of Climate Realists to Paris for UN's COP 21 Conference

"The Heartland Institute – known globally as the leading think tank debunking global warming alarmism and junk science – is partnering with the Committee for a ConstructiveTomorrow (CFACT), Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), and other allied organizations to bring some of the world's most esteemed climate scientists and policy experts to present the inconvenient, data-based truth to the United Nations' COP 21 summit in Paris."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447358547_*

ICYMI: Rubio's Tax Plan Expands Welfare for Illegal Immigrants

*"**DES MOINES -** Earlier today, Sen. Rand Paul appeared on the Laura Ingraham show to discuss his performance at the Fox Business/ Wall Street Journal Republican Primary debate. Ingraham praised Sen. Paul for shedding light on Marco Rubio's liberal, big government policies. A clip and rough transcript can be found below. "*

Source: *Rand Paul Press Office* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447357368_Rand.pdf*

Presidential primary list released

"The Michigan Department of State today released the 2016 presidential primary candidate list. The list is available online at www.Michigan.gov/elections."

Source: *MI Secretary of State* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447356109_Presidential Primary.pdf*

Michigan United Conservation Clubs

"The Legislature got its work done before heading off on its November hunting break by passing the anti-poaching and hunting access packages, which are now on Governor Snyder's desk to be signed into law. In the meantime, Michigan's abundant public land anchored a big investment in northern Michigan."

Source: *MI United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447353411_conservation.pdf

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MI Health Link Open Enrollment Continues, Offers Coordinated Services

"LANSING, Mich. – Every year, Medicare's open enrollment period is October 15 through December 7. Choosing or changing a Medicare plan can sometimes be confusing. That's why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is reminding eligible residents about the open enrollment period for a new option called MI Health Link. MI Health Link is a program that links both Medicare and Medicaid services through your choice of a single health plan. That single health plan then provides access to all covered care and services. "

Source: *MI Dept of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447353261_MI Health Link.pdf

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Join Go BIG Media Inc. and Republican Party leaders on Saturday, November 14th

*"**Orlando, FL** – Join Go BIG Media Inc. and Republican Party leaders on Saturday, November 14th at the 2015 Republican Party of Florida, Sunshine Summit, for a discussion panel on the GOP's digital plan to win Florida in 2016. Joining the panel is:"*

Source: *GoBig Media Inc.* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447351634_Sunshine Summit.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bipartisan bills setting new standards for mixed martial arts contests

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan residents who participate in amateur mixed martial arts (MMA) events will have a safer environment to compete in, under two bills signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447350568_Snyder.pdf

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President Obama 'Swore An Oath To Uphold The Laws'

*""**Congress has passed a $607 billion defense bill that bans moving Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States** — something Barack Obama has been trying to do since he was sworn in as president in 2009. The Senate's vote of 91 to 3 gave final legislative approval to the measure. The House has already passed it with a veto-proof majority, 370-58." ("Congress Passes $607 Billion Defense Bill That Would Ban Moving Guantanamo Detainees To US," AP, 11/10/15)"*

Source: *Senate Republican Communications Center* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447350201_Obama.pdf

Senator Ananich on Bipartisan Legislation to Address Safe Water Access and Affordability

"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement regarding today's announcement by Democratic and Republican members of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives about legislation to address safe water access and affordability:"

Source: *Office of Senator Jim Ananich* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447350076_Ananich.pdf

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House, Senate Members Announce Water Quality, Affordability Bills

*"LANSING – State Representatives **Stephanie Chang** (D-Detroit), **LaTanya Garrett** (D-Detroit), **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint),**Julie Plawecki** (D-Dearborn Heights) and state Senator **Bert Johnson** (D-Detroit) announced at a Capitol press conference today a bipartisan, bicameral bill package that would establish clean, drinkable, affordable water as a human right, and reform the shut-off process and assure that water is accessible for Michigan residents. The legislators were joined by Melissa Mays, a Flint mother, and Nicole Hill from Detroit. Both women have suffered as a result of the water issues in their cities. Also joining the legislators were Alice Jennings of Edwards & Jennings P.C. and representatives from groups including Michigan Poverty Law Program, Michigan Legal Services, People's Water Board, Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, and Food and Water Watch. "*

Source: *MI House of Representatives* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447349982_waterquality.pdf

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TOMORROW: Peters, Dingell to Announce Legislation Promoting Vehicle Innovation at Leggett & Platt

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters and U.S. Representative Debbie Dingell will tour Leggett & Platt Commercial Vehicle Products in Taylor**TOMORROW, November 13th at 1:30PM** and hold a press conference to announce legislation to promote research and development of clean vehicle technologies that improve fuel efficiency and support American auto manufacturers."*

Source: *Office of U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447347760_Dingell.pdf

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MI Associations of State Universities Announce Michigan As 12th Partner State in AAC&U's & LEAP

"Washington, DC—The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the Michigan Association of State Universities announced today that Michigan is now a state partner in AAC&U's national initiative, Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP)."

Source: *MI Associations of State Universities* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447347598_MI Assn of State Universities.pdf

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MDOT weekend construction for 11/13-11/16/15

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 11/13-11/16/15** "*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447347420_MDOT.pdf

State's Regulatory Environment More Efficient as ORR Eliminates 2,000 Unnecessary Rules

*"**November 12, 2015** – Michigan's regulatory systems have become more efficient for consumers and business customers as the Office of Regulatory Reinvention announced today the net rule reduction of more than 2,000 obsolete, burdensome and duplicative rules. The rules were rescinded while ensuring the state's regulatory health, safety and consumer protections. Since Gov. Rick Snyder created the ORR in 2011 to increase the efficiency of Michigan's government, the office has reviewed more than 19,000 rules and 900 rule sets, collected nearly 35,000 pages of non-rule regulatory actions and removed 3,573 unduly restrictive rules, with a net rule reduction of 2,127 administrative rules."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447346863_lara.pdf

MDOT metro Detroit weekend construction 11/13-11/16/15

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 11/13-11/16/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)**"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447346609_mdot.pdf

Ingham County Bar Foundation Provides Grant to Local Veterans Treatment Court

*"**Lansing, MI** – The Ingham County Bar Foundation presented a $5,000 grant to Friends of the Ingham County Veterans Treatment Court on November 11, 2015 at the East Lansing Court House. The grant matches the largest amount the ICVTC has received from the ICBF since being established in March 2010."*

Source: *Fraser Trebilcock* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447343260_Hoffman - ICBA Veterans Court.pdf*

Speaker Cotter condemns attacks on veterans

"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement today after House Democrats began running attack ads on Army and Michigan National Guard veteran Tom Barrett, R-Potterville, and Air Force veteran Dr. John Bizon, R-Battle Creek on a day set aside to thank and support our nation's veterans:"

Source: *House Republican Campaign Committee* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447342947_Cotter condemns.pdf

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Heartland Institute Scholars Applaud Victory for Louisiana School Vouchers in Federal Court

"The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled Tuesday the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) cannot require the state of Louisiana to provide periodic reports on the racial makeup of students using vouchers to attend private schools. Supporters of school choice in Louisiana, including Gov. Bobby Jindal (R), said the requirement was an attempt by DOJ to use decades-old desegregation laws to slow down or stop the voucher program."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447342829_Heartland Institute.pdf

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MCMCFC issues $9,000 in college scholarships around Michigan

*"**LANSING, MICH.** — The Michigan County Medical Care Facilities Council, a coalition of 35 county-owned facilities across the state, has announced the winners of its 2015 Scholarship Awards."*

Source: *Michigan County Medical Care Facilities Council* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447341340_Press release MCMCFC announces scholarship winners 11-13-15.pdf

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DNR Wildlife Division chief, assistant chief at deer check stations in and around CWD area Nov. 15

"On opening day of Michigan's firearm deer hunting season, Nov. 15, Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division Chief Russ Mason and Assistant Chief Douglas Reeves will visit several DNR deer check stations within or near the Core Chronic Wasting Disease Area to talk with media representatives and hunters."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447340689_DNR Wildlife.pdf

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Friday the 13th Historically Lucky for Michigan Lottery Mega Millions Players

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 12, 2015** – While many people don't cross paths with black cats or walk under ladders on*

Friday the 13th, one thing that shouldn't be avoided is playing the Michigan Lottery."

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447340805_Megamillions Lucky 13.pdf*

Byrum offers Concealed Pistol License application processing at Lansing Branch Office on December 1

"MASON – Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum (D-Onondaga) has announced her upcoming expansion of services at the Lansing Branch Office located on the first floor of the Veterans Memorial Courthouse at 313 W. Kalamazoo Street."

Source: *Ingham County Clerk* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447340675_Byrum Concealed.pdf

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STATE BOARD ADOPTS IMPROVED STATE SCIENCE STANDARDS

"November12, 2015 LANSING – Michigan students will get a deeper understanding of science and its application in the world around them with new state science standards adopted this week by the State Board of Education. The new standards for science education follow three years of development, review, and public information sessions on the proposed standards. The new Michigan K-12 Science Standards replace the standards adopted in 2006, and introduce science and engineering practices. "These new Michigan Science Standards will help our terrific Michigan science educators engage young people in the doing of science, solving real world problems, and getting excited about pursuing science and engineering careers, said State Board President John Austin."

Source: *MI Dept of Education* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447340060_State Board adopts.pdf

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Senator Stabenow Applauds Support For Mid-Michigan Farm, Cooperative

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today applauded the announcement of support for Swallowtail Farm and the Michigan Fiber Industry Coalition Cooperative in Mason. Swallowtail Farm will receive $50,215 and the Michigan Fiber Industry Coalition Cooperative will get $15,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Value-Added Producer Grant program, which helps farmers and growers develop marketing strategies for agricultural commodities. This grant program was reauthorized by Senator Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill and is used to develop new agricultural products or create additional markets for existing ones."*

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447339182_stabenow.pdf

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Michigan Democrats Welcome Special Guest Julian Castro to "Best of the West

Event"

"LANSING – This Saturday, November 14th, the Michigan Democratic Party will host its first annual "Best of the West" fundraising event in Grand Rapids, with special guest Julián Castro."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447340476_mdp.pdf*

Public meeting to discuss 2016 Charlevoix bridge work

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will have an informational meeting to discuss a project to maintain and upgrade the US-31 bascule bridge in Charlevoix, beginning in late 2016. MDOT staff from the Gaylord Transportation Service Center (TSC) will present plans and schedules for the project, and solicit comments and suggestions on scheduling necessary overnight closures."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447338284_mdot.pdf*

Sparrow names new Vice President of Legal and Risk Management

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow is pleased to announce that Andrea Kosloski has been named Vice President of Legal and Risk Management."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *11-13-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447338241_sparrow.pdf*

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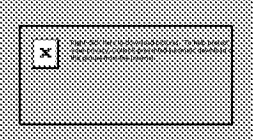

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From: Moges, Kidest (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 4:12 PM
To: SBOBudgetaryTransactions
Cc: Boyd, Jeremy (DHHS);Thelen, Beverly (DHHS);Bacon, Richard (DHHS);Hetherington, Michael (DHHS);Dawson, Brice (DHHS);Kangas, Susan (DHHS);Gillette, Patrice (DHHS);Masterson, Cindy (DHHS);Hanley, Farah (DHHS);Scott, Teri (DHHS);Schneider, Teresa (DHHS);Smith, Kidada (DHHS);Halverson, Lisa M. (DHHS);Bendele, Steven (DHHS);Lehman, Mary Lou (DHHS);Babb, Abbey (DTMB);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Mukuna, Herve (DTMB);White, Keith (DTMB)
Subject: DHHS (391) - EBA - 391007
Attachments: 391007_Flint Water project funding _GF.xlsx

Attached is EBA 391007. The purpose of this EBA is to appropriate supplemental funds authorized in P.A. 143 of 2015 for the Flint water project.

Thank you.

Kide Moges
Information Technology & Administration Section, Budget Division
Michigan Deparoment of Health and Human Services
(517) 373-9603

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	A	B	C	D
1	**STATE BUDGET OFFICE**			
2	**BUDGETARY TRANSACTION PROCESSING IN MAIN-FACS**			
3				
4				
5	**TYPE OF TRANSACTION:**	**Supplemental**		
6	**AGENCY CODE:**	391		
7	**DEPARTMENT:**	Department of Health and Human Services		
8	**FILE #:**	391007		
9	**FISCAL YEAR:**	2016		
10	**DATE:**	11/13/2015		
11				
12				
13				**"20"**
14	**UNIT/LINE ITEM TITLES**		**AY**	**APPR #**
15	TO:	**FAMILY, MATERNAL AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES**		
16		Childhood Lead Program	2016	14254
17		State general fund/general purpose		
18				
19	**GRAND TOTAL:**			
20				
21	**EXPLANATION:**	To appropriate supplemental funds authorized in P.A. 143 of 2015 for the Flint water project.		
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12			**1st QTR**	**2nd QTR**	**3rd QTR**	**4th QTR**	**TOTAL**	**TOTAL**
13	**"D23"**	**FINANCE**	**Effective**	**Effective**	**Effective**	**Effective**	**"D23"**	**"20"**
14	**FUND #**	**TYPE**	**10/01**	**01/01**	**04/01**	**07/01**	**FUND**	**APPR**
15								
16								$850,000
17	0100	01	$425,000	$425,000			$850,000	
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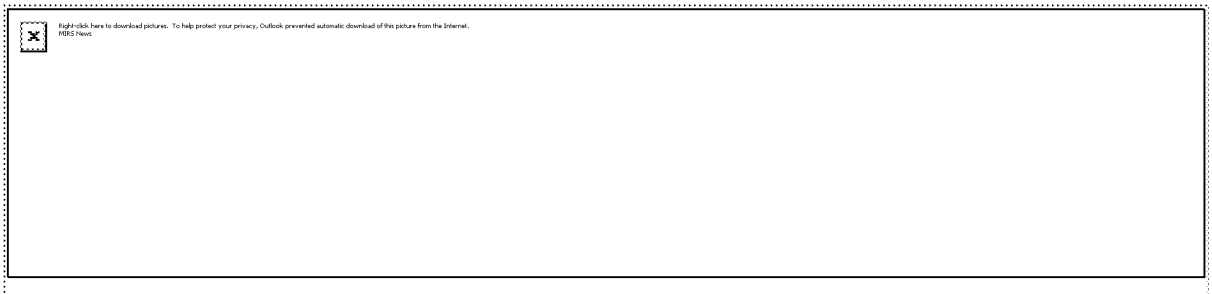
70	Administrative Transfer			
71	Legislative Transfer			
72	Supplemental			
73	Boilerplate Supplemental			
74	Executive Order Reorganization			
75	Other Transaction Processing			

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 6:56 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, November 13, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, November 13, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

In Some Counties, A Majority Of Voters Choose Straight Ticket

As lawmakers ponder doing away with straight ticket voting in Michigan, 2014 election results indicate that in some counties more than half of the voters tend to choose that option.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44989

Snyder On Concealed Carry In Schools: 'I Vetoed It Once, I'd Veto It Again'

Gov. Rick SNYDER came out against Senate legislation that would allow individuals to carry concealed weapons in schools and other pistol-free zones this morning, saying he would veto the bills as written.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44984

Jones Hopes To Move Medical Marijuana Package After Break

After a series of hearings and visits to local and Canadian marijuana facilities, Senate Judiciary Chair Rick JONES (R-Grand Ledge) has determined a regulated medical marijuana system is the appropriate path to take.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44982

Primary Challenger Focusing On Inman's Road Vote In 104th

Calling Rep. Larry INMAN's (R-Williamsburg) support for the $1.2 billion road-funding plan “the final straw,” a conservative former county commissioner from Traverse City has decided to challenge Inman

in the 2016 GOP primary.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44987

Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Attempt Over Flint Water Fallout

The Board of State Canvassers (BSC) brushed aside a Detroit pastor's effort to start a recall campaign against Gov. Rick SNYDER, which had cited the Governor's alleged culpability for the Flint water situation as the reason for the recall.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44986

Incoming Capitol Facilities Director To Bring Lansing Experience, Passion

Rob BLACKSHAW hasn't worked in the Capitol building since 1998, but he still has a picture of it hanging in his current office.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44993

AFP-Michigan Head On Road Plan: 'I Didn't Like It'

With the Michigan chapter of Americans for Prosperity (AFP) opposed to tax increases, it's not surprising that the group's leader wasn't pleased with the vote to hike the gas tax and vehicle registration fees last week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44985

Quarter Fee Collected By AG Questioned By Court

The monthly fee of $3.50 collected by Friend of the Court offices from those who pay child and spousal support payments isn't a violation of due process, but part of that fee -- 25 cents -- needs further examination, the state Court of Appeals (COA) ruled this week.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44983

Emerson Long Gone From Lansing Lobby Scene

Last year, former Senate Minority Leader and Budget Director Bob EMERSON went into the office of his lobbying partner Jeff McALVEY and suggested he would hang it up once the budget was completed.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44994

Some Hoping Non-Gov't Money Is Part Of DPS Solution

Some sources inside and outside of the Legislature are suggesting the Governor turn to outside foundation sources to find some of the money needed to help turn around the Detroit Public Schools' (DPS) finances.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44995

Bits And Tidbits

Potential Fourth CWD Case Found In Mid-Michigan Deer

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44990

Gubernatorial Appointments

Gov. Rick SNYDER made appointments and a reappointment to state boards in charge of overseeing municipality finances.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44991

On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 13, 1972, Gov. William MILLIKEN bought the first lottery ticket sold in the state.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44983

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

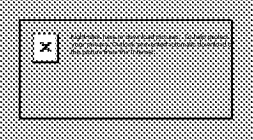
Capitol Calendar Events

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015
8:30 AM
Gov. Snyder to attend MVAA\'s Veteran-Friendly Employer Awards and Recognition Breakfast - Ceremony begins at 9:00 AM(Sponsored by Michigan Veteran\'s Affair Agency)
Guest Speakers: Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes
Location: Heritage Room, Michigan State University\'s University Club
Contact: Lauren DeVol 517-284-5236
DevolL@michigan.gov

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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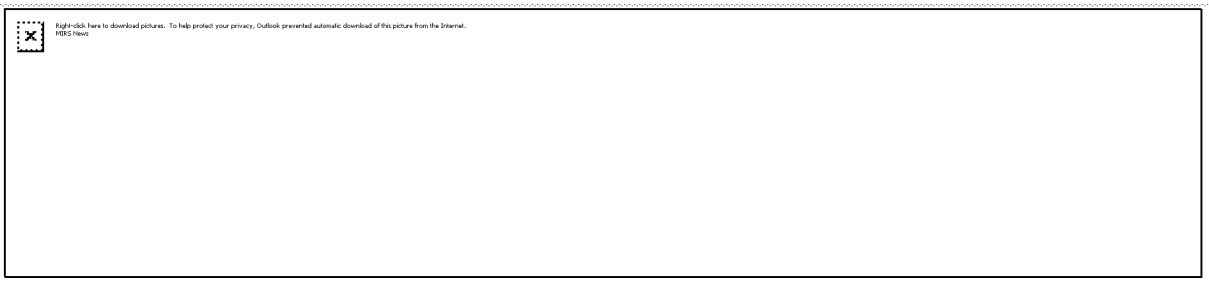
www.mirsnews.com

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Detroit school board: State should pay Pugh settlement

"The Detroit Public Schools board passed a resolution Thursday asking the state to pay a $350,000 settlement reached with a former student who filed a sexual harassment lawsuit against the district and former City Council president Charles Pugh."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/11/13/detroit-school-board-state-pay-pugh-settlement/75692342/*

Efforts to deal with blight in U.P. get boost

"Marquette — Efforts to deal with blighted buildings in Michigan's Upper Peninsula are getting a boost."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/efforts-deal-blight-get-boost/75696346/*

FAA: Plane hit by laser while flying near Metro airport

"Romulus — The Federal Aviation Administration says a plane heading to Detroit Metropolitan Airport was illuminated by a laser while flying about 3,000 feet off the ground."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/faa-plane-hit-laser-flying-near-metro-airport/75703526/*

Trump questions Carson's faith, temper

"Fort Dodge, Iowa — Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump didn't let up his blistering criticism of rival Ben Carson, issuing a new online video ad Friday that calls him a "violent criminal" or "pathological liar.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/13/donald-trump-attacks-ben-carson/75725350/*

Let the tradition begin: Deer hunters heed call

"Pies are being baked. Chili is getting its final dashes of salt and pepper. Warm-weather layers have been pulled from closets and bags following a long year's nap. Rifles are being sighted-in."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/sports/2015/11/13/conditions-promising-deer-hunting-season/75742832/*

Old laws collide with digital reality in sexting cases

"Canon City, Colo – . — Educators in a small Colorado town say they had no choice but to alert police when they discovered that many high-schoolers were using a cellphone app to collect and hide hundreds of naked photos of themselves."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/13/sexting-teens/75753468/*

Police believe all Paris attackers are dead

"Paris — A series of attacks targeting young concert-goers, soccer fans and Parisians enjoying a Friday night out at popular nightspots killed at least 120 people in the deadliest violence to strike France since World War II. President Francois Hollande condemned it as terrorism and pledged that France would stand firm against its foes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/11/13/paris-shooting-explosion/75727850/*

Amtrak serving up extra trains for Thanksgiving week

"Additional trains are being served up for Amtrak riders this Thanksgiving holiday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/amtrak-serving-up-extra-trains-thanksgiving-week/75704730/*

MSU using $18 million to fight hunger in Africa

"EAST LANSING — Michigan State University plans to use more than $18 million in grants to support efforts to fight hunger in Africa."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/14/msu-18-million-fight-hunger-africa/75771504/*

After Flint water crisis, families file lawsuit

"Families in Flint have filed a federal lawsuit in the wake of the city's water crisis, accusing an array of state and local officials of intentional negligence causing serious harm to at least four families' homes and bodies."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/after-flint-water-crisis-families-file-lawsuit/75744376/*

Terror strikes Paris, scores killed

"At least 120 people were killed in a series of terror attacks in Paris on November 13 according to a provisional total, a source close to the investigation said"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/11/13/terror-strikes-paris-scores-killed/75748002/*

Francois Hollande: Paris attacks were ISIL 'act of war'

"PARIS — The Islamic State group on Saturday claimed responsibility for a series of terror attacks described by French President Francois Hollande as "an act of war" that killed 127 people."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/11/14/terror-attack-paris/75760842/*

Clinton has support of half the Democratic National Convention voters

"WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton has locked up public support from half the Democratic Party insiders who get to cast ballots at the party's national convention."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/11/clinton_has_support_of_half_th.html#incart_river_index*

Snyder vows to veto bill allowing concealed guns in Michigan schools: 'It should be a local option'

"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder said Friday that he would veto controversial legislation that would allow concealed guns in Michigan schools and other restricted areas."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder_vows_to_veto_bill_allow.html#incart_story_package*

Board rejects petition seeking to recall Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Board of State Canvassers on Friday rejected a petition seeking to recall Gov. Rick Snyder, ruling that the petition was neither timely nor factual."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/board_rejects_petition_to_reca.html#incart_river_index*

Lake Erie phenomenon: Seiche causes 7-foot water rise at Buffalo

"MICHIGAN – The storm that caused spectacular waves on Lake Michigan and some minor lakeshore flooding also sent Lake Erie's water listing like a boat."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/lake_erie_phenomenon_seiche_ca.html#incart_river_home*

Bag a deer on the road with your car? Here's what to do

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – While deer hunters know exactly what they'll do if they bag their game, there are a few questions that arise as deer move out of the wild and onto the roads."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/what_to_do_if_you_hit_a_deer_w.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Hamilton: Congress should kick bad budget habits

"You can understand why President Barack Obama and congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle sought to cast their recent budget deal in the best possible light. They avoided a potentially catastrophic national default. They reduced the possibility of a government shutdown. And they raised the debt ceiling until March 2017, taking that bargaining chip off the table until the next president is in the White House."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/congress-bad-budget-habits/75755774/*

Republicans show they can take lead on climate change

"Conventional wisdom is that only Democrats, environmentalists and scientists are concerned about climate change. But as a citizen volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby, I encounter people from all parts of the political spectrum who are ready for positive action to address our climate challenge."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/republicans-lead-climate-change/75755640/

Path to avoiding unwanted end-of-life medical treatment

"My mom paid a painful price for not completing an advance directive about her preferences for end-of-life medical care. She was an intelligent and organized woman who had everything in her and my dad's life planned out and written down. She even drafted her own obituary. Ironically, she never discussed her end-of-life care goals with my father or her physician son (me), preferring to talk about more pleasant subjects."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/grube-end-life-treatment/75755598/*

State ranks last in ethics laws? Voters should something about that

"Michigan ranked last in the U.S. in a national study of state ethics and transparency laws. The study, released Monday, cites weak public record laws and the state's lack of laws requiring personal financial disclosures by lawmakers and top state officials."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/11/13/state-ranks-last-ethics-laws-voters-something/75757040/

When the Free Press met Dr. Ben Carson ... in 1988

"Long, long ago — decades before Ben Carson embarked on his unlikely presidential campaign (but well after the pyramids he attributes to the biblical prophet Joseph began springing up west of the Nile River), a Detroit Free Press reporter named Antoinette Martin wrote a long profile of the Detroit-born neurosurgeon, who had recently achieved international acclaim after separating two twin brothers conjoined at the head."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/11/free-press-ben-carson/75595474/*

Database: Which languages are spoken in your community?

"Nine percent of Michigan residents ages five and older speak a language other than English at home, according to Census data released this month. At least 126 different languages are spoken in homes across metro Detroit; statewide that number is at least 157. Nationwide, the latest Census data tallied even more, about 350, languages spoken in U.S. homes among 21% of the population."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/11/14/database-which-languages-spoken-your-community/75657226/*

Ben Carson and Donald Trump: Clash of the narcissists!

"Donald Trump had a public meltdown in Iowa the other night. That was hardly unusual, except that this particular meltdown seemed more genuinely spontaneous, and thus more revealing, than the orchestrated rants that have been the meat and potatoes of Trump's outrage-a-day campaign."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/14/trump-carson-rant/75700046/*

Worker Bullied as UAW Publicizes His Opt-out

"Another Michigan union has used its newsletter to post the names of employees who have chosen to exercise their right to not have to financially support a union as a condition of employment. Workers say the union is bullying them and creating a hostile work environment."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21893*

Traverse City Homeless 'Bill of Rights' Could Turn Public Facilities into

Impromptu Shelters

"The city committee in Traverse City recently passed a resolution that among other things could make it harder for libraries and other public facilities to enforce rules banning vagrants from using their facility as a place to hang out. "A Resolution Recognizing the Rights of Homeless Persons," as the document is titled, is the product of an arm of city government called the Human Rights Commission."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21880*

More needs to be done for Michigan sex-trafficking victims

"Shared Hope International, a nonprofit that monitors and advocates for sex-trafficking legislation at the state level, has been grading states for the last four years – and Michigan received an "F" from 2011 to 2014. Gov. Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette and the state legislature should be commended, however, for taking a number of steps to tackle this global problem at a local level, including the formation of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/more-needs-to-be-done-for-michigan-sex-trafficking-victims/*

Susan J. Demas: What Snyder gets wrong about welders and higher education

"I've interviewed Gov. Rick Snyder a number of times, but one moment has always struck me."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_snyder_philosophy_marco_r.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan consumers deserve 'patient-centered' care

"When Michigan residents access health care services, they should ask for and expect to be part of a "patient centered medical home" through a primary care provider. After less than five years using the new model, primary care practices report significant improvements in the biggest health care challenges facing Michigan's population — obesity, diabetes, hypertension and other issues that affect our aging residents in large numbers and lead to chronic hospital and emergency room visits and huge costs for those who pay the bills."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_consumers_deserve_pat.html#incart_story_package

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Ken Braun: What we don't know about health care really is hurting us

"American government at the federal and state level spent $4,160 per person on health care during 2012, according to an analysis of OECD and World Health Organization data compiled by Manhattan Institute senior

fellow Avik Roy for Transcending Obamacare, a report published last year. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken_braun_what_we_dont_know_ab.html#incart_river_home

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Press Releases

Michigan Issues Final Recommendations on Regional Managed Care Health Plans

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today announced the final recommendations for the Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs). The recommendations are a result of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget's independent review process."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447451401_dhhs.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Joan Brophy, of Lincoln Park, to the city of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447450994_gov.pdf

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Amtrak adding trains for Midwest Thanksgiving holiday travel

"CHICAGO – In anticipation of the busiest travel week of the year, America's Railroad® is prepared to accommodate the surge of holiday travelers with extra trains and additional capacity on several routes in the Midwest. Amtrak will also operate every available passenger rail car in its fleet. Tickets sell out quickly so passengers are encouraged to plan ahead and book tickets early for best availability and pricing."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447449023_mdot.pdf

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Education Connection Newsletter

"In the October 22, 2015 weekly Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Communications email, the announcement was made regarding MDE's release of a series of four (4) grants intended to increase student achievement in early literacy. "

Source: *Michigan Department of Education* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447446640_edu.pdf

Conservation officers remind hunters to follow off-road vehicle laws

"With firearm deer hunting season approaching, conservation officers at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources remind hunters heading afield using an off-road vehicle (ORV) to follow ORV land-use regulations."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447444648_dnr.pdf

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Peters, Dingell Announce Legislation Promoting Vehicle Innovation at Leggett and Platt Commercial Ve

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) and U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) visited Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products in Taylor to announce new legislation, the Vehicle Innovation Act that will be introduced in the House of Representatives next week. The bill will promote investments in research and development of clean vehicle technologies to create more fuel-efficient vehicles, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil and support American auto manufacturers and suppliers. Peters and Dingell were joined by Ross Haith, President of Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products; Steve Carey, Executive Director of NTEA—the Association for the Work Truck Industry; and Dave Andrea, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the Original Equipment Suppliers Association, a division of the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell and Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447444600_peters.pdf

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Michigan DNR Suspects Fourth Deer with CWD

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources suspects that a fourth free-ranging white-tailed deer may have Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan. The news comes just days before the start of the state's annual firearm deer season. "

Source: *MI United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447442683_MUCC.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Weber to 96thDistrict Court in Marquette County

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Karl Weber, of Marquette, to the 96th District Court in Marquette County."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447441404_Snyder appoints.pdf

Emmons to address benefit for survivors of human trafficking

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Judy Emmons will be the keynote speaker at an event on Saturday to benefit survivors of human trafficking and recognize individuals for their efforts in stopping trafficking in Michigan."*

Source: *Office of Senator Judy Emmons* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447439540_Emmons.pdf

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MSC Dispositive Orders: Landin v Healthsource Saginaw; People v Wooten; and Cullum v Lopatin

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued dispositive orders in three cases that were argued this month:"

Source: *MI Supreme Court* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447437258_MSC.pdf

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Education Savings Accounts focus of joint legislative hearing

"Jason Bedrick, Education Policy Analyst at the Cato Institute for Education Freedom, spent the day in Lansing yesterday discussing the role of Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) in terms of expanding school choice in recent years."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447436916_CATO in town.pdf

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DNR Suspects 4th CWD Deer in Michigan

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources suspects that a fourth free-ranging white-tailed deer may have Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan. The news comes just days before the start of the state's annual firearm deer season. "

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432659_mucc.pdf

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Green announces November office hours in Bay County

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green has announced that November office hours have been scheduled for Bay County."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432792_green.pdf

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Lane and ramp closures Sat night 11/14 on WB I-96 at US-23 in Brighton

"I-96 at US-23, Livingston County This weekend, there will be lane and ramp closures on westbound I-96 at US-23 for restriping. Once the work is complete, there will be two lanes on the westbound I-96 collector-distributor (CD) lane, from the split with I-96 to the exit ramp to northbound US-23. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432754_mdot.pdf

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Hunters in affected areas encouraged to have deer checked for CWD

"Michigan hunters are proving valuable allies in the fight against chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological disease that has been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in the state."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432684_dnr.pdf

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Be an ethical hunter - buy a license before you go out and don't loan kill tags

"Conservation officers with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources urge deer hunters to engage in an ethical hunt: Buy a license before going out and don't loan kill tags."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432604_dnr.pdf

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Upton Applauds Perrigo Shareholder Decision

"Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today issued the following statement on news Perrigo Co. shareholders have rejected the hostile takeover by Mylan NV:"

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447427413_upton.pdf

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Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum to Meet in Sault Ste. Marie November 16-17

"LANSING, MI, November 13, 2015 - The Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum will convene

November 16-17—during national Native American Heritage Month—in Sault Ste. Marie to further its work in the area of Indian child welfare and domestic violence crimes."

Source: *Michigan Courts* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447424755_courts.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/12/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/12/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423980_court.pdf

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Dems Unveil First Wave of Digital Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan

"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats unveiled new online ads to hold Republicans accountable for their 'reckless and irresponsible' roads plan. The ads highlight the GOP birthday tax, cuts to schools, police, and fire, along with other measures that hurt working families, but do nothing to address Michigan's immediate roads crisis."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423604_mdp.pdf

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Sparrow Infusion Center offers groundbreaking new treatment for multiple sclerosis

"LANSING, MI – A mid-Michigan woman is among the first in the state to undergo a groundbreaking new treatment for multiple sclerosis at Sparrow Hospital, one of only two locations in Michigan offering the new drug therapy."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423535_sparrow.pdf

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Baker College's online computer science program ranked in nation's top 20

"FLINT, Mich. – Baker College is named as offering one of the nation's top 20 best online bachelor's computer science programs by TheBestSchools.org, an independent organization that provides information and resources about colleges and careers."

Source: *Baker College* **Date:** *11-14-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423478_baker.pdf

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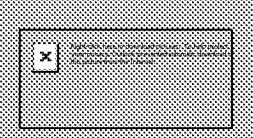

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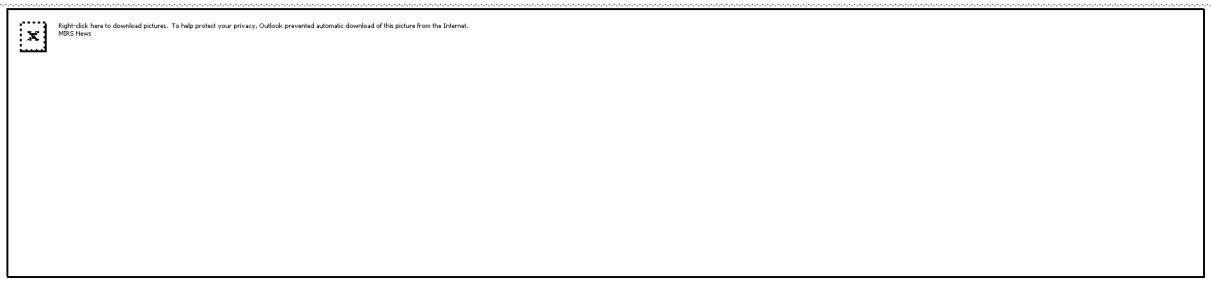

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Parole for medically frail inmates proposed by House

"LANSING — A package of bills aimed at approving parole for medically frail inmates introduced in the state House of Representatives was among more than two dozen proposals introduced in the Legislature last week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/14/parole-medically-frail-inmates-proposed-house/75651746/

Nearly 100 apply but no pardons yet in 2015 from Snyder

"After years without a driver's license, a Bay City man asked Gov. Rick Snyder if he would wipe clean his drunken-driving offenses with a pardon. Joe Lamblin insists he's been without alcohol since 2008 and says it's tough to work in construction while relying on others for rides."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/15/nearly-100-apply-but-no-pardons-yet-2015-snyder/75822790/

Redford residents complain about rat woes

"You dirty rats — that's not just a lame misquote of James Cagney, it's the feeling of Redford residents who are battling rodents and their uncooperative neighbors who are only compounding the problem."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/11/14/redford-rat-problem-complaints/75802928/

Detroit pension balloon payment estimated at $195M

"Post-bankruptcy Detroit is obligated to pay little to nothing into employee pensions over the next nine years. But then, an enormous bill comes due that has caught city and pensions officials off-guard, raising doubt about the data used in bankruptcy to calculate the city's obligations."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2015/11/14/detroit-pension-balloon-payment-estimated-195m/75657200/*

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6 takeaways from the second Democratic debate

"The Democratic presidential field faced off for the second time of the 2016 campaign Saturday. Here are six takeaways from the Des Moines debate:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/15/6-takeaways-second-democratic-debate/75621990/*

A difficult choice on balance of nature on Isle Royale

"WASHINGTON — From new vehicle fuel standards and higher renewable energy targets to controversial plans to limit greenhouse gas emissions on coal-fired power plants, the Obama administration — in its words — has been "leading global efforts to address the threat of climate change.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/14/bureaucracy-threatens-isle-royale-wolves/75725904/*

Michigan Political Points: Senate Republicans flex muscle following road funding deal

"LANSING, MI — With tough road funding votes behind them, Senate Republicans stepped on the gas this week, passing a series of partisan bills that Democrats could do little to stop."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_political_points_repu_1.html#incart_river_index*

Sexual assault 'no big deal' survey response baffles those addressing it on Michigan campuses

"LANSING, MI -- When a University of Michigan researcher surveyed 3,000 students about sexual assault, he found only 3.6 percent of sexual assault victims told an official resource. When he asked why, he was unprepared for the most common write-in response."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/sexual_assault_no_big_deal_sur.html#incart_river_index*

Flint businessman gets recognition in Detroit for Flint water crisis work

"FLINT, MI – A Flint-area man was recognized in the Motor City for his efforts to bring drinkable water to the Vehicle City during its water crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/a_flint_area_businessman_recie.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Education, job skills must keep up with today's Michigan workplace

"How low can we go?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_haglund_education_job_ski.html#incart_river_home*

How to request public records: A FOIA primer

"SAGINAW, MI — Curious about exactly what your tax dollars are paying for and why?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/how_to_request_public_records.html#incart_river_home*

Detroit's Craig: 'Heightened alert' after Paris attacks

"Detroit law enforcement officials have called more officers to duty and moved some to locations deemed higher priorities following the deadly attacks in Paris."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/11/14/detroits-craig-heightened-alert-paris-attacks/75783080/*

Passengers arriving at DTW unnerved, glad to be home

"A Delta Airlines flight from Paris arrived at Detroit Metropolitan Airport just after 3 p.m. on Saturday, carrying several Metro Detroit passengers who said the flight had been delayed by two hours at Charles de Gaulle Airport which was lined "wall to wall with people.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/14/two-vigils-planned-saturday-night-paris-victims/75777096/*

Hunting conditions vary by region

"This is what deer hunters will see starting Sunday, the opening day of firearms season: warmer than normal temperatures and more older hunters than younger ones."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/hunting-conditions-vary-region/75750188/

Early results heavily favor UAW-Ford labor pact

"With more than 18 percent of Ford Motor Co.'s 52,900 hourly UAW members having the opportunity to vote, a majority have voted heavily in favor of the tentative labor contract between the automaker and union."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/11/14/chicago-stamping-ford-uaw/75807608/

Q&A: Mich. moves toward renewable power goal

"Lansing — Michigan is headed toward no longer requiring utilities to generate a portion of their power from wind or other renewable sources because Gov. Rick Snyder and lawmakers instead favor setting a goal — not a new mandate."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/14/qa-mich-moves-toward-renewable-power-goal/75815364/

Eiffel Tower goes dark as France mourns 129 dead

"Paris — The Eiffel Tower stood dark in a symbol of mourning Saturday night as France struggled to absorb the deadliest violence on its soil since World War II: coordinated gun-and-suicide bombing attacks across Paris that left at least 129 people dead and 352 injured."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/11/14/france-vows-punish-paris-attacks/75772672/

Democratic candidates debate Paris, economics

"With the country still reeling from deadly terrorist attacks in Paris, Hillary Rodham Clinton cast herself as America's strongest leader in a scary world, even as she found herself forced to defend her own role during the rise of the Islamic State militants."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/13/democratic-debate/75753064/*

Rochester Hills wetlands get new life

"Rochester Hills – A wooded wetlands tucked inside the campus of Rochester College is being revitalized, with plans to transform the 30-acre site into a public service learning park."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/11/14/rochester-hills-wetlands-find-new-life/75814826/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Traverse City Homeless 'Bill of Rights' Could Turn Public Facilities into Impromptu Shelters

"Traverse City's governing body recently passed a resolution that among other things could make it harder for libraries and other public facilities to enforce rules banning vagrants from using their facility as a place to hang out. "A Resolution Recognizing the Rights of Homeless Persons," as the document is titled, is the product of an arm of city government called the Human Rights Commission."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21880*

Who broke off bipartisan talk on road fix? Depends on which party you ask

"Christmas came early this year for Gov. Nerd as he signed into law what Republicans are calling a road fix, capping off a four-year wait for same."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/who_broke_off_bipartisan_talk.html#incart_river_home*

If you want to boost school achievement, tackle the effects of poverty

"When it comes to education, poverty matters. A lot."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/if_you_want_to_boost_school_ac.html#incart_river_home*

Finley: Ben Carson appeal escapes me

"I don't get Ben Carson."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/14/finley-carson-baffles/75814210/*

Our editorial: Stand against terror

"The Islamic State made it quite clear in Paris on Friday that it is not contained, and that containment is not an effective strategy to combat this particularly bloodthirsty strain of terror. This latest attack on western soil should ignite a passionate commitment to destroy ISIS at its roots."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/14/editorial-stand-terror/75779952/*

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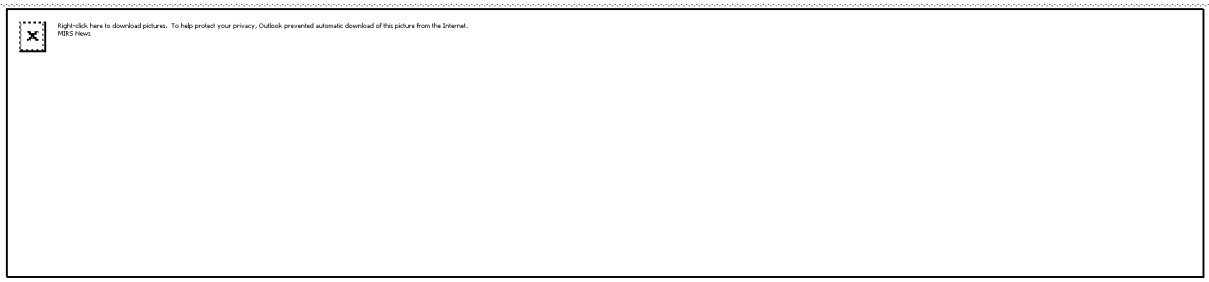

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No charges forthcoming in extortion claim by ex-state Rep. Todd Courser

"LAPEER, MI – Todd Courser said the decision by Lapeer County Prosecutor Tim Turkelson closed a chapter for him that's gone back months and led to the former 82nd House District representative stepping down from his seat and a fellow lawmaker expelled from office."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/no_charges_forthcoming_in_exto.html#incart_river_home

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Promise zones would increase in Michigan under proposed law change

"FLINT, MI – A proposed change in state law aims to increase the number of "promise zones" across the state that cover college tuition for local students."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/promise_zones_to_expand_across.html#incart_river_home

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Belgian jihadi ID'd as mastermind of Paris attacks

"Brussels — Once a happy-go-lucky student at one of Brussels' most prestigious high schools, Saint-Pierre d'Uccle, Abdelhamid Abaaoud morphed into Belgium's most notorious jihadi, a zealot so devoted to the cause of holy war that he recruited his 13-year-old brother to join him in Syria."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/11/16/paris-attacks-mastermind/75858520/

4 families sue over lead in Flint water

"Four families in Flint have filed a federal lawsuit against state and city officials over Flint water that has left children with elevated levels of lead."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/15/flint-water-lawsuit/75851902/*

Rubin: The Michigan Senate thinks you're an idiot

"We expect a little chicanery from our beloved legislature. A touch of duplicity. Extended periods of befuddlement and bickering, punctuated by a few needless years of potholes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/neal-rubin/2015/11/16/straight-ticket-michigan-senate-marty-knollenberg-patrick-colbeck/75849362/*

World leaders pressed for response to Paris attacks

"Antalya, Turkey — Pressed for a strong response to the Islamic State group's assault on Paris, the world's top industrial and developing nations are set to outline their coordinated response to what President Barack Obama has described as an "attack on the civilized world.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/11/16/summit/75857980/*

Parents flood to Flint pediatricians fearing for kids

"Flint — – For more than two months, they've been coming through the doors of Flint-area doctors' offices looking for some kind of reassurance — something to tell them their kids are OK."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/parents-flood-flint-pediatricians-fearing-kids/75851452/*

Los Angeles Auto Show preview: Detroit is back

"Los Angeles —The auto show circus rolls into environmentally conscious Los Angeles this week, but the emphasis will be less on green technology and more on making the cash registers ring green with cash."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/detroit-auto-*

show/2015/11/16/los-angeles-auto-show-preview/75851468/

Snyder suspends Syrian refugee effort in Michigan

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder's decision to suspend efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan in light of the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday has sparked controversy and launched the state into the national debate of how to protect U.S. citizens while providing a haven for those who desperately need help."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/15/snyder-suspends-efforts-settle-syrian-refugees/75825736/*

Hurdle cleared in effort to build Gordie Howe bridge

"The Michigan Department of Transportation has cleared a hurdle as it moves to acquire property for construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/15/hurdle-cleared-effort-build-gordie-howe-bridge/75713304/*

Reports: Suspected mastermind of Paris attacks identified

"PARIS — A French official identified the suspected mastermind of the attacks that killed 132 people in Paris on Friday as Belgian national Abdelhamid Abaaoud, according to media reports."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/11/16/paris-attacks-manhunt-continues/75857170/*

Big issues left for Legislature: DPS and energy reform

"LANSING — With a road funding deal out of the way and only two, perhaps three weeks of legislative session left in the year, lawmakers are hoping to wrap up work on some big issues."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/15/big-issues-left-legislature-dps-and-energy-reform/75730734/*

Plan to put 350 bikes on streets in Detroit gets backer

"Detroit's public bike share program has a title sponsor."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/16/detroit-bike-sharing-program-sponsor/75797126/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Is a gay rights petition drive in Michigan's future?

"The strangest things happen in this business when a usually reliable source suggests one thing, but once you check it out, you discover quite another."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/is_a_gay_rights_petition_drive.html*

Letter: Don’t blame Israel for lack of peace

"Re: The Detroit News’ Oct. 23 guest column “Quest for permanent peace in Middle East”: According to Imad Hamad, Palestine and the Middle East were quiet, peace-loving areas until the colonialist Jews came, people with no historic connection to the area."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/16/letter-middle-east-peace/75851322/*

GOP debates in eyes of Jonathan Swift

"The writer Jonathan Swift died 270 years ago this fall and thus is not around to comment on the 2016 election. More’s the pity."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/16/shribman-debates-gop-swift/75847096/*

Bailed-out carmakers owe taxpayers reinvestment in U.S.

"As far as I’m concerned, every employee at General Motors Co. and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles owes American taxpayers a heartfelt thank you. We’re grateful for the opportunity to work for such profitable companies."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/16/automakers-owe-taxpayers/75851344/*

Legal loopholes put lives of migrant workers at risk

"Shortly before 1 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 6, a charter bus carrying migrant farmworkers from Monroe to the border town of Laredo, Texas, veered off an interstate and crashed in central Arkansas, killing six of its passengers and hospitalizing six others. The official cause of the crash is under investigation and has not yet been determined."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/14/migrant-farmworker-transportation-michigan/75754982/*

Who gets hurt when lawmakers put cost before value?

"In a conversation with Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter a few weeks ago, I challenged him to defend the fact that the state's Department of Health and Human Services is so under-funded that it employs just 67 inspectors to oversee compliance in 10,000 child care centers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/11/15/government-reform-cuts-value/75639882/*

Pure Michigan sells its return on investment in new campaign

"Next spring, when Detroit takes the leading role in a national TV commercial as part of the state's Pure Michigan tourism campaign, don't expect it to look like other Pure Michigan spots."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/pure-michigan-sells-its-return-on-investment-in-new-campaign/*

As Congress Fumbles Overcriminalization Reform, Burden Lands on States

"Sen Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, hasintroduced legislation in the U.S. Senate to protect citizens from being criminalized for unknowingly disobeying regulations they didn't even know existed. "

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-16-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21901*

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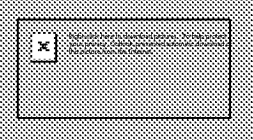

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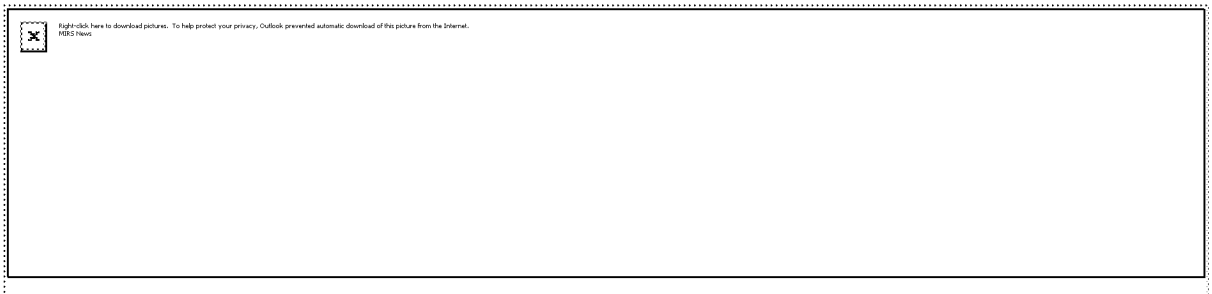
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 9:33 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, November 16, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, November 16, 2015

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REGULATORY REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php

CAPITOL CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php

PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Police: Gamrat Husband Worked With Security Guard To Text Wife, Courser

Joe GAMRAT, husband to former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT, worked with a security guard at a Port Huron paper products company to send his wife and former Rep. Todd COURSER text messages to resign or details of their extramarital affair would be made public, according to a Michigan State Police (MSP) investigation made public today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45007

With DPS Legislation Ahead, EAA Seen As In Jeopardy

The Education Achievement Authority (EAA) -- Gov. Rick SNYDER's initiative to turn around low-performing schools in Detroit -- is believed by some to be in jeopardy as plans for broader education reform in the city take shape.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#44989

So What's The Appropriation On That Bill For?

With the passage of a bill eliminating straight ticket voting last week, those in opposition howled not only about the legislation itself, but also the appropriation tacked on, rendering it referendum-proof.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45001

Gov: Michigan Still Open to Refugees

Gov. Rick SNYDER has no intentions of permanently closing the door to Syrian refugees in the wake of the terrorist attacks in France last weekend, but he said he believes the "prudent" thing to do is halt the program until he gets assurances that it is safe to reopen the door.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#44997

State Becomes Keeper Of Code In BAM Suit

The state scored an incremental victory in its ongoing suit against Hewlett-Packard (HP) today, as a judge ordered the company to surrender the source code for the ExpressSOS website to the state by Friday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45002

DCCC Run Radio Ads Against Bishop In 8th

The Democrats in Washington D.C. will be on the radio Tuesday with ads against U.S. Rep. Mike BISHOP (R-Rochester) for supporting prevailing wage repeal efforts they claim help veterans when they return to the civil work force.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45004

MDOT Huddles With Road Builders

Michigan Department of Transportation Director Kirk STEUDLE was scheduled to huddle today with four of the state's largest road construction companies to assess how ready they are to handle the new flow of dollars in 2017 when the gas tax and car registration fee increases recently approved by the Legislature kick in.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#44998

Snyder Signs Financial Literacy, Other Bills

Gov. Rick SNYDER today signed into law legislation aimed at helping high school students be better equipped to understand and manage personal finances by earning credit for financial literacy courses.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45000

Former Dem Macomb Commissioner Running For House

A former Macomb County commissioner who now works in the county executive's office will run as a Democrat for the House next year in one of the state's competitive open districts.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45003

MSU Political Science/Extension Publish Papers On State Takeovers

Two new research papers look at the issue of financial distress among Michigan cities as well as the path Flint took to emergency management.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45005

Bits and Tidbits

Snyder Lowers Flags For Paris Attack Victims

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#45006

On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 16, 1926, commune leader Benjamin PURNELL was arrested .

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#44983

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4713#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015
8:30 AM
Gov. Snyder to attend MVAA\'s Veteran-Friendly Employer Awards and Recognition Breakfast - Ceremony begins at 9:00 AM(Sponsored by Michigan Veteran\'s Affair Agency)
Guest Speakers: Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes
Location: Heritage Room, Michigan State University\'s University Club
Contact: Lauren DeVol 517-284-5236
DevolL@michigan.gov

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015
11:00 AM
Progress Michigan to Announce Launch of New Transparency Campaign(Sponsored by Progress Michigan)
Location: Progress Michigan Office
Contact: Sam Inglot 616-916-0574
sam@progressmichigan.org

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015
1:00 PM
Detroit Lions\' Tahir Whitehead to speak about succeeding in school; Player visiting Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Detroit on Tuesday(Sponsored by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services)
Guest Speakers: Detroit Lions\' Tahir Whitehead; Carol Viventi, MDHHS Director; Principal Deborah Jenkins
Location: Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School
Contact: Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394
wheatonb@michigan.gov

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
11:00 AM
Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM
Location: The Law Offices of Miller Canfield
Contact: PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email
heather.ricketts@gmail.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2015
5:30 PM
2015 MVCA Annual Awards Dinner(Sponsored by Michigan Venture Capital Association)
Guest Speakers: Gregg Kaplan from Pritzker Group
Location: The Inn at St. John\'s, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
Contact: Emily Heintz
Emily@michiganvca.org

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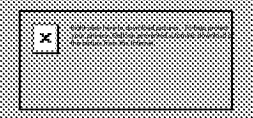
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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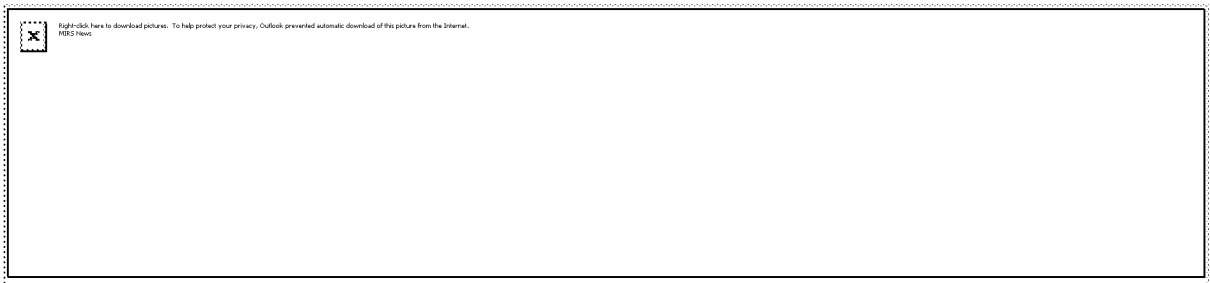
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2015 7:10 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 17, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 17, 2015

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PDA Friendly Web Version:

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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Sparrow, HAP Protest Exclusion From State's $35B Medicaid Contract

The state's decisions on who will serve Michigan's Medicaid patients has some firms saying their exclusion from the new contracts will disrupt care for tens of thousands of patients and result in lost jobs.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45014

Quick Action Planned For $5B Data Center Project Tax Breaks

When lawmakers return in December, committees in both the House and the Senate will begin considering new tax exemptions inspired by a Grand Rapids-area project that would purportedly bring the largest data center campus in the eastern United States to Michigan.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45015

Medically Frail Inmates Cleared For Parole Under Bills Up Next Month

Next month, the House Appropriations Committee will take up bills that would allow prisoners deemed "medically frail" a chance at parole, the committee's chair, Rep. Al PSCHOLKA (R-Stevensville), says.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45017

Smith Apologizes To Legislative Black Caucus

Sen. Virgil SMITH, Jr., (D-Detroit) personally apologized to the Legislative Black Caucus last week for the incident that spurred four criminal charges leveled against him six months ago (See "Virgil Smith In Police Custody Following Weekend Shooting Incident," 5/11/15).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45011

Bentivolio Approached About Trott Rematch, Not Ruling It Out

Former Congressman Kerry BENTIVOLIO said some "high-dollar contributors" have approached him about challenging U.S. Rep. David TROTT (R-Birmingham) in 2016, and "I haven't ruled it out."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45009

Fed Suit Goes After State, Flint Officials For Water Woes

A suit has dropped in federal court seeking class action relief against the state and city of Flint for the "deliberate decision to expose (Flint residents) to the extreme toxicity of water pumped from the Flint River."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45010

Courser Believes MSP 'Looking To Get Me In Prison'

Former Rep. Todd COURSER said he believes the Michigan State Police (MSP) went on a "fishing expedition" of the last five years of his life to try to get something on him they could use to charge him with something that would "get me in prison."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45012

Lead Bullets Put Wildlife At Risk Experts Say

Hunting Michigan wildlife can mean bringing down game with bullets, but not just in the way you think.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45008

Poll: 60% Support $1 Hike In Cig Tax

Sixty percent of registered Michigan voters would support a $1-a-pack increase in the state's $2-a-pack cigarette tax, according to EPIC-MRA polling of 600 voters paid for by several health-related associations between Oct. 25-31.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45013

Chamber Runs Ads Backing GOP Lawmakers Who Backed Roads

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce is providing a bit of friendly air cover for two House Republicans in vulnerable districts who voted for the recently passed $1.2 billion road funding package.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45018

Bits And Tidbits

Anti-Fracking Group Holding Press Conference

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45010

On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 17, 1836, the newspaper known as the Detroit Advertiser used its circulation to argue that Michigan's Legislature couldn't legally issue the call for a second convention to consider accepting statehood in the union. At the first convention, voters had rejected the terms of admission offered by the U.S. Congress.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45019

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015
12:30 PM
Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren to Preview Research on Improving Detroit School Landscape(Sponsored by Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren; Truscott Rossman)
Guest Speakers: onya Allen, Skillman Foundation president & CEO; David Hecker, president of AFT Michigan/AFLCIO; John Rakolta Jr., CEO of Walbridge; Clark Durant, cofounder and former CEO, Cornerstone
Location: Truscott Rossman, Cain Conference Room
Contact: Josh Hovey 517-487-9320
jhovey@truscottrossman.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015
11:00 AM
Progress Michigan to Announce Launch of New Transparency Campaign(Sponsored by Progress Michigan)
Location: Progress Michigan Office
Contact: Sam Inglot 616-916-0574
sam@progressmichigan.org

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015
1:00 PM
Detroit Lions\' Tahir Whitehead to speak about succeeding in school; Player visiting Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Detroit on Tuesday(Sponsored by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services)

Guest Speakers: Detroit Lions\' Tahir Whitehead; Carol Viventi, MDHHS Director; Principal Deborah Jenkins
Location: Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School
Contact: Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394
wheatonb@michigan.gov

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2015
5:30 PM
2015 MVCA Annual Awards Dinner(Sponsored by Michigan Venture Capital Association)
Guest Speakers: Gregg Kaplan from Pritzker Group
Location: The Inn at St. John\'s, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
Contact: Emily Heintz
Emily@michiganvca.org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016
5:00 PM
Michigan Soft Drink Association Annual Legislative Reception(Sponsored by Michigan Soft Drink Association)
Location: 9th Floor, Capitol View Building
Contact: Derek Bajema 517-371-4499
bajema@misoftdrink.net

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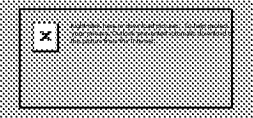

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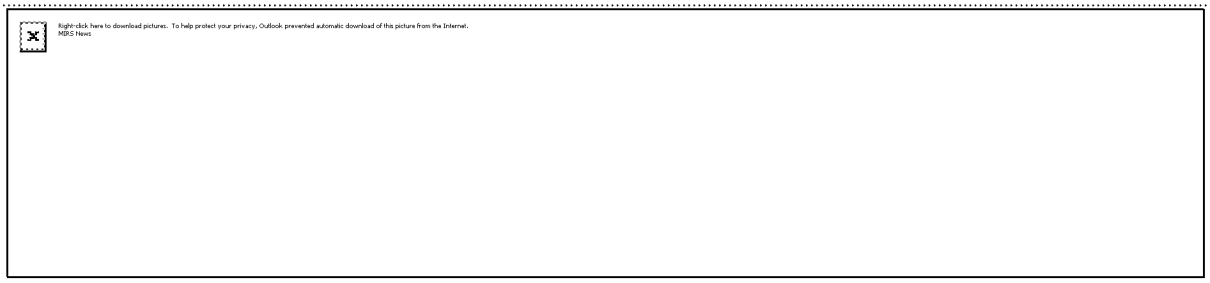
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 6:49 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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After Syrian refugee stance, is Michigan's Rick Snyder still the most pro-immigration governor?

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder calls himself the most pro-immigration governor in the nation, but he ended up on a forefront of a national wave of governors questioning or opposing the relocation of Syrian refugees."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/after_syrian_refugee_stance_is.html#incart_river_index*

Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat 'shocked' by police report that detailed her husband's involvement

"LANSING, MI -- A police report on an investigation into a series of blackmail texts shocked former Rep. Cindy Gamrat when it was released by the Lapeer County Prosecutor's Office on Monday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/former_rep_cindy_gamrat_shocke.html#incart_river_index*

Bay County group opposing guns in school heads to Lansing with 1,584 signatures

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — A Bay County group opposing the carrying of concealed firearms in sensitive areas like churches and schools is heading to Lansing to share more than 1,500 signatures they've garnered in support."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-*

city/index.ssf/2015/11/bay_county_group_opposing_guns.html#incart_river_index

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EPA group to take testimony on Flint water crisis as it weighs rule changes

"FLINT, MI – Congressman Dan Kildee says he intends to tell the story of Flint's water crisis during testimony to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Advisory Council on Wednesday, Nov. 18."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee_scheduled_to_testify_on.html#incart_river_home

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UAW mounts push for passage of Ford deal

"The United Auto Workers is gearing up for an 11th-hour push for ratification of its tentative labor contract with Ford Motor Co. after calling an out-of-the-ordinary Wednesday press conference in the midst of voting."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/11/17/uaw-ford-deal-key-voting-wrapping-tuesday/75929380/

FBI says it's investigating threats in Dearborn

"Dearborn police are working with state and federal authorities amid concerns about "recent threats in Dearborn" and last week's terrorist attacks in Paris, according to the FBI."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/17/fbi-investigating-dearborn-threats/75942846/

Michigan can't bar refugees; it's up to feds

"Gov. Rick Snyder and state lawmakers can do little to stop the flow of refugees from war-torn Syria into Michigan, though they could make it tougher for the immigrants once they arrive, legal experts say."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/michigan-refugees/75941414/

Democrats target Rep. Mike Bishop in ads

"WASHINGTON — A Democratic group is targeting U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, in radio ads running this week in Detroit and Lansing."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/democrats-target-rep-mike-bishop-ads/75940744/

A super-sized Soo Lock? Study to decide

"WASHINGTON — More than a year's worth of effort trying to get the Obama administration to launch a study that could someday lead to a new super-sized shipping lock being built on the Upper Peninsula appears to have paid off."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/16/funding-approved-soo-lock-study/75901350/

Michigan could potentially see more Syrian refugees

"WASHINGTON — Senior Obama administration officials said Tuesday they would not typically resettle refugees in communities where they're not welcomed, but stopped short of promising not to send individuals and families fleeing war-torn Syria to states where governors have raised concerns — meaning more could potentially be headed to Michigan, which has already received more refugees than all but two other states."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/michigan-could-potentially-see-more-syrian-refugees/75937540/

Advocacy/Opinion

Republicans may have to do a deal over changing how you vote

"For you truly old-timers, you will recall the slogan, "Make it emphatic, vote straight Democratic.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/republicans_may_have_to_do_a_d.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan has regained 400,000 jobs over the past five years, roughly half what was lost during the Lost Decade at the start of this century. Its economy is growing along with employment, and its business climate ranking has strengthened.

"

Michigan has regained 400,000 jobs over the past five years, roughly half what was lost during the Lost Decade at the start of this century. Its economy is growing along with employment, and its business climate ranking has strengthened.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567666/Michigan-growing--but-not-fast-enough.html?nav=5052*

Bill a step toward fair, secure energy for Michigan

"The recent vote by the House Energy and Technology Committee was an important step toward securing an affordable, reliable and clean energy future for Michigan. Bills — passed with strong bi-partisan support — also help assure that Michigan maintains control over its own energy future and does not give up control to the federal government or out-of-state interests."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/kurmas-step-toward-energy-future/75967550/*

Sen. Colbeck: Healthcare option could finance roads

"What if there were a way that state government could fix the roads, repair potholes in Healthy Michigan, stretch school dollars, free up more resources for local government and reform auto no-fault? How about one that would accelerate job growth? It turns out that one tool does it all. What is that tool? Direct Primary Care."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/health-care-saving-fund-michigans-roads/75967514/*

Bieber: Shine a light on state contracts

"When it comes to transparency and ethics in state government, Michigan is 50 out of 50. Dead last. That's according to a new report from the nonpartisan Center for Public Integrity."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/shine-light-michigan-contracting/75967486/*

Editorial: Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills

"Michigan made a big mistake in adopting a broad sex offender registry, one that can't distinguish between a bona fide predator and a teenager who had consensual relations with his girlfriend. It should not compound that error by adopting a similar permanent list of those convicted of child abuse.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/18/reject-child-abuse-list-bills/75967454/*

What federal transportation bill will mean for Michigan

"In going about our regular routines, we depend daily on our roads, bridges and public transportation to get us where we need to go. Our local businesses also depend on them to grow, create good-paying jobs and remain competitive."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/17/michigan-walberg-transportation-bill-opinion/75948798/*

Snyder talks tough on refugees, flunks social studies

"For the record, I don't for a minute believe Rick Snyder is an Islamaphobic bigot."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/17/snyder-refugees/75936716/*

'Union Time on Taxpayers' Dime' Bills Fate Uncertain in GOP House

"Just before recessing for a two-week Thanksgiving break, the Michigan Senate passed a pair of bills to prohibit two particular schemes that require taxpayers to pay for work done on behalf of teacher and government employee unions. The legislation, Senate bills 279 and 280, has been dubbed by some "the Steve Cook bills.""

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21902*

How Media Bias Works

""Sound bites usually aren't very sound." — Thomas Sowell, senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21903*

City blues: MSU study finds state tax policies cripple cities

"Michigan and California don't often land in the same sentence for economic comparison, but a new report concludes that both states share a dubious distinction: Their tax policies help cultivate financial crisis in

their cities."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/city-blues-msu-study-finds-state-tax-policies-cripple-cities/*

How technology can disrupt divide over government's role

"Reflections in the aftermath of a roads bill finally being passed and signed into law in Lansing: Think about this: Roads are an example of what economists call "public goods," things we all need, have access to and share. Other examples include national defense, (hopefully) good schools, local fire and police departments, clean air and water."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/how-technology-can-disrupt-divide-over-governments-role/*

Press Releases

Upton, Bruce Merchant Attend CERCLA Implementation Briefing

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, and his colleagues on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy hosted a bipartisan briefing today titled "Overview of CERCLA Implementation.""

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447796206_upton.pdf*

Baker College upgrades IT program technology; adds Business Solution Center

"JACKSON, Mich. – Baker College of Jackson has upgraded its computer technology lab and created a Business Solution Center to provide resources for the growing number of students in its information technology (IT) programs."

Source: *Baker College* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447796137_baker.pdf*

Detroit Lions' Tahir Whitehead talks school and life success with Detroit ninth-graders

"DETROIT, Mich. – To start high school off with the right attitude and game plan, Detroit Lions' linebacker Tahir Whitehead teamed up with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to share ways ninth-graders at Martin Luther King, Jr. Senior High School can succeed in life and school by creating a

personal culture of success."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447792484_dhhs.pdf*

USDA Announces $53 Million to Enhance Michigan Rural Health and Public Safety

"WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced investments to improve rural community infrastructure, provide essential services and improve access to health care across rural America through Rural Development's Community Facilities (CF) program. Today's investments in health facilities and support for first responders comes as the department celebrates National Rural Health Week. "

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447792434_usda.pdf*

M-100 bridge slide in Potterville

"The new M-100 bridge over the CN Railroad in Potterville was successfully slid into place last Saturday, Nov. 14."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447790499_Timelapse.pdf*

Heartland Institute, CFACT Announce Speakers for 'Day of Examining Data' in Paris for COP-21

"The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) and The Heartland Institute are joining forces with other allied organizations to bring some of the world's most esteemed climate scientists and policy experts to Paris for the COP-21 conference."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769685_Heartland Institute.pdf*

Upton, House Advance Bipartisan Package of Bills to Aid Veterans and their Families

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, joined the majority of his House colleagues in voting to advance four bipartisan pieces of legislation designed to improve the lives of veterans, and their families."

Source: *Office of Representative Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447788266_Upton.pdf

MYCA Recruiting to host an event at the Lansing State Police Training HQ

"The Lansing State Police Training Headquarters is the site for the next recruiting event for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy. This event is set for Saturday, November 21st, 2015, with a start time of 10:00 AM. The address is 7426 N. Canal Rd, Dimondale, MI 48913. Cadet Representatives (current MYCA Students) assist in the presentation, which is followed by a Q&A. Recruiting events finish with applicant interviews. "

Source: *Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447787208_MI Dept of Veterans.pdf

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Iron Belle Trail second-round grants now available

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that a second round of grant funding is available for communities and organizations working on sections of trail that will be part of Michigan's two Iron Belle Trail routes. Proposals are due Jan. 8, 2016."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447780354_Iron Belle.pdf

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Gov. Snyder signs Rep. Sheppard bill clarifying ownership of surplus workers' comp insurance funds

"Gov. Rick Snyder this week signed into law legislation ensuring that employers who pay into self-insured workers' compensation funds are rightly entitled to any surplus dollars."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447780404_

Casperson Makes 23 Stops, Traveling More than 1,400 Miles in First Week on the Campaign Trail

*"**MANISTEE**—Tom Casperson last week traveled more than 1,400 miles across Michigan's first Congressional District after announcing his candidacy for the United States House of Representatives."*

Source: *Resch Strategies* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447779956_Tale of.pdf

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Benishek Applauds Move Towards Soo Locks Study Decision Follow Requests From Congressman to OMB

"Washington, D.C. - In response to efforts by Dr. Benishek and a bi-partisan group of members of the House and Senate, the Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to perform an Economic Impact study on the Soo Locks. This study is critical to the effort to increase the priority of the construction of a replacement Lock in the Army Corps' list of authorized projects. "

Source: *Office of Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447778126_Benishek.pdf

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State Rep. Bradford Jacobsen and Sen. David Knezek Announced as 2015 Excellence in Education Award

*"**LANSING, MI, Nov. 16, 2015** – Two Michigan lawmakers will receive Excellence in Education Awards at the 15th annual AT&T/MACUL/MVU Student Technology Showcase at **9:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, in the State Capitol Building Rotunda in Lansing.**"*

Source: *Resch Strategies* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776648_Jacobsen.pdf

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Health Advocates Pleased with Steps to Avoid Chemicals Found in Reprocessed Plastic

"Today, flooring retailer Lumber Liquidators became the first major retailer to commit to selling vinyl flooring made without reprocessed plastic."

Source: *Michigan-based Ecology Center* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776552_lumber.pdf

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ICBA Updates are published twice a month!

"

Lawyer's Table - NEW

"

Source: *ICBA* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776487_ICBA.pdf*

THREE NEW $300,000 BUSES TO TRANSPORT JUNIOR AND SENIOR

STUDENTS

"Juniors and seniors from Powers Catholic will be leaving school in three brand new donated buses Tuesday afternoon to participate in Kairos, a Catholic retreat program for high school students. Kairos, originally defined as "the opportune time," has been adapted to mean "the Lord's time." Powers students have been participating in the program since the late 1990s."

Source: *Powers Catholic* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774838_anonymous.pdf

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Michigan Education Savings Program marks 15 years of helping families save for college

"LANSING – Rachael Hunter credits the Michigan Education Savings Program for helping her keep her vow that her daughter won't face a mountain of student loan debt after she graduates from college."

Source: *Michigan Education Savings Program* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774812_mesp.pdf

Reminder: State to host Great Lakes aquaculture meeting Thursday in Gaylord

"State leaders today reminded the public of an upcoming meeting in Gaylord, Michigan, to review and discuss the issues around net-pen fish farming in the Great Lakes."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774411_DNR.pdf

Colbeck to hold November office hours in Livonia

"State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and District Manager Penny Crider will hold monthly office hours for November in Livonia. The office hours are at the Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public."

Source: *Office of Senator Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774224_Colbeck.pdf

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13th Annual Celebration of Michigan Adoption Day

"The Family Division of the Oakland County Circuit will hold the 13th Annual Celebration of Michigan Adoption Day program in the Board of Commissioners Auditorium beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. This event is being held in conjunction with the statewide celebration of Adoption Day. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Joan L. Larsen will provide remarks and present a resolution from

the Michigan Supreme Court recognizing Adoption Day in Oakland County."

Source: *Oakland County* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774060_Media Advisory - Adoption Day Program - 11-24-15 (2).pdf

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Business Leaders: Education should be top priority

"Southeast Michigan business owners and executives say education is a top priority in Michigan now, according to a new survey of Crain's subscribers conducted by EPIC-MRA Corp. for Crain's Detroit Business and Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769131_etm.pdf

Focus on Forever Families at Michigan Adoption Day on November 24 Washtenaw Families to Highlight Ce

"LANSING, MI, November 17, 2015 – With the theme of "Giving Thanks for Families," courts statewide will celebrate Adoption Day on Tuesday, November 24th. Held on theTuesday before Thanksgiving each year, Adoption Day has become holiday tradition, highlighting the importance of adoption and the needs of children in foster care. Many courts will finalize adoptions while others will hold informational events to reach potential adoptive parents. Click here for a list of events statewide. "

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769070_court.pdf

M-100 in Potterville now open

"M-100 in Potterville The M-100 bridge in Potterville is now open. The bridge over the CN Railroad has been closed since Friday, November 13, for an innovative construction technique called a bridge slide. One lane of traffic is now open in each direction. Construction at the bridge will continue through next year including removing the temporary bridge approaches and restortation. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769011_mdot.pdf

Judge orders Hewlett-Packard to turn over source code to state

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – A Kent County judge today ordered global information technology company Hewlett-Packard to turn over computer source code to the state of Michigan. The court recognized in its ruling that success on the state's breach of contract claim "appeared inevitable," and that the state was the

rightful owner of the computer source code."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447768972_sos.pdf*

Wayne Bradley to be honored at Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce event

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015 –** Wayne Bradley, Deputy State Director and African-American Engagement Director for the Michigan Republican Party, will be honored on Thursday, Nov. 19 at the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce's 3rd Annual Sankofa Awards Business Gala."*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447768908_mrp.pdf*

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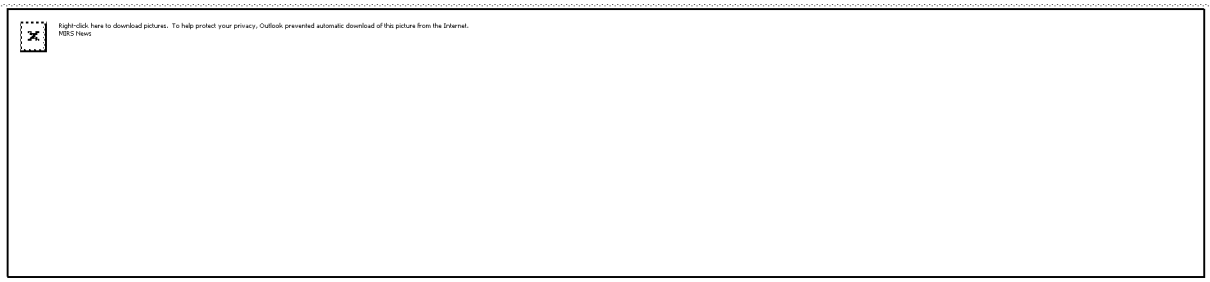

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Oakland County Executive orders staff to end support of Pontiac Syrian housing project

"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has stepped into the Syrian refugee debate by urging Pontiac Mayor Deirdre Waterman to discontinue her support of housing Syrian refugees in Pontiac."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20151118/oakland-county-executive-orders-staff-to-end-support-of-pontiac-syrian-housing-project*

Patterson to Pontiac: Stop 'ill-conceived' Syrian refugee development

"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who's been accused of racial and cultural insensitivity in the past, is blasting a Pontiac development being planned for Syrian refugees.

"
Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/patterson_to_pontiac_stop_ill-_html#incart_river_home

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Bill Clinton encourages public service, talks ISIS at Michigan State University

"EAST LANSING, MI – Former President Bill Clinton addressed a crowd of 760 at Michigan State University on Wednesday evening, saying in today's world everybody should think about what good they

can do for the world as a private citizen, especially in the face of threats such as ISIS."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/bill_clinton_encourages_public.html*

Refund Flint $2 million for cost of Detroit water, Kildee tells Gov. Snyder

"FLINT, MI – The state of Michigan should repair damage to Flint's water lines, create a fund for ongoing assistance here, and reimburse the city for the $2 million it's spending to temporarily reconnect to the Detroit water system, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee says."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee_asks_gov_snyder_for_pay.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Flint lead problems raised at national water hearing

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee was among a group from Michigan testifying Wednesday before an advisory panel looking at changes to the nation's regulations on lead in drinking water, saying the current rule — as applied by state and federal agencies — failed the people of Flint after high levels of lead were detected this year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/flint-lead-problems-raised-national-water-hearing/75990848/*

Bill banning microbeads moves forward in U.S. House

"WASHINGTON — A U.S. House committee on Wednesday unanimously approved legislation that would phase out the use of microbeads, synthetic particles used in cosmetics and personal-care products that are considered an environmental hazard to the Great Lakes and other waterways they are flushed into."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/microbead-bill-congress/75993094/*

Anti-fracking group falls short in signatures for ballot

"A group looking to get a ban on hydraulic fracturing on the 2016 ballot has fallen well short in gathering the necessary signatures to put the issue before voters."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/anti-fracking-group-falls-short-signatures-ballot/76018126/*

Scientists to feds: Great Lakes wolves not endangered

"Gray wolf populations in Michigan and other Great Lakes states have recovered to the point they no longer should be considered an endangered species. That message came Wednesday not from hunting groups, but from 26 scientists — many having advocated for the wolves' protection in years past."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/scientists-great-lakes-wolves-endangered/76015486/

Bill Clinton honored at MSU amid protesters' chants

"Student protesters attempted to block the entrance to the Kellogg Center's Big Ten Room, where former President Bill Clinton was scheduled to speak Wednesday evening."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/bill-clinton-michigan-state-university-spartan-statesmanship-award/76028714/

UAW VP Settles launches final sales pitch for Ford deal

"UAW Vice President Jimmy Settles, battling laryngitis and a rising tide of opposition to the UAW-Ford deal, gave an urgent, sales pitch Wednesday about the economic and job benefits in the tentative agreement."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/11/18/uaw-vp-settles-launches-final-sales-pitch-ford-deal/76014678/

Flint officials, experts hit lead contamination law

"Arlington, Va. — Flint area officials and others joined a water quality expert Wednesday in railing against the federal law that they say put city residents at risk of drinking lead-contaminated water during the past year and a half."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/flint-water/75987558/

House bill would limit some calorie labels

"Washington — Supermarkets and pizza chains would get some relief from government calorie labeling rules under legislation approved by a House committee Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/18/house-bill-limit-calorie-labels/76017592/

Democrats attack Rep. Bishop on union wage votes

"The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee is running drive-time radio ads this week linking U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop's votes on prevailing wage bill provisions with campaign donations from the powerful DeVos family of Grand Rapids."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/democrats-attack-rep-bishop-union-wage-votes/76018066/

Skillman leader: Don't expect foundation rescue of DPS

"One of the leaders of a coalition wanting to overhaul Detroit Public Schools said Wednesday that lawmakers should not expect the philanthropic community to pitch into a fund to bail out the debt-ridden district."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/skillman-leader-expect-foundation-rescue-dps/76031940/

Bill Clinton talks about work post-presidency at MSU

"East Lansing — Former President Bill Clinton urged an audience of dignitaries and Michigan State University students to find ways to engage in public service during a Wednesday evening speech that touched on current events such as the terrorist killings in Paris."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/bill-clinton-speak-receive-award-michigan-state/75978380/

Bush group buys $1.8M in TV ads for Michigan primary

"Lansing — A group supporting Jeb Bush's presidential campaign has booked $1.78 million in broadcast television ads for the three weeks leading up to Michigan's March 8 primary, underscoring the former Florida governor's vow to campaign heavily for the state's Republican delegates."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/jeb-bush-pac/76009458/

Patterson to Pontiac: Don't take Syrian refugees

"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson warned Pontiac's mayor Wednesday that a city project to house Syrian refugees could allow Islamic State infiltrators to slip into the community."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/11/18/brooks-patterson-pontiac-syrian-refugees/76017962/

Ford vote shows disconnect between UAW leaders, workers

"A tentative deal between Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers that stands on the brink of rejection continues a pattern of contentiousness in the contract talks between the rank-and-file and their elected union leaders."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/11/18/uaw-ford-local/75991308/

Rep. Darany speaks out against state leaders denying entrance to Syrian refugees

"Rep. George T. Darany (D-Dearborn) said while authorities must continue rigorous screening and security checks for refugees, flat-out denying entrance to Syrian refugees goes against so much of what the country was founded on."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/11/18/news/doc564cdf731e3b4880626394.txt

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Advocacy/Opinion

To prevent Great Lakes oil spills, map the risks and strengthen rules

"An oil spill on the Great Lakes would be disastrous — and unfortunately, Michigan families know firsthand the devastating consequences a pipeline break can have on our state."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/to_prevent_great_lakes_oil_spi_1.html#incart_river_index

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Facts about refugee resettlement should ease fears

"One of the worst things about terrorism is it works. Last week's deadly terrorist attacks in Paris did exactly what its perpetrators intended: killed innocent Parisians, surely, but caused people across the globe to worry that they'd be next, to fear sudden death or torment at the hands of anonymous, implacable attackers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/11/18/refugee-paris-syria/76003252/*

McNeilly: Lawmakers need workplace oversight

"Anyone who's ever worked a job with a company email account knows the way it works. If an employee uses email at the office, the IT department — and the boss — has access to those emails, too."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/mcneilly-lawmakers-need-workplace-oversight/76032204/*

Editor's Note: Mississippi outsmarts Michigan

"Democrats in Mississippi recently tried to boost school funding in that state through a ballot initiative. They thought they'd be better off angling for more money for schools in the courts than through the legislative process."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/18/jacques-mississippi-outsmarts-michigan/76032272/*

Editorial: Pause on refugees can't be permanent

"Gov. Rick Snyder took the only course he could in suspending his initiative to settle refugees from Syria and elsewhere in Michigan. In light of the recent terrorists attacks in Paris, the governor was prudent to ask the federal government for a review of the screening procedures.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/18/editorial-refugees-pause/76032298/*

Money Rolling Into Lansing from State License Plate Tax

"The amount of vehicle registration (license plate) tax the state collects from Michigan motorists each year

is up 24 percent since 1990, even after factoring in inflation."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21906*

Do Not Assume Economic Development Spending is Effective

"In The Detroit News, business columnist Dan Howes cites a real estate developer in arguing for more spending on state economic development:"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21898*

Press Releases

2015 Phil Hart Award Winners

"We are pleased to announce the award winners for the 55th Annual Phil Hart Dinner. We hope you will join us this Sunday, November 22nd as we celebrate the legacy of Phil Hart and also the hard work and dedication of these Democrats!"

Source: *Oakland County Democratic Party* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447887371_ocdp.pdf

Haadsma Forms Campaign Committee for HD 62 House Race

"BATTLE CREEK — Jim Haadsma announced today that he has filed the necessary paperwork to form a campaign committee for a run in the state House of Representatives in House District 62. Haadsma's friend and fellow Democrat Andy Helmboldt narrowly lost the seat in the 2014 election."

Source: *Jim Haadsma* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447885125_headsma.pdf

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USDA Funding Expands Broadband Access to Nearly Six Million Rural Residents, Workers and Businesses

"WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 2015 – USDA Rural Utilities Service Administrator Brandon McBride today announced that nearly six million Americans who live and work in rural areas now have access to new or improved high-speed Internet service, thanks to USDA funding provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act."

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881750_miusda.pdf

Lewiston Woman Wins $240,206 Fantasy 5 Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 18, 2015** – Work will never be the same for a lucky woman from Lewiston who won a $240,206 jackpot playing the Michigan Lottery's Fantasy 5 game."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881624_lottery.pdf

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LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Shiawassee County

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of a Shiawassee County family child care home provider, Alysse Crum, License #DF780361975, 13334 Jennifer Drive, Perry, Michigan 48872. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881553_lara.pdf

Michigan Chemistry Council Commends Rep. Upton's Leadership on Federal Microbeads Legislation

"LANSING, MI, November 18, 2015 – The Michigan Chemistry Council (MCC) thanked Rep. Fred Upton (R- St. Joseph) for his leadership on the "Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015" (HR 1321). This legislation would create a uniform federal standard for the phase out of solid plastic microbeads in exfoliating personal care products."

Source: *Michigan Chemistry Council* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881288_chem.pdf

Complete a snowmobile safety class before the snow flies

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources encourages snowmobilers to earn their snowmobile safety course certifications before winter arrives. All operators are encouraged to complete a snowmobile safety course, although only youth ages 12-16 must have a certification prior to operating a snowmobile without direct supervision of an adult and when crossing a highway or street."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447880342_dnr.pdf

Wolf Scientists Support Delisting Wolves in Great Lakes

"Wolf populations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan have successfully recovered and should be taken off the Endangered Species list, according to a letter sent today to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe from 26 U.S. and Canadian wolf and wildlife experts."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447880428_nwf.pdf

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signs executive order fostering career opportunities for Michiganders with dis

"LANSING, Mich. – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley today signed an executive order that will lead to increased job opportunities for Michiganders with disabilities. "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875809_ltgov.pdf

Dingell Applauds New Connected Vehicles Research Partnership between University of Michigan & Depart

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined with the University of Michigan and U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office to announce a new research project that will study connected vehicles and whether they can help people drive more efficiently. The $2.7 million investment from the Department of Energy will couple the expertise of the University of Michigan with the Department of Energy's Argonne and Idaho National Laboratories."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875719_dingell.pdf

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MDHHS Releases Asian/Pacific Islander Behavioral Risk Factor Survey

"LANSING, Mich. – From 2000 to 2010, Asians were the fastest growing racial group in Michigan. As part of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services continued focus on reducing health disparities and increasing knowledge about the health of racial and ethnic minorities, the department conducted a stand-alone, Asian/Pacific Islander Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (APIBRFS) among the Asian/Pacific Islander population in the state."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875876_dhhs.pdf

Bishop, Judiciary Colleagues Pass Sentencing Reform Act in Committee

*"**WASHINGTON** – During a House Judiciary Committee markup today, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) and his colleagues passed the Sentencing Reform Act of 2015 (H.R. 3713), a bill that would reduce certain mandatory minimums for drug offenses and allow judges overseeing non-violent drug cases to have greater discretion in determining appropriate sentences. It also contains important limitations on retroactivity to ensure serious violent criminals serve their full sentences in federal prison."*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875636_bishop.pdf

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Schuette Announces Conviction of Oakland County Insurance Broker on Racketeering Charges

*"**LANSING** – Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced the sentencing of Oakland County insurance broker, John Flaherty, 70, of Troy. He was sentenced by Judge Daniel P. O'Brien, in Oakland Circuit Court, to serve 14 months to 20 years imprisonment and ordered to pay $1.3 million restitution to his victims following a conviction on one count of Conducting a Criminal Enterprise (Racketeering)."*

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875595_ag.pdf

Clean Fuels Michigan's statement on U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and U.S. Senator Gary Peters a

"LANSING — Last week, U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and U.S. Senator Gary Peters visited Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products in Taylor to announce new legislation, the Vehicle Innovation Act that will be introduced in the House of Representatives next week. This act will allocate funds for research and development of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies, as well as create truck-specific programs within the Department of Energy. The Vehicle Innovation act demonstrates a long term commitment to the clean transportation technology industry within Michigan and serves as crucial legislation which will initiate advancements for alternative fuel technologies."

Source: *Clean Fuels Michigan* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875553_celan.pdf

Michigan's October Unemployment Rate Unchanged

"Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October was unchanged over the month at 5.0 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment rose in October by 9,000 while the number of unemployed edged up by 3,000. The net impact was a 13,000 gain in the state's workforce over the

month."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447873344_unem.pdf*

DNR marks 25 years of helping private forest landowners through the Forest Stewardship Program

"For the past 25 years, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Forest Stewardship Program – which helps private forest landowners connect with a professional forester to develop a voluntary Forest Stewardship Plan – have helped private landowners manage, protect and enjoy their forests. The program, funded by the U.S. Forest Service, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447872242_dnr.pdf*

GOVERNOR JEB BUSH'S REMARKS: A U.S. DEFENSE POLICY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

*"**Charleston, SC —** Governor Jeb Bush today delivered a defense policy address at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, outlining his plan to rebuild America's military."*

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447870128_jeb.pdf*

United Nations-declared "International Year of Pulses" an opportunity for Michigan agriculture

*"NEW YORK, N.Y. – Leaders from Michigan's dry bean industry were on hand today in New York this week for the launch of the International Year of Pulses (IYOP), a celebration of pulse crops declared by the **United Nations** set to take place throughout 2016."*

Source: *Michigan Bean Shippers* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447870065_mbs.pdf*

Consumers Energy News Release: Energy fraud targets small businesses

"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 18, 2015 – Officials from Consumers Energy, Michigan State Police and prominent business organizations encouraged Michigan business owners and residents to take steps to protect themselves from ongoing customer scams that continue across the state entering this holiday season."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447869226_energy.pdf

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MDOT, MSP to present I-94 audit to lawmakers

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — State Senator Margaret O'Brien announced Wednesday that officials from the state Department of Transportation and Michigan State Police will present findings from a Road Safety Audit that was conducted on the stretch of Interstate 94 that runs between the Michigan-Indiana border and the city of Jackson following the historic 193-vehicle pileup that occurred January 9."*

Source: *Sen. Margaret O'Brien* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447865704_obrien.pdf

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Upton Committee Advances Bill to Ban Use of Microbeads

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined all of his colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee in voting to advance H.R. 1321, the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015. Upton is an original cosponsor of the bipartisan legislation with Rep. Frank Pallone, D-New Jersey."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447865635_upton.pdf

Phil Pavlov Recognized as one of Nation's Top Republican Candidates for Congress

*"**PORT HURON**—Phil Pavlov today was named to the first tier of the National Republican Congressional Committee's (NRCC) "Young Guns" program, putting him on the radar as one of the nation's top candidates for Congress. The "Young Guns" program provides organizational and fundraising assistance for top Republican candidates. "*

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447864001_pavlov.pdf

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Sprinkle Road ramps in Kalamazoo now are open (with photos)

*"**November 18, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has reopened the I-94 ramps at Sprinkle Road in Kalamazoo."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861961_mdot.pdf

Former Kearsley teacher, coach allegedly used schools as cover to embezzle thousands in charitable g

*"**Detroit** – A former Kearsley High School physical education teacher and baseball coach was arraigned Nov. 13 on embezzlement and charity gaming law violations in 67th District Court, Flint, for allegedly diverting funds raised at 22 charity poker events advertised as benefits for Kearsley district schools."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861502_mgcb.pdf

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Testifying Before Environmental Protection Agency's National D

"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement on testifying today before the Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council in Arlington, Virginia:"

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861438_anaich.pdf

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MDHHS to host public forum in Benton Harbor about MI Health Link

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be hosting a public forum about the MI Health Link program that integrates care for individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The event will be held Wednesday, December 9, in Benton Harbor. MDHHS will also provide a conference line for those interested in participating by phone."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861372_dhhs.pdf

MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP LEGAL SELF-HELP CENTER OF SOUTHWEST DETROIT NOW OPEN

*"(Detroit, MI.) People in Wayne County who need information about how to handle simple civil legal matters but cannot afford an attorney have a new place to go for help– the **Michigan Legal Help (MLH) Legal Self-Help Center of Southwest Detroit.** This new center is located at the Family Alliance for Change, a community center at 3627 W. Vernor in Southwest Detroit that offers support, advocacy, referrals, resources and education to all Wayne County families. With the addition of the **MLH Legal Self-Help Center**, now families can also find support when dealing with some legal issues. "*

Source: *Michigan Legal Help* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860336_legal.pdf

MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES LEGISLATORS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

"

LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) recently presented two state legislators with awards acknowledging their commitment to a vibrant restaurant industry in this state. The ceremony took place in Lansing during the MRA's board of directors November meeting."

Source: *Michigan Restaurant Association* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860216_mra.pdf

Secretary of State offices to close for Thanksgiving holiday

"

LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday."

Source: *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860171_sosh.pdf

State Law Eliminating County Gun Boards Takes Effect December 1

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Changes that standardize how a concealed pistol license (CPL) is issued or renewed in Michigan take on effect Dec. 1, 2015; however, applicants should experience little difference, as the application and renewal processes still start by visiting the county clerk's office of the county in which the applicant resides.*

"

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860130_msp.pdf

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/17/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/17/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855839_court.pdf

Equality Michigan: Meet Our New Deputy Director

"Equality Michigan is proud to announce the appointment of L. Michael Gipson as Deputy Director. Michael is joining Equality Michigan from his most recent position as Executive Director for the Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts in Washington, DC and Co-Founder of Cleveland's Beyond Identities Community Center for LGBTQ youth of color."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855338_equality.pdf

Sparrow Mother Baby Center helps statewide effort to reduce infant mortality

"LANSING, MI – The Sparrow Mother Baby Center has received a $10,000 grant to participate in a statewide program to reduce infant mortality."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855287_sparrow.pdf

Pedestrian bridge opens over M-39

"The Michigan Department of Transportation has rebuilt the pedestrian bridge over M-39 at Cathedral Avenue that collapsed in a crash last year. Approximately $2.9 million was provided by the federal government in emergency funds in order to expedite this important pedestrian bridge for the community."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-19-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855178_mdot.pdf

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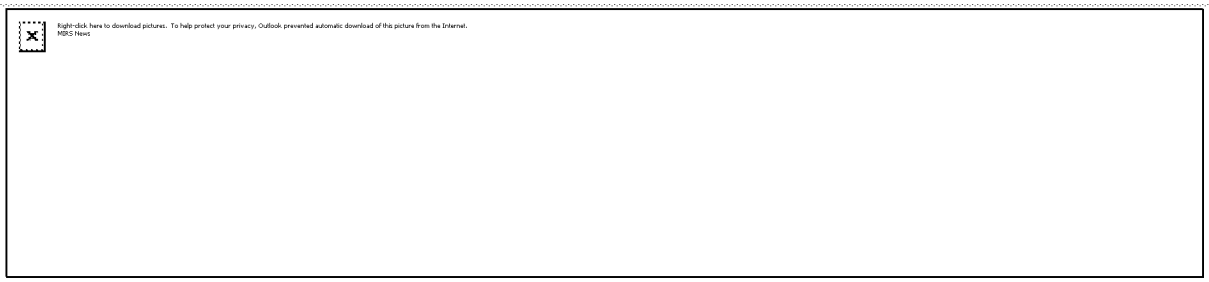

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Todd Courser says he was a 'bad victim' in extortion text scandal

"LANSING, MI -- Former Rep. Todd Courser said the local prosecutor's office told him he was a 'bad victim' in an extortion texting scandal he brought forward in August, but he encouraged former Rep. Cindy Gamrat to tell her side of the story."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/todd_courser_says_he_was_a_bad.html#incart_river_index*

Anti-fracking ballot effort fails to collect enough signatures, seeks more volunteers

"LANSING, MI -- A grassroots effort to institute a statewide ban on horizontal fracking in Michigan gathered more than 150,000 signatures over the past 180 days but failed to meet the 252,253-signature threshold to make it on the ballot."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/anti-fracking_ballot_effort_fa.html#incart_river_index*

4,700 pro-Syrian refugee signatures delivered to Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, MI — When Julie Quiroz of Ann Arbor heard that Gov. Rick Snyder was putting Syrian refugee efforts on hold, she started her first online petition."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/4700_pro-syrian_refugee_signat.html#incart_river_index*

Activists demand Snyder accept Syrian refugees

"Lansing — A small group of activists brought 4,700 petitions to Gov. Rick Snyder demanding Thursday that he welcome Syrian refugees to Michigan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/activists-demand-snyder-accept-syrian-refugees/76052606/*

House passes Huizenga bill to increase Fed oversight

"Washington — The House voted 241-185 Thursday to approve a bill sponsored by Rep. Bill Huizenga of west Michigan aimed at boosting congressional oversight of the Federal Reserve."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/house-passes-huizenga-bill-increase-fed-oversight/76080710/*

Cotter: Private cash would help Detroit school deal

"Lansing — House Speaker Kevin Cotter said Thursday that an infusion of private cash into a rescue of Detroit Public Schools would make a $715 million plan to fix the district's balance sheets "more palatable" to wary lawmakers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/cotter-detroit-school-debt/76069582/*

Michigan GOP helps pass bill to 'pause' Syrian refugees

""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/michigan-gop-syrian-refugees-pause/76061882/*

UAW skilled trades workers lack veto power

"Skilled trades workers with the United Auto Workers don't have the authority that many believe they

have in vetoing contracts with Detroit automakers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/19/uaw-skilled-trades-workers-lack-veto-power/76084452/*

U.S. House passes bill to suspend refugee resettlements

"WASHINGTON — Despite a veto threat by President Barack Obama, the U.S. House on Thursday approved a bill that would effectively suspend the process for more Syrian refugees to be resettled in the U.S., a measure that, if enacted, could derail efforts to integrate more refugees into Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/11/19/us-house-passes-bill-suspend-refugee-resettlements/76061122/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Grade retention harms students rather than helps them with reading proficiency

"There is a reading crisis in the state of Michigan. Some studies have indicated that as few as 40 percent of our third-graders are proficient readers. While the Smart Promotion Bill (House Bill 4822) attempts to address this crisis, it is tragically flawed. This bill institutes mandatory retention for any third-grader who does not test proficient in reading."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/grade_retention_harms_students.html#incart_river_index*

Runestad: Give communities say on refugees resettlement

"The heinous attack in Paris by Islamic State terrorists is an example of how this group of extremists continues to infiltrate peaceful communities worldwide and wreak havoc."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/19/jim-runestad/76081610/*

Finley: Hold a refugee summit in Michigan

"Rather than allow the resettlement of Syrian refugees to fester into another divisive partisan issue, the nation's governors and the federal agencies involved should convene an emergency summit to discuss the concerns."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/19/finley-refugee-summit-michigan/76082382/

Room for balance on 'dark stores' tax issue

"Local governments across Michigan say they are losing millions of dollars in taxes and facing cuts in services because big box retailers such as Target and Home Depot are arguing a "dark store" theory of retail property assessment before the Michigan Tax Tribunal to cut their costs.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/19/editorial-dark-stores-tax-assessments/76082422/

Howes: Memory, fantasy collide in UAW contract drama

"What do you get when you combine short memories with social media?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/11/19/howes-memory-fantasy-collide-uaw-contract-drama/76082250/

Other States Divulge What Michigan's Corporate Welfare Arm Keeps Secret

"The Michigan Economic Development Corporation — the state's corporate welfare arm — won't disclose the companies to which it hands out public money. In other states, this type of information is routinely made available, which strongly suggests the barriers to doing so in Michigan are strictly homegrown."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21913

Amid Flint's water crisis, a quiet success story

"Over the past year, as Detroit officials came under fire for fluctuating demolition costs and the Flint water contamination crisis was widely publicized, Flint has been making quiet progress on another front."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/amid-flints-water-crisis-a-quiet-success-story/

Legislature must close 'dark stores' tax loophole

"Michigan's local governments and schools are losing millions of dollars that otherwise would go to libraries, classrooms and police, fire and senior services through a gaping tax loophole large retailers across the state are quietly exploiting to lower their local property taxes."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/legislature-must-close-dark-stores-tax-loophole/*

Press Releases

Rep. Kelly disappointed in foundation's lack of commitment on DPS

"LANSING – Rep. Tim Kelly, R – Saginaw Township, expressed disappointment today with comments made by the Skillman Foundation's President and CEO Tonya Allen regarding a potential financial overhaul of Detroit Public Schools (DPS)."

Source: *Rep. Tim Kelly* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447968699_kelly.pdf

MCSC announces Julie Calley as next Board Chairperson

*"**LANSING** – The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) this week announced the election of Julie Calley, Michigan's Second Lady, as the new board chairperson during the MCSC's board meeting on Nov. 19 at the Lansing Center. Also announced were the 2015-2016 Executive Committee members."*

Source: *Michigan Community Service Commission* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447967098_mcsc.pdf

Speaker Cotter on Detroit school coalition comments

"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement on Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren head Tonya Allen taking community support for Detroit Public Schools off the table:"

Source: *Speaker Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447966976_cotter.pdf

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65 groups to Canada's new Environment Minister: Stop Great Lakes nuke waste dump!

"Ottawa, Ontario, Canada and Washington, D.C., U.S.A. – Calling the federal review report issued in May

on a proposal to bury nuclear waste beside Lake Huron "deeply flawed", sixty-five Canadian and U.S. public interest groups have sent a joint letter to the federal minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna urging her to reject Ontario Power Generation's bid to bury radioactive wastes right beside Lake Huron."

Source: *Beyond Nuclear* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447966348_nuclear.pdf

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Upton: "This is about our national security"

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today voted in support of H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act of 2015. Upton was joined by a majority of his House colleagues as the legislation advanced by a veto-proof 289-137 margin."

Source: *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964984_Upton.pdf

Huizenga Statement on Bipartisan Syrian Refugee Legislation

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in favor of the Bipartisan American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act. This legislation passed the House by a vote of 289-137."*

Source: *Office of Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964858_Huizenga Statement on Syrian Refugee Legislation - laurie@mirsnews.com - Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf

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HOMELESSNESS IN MICHIGAN FELL 14% PERCENT IN 2015

"WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today released the latest national estimate of homelessness, highlighting a continuing decline across the nation. HUD's2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress found an overall 11 percent decline in the number of persons experiencing homelessness since 2010, including a 26 percent drop in the number of persons living on the streets. "

Source: *HUD* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964684_Homelessness.pdf

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Rep. Trott's Statement on Passage of the SAFE Act

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE)

Act: "

Source: *Office of Dave Trot* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447962828_trott.pdf

Hagerty Boosts Economic Development Efforts of TraverseCONNECT

"TRAVERSE CITY – A major grant from Hagerty will help expand the regional economic development initiatives of TraverseCONNECT ."

Source: *TraverseCONNECT* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447962523_traverse.pdf

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Rep. Lawrence introduces H.R. 4068, The Promote Startups Act of 2015

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C. –**Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Wednesday introduced H.R. 4068, The Promote Startups Act of 2015, which would permanently increase the limitations on deductions for startup and organizational expenditures that entrepreneurs face. The Act seeks to raise the current tax deduction limit for startup expenses from $5,000 to $15,000 and raise the deduction limit for organizational expenses from $5,000 to $10,000."*

Source: *Office of Congresswoman Lawerence* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447960607_The Promote Startups Act.pdf

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House Passes SAFE Act with Bishop's Support

*"**WASHINGTON** – Today, the House passed H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act of 2015, by a vote of 289-137 with Congressman Mike Bishop's support. In response, Rep. Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Office of Congressman Mike Bishop* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447960070_Mike Bishop.pdf

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400 Students For Rand Chapters Established Throughout the Country

"

***WASHINGTON, D.C. -** Rand Paul for President (RPFP) recently launched a student organization effort across the nation with the goal of establishing 300 new college chapters within 30 days. Rand Paul for President achieved this goal, and today while hosting an event at The George Washington University, Sen. Rand Paul announced the addition of 100 more Students for Rand (SFR) chapters throughout all 50 states.*
"

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447959209_Rand Paul.pdf

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Urge Gov. Snyder to show compassion for Syrian refugees

"We are deeply disappointed that Gov. Rick Snyder has announced that he would suspend his efforts to resettle refugees from Syria in Michigan, particularly at such a critical juncture."

Source: *MI ACLU* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447956726_ACLU.pdf

Senator Stabenow Applauds Initiative to Expand Quality Health Care in Mid-Michigan

*"**WASHINGTON D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced support for MidMichigan Health to help connect people in rural areas with quality health care. This $494,900 grant will benefit eight counties in Mid-Michigan. The funding, which comes from the USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant program, was authorized by Senator Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill."*

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955971_satbenow.pdf

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Can Democrats' Anti-Koch Attacks Actually Work?

"Recently, Bridge Project conducted six focus groups with swing voters in swing states on the billionaire Koch brothers as they gear up to spend nearly $900 million pushing their agenda and backing their puppet candidates in 2016. The focus groups revealed that to know the Kochs is to dislike them and that voters are turned off by their harmful, self-enriching agenda also backed by their puppet candidates."

Source: *American Bridge* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955854_Can Democrats.pdf

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We Need Fed Reform for a Stronger Economy

"Washington, D.C. – House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) released the following statement on House passage of H.R. 3189, the Fed Oversight Reform and Modernization Act:"

Source: *House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955505_Majority Leader McCarthy_ Huizenga Legislation Will Strengthen Economy - laurie@mirsnews.com - Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.

BISHOP and WALBERG: MICHIGAN'S TERRIBLE TWOSOME AGAINST COLLEGE STUDENTS

"In honor of American Education Week, Michigan State University College Dems are holding Congressmen Mike Bishop and Tim Walberg accountable for their many votes against college students."

Source: *Michigan State University* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955862

Equality Michigan Honors Transgender Day of Remembrance

"Ashton O'Hara, 25, Amber Monroe, 20, and the non-gender conforming black gay man known as "Melvin," 30, who was perceived to be a trans woman because he was cross-dressing at the time of his murder, are three Michigan victims too many. On November 20th, we say their names, in honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance, a memorial to those murdered due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447954089_Equality_Michigan.pdf

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House Passes Huizenga Legislation to Reform the Federal Reserve

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee Chairman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the FORM Act, legislation he authored to reform the Federal Reserve by restoring accountability, increasing transparency, and strengthening our nation's monetary policy. The FORM Act passed the House by a vote of 241 – 185."*

Source: *Office of Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447953873_House_Passes.pdf

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Sparrow Attempts to Silence Nurses About Substance Abuse Unit Closure

"The Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) is asking the federal government to protect nurses speaking out for patient safety. Today MNA filed an unfair labor practice (ULP) charge with the National Labor Relations Board on behalf of registered nurses at Sparrow Hospital's St. Lawrence campus."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447952528_sparrow.pdf

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Agricultural Sector to Benefit from New Natural Gas Pipeline Infrastructure

"FREDERICKTOWN, OHIO – The Ohio State Grange today released a new analysis examining the interrelationship between the agricultural sector and access to affordable natural gas supplies in Ohio and Michigan. "

Source: *Acuittas LLC* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951668_Agriculture.pdf

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Join us for Silver Bells in the City Friday, November 20 at 5 p.m.

"We invite you and your family to join us before, during, and after the 31st Annual Silver Bells in the City in downtown Lansing. Stay warm and enjoy the parade from the comfort of our office!"

Source: *Marketing Resource Group* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951499_MRG_Silver_Bells.pdf

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Michigan celebrates National Rural Health Day, recognizes achievements in rural communities

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today is joining the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) and state offices of rural health across the country to recognize the Fifth Annual National Rural Health Day."

Source: *MI Dept of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951021_national_rural.pdf

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Federal Funding Flows While Lake Erie Contamination Grows

*"**LANSING, MI—NOVEMBER 19, 2015—**Today, the Less=More Coalition released a report that takes an unprecedented look at the relationship between the manure load from factory farms in the Western Lake Erie Watershed (WLEW) and the federal subsidies that have poured into the region to facilities that generate that waste over the last seven years."*

Source: *Sierra Club* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447949907_lake_erie.pdf

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Michigan National Guard further strengthens Liberian Partnership

"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan Army National Guard engineers have arrived in Monrovia, Liberia where they join their Liberian counterparts to improve living conditions for 96 soldiers. The overseas trip also holds historic significance, representing the first time Michigan Guard members have flown large refueling

tankers to the Liberian base."

Source: *MI Army National Guard* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447947816_MI National.pdf

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Know Before You Go: Travel Safety Tips for Your Thanksgiving Holiday

*"**CHICAGO** –The Thanksgiving week ahead is one typically filled with travel, a busy schedule and potentially bad weather."*

Source: *FEMA* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447946866_FEMA.pdf

MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 11/20-11/23/15

"MDOT weekend construction for 11/20-11/23/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447945317_mdot.pdf

DETROIT RETIREES, OTHER GROUPS TO PROTEST AGAINST BANKRUPTCY CRIMINALS JUDGES ROSEN AND RHODES AT

"U.S. District Court Chief Judge Gerald Rosen and U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes will receive Dennis W. Archer Awards for Outstanding Service today, Thursday, Nov. 18 at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), in recognition of the roles they played in Detroit's ruinous bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit Active and Retired Employees Association* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447945042_darea.pdf

Mockingjay Rebel Art Pops Up In East Lansing

"Mockingjay Rebel Art Pops Up In East Lansing Last night, a collective of anonymous street artists plastered "Mockingjay" artwork across the campus of MSU. Found on windows, walls, and lamp posts from the Union to the South neighborhood, Wells , and Snyder Phillips buildings, it bears the symbol from the movie Mockingjay, which is being released today."

Source: *Michigan State University* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447944960_mocking.pdf

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Ohio Grange to Release Study on Economic Benefits of Natural Gas Pipelines

"Ohio Grange to Release Study on Economic Benefits of Natural Gas Pipelines to Agriculture Communities

Announcement and details on the paper will be discussed on a call the public and media are encouraged to join. The call will cover the paper's conclusions and methodology and will open the participants to questions.
"

Source: *Ohio Grange* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447943117_grange.pdf

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Baker College instructors honored: 'Educator of the Year' and state association board member

"JACKSON, Mich. – Two Baker College of Jackson health sciences instructors were recently recognized by their respective industries' state professional organizations."

Source: *Baker College* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942908_baker.pdf

Lon Johnson taking a vacation to the 1st District soon

"In case you missed it, Lon Johnson is in northern Michigan this week after avoiding the press and voters in Michigan's 1st Congressional District. To help him acquaint himself with the district as he makes the trip up north, we created the travel guide below to help him find his way around."

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942848_gop.pdf

Schuette Partners with Nonprofits to Help Michigan Citizens Make Smart Donations

*"**LANSING** — The Michigan Nonprofit Association, Council of Michigan Foundations, Michigan Association of United Ways, and Attorney General Bill Schuette today released a helpful resource to help Michigan donors make wise charitable gifts this holiday season. "*

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942797_ag.pdf

Senators Voting to Block EPA Rules Received 17 Times as Much Money

from the Coal Mining Industry

*"**November 19, 2015 --** On November 17, 2015, the Senate passed joint resolutions S.J.Res.23 and S.J.Res.24, each by an identical vote of 52-46. These resolutions block Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules designed to address climate change: S.J.Res.23 strikes an EPA rule on greenhouse gas emissions, while S.J.Res.24 strikes an EPA rule on carbon pollution emission guidelines. The votes come ahead of an international climate change summit that will begin in Paris on November 30. "*

Source: *Maplight* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942694_maplight.pdf

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Michigan parents and health advocates thank Senators Stabenow and Peters for supporting America's Cl

"MICHIGAN- Yesterday, the Senate voted on America's Clean Power Plan, specifically S.J.Res.24, a joint resolution that seeks to use the Congressional Review Act to prohibit the plan from going into effect."

Source: *Moms Clean Air Force* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447941909_airforce.pdf

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Michigan's Mighty 14th District Democrats!

"Upcoming Events and Activities:"

Source: *Michigan 14th District Democrats* **Date:** *11-20-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447941836_14.pdf

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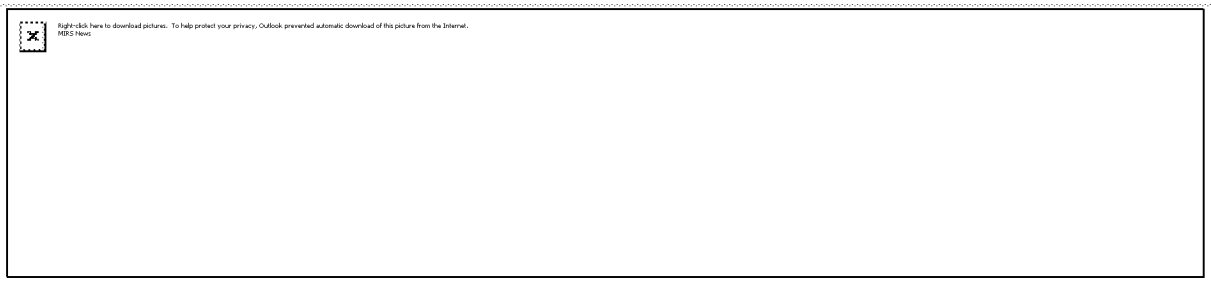

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Built on Lake Michigan, new U.S. Navy warship is commissioned

"The U.S. Navy's newest combat ship will beformally commissioned in Wisconsin today after finishing her initial trials this summer in heavy Lake Michigan waves."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/11/new_warship_uss_milwaukee.html#incart_river_home*

Black Friday loosens grip on Thanksgiving as retailers pull back

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- The war over Thanksgiving for Black Friday shoppers appears to be reaching a turning point."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/11/black_friday_loosens_grip_on_t.html#incart_more_business*

See which Michigan counties have the most 'super drunk' arrests, alcohol-related crashes

"Police in Michigan have written fewer "super drunk" driving tickets each year since the law was implemented five years ago this fall."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/look_up_to_see_where_your_coun.html#incart_river_home*

Howard Meyerson: Muskegon River gets 50,000 additional hatchery trout

"Anglers who fish the Muskegon River for trout are going to get a little extra something this month."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/11/howard_meyerson_muskegon_river.html#incart_river_home*

Are Michigan roads any safer after 5 years of 'super drunk' law?

"For five years, Michigan police have been writing tickets under the state's "super drunk" driving law. But has it helped to keep Michigan roads safer?

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/alcohol-related_crashes_and_fa.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Mich. DNR investigates elk killing during deer season

"Montmorency Township — Officials investigating the death of a bull elk in Montmorency County believe the hunter may have thought he was shooting at a whitetail deer."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/mich-dnr-investigates-elk-killing-deer-season/76171192/*

Crews begin pumping oil from sunken barge in Lake Erie

"Toledo, Ohio — Salvage crews have begun an underwater operation to pump a hazardous oil-based substance from a sunken barge that apparently had been sitting undiscovered on the bottom of Lake Erie for nearly 80 years."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/22/crews-begin-pumping-oil-sunken-barge-lake-erie/76208428/*

Michigan urged to overhaul Rx monitoring system

"Michigan's prescription drug monitoring system, thought to be a major tool in the state's effort to reduce opioid-related deaths,needs to be revamped to make it more efficient and comprehensive, according to a task

force named by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/michigan-prescription-monitoring-system/76178146/*

Administration assures govs refugee vetting is rigorous

"Washington — The Obama administration is assuring governors that refugees who come to the United States in its resettlement program undergo a "rigorous security vetting process," particularly if they are fleeing from Syria."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/22/administration-assures-govs-refugee-vetting-rigorous/76196608/*

Cities show state's problem with cost vs. value

"State government tells cities in Michigan that they'd better balance their budgets, keep debt under control and not promise more to retirees than can be paid."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/11/21/cities-reflect-states-problem-cost-value/76037152/*

Conyers to run for re-election to Congress

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, already the longest-serving active member of Congress and the longest-serving African-American congressman in U.S. history, will run for a 27th two-year term next year, looking to extend a legislative tenure stretching back to the Civil Rights era."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/conyers-run-reelection-congress/76124406/*

Drummond Island Resort in the U.P. is up for auction

"Drummond Island Resort, which was once Domino's Pizza founder Tom Monaghan's dream getaway and corporate retreat, is going to auction."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/11/21/drummond-island-resort-auction/76064518/*

Best bosses in Michigan: 2015 Top Workplace winner

"In special coverage, the Detroit Free Press celebrates the region's Top Workplaces and that special something that keeps their employees so happy. It's usually about building a winning culture of respect and continued learning."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/top-workplaces/2015/11/21/what-top-workplaces-workplace-dynamics/76105242/*

Snyder's top aide talked 'Flint water supply alternatives'

"LANSING -- Flint's fateful decision to sever its ties with the City of Detroit as its supplier of drinking water went all the way up to the Michigan governor's office, state records obtained under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act show."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/snyders-top-aide-talked-flint-water-supply-alternatives/76037130/*

Criminal tethers save money, but what about lives?

"On any given day, more than 500 people charged with crimes including murder, rape and armed robbery roam free in Wayne County wearing electronic tethers on their ankles."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/wayne-county-tethers/76184505/*

DIA survives city bankruptcy, but remains at crossroads

"MIDLAND — Tucked into a corner of the top-floor galleries at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art are two girls visiting from Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/entertainment/2015/11/21/dia-after-grand-bargain-detroit-bankruptcy/75113624/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Will Snyder hand off his legacy to Calley? Can't rule it out

"Everybody sing along: 'Tis the season for spec-u-la-tion, fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/will_snyder_hand_off_his_legac.html#incart_river_home*

Rick Haglund: Fewer workers, but Michigan still has room for other economic growth

"Last week's column dealt with Michigan's improving job market and questioned whether the state was in danger of running out of available workers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_haglund_fewer_workers_but.html#incart_river_home*

Letter: State needs child abuse registry

"Re: The Detroit News' Nov. 18 editorial, "Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills": As sponsors of Wyatt's Law, which creates a child abuse registry to protect children, we felt the need to respond and clarify what this bill package actually does."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/22/opinion-child-abuse-registry/76178054/*

Editorial: Wayne commissioners enrich their health care

"While county Executive Warren Evans is trying to sell employees on the necessity of shared sacrifice to stave off bankruptcy, Wayne County's elected commissioners are reverting to form and stuffing their own pockets."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/21/editorial-wayne-county-commissioners/76177940/*

Finley: Obama fiddling while terror threat grows

"Last weekend's terrorist attacks in Paris drove home a reality Western leaders have been trying to avoid: The barbarism of the Islamic State and other such fanatics will not wither under a patient strategy of containment, and the ideology that fuels their brutality can't be negotiated away."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/21/opinion-obama-terrorism/76177722/*

Straight ticket voting helps GOP, too

"The Michigan State Senate recently passed Senate Bill 13, which does away with straight party ticket voting. All Republicans but two voted for it, and all Democrats voted against it. It is unclear why the legislation is needed, and legislators haven't defined an existing problem that needs a solution."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/21/straight-ticket-michigan/76132858/*

Teen starts voter education program for peers

"Sometimes we grown-ups need a reminder. We must be prompted to appreciate what we have in America that others want so badly they trudge through rivers, crawl across fields, hide in trucks or beg for refugee status."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/11/21/rochelle-riley-teen-voting/76071584/*

Snyder's bridge to China grows

"Speaking of Chinese investment, Gov. Rick Snyder is seeing the result of his trade missions to the Asian nation with another groundbreaking in Northville for a new manufacturing facility."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/11/21/drummond-island-resort-auction/76064518/*

Mitch Albom: Respecting vets means more than clapping

"When a soldier goes off to fight, we say, "We're praying for you." When a soldier passes in uniform we gush, "Thank you for your service." When a soldier is brought out on a football field, we whoop and cheer loudly."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-22-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/11/21/mitch-albom-veterans-housing/76178734/*

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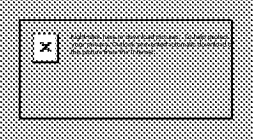

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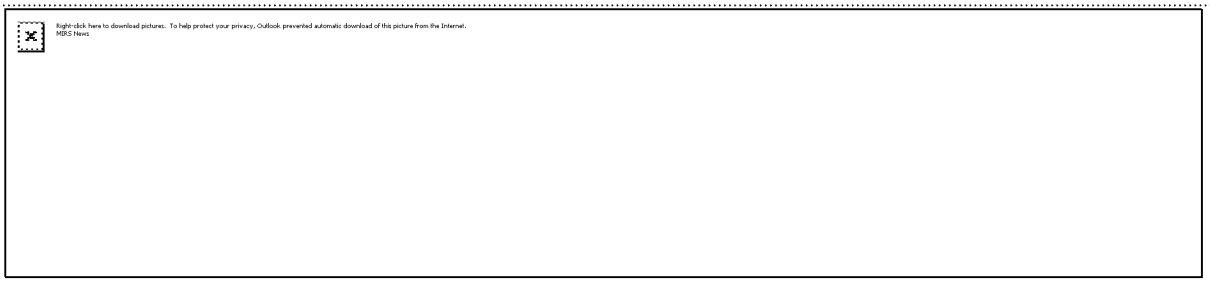

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N.H. GOP poll: Terrorism the top issue, Trump the leader

"WASHINGTON — In the wake of the Paris attacks, terrorism has become the top issue among Republican voters in New Hampshire, and Donald Trump has maintained a 2 to 1 lead over a crowded field of competitors."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/22/trump-new-hampshire-poll-terrorism-paris/76168562/*

Prince Charles: Climate change a cause of Syria war

"LONDON — Britain's Prince Charles has suggested that climate change could be one of the causes of the civil war in Syria, terrorism and Europe's refugee crisis."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/prince-charles-syria-climate-change/76248500/*

Forget nuke deal, Iran has election fever

"For months, the news out of Iran has revolved around the nuclear deal with the West and PresidentHassan Rouhani's efforts to back it up with reforms at home."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/iran-election-fever/76247608/*

Hollande and Cameron visit Paris attack site

"French President Francois Hollande and BritishPrime Minister David Cameron visited the Bataclantheater in Paris on Monday, where 89 of the 130 people killed in the terror attacks in Paris lost their lives."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/homalde-cameron-paris-attacks/76247468/*

Chickenpox outbreak keeps 35 students out of school

"Traverse City — More than 35 unimmunized students at two Traverse City elementary schools will be kept out of the classroom for three weeks after a chickenpox outbreak."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/23/chickenpox-outbreak-keeps-students-school/76248274/*

More parents shift careers to balance work, life

"As a television news anchor, Cynthia Demos' schedule made her home life a challenge. Working nights and weekends meant she rarely put her 3-year-old son and 41/2-year-old daughter to bed or spent Saturdays at the park. So, three years ago, Demos began testing the waters to see if operating her own business making marketing videos would create an option for more family time."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/11/22/parents-balance-life-work/76233020/*

Fiat Chrysler expands free college degree program

"Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV is expanding a program that offers free college educations to all employees and family members of its U.S. dealerships."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/11/22/fiat-chrysler-expands-free-college-degree-program-dealership-employees-families/76224566/*

Mich. school districts struggle with absentee students

"In some Michigan school districts, half or more of students are chronically absent, according to newly released state data."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/11/23/truancy-schools-michigan-pscholka-*

legislature/76235364/

Fix for roads leads new bills signed into law by Snyder

"LANSING — With the state Legislature on a two-week break for hunting season and Thanksgiving, there were no new bills introduced last week. But Gov. Rick Snyder signed 29 bills into law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/fix-roads-leads-new-bills-signed-into-law-snyder/76008162/*

Federal lawyers to probe Minneapolis police shooting

"MINNEAPOLIS — Department of Justice attorneyswere scheduled to fly to Minnesota on Sunday to discuss the release of video in the shooting of Jamar Clark, whose death at the hands of police has sparked protests."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/11/22/minneapolis-police-death/76218148/*

Magic Johnson brings 'Holiday Hope' to Lansing families

"LANSING - Kelli Wilson pulled her car up alongside a line of cheering volunteers just outside Everett High School on Sunday, unlatched her trunk and waited while they loaded food and other items in."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/11/22/magic-johnson-brings-holiday-hope-lansing-families/76121828/*

Flint water mystery: How was decision made?

"LANSING — Flint's fateful decision to sever its ties with the City of Detroit as its supplier of drinking water went all the way up to the Michigan governor's office, state records obtained under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act show."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/snyders-top-aide-talked-flint-water-supply-alternatives/76037130/*

UAW reaches end of winding road with Detroit automakers

"Detroit's once-every-four-years ritual of UAW negotiations and ratification is finally over. No one involved is completely happy and that's a good sign."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/2015/11/22/uaw-reaches-end-winding-road-detroit-automakers/76115690/*

State's women inmates housed in offices, TV rooms

"LANSING — Inmates are being housed in converted TV rooms and former offices at the state's only women's prison as the number of incarcerated women rises in Michigan and around the country, but state Corrections Department officials deny they have a serious overcrowding problem on their hands."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/22/states-women-inmates-housed-offices-tv-rooms/75461878/*

On Snyder and refugees, GOP contest, Hoekstra keeps a hand in politics

"Not much has changed since the last time Pete Hoekstra crossed paths with the Capitol scribes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/on_snyder_and_refugees_gop_con.html#incart_river_index

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6% of Michigan residents are foreign born, and 9 other facts about immigrants

"As a national debate rages over immigration policy, especially in regard to those coming from Mexico and the Middle East, the issue hits home for Michigan in several respects."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/6_of_michigan_residents_are_fo.html#incart_river_home

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Advocacy/Opinion

Column: Terrorism is common enemy, not refugees

"The rise of terrorism as a global challenge and universal threat to all free and peace-loving people and the shared values they hold is not new. A few factors contributed to the escalation of this scourge, such as wars, sectarian divide, poverty, despair, hopelessness, etc. It appears in the midst of other ongoing problems. There are festering problems in Syria and Iraq that are breeding grounds for terrorism and are inspiring terrorism everywhere."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/23/column-hamad-refugees-terrorism-muslim/76227596/*

Our Editorial: FDA right to approve 'frankenfish'

"The left prides itself on its allegiance to science — until it bumps against its own superstitions and political agenda. Take, for example, genetically modified salmon, which got the Obama administration's stamp of approval last week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/23/opinion-fda-salmon-fish-food-fisheries/76227700/*

Seeing danger everywhere

"A Halloween message signed by 13 college administrators asked Yale University students to be sensitive about the costumes they chose so as not to demean, alienate or "impact" any groups or individuals."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/23/yale-students-protest-danger/76227586/*

Detroit Public Schools Bankruptcy Could Cost the State $3.4 Billion

"The Detroit Public Schools' $1.3 billion in pension obligations is the major roadblock to the school district filing for bankruptcy, according to a recent state of Michigan analysis."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21919*

Sandy Baruah: Israel offers lessons in resilience, cohesion and a risk-taking culture

"Israel. It's a nation we hear a lot about on the nightly news, but how much do we really know? Certainly, most of us know that it's a Jewish state, a close ally of the United States, the only democracy in the region, and impacted by violence for far too long."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/lessons_from_israel_resilience.html*

Dan Gilmartin and Timothy McGuire: Legislature must close 'dark stores'tax loophole

"Michigan's local governments and schools are losing millions of dollars that otherwise would go to libraries, classrooms and police, fire and senior services through a gaping tax loophole large retailers across the state are quietly exploiting to lower their local property taxes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/dan_gilmartin_and_timothy_mcgu.html*

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

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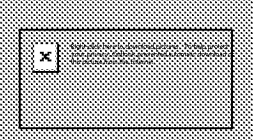

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From: SBOBudgetaryTransactions
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2015 12:37 PM
To: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Moges, Kidest (DHHS)
Cc: Boyd, Jeremy (DHHS);Thelen, Beverly (DHHS);Bacon, Richard (DHHS);Hetherington, Michael (DHHS);Dawson, Brice (DHHS);Kangas, Susan (DHHS);Gillette, Patrice (DHHS);Masterson, Cindy (DHHS);Hanley, Farah (DHHS);Scott, Teri (DHHS);Schneider, Teresa (DHHS);Smith, Kidada (DHHS);Halverson, Lisa M. (DHHS);Bendele, Steven (DHHS);Lehman, Mary Lou (DHHS);Babb, Abbey (DTMB);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB);Mukuna, Herve (DTMB);White, Keith (DTMB)
Subject: RE: DHHS (391) - EBA - 391007

Your approval has been logged.

From: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2015 12:07 PM
To: SBOBudgetaryTransactions <SBOBudgetaryTransactions@michigan.gov>; Moges, Kidest (DHHS) <MogesK1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Boyd, Jeremy (DHHS) <BOYDJ1@michigan.gov>; Thelen, Beverly (DHHS) <ThelenB7@michigan.gov>; Bacon, Richard (DHHS) <baconr@michigan.gov>; Hetherington, Michael (DHHS) <HetheringtonM1@michigan.gov>; Dawson, Brice (DHHS) <DawsonB4@michigan.gov>; Kangas, Susan (DHHS) <KangasS1@michigan.gov>; Gillette, Patrice (DHHS) <GilletteP@michigan.gov>; Masterson, Cindy (DHHS) <MastersonC@michigan.gov>; Hanley, Farah (DHHS) <hanleyf@michigan.gov>; Scott, Teri (DHHS) <ScottT13@michigan.gov>; Schneider, Teresa (DHHS) <schneidert@michigan.gov>; Smith, Kidada (DHHS) <SmithK67@michigan.gov>; Halverson, Lisa M. (DHHS) <HalversonL@michigan.gov>; Bendele, Steven (DHHS) <BendeleS@michigan.gov>; Lehman, Mary Lou (DHHS) <LehmanM@michigan.gov>; Babb, Abbey (DTMB) <BabbA2@michigan.gov>; Fosdick, David (DTMB) <FosdickD@michigan.gov>; Harkins, Chris (DTMB) <HarkinsC1@michigan.gov>; Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB) <HovenkampR@michigan.gov>; Mukuna, Herve (DTMB) <MukunaH1@michigan.gov>; White, Keith (DTMB) <WhiteK14@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: DHHS (391) - EBA - 391007

Moved to approved – apologies for the delay

From: SBOBudgetaryTransactions
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 8:37 AM
To: Moges, Kidest (DHHS)
Cc: Boyd, Jeremy (DHHS); Thelen, Beverly (DHHS); Bacon, Richard (DHHS); Hetherington, Michael (DHHS); Dawson, Brice (DHHS); Kangas, Susan (DHHS); Gillette, Patrice (DHHS); Masterson, Cindy (DHHS); Hanley, Farah (DHHS); Scott, Teri (DHHS); Schneider, Teresa (DHHS); Smith, Kidada (DHHS); Halverson, Lisa M. (DHHS); Bendele, Steven (DHHS); Lehman, Mary Lou (DHHS); Babb, Abbey (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB); Mukuna, Herve (DTMB); White, Keith (DTMB)
Subject: RE: DHHS (391) - EBA - 391007

EBA has been logged and placed in the pending folder for review.

From: Moges, Kidest (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 4:12 PM
To: SBOBudgetaryTransactions <SBOBudgetaryTransactions@michigan.gov>

Cc: Boyd, Jeremy (DHHS) <BOYDJ1@michigan.gov>; Thelen, Beverly (DHHS) <ThelenB7@michigan.gov>; Bacon, Richard (DHHS) <baconr@michigan.gov>; Hetherington, Michael (DHHS) <HetheringtonM1@michigan.gov>; Dawson, Brice (DHHS) <DawsonB4@michigan.gov>; Kangas, Susan (DHHS) <KangasS1@michigan.gov>; Gillette, Patrice (DHHS) <GilletteP@michigan.gov>; Masterson, Cindy (DHHS) <MastersonC@michigan.gov>; Hanley, Farah (DHHS) <hanleyf@michigan.gov>; Scott, Teri (DHHS) <ScottT13@michigan.gov>; Schneider, Teresa (DHHS) <schneidert@michigan.gov>; Smith, Kidada (DHHS) <SmithK67@michigan.gov>; Halverson, Lisa M. (DHHS) <HalversonL@michigan.gov>; Bendele, Steven (DHHS) <BendeleS@michigan.gov>; Lehman, Mary Lou (DHHS) <LehmanM@michigan.gov>; Babb, Abbey (DTMB) <BabbA2@michigan.gov>; Fosdick, David (DTMB) <FosdickD@michigan.gov>; Harkins, Chris (DTMB) <HarkinsC1@michigan.gov>; Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB) <HovenkampR@michigan.gov>; Kimmith, Dean (DTMB) <KimmithD@michigan.gov>; Mukuna, Herve (DTMB) <MukunaH1@michigan.gov>; White, Keith (DTMB) <WhiteK14@michigan.gov>
Subject: DHHS (391) - EBA - 391007

Attached is EBA 391007. The purpose of this EBA is to appropriate supplemental funds authorized in P.A. 143 of 2015 for the Flint water project.

Thank you.

Kide Moges
Information Technology & Administration Section, Budget Division
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
(517) 373-9603

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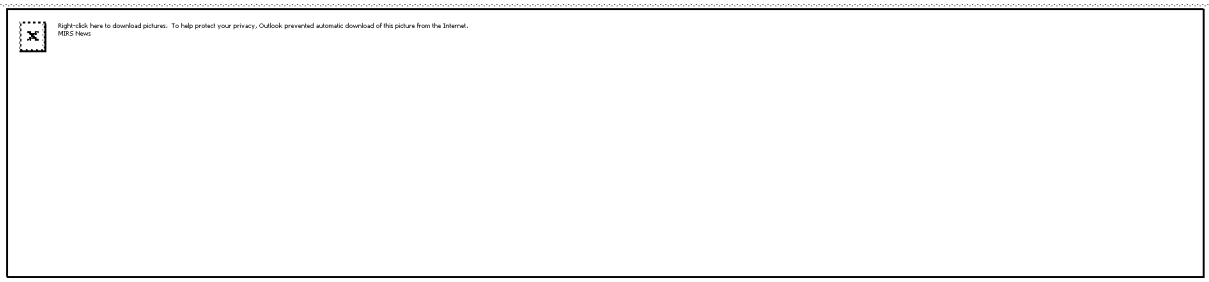
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2015 8:14 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Ohio Gov. John Kasich talks Detroit, Donald Trump on 8th presidential campaign visit to Michigan

"DETROIT, MI -- The Detroit skyline lit up through the windows of a black SUV taking presidential candidate and Ohio Gov. John Kasich between appointments Monday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/ohio_gov_john_kasich_talks_det.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan medical marijuana patients can't smoke in parked cars at public places, court rules

"LANSING, MI — Registered medical marijuana patients cannot smoke the drug in their own car while parked outside a private business that is open to the general public, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_medical_marijuana_pat_1.html#incart_river_index*

AG Bill Schuette says email to campaign fundraiser from state account was 'mistake'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette sent an email to a political fundraiser from his official state account, he acknowledged Wednesday, attributing the potential campaign finance violation

to a mix-up involving at-home use of a personal iPad."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/schuette_admits_sending_campai.html#incart_river_home*

Flint water customers say no change in bills, despite court order

"FLINT, MI -- A sometimes-contentious, four-hour court hearing with multiple city residents testifying about their bills ended with no ruling on the question of whether the city of Flint violated a judge's order to reduce water and sewer rates."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/flint_residents_testify_on_wat.html#incart_river_home*

Rep. Miller gives Gershwin prize to Willie Nelson

"In Washington last week, U.S. Rep.Candice Miller joined Library of Congress Acting Librarian David Mao and other congressional leaders in presenting singer and songwriter Willie Nelson with the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/25/rep-miller-gives-gershwin-prize-willie-nelson/76403066/*

Cruz supporters plan live Nativity scene at Capitol

"Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz has made religious liberty a cornerstone of his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/25/cruz-nativity-michigan-capitol-lansing/76402392/*

Report: Youth overdose deaths nearly quadruple in Mich.

"Youth overdoses almost quadrupled in Michigan from 1999-2001 to 2011-13, according to a new report from the Trust for America's Health."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/11/26/youth-overdose-deaths-quadruple-michigan/76402904/*

Advocacy/Opinion

What's behind state government curtain? We should demand to know

"As roads crumble and schools face budget cuts, politicians in Lansing bought themselves a new state Senate office building that could run taxpayers as much as $134 million. The decision to give the contract to a Lansing developer was made in a backroom by subcommittee — a prime example of how large donors are rewarded in Lansing while voters face cuts to basic services."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/whats_behind_state_government.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan should host refugee summit

"The four year-old war in Syria has displaced more than half its population of 22 million. Nearly 13 million people have been uprooted, 8 million within the country and 5 million who have fled Syria altogether: 2 million to Turkey, and a million each to Jordan and Lebanon. Another million Syrians are trying to migrate to Europe and North America. Despite the trauma suffered in its capital, France has declared it will welcome 30,000 refugees. But here at home, our government's pledge to accept 10,000 refugees, barely 1 percent of the absorption rate to Europe, has been met with backlash by the public and politicians alike."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/25/michigan-refugee-summit-snyder-syria/76401808/

Let's Make a (Special) Deal: Legislators Can't Shake the Habit

"As 2015 draws to a close, Gov. Rick Snyder and some state lawmakers are excited about yet another sweet-sounding deal that promises the moon in return for special treatment. Switch, a Las Vegas-based technology company, says it will establish in Michigan the largest data center campus in the eastern United States — if the state is willing to provide it with sufficient tax exemptions."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21921*

Press Releases

MEC briefing to address residential rate hikes, energy legislation

"

The energy bills making their way through the Legislature are complicated, ever-changing -- and really important. Michigan Environmental Council Policy Director

James Clift *and Energy Program Director* ***Sarah Mullkoff*** *have been at the table since before the bills began taking shape, and can help reporters sort through the latest developments.*
"

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448486921_mec.pdf

Birth, death, deed and other county services coming to Eastpointe

"Eastpointe residents can access Macomb County clerk and register of deeds services in the Eastpointe City Hall at 23200 Gratiot Avenue, just North of 9 Mile Road, on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m."

Source: *Macomb County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448486446_macomb.pdf

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MVU case study highlights importance of mentors in online learning

"Lansing — A mentor can make all the difference whether you're a new employee on a job or a young person looking for guidance from a caring adult. In online learning, a good mentor can be the difference between passing and failing."

Source: *MVU* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448482462_MVU.pdf*

The Attorney General Doth Protest Too Much

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan released the following response to an email that Attorney General Bill Schuette's spokeswoman sent to members of the Lansing Press Corps upon release of the organization's FOIA request looking at Schuette's relationships with national lobbyists known to target Attorneys General around the country on behalf of their corporate clients "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481376_prg.pdf

Showcasing the DNR: Check station staff hunt for valuable deer data

"Most Michigan deer hunters have been in the woods as much as possible during this firearm deer hunting season."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481230_dnr.pdf

Baker College of Flint hosts Federal Reserve economists Feb. 3, 2016

"FLINT, Mich. – Two economists from the Detroit branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago will present an economic forecast for 2016, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 6-8 p.m. at the Baker College of Flint Center for Business, 1050 W. Bristol Road. The event is free and open to the public; registration is not required."

Source: *Baker College* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481187_baker.pdf

CNN Reporter Coordinated with Clinton Aide to Hit Rand Paul

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.-** In case you missed it, recently released State Department emails show a coordinated effort between CNN Global affairs correspondent Elise Labott and Hillary Clinton aide Philippe Reines in an attempt to discredit Sen. Rand Paul during the 2013 Senate Foreign Relations Committee Benghazi hearing. In response, Rand Paul for President Chief Strategist, Doug Stafford, issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448476735_paul.pdf

Dingell Urges Southeast Michigan Residents to Join in Small Business Saturday

*"**DEARBORN, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today released the following statement encouraging Southeast Michigan residents to participate in Small Business Saturday, which is this Saturday, November 28."*

Source: *Office of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448476326_Dingell.pdf

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Rep. Lawrence, Planned Parenthood to hold World AIDS Day event

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) will meet with Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan CEO Lori Carpentier and Detroit Health Center staff Monday, in advance of World AIDS Day, to call attention to the critical services Planned Parenthood provides for Michigan residents."

Source: *Represenative Lawrence* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448475085_PPMSM Press Advisory (1).pdf

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Give - or get - the gift of outdoor recreation knowledge this holiday season

"Looking for the perfect present for the outdoor enthusiast on your list this season – or maybe even for

yourself? The Michigan Department of Natural Resources may have the answer."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448474640_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor Detroit firefighter Vincent Smith

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings on Monday, November 30 in honor of fallen firefighter, Sgt. Vincent Smith, who died Thursday, November 19."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448474579_GOV.pdf

MSC Order: Abbo v Wireless Toyz Franchise

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order denying leave to appeal in No. 149536, David Abbo v Wireless Toyz Franchise, LLC, which was argued on November 4, 2015.

For more information about the case and related briefs, click here. "

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448471362_supreme.pdf

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Rep. Jim Runestad November 2015 E-newsletter

"Dear Friends, Hello and welcome to the November wrap-up edition of my e-newsletter for 2015! I hope you find this email update useful and informative. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have any questions or concerns. Sincerely, Jim Runestad State Representative, 44th District"

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448471271_runestad.pdf

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Release of Progress Michigan FOIA

"We wanted to give you a heads up on a FOIA request from the anti-Schuette political attack machine known as Progress Michigan.
Results of FOIA requests are public information and I wanted to both make sure you saw the result in its totality and to save you some time from having to filter the facts out after their press release comes out."

Source: *Attorney General Schuette* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448470955_ag.pdf

Ability to Pay Amendments to Court Rules Published for Comment

"LANSING, MI, November 25, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court issued an order today seeking public comment on proposed amendments to court rules that would codify existing statutory and caselaw requirements related to the issue of "Ability to Pay." The amendments would require a court to make a finding about whether a defendant is able to comply with an order to pay without "manifest hardship," would incorporate specific criteria to be considered by the court in making that finding, and would explicitly allow courts to impose alternative payment options. The suggested amendments were proposed by the Michigan State Planning Body for the Delivery of Legal Services to the Poor."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448470874_court.pdf

Michigan CU's Support Small Business Saturday All Year

*"**Lansing, MI (Nov. 25, 2015)** Small business owners are anticipating an influx of holiday shoppers looking for unique, locally made gifts in an effort to support Small Business Saturday."*

Source: *MI Credit Unions* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448466732_mcul.pdf

Stamas property tax notice flexibility bill signed

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday signed legislation sponsored by Sen. Jim Stamas to revise the timeframe in which county treasurers may send delinquent property tax notices."*

Source: *Senator Jim Stamas* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448466022_Jim Stamas.pdf

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More than $12 million in skilled trades training funds will help create over 3,100 jobs

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – More than 13,000 job-seekers and workers will receive training for in-demand technical jobs through grants totaling $12.8 million awarded under Michigan's Skilled Trades Training Fund, Gov. Rick Snyder announced today."*

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464608_12 Million.pdf

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Constituents Critical of Rep. Lawrence's Support of Discriminatory

Legislation

"

Southfield, Michigan - The U.S. House of Representatives, with the support of Rep. Brenda Lawrence, passed legislation today that would make it easier for dealerships to continue the common practice of overcharging African Americans and Latinos for their car loans."

Source: *MI United* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464524_Constitutents.pdf

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Michigan Labor, Business and Former Senate Majority Leaders Weigh in on Michigan's Energy Future W

"On the eve of a potential floor vote on Michigan's energy future, four seasoned veterans discuss House Bills 4298 and 4297 — legislation to secure Michigan's energy future with reliable, affordable and clean energy generated in Michigan by Michigan workers."

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464400_*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/24/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/24/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Court of Appeals* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464413_court.pdf

Michigan Historical Museum to be featured Friday on Travel Channel's 'Mysteries at the Museum'

"The Travel Channel show "Mysteries at the Museum" plans to air a segment Friday, Nov. 27, featuring the Michigan Historical Museum."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448461714_Pingree.pdf

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Audit Report Released - 071-0141-14, DTMB - Workers' Compensation

and LTD

"Performance audit report on the Workers' Compensation and Long Term Disability Programs for State of Michigan Employees, Office of the State Employer, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget Project number: 071-0141-14 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov"

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460953_auditor.pdf

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State rears and stocks muskellunge to create fishing opportunities throughout Michigan

"The Department of Natural Resources recently stocked 27,449 muskellunge fingerlings into 17 water bodies located throughout the state, in an effort to further enhance Michigan's world-class fisheries."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460501_muskellunge.pdf

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Consumers Energy Approaches Halfway Point for Meter Upgrades

"JACKSON, Mich., November 25, 2015 – As winter conditions approach that could hinder meter readers from collecting electric use data at isolated locations, Consumers Energy is eliminating the potential for bills based on estimated meter reads by continuing installations of meters that can be read remotely."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *11-26-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460434_11-25-15 NR Smart Energy Update.docx

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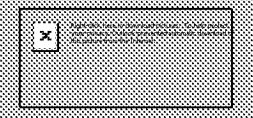
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 8:45 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 3, 2015

MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 3, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/883

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/884

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Data Centers Get Full Tax Exemption Under Senate-Passed Bill

Bills designed to kick off an estimated $5 billion development in Kent County by providing tax breaks for data centers were passed out of the Senate today following committee approval this morning.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45143

House Panel To Study Straight-Ticket Voting Bill Over The Weekend

A bill to end Michigan's straight-ticket voting option inspired more than two hours of debate today, but a House committee wasn't ready to follow the Senate's support for the change.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45142

Recall Language Filed Against Schmidt

An Antrim County man filed recall petition language Wednesday with the Secretary of State against Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) for voting in favor of a road funding package that will raise the

gas tax 7.3 a per gallon and raise driver registration fees 20 percent.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45137

Deficit Districts Down 26%, But Some Heading For Review

The number of deficit districts saw a 26 percent drop this year from last year, but new early warning legislation is going to send 11 of those districts into Treasury's preliminary review process for emergency management.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45136

Federal Transportation Bill Means 15% Increase By 2020

A month after state lawmakers passed a $1.2 billion road funding package, Congress passed its own five-year transportation reauthorization bill, which one Michigan transportation advocate said will mean a 15 percent boost by 2020.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45147

Group Of House R's Object To Planned Parenthood Grant Increase

Conservatives opposed to government funding for Planned Parenthood could see a test in Michigan this month as the state considers a proposed grant increase for the organization.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45143

Hank Wants Easier Process To Verify Older Petition Sigs

An attorney wants to make it easier to verify signatures on ballot proposals that come after the initial 180-day window for collecting petitions.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45138

Canvassers Consider Clarifying Out-Of-State Circulator Policy

If a Michigan resident collects petitions for a ballot campaign, but checks a box saying he or she lives out of state, those signatures would be thrown out.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45139

Aviation Fuel Tax Bills Have A Safe Flight To House

Airports would see more state revenue through an arguably clearer aviation fuel tax system under a six-bill package Senate supported unanimously today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45140

House Delivers Plan To Have State License Midwives

A proposal that would set up a system for licensing and regulating midwives won the approval of the

House this afternoon.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45150

Former Rep. Ferguson Dead At Age 95

Former Rep. Rosetta FERGUSON (D-Detroit), the former chair of the House Civil Right Committee and one of the few anti-abortion Democrats to serve in the House, died Nov. 18 at age 95.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45144

Capitol Staff Experience Security Drill

In the wake of the California shooting this week that left 14 dead, MIRS checked into the state Capitol's latest safety procedures considering more than 100,000 visitors, including thousands of school kids, visit the building every year.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45146

Bits And Tidbits

2% Of Flint Adults, Children Have Elevated Blood Lead Levels

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45149

Gubernatorial Appointments

Gov. Rick SNYDERtoday announced the following appointments and reappointments:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45145

Attention MIRS Subscribers

In the Dec. 2, 2015, edition, in the story "How Bad Must A Sidewalk Be Before A City Can Be Sued?" it should be made clear that the State Bar of Michigan's Negligence Law Section authored the analysis submitted to the House Local Government Committee regarding HB 4686, legislation to change the liability standard regarding injuries caused by broken-up public sidewalks.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45134

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 3, 1978, the state's bottle bill went into effect.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45141

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **State Police**
(CANCELLED) Miller, Aaron; Rm: 308 HOB

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
11:45 AM - **Financial Liability Reform**
(CANCELLED) Somerville, Pat; Rm: 327 HOB

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
10:30 AM - **Elections**
Lyons, Lisa Posthumus; Rm: 327 HOB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **Health Policy**
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
8:30 AM - **Transportation**
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
12:30 PM - **Health Policy**
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: 210 FB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
1:00 PM - **Judiciary**
Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
2:00 PM - **Insurance**
Hune, Joe; Rm: 100 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015
10:30 AM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks during the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Mary Free Bed YMCA

dedication celebration
Location: Mary Free Bed YMCA - Gym
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
9:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fillmore Township Hall
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
11:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Fennville City Hall
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
12:00 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Mugshots Coffee House
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
2:30 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Plainwell City Hall
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
8:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
8:30 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: The Breakfast Place
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
10:00 AM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Antwerp Township Hall
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
12:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Railroad Café
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
2:00 PM
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours
Location: Saugatuck-Douglas Library
Contact: Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793
sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2015
10:00 AM
Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, state and private sector officials to unveil resource for aging drivers(Sponsored by Secretary of State Ruth Johnson)
Guest Speakers: Secretary of State Ruth Johnson; Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, Michigan State Police Director; David Wresinski, Transportation Planning Bureau Director, Michigan Department of Transportation; Paula Kartje, occupational therapist and driver rehabilitation speci
Location: Michigan Library and Historical Center Forum
Contact: Gisgie Dávila Gendreau or Fred Woodhams 517-373-2520
woodhamsf@michigan.gov

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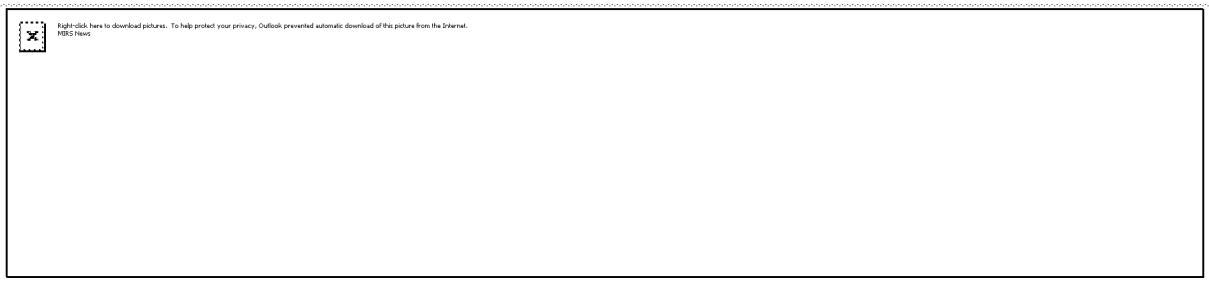
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 6:42 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Judge rules transgender lawsuit against Ruth Johnson may continue

"A federal judge ruled Wednesday that a lawsuit regarding gender markers on driver's licenses and state IDs for transgender residents will continue."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20151202/judge-rules-transgender-lawsuit-against-ruth-johnson-may-continue*

Senate approves data center tax breaks to land Switch campus in West Michigan

"LANSING, MI — The state Senate on Thursday approved broad tax breaks for the data center industry, a move designed to facilitate a high-tech development project in West Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_senate_approves_switc.html#incart_river_index*

Petition language to recall Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder flops again at Board of State Canvassers

"LANSING, MI -- A Detroit resident attempting to recall Gov. Rick Snyder over the city's water crisis saw his third attempt at petition language fail this morning."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/petition_language_to_recall_mi.html#incart_river_index*

5-year budget deficits prompt state review of 11 Michigan school districts

"LANSING, MI — Eleven Michigan school districts that have had or are projected to have budget deficits for more than five years are facing the possibility of state oversight."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/chronic_deficits_prompt_state.html#incart_river_index*

After feds take back military vehicle under Obama order, police 'less prepared,' says Michigan sheriff

"PONTIAC, MI -- A former military vehicle the federal government passed down for local police use has been hauled away under an executive order from the White House, and Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard isn't happy about it."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/after_feds_take_back_military.html#incart_river_index

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New tests show toxic lead in plumbing at Flint elementary schools

"FLINT, MI – Recent water tests at a Flint elementary found toxic lead levels at faucets and drinking fountains, a problem state officials largely attribute to the type of fixtures in the school building."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/18_faucets_at_flints_eisenhowe.html#incart_2box_news_flint

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Rubio, Carson plan Detroit area visits next week

"Florida U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio will hold a rally for his presidential campaign Wednesday in a hangar at the Oakland County International Airport before he attends a fundraiser in Bloomfield Hills."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/rubio-campaign-plans-waterford-twp-rally-next-week/76726656/

State: 30 Flint residents have elevated lead levels

"Thirty Flint children and adults have tested positive for elevated levels of lead in their blood, according to

preliminary data released Thursday by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/state-flint-residents-elevated-lead-levels/76739392/*

Foes attack bill ending straight-party voting

"Lansing — Municipal clerks and advocates for the disabled and racial minorities testified Thursday in opposition to legislation ending the straight-party voting option on Michigan's election ballots."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/foes-attack-bill-ending-straight-party-voting/76725960/*

Lawmakers urge customs plaza funding in Port Huron

"Washington — Three members of Michigan's congressional delegation are again appealing to the Obama administration to give higher priority to funding an expanded customs plaza at the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron in the next federal budget."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/lawmakers-customs-plaza-funding-port-huron/76745956/*

GOP lawmakers oppose state aid for Planned Parenthood

"Lansing — More than two dozen House Republicans want a state panel to reject a proposed $1.2 million increase in funding for Planned Parenthood to provide family planning services for low-income Detroit women that do not include abortions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/gop-lawmakers-oppose-state-aid-planned-parenthood/76753536/*

Senate approves data center tax break bills

"Lansing — The Michigan Senate approved Thursday tax breaks needed to bring a $5-billion data center to the Grand Rapids area, but gave local governments a say over the taxes most directly affecting them."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/senate-panel-oks-data-center-tax-break-bills/76718548/*

Michigan may dump cities' bans on pit bulls

"The mauling death of a 4-year-old Detroit boy this week by a pit bull comes as state lawmakers consider legislation that would make it illegal for communities to ban specific dog breeds."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/03/pit-bull-ban-push/76752096/*

Treasury study might lead to school emergency managers

"Lansing — The Michigan Treasury Department will scrutinize the finances of a dozen school districts that have run deficits for five consecutive years in an action that could lead to more emergency managers running financially distressed public schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/deficit-districts/76718588/*

Push to recall Snyder over Flint water crisis stalls

"LANSING — Michigan's Board of State Canvassers, for the second time in less than a month, rejected Thursday a recall petition aimed at Gov. Rick Snyder over the Flint water crisis."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/03/elections-board-rejects-latest-snyder-recall-petition/76712410/*

GOP presidential candidates head to Michigan next week

"The Republican presidential contest will land in Michigan next week when Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Detroit native Dr. Ben Carson head to the state on Dec. 9."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/gop-presidential-candidates-head-michigan-next-week/76722254/*

Clerks, voters rip plan to end straight-ticket voting

"LANSING – Clerks, advocates for seniors and the disabled, and regular citizens heaped criticism Thursday on a Republican proposal to end straight-party voting in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/03/clerks-voters-rip-plan-end-straight-ticket-voting/76712546/*

Data center tax breaks on fast track toward passage

"LANSING – After three days of contentious debate and political maneuvering over a controversial proposal to provide tax breaks to a single Nevada-based data storage company offering to bring a $5 billion development to the state in exchange, the Michigan Senate decided to approve extending major tax breaks to all data centers in the state."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/data-center-tax-breaks-fast-track-toward-passage/76715104/*

U.S. Rep. Miller's bill on travel security gets vote

"WASHINGTON — In another reaction to last month's deadly attacks in Paris, U.S. House leaders said Thursday the chamber will vote next week on a bill proposed by U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Township, to tighten requirements on nations whose citizens are allowed to travel to the U.S. without a visa."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/us-rep-millers-bill-travel-security-gets-vote/76728060/*

Feds pressed to fund Blue Water Bridge project

"WASHINGTON — Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson and the Obama administration are being pressed by members of Michigan's congressional delegation to make a long-awaited expansion of the Blue Water Bridge's customs plaza part of next year's budget plan, something Johnson alluded to possibly happening earlier in the year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/feds-pressed-fund-blue-water-bridge-project/76738484/*

Lawmakers blast alleged plan to charter Detroit schools

"Democratic state lawmakers from Detroit on Thursday blasted the governor's office and other officials over what they say is a secret plan to turn more than two dozen schools in the city into charters."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/04/detroit-schools-charters/76749998/*

State says blood-lead levels in Flint kids have dropped

"Fewer of Flint's children have tested positive for elevated blood-lead levels since Oct. 1, with the rate falling to

3% of children under 6, according to new state data."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/03/flint-kids-lead-levels/76746474/*

Presidential candidate and U-M graduate Ben Carson returning to Ann Arbor

"Retired pediatric neurosurgeon and Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson will return to his old stomping grounds next week when he visits Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/presidential_candidate_ben_car.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Deregulating toxic air chemicals a major shift

"The state Department of Environmental Quality plans to give big polluters a free pass to emit toxic chemicals into our air, putting Michigan children in harm's way."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/04/deregulate-toxic-air/76752126/*

Moss: State Dems favor expansion of FOIA

"Re: Greg McNeilly's Nov. 18 op-ed in The Detroit News, "Lawmakers need workplace oversight": I thank McNeilly for his support."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/04/mich-democrats-foia/76752156/*

Editorial: Put priority on fixing Detroit tax system

"Despite the progress Mayor Mike Duggan has made in fixing some of Detroit's property tax issues, problems with tax policies and practices persist, hindering the full revitalization of neighborhoods and preventing the city from capturing revenue needed to support public services.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/03/editorial-put-priority-fixing-detroit-tax-system/76752044/*

Gun control inaction makes mass shootings a way of life

"My son spends his days in the classroom of a warm, lovely woman who has, in less than four months, taught him to read, count forward and backward, to play nicely at recess and to be a good citizen. I don't know what she's paid, but it's surely not enough for the Herculean task of cramming — with patience and kindness — reams of information into the heads of two dozen unruly 5-year-olds."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/12/03/inaction-gun-control-make-mass-shootings-way-life/76717268/*

Michigan Education Association Retirement Costs Skyrocket in 2015

"A retirement system created by the state's largest teachers union for its own employees has become a huge financial drain on its finances. Skyrocketing pension and retiree health benefits were the largest contributors to a $100 million increase in liabilities on the books of the Michigan Education Association in 2015, up almost 50 percent from the previous year."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21936*

Want to Buy a Tesla in Michigan? Too Bad, You Can't

"If a Michigan citizen wants to buy an iPhone from Apple, they can go to an Apple store, buy one from another merchant, or order it online."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21937*

Press Releases

Detroit Caucus Members Uncover EAA-DPS Plan to Charter 31 Schools

"LANSING – Members of the House Democratic Detroit Caucus today expressed grave concern for the future of Detroit Schoolchildren trapped in the failing Education Achievement Authority (EAA) system. The district has not met the criteria set forth during Eastern Michigan's University's Dec. 5, 2014, Board of Regents meeting calling for transparency and partnership and has done irreparable harm to the remaining 4,500 students in EAA-run schools. EMU has an interlocal agreement with the school district of the city of Detroit, which is necessary for the existence of the EAA."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449180131_dem.pdf

Congress Passes Legislation that Could Take Away Melissa Gilbert's Passport

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 3, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel issued the following statement regarding the legislation passed today by the U.S. House of Representatives, which gives the IRS authority to deny and revoke passports for any seriously delinquent taxpayers."*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449180063_mrp.pdf

Peters, Stabenow, Miller Urge Obama Administration to Support Funding for Blue Water Bridge

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow (MI) and Rep. Candice Miller (MI-10) today wrote to Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and Director of the Office of Management and Budget Shaun Donovan urging the Administration to make the expansion of a customs plaza for the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron a high priority for funding in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget. Despite land being cleared and property demolished in Port Huron for the expansion, funding for the customs plaza construction has yet to be allocated."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449178738_peters.pdf

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House Passes Long-Term Highway Bill

*"**WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of the conference report for H.R. 22, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449178695_bishop.pdf

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2014 ACS 5-year Estimates

"The U.S. Census Bureau has released the 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. The 5-year ACS estimates represent the most current and comprehensive dataset available describing a wide range of socioeconomic and housing characteristics, which allow community, state, and business leaders to make better, data-driven decisions. Since the 5-year estimates have a larger sample size than the 1- year estimates, there is not a size limit on the geographies which can be accessed, which means that these estimates contain data for all counties, cities, towns, villages and other minor civil divisions in Michigan."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449178621_acs.pdf

Heartland Institute Education Experts React to House Approval of the Every Student Succeeds Act

"The U.S. House of Representatives passed yesterday evening the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the re-authorization the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). ESSA, which would replace No Child Left Behind (NCLB), has been debated for seven years. It is expected to pass the Senate and is likely to be signed by President Barack Obama after a compromise was reached in conference."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449178522_heartland.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Laura Reyes-Kopack, of Livonia, and the reappointments of Rasha Demashkieh, of Fort Gratiot, and Deloris Hunt, of Farmington Hills, to the Michigan Civil Rights Commission."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449176104_gov.pdf

Statement from Secretary of State Ruth Johnson

"Secretary of State Ruth Johnson issued the following statement today regarding the House Elections Committee's action on HB 4724:"

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449173459_sos.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags for San Bernardino, Calif. shooting victims

"Lansing, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder joins President Barack Obama's call to lower Michigan and U.S. flags to half-staff today through sunset on Monday, December 7, in honor of the victims of the December 2 shootings in San Bernardino, Calif."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449173224_gov.pdf

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, state and private sector officials to unveil resource for aging dri

"News conference to announce the unveiling of the Safe Drivers Smart Options website, which provides information and resources for aging drivers, their family and friends, and the professionals who care for them."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449172691_sos.pdf*

Rep. Trott's Statement on Highway Funding Legislation

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after voting in support of legislation to fund America's transportation system:"

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449172644_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc. Mail - Rep.pdf*

Upton Helps Usher Long Term Highway Legislation Through the House

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined the majority of his House colleagues in voting to advance the conference report for H.R. 22, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which authorizes federal surface transportation programs through fiscal year 2020. The legislation was approved by an overwhelming 359-65 bipartisan vote."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449171352_upton.pdf*

MDHHS releases latest data outlining blood lead levels in Flint; Follow-up care, case management res

"LANSING, Mich. – Preliminary data indicates that 30 of 1,361 adults and children tested in Flint since October 1 had elevated blood lead levels, according to a report issued today by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449171241_dhhs.pdf*

Statement from Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers regarding charter school advocacy day

"Please attribute the following statement to Jared Burkhart, Executive Director, Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers regarding charter school advocacy day today at the Capitol."

Source: *Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449170515_mccsa.pdf*

October Unemployment Rates Little Changed in Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates showed little movement in October in most of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels rose moderately in the majority of regions over the month."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449170109_dtmb.pdf*

Rep. Lawrence hosts hearing on Invasive Specifics

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Tuesday held a hearing as the ranking Democratic member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Interior Subcommittee to discuss the impact of invasive species in Michigan and throughout the United States and to review the progress of the National Invasive Species Council (NISC)."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449169494_lawrence.pdf*

DNR seeks information on Otsego County elk poaching

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are seeking information on an elk poaching in southwest Otsego County. On Nov. 16, a large bull elk carcass was found west of Lewiston, between Shupac Lake Road and Big Creek Road."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449166144_dnr.pdf*

House Approves Upton Legislation to Modernize U.S. Energy Policy

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined the majority of his House colleagues in advancing H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act by a bipartisan 249-174 vote. The innovative legislation, sponsored by Upton, focuses on updating the United States' energy policy to properly reflect the changing energy landscape."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165677_upton.pdf*

U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe to Address Heartland Institute Climate Conference in Paris

"PARIS (December 3) - United States Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK) has recorded an address to the attendees and

presenters at the "Day of Examining the Data," taking place in conjunction with COP-21 in Paris. The event, hosted by The Heartland Instituteand CFACT, takes place Monday, December 7 in the San Francisco Room at the Hotel California, 16 Rue de Berri, 75008 Paris, France."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165636_heartland.pdf

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Radio Ad Sets Record Straight on Competitive Bidding Foreign-Backed Companies Mimic "Donald-Trump" P

*"**Lansing, MI** – "Fact: Michigan utilities already competitively bid out their contracts. Period." That's the message being delivered in a recently released radio spot by Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future to correct Trump-like claims from special interest groups. The spot — titled "Already" — sets the record straight on competitive bidding as it relates to energy in Michigan."*

Source: *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165583_mich.pdf

House Approves Upton Legislation to Modernize U.S. Energy Policy

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"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165142_fred.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe to Address Heartland Institute Climate Conference in Paris

"PARIS (December 3) - United States Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK) has recorded an address to the attendees and presenters at the "Day of Examining the Data," taking place in conjunction with COP-21 in Paris. The event, hosted by The Heartland Institute and CFACT, takes place Monday, December 7 in the San Francisco Room at the Hotel California, 16 Rue de Berri, 75008 Paris, France."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165091_ji.pdf

New Radio Ad Sets the Record Straight on Competitive Bidding

*"**Lansing, MI** – "Fact: Michigan utilities already competitively bid out their contracts. Period." That's the message being delivered in a recently released radio spot by Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future to correct Trump-like claims from special interest groups. The spot — titled "Already" — sets the record straight on competitive bidding as it relates to energy in Michigan."*

Source: *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449165048_kr.pdf

MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit

"MDOT weekend construction for 12/04-12/07/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.) MDOT roads are those beginning with I, M, or US."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449162054_MDOT.pdf

Only 5 days left to weigh in on DEQ plan for Lake Erie!

"We have just a few days left to call for real leadership and a strong plan of action to stop toxic algae blooms in Lake Erie. Let's take a look at why this is important:"

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449159896_mlcv.pdf

Michigan announces the MI Health Link Ombudsman Program

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today announced that MI Health Link beneficiaries now have an additional resource for information and support through the MI Health Link Ombudsman Program which was officially operational December 1. As a requirement of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), MDHHS must provide an ombudsman program for the project. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449159375_dhhs.pdf

Consumers Energy Gifts Of Energy Can Warm Homes and Hearts for Everyone This Holiday Season

"JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 3, 2015 – Forget the ugly sweaters, another necktie or footie pajamas. This holiday season Consumers Energy recommends a gift that fits every personality, age and relationship – Gifts of Energy to help warm homes."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449159322_energy.pdf

I-94 bridge reconstruction over Paw Paw River completed for the year

*"**December 3, 2015 --** Reconstruction of the eastbound I-94 bridge over the Paw Paw River in Van Buren County will be completed Friday, Dec. 4. All eastbound and westbound lanes of I-94 are expected to be returned to their original alignment by Sunday, Dec. 6, for the winter."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449158612_mdot.pdf

Upton, House Approve Bill to Reform Education System

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, joined the majority of his House colleagues in voting to advance S. 1177, the Every Student Succeeds Act. S. 1177, which would replaceNo Child Left Behind, was approved by a bipartisan vote of 359 - 64."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449154292_upton.pdf

Benishek Supports Every Child Achieves Act

"Washington, D.C. - Yesterday, the House of Representatives passed the "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015," major bipartisan legislation that will work to empower parents and teachers to return control to their local schools. This legislation will replace the No Child Left Behind Act with a number of reforms, including a prohibition on coercing states to adopt Common Core standards. The legislation also ends the era of federally-mandated "high stakes" testing, places new restrictions on the Secretary of Education, and eliminates 49 ineffective and duplicative programs. "

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449154167_benishek.pdf

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Lt. Gov. Brian Calley presents "Spartan Green Day" proclamation to Mark Dantonio

*"**Photo:** Gov. Rick Snyder has proclaimed Friday, December 4 as "Spartan Green Day" in honor of the Michigan State University Spartans."*

Source: *Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449154103_ltgov.pdf

Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club names new Executive Director

"LANSING, MI – Veteran health and fitness leader Robert Diamond has been named the new Executive Director of the Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, a Sparrow affiliate."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153991_sparrow.pdf*

Audit Report Released - 231-0701-15 - Licensing and Regulating of Automotive-Related Businesses and

"Performance audit report on the Licensing and Regulating of Automotive-Related Businesses and Mechanics, Department of State
Project number: 231-0701-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov"

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153896_auditor.pdf

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Rep. Trott Supports Effort to Improve Education in Southeast Michigan

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today voted in support of legislation to improve public education in Southeast Michigan by reducing federal mandates, restoring local control, and empowering parents and education leaders to hold schools accountable for effectively teaching students."

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153851_trott.pdf

Huizenga Statement on Passage of Education Reform Legislation

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in support of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which passed the House by a vote of 359-64:"*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153807_huizenga.pdf

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Bishop Votes with Bipartisan Majority to Pass K-12 Reform Bill

*"**WASHINGTON** – Tonight, the House passed the Every Student Succeeds Act (S. 1177) to replace No Child Left Behind by a vote of 359-64. In response, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement: "*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153749_bishop.pdf

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Dingell Supports Major Education Bill to Replace No Child Left Behind

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today supported S. 1177, the Every Student Succeeds Act, bipartisan legislation that will improve K-12 education and replace the broken No Child Left Behindlaw. The agreement is a compromise between the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives reached after months of negotiations, and is the first update to federal education law since No Child Left Behind in 2002. The bill now moves to the Senate for approval before being sent to the President for his signature."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-04-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449153706_dingell.pdf

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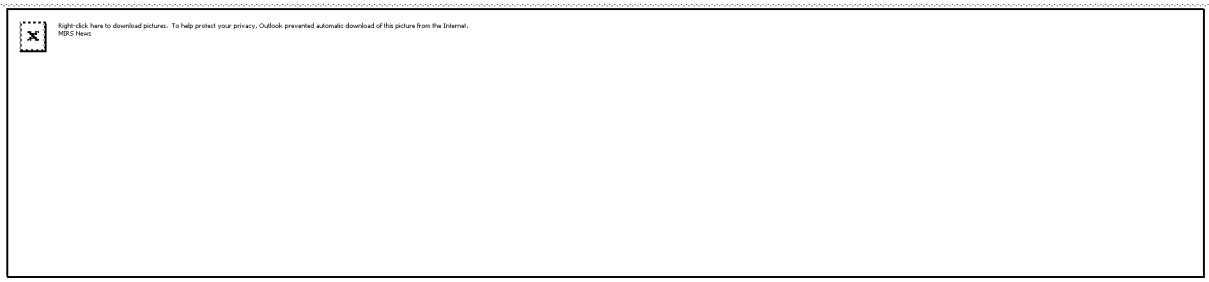
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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No-reason absentee voting bill pushed in Michigan House

"Lansing — Republicans' push to eliminate Michigan's straight-party voting option may improve the odds of voters being allowed to cast an absentee ballot for any reason."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/06/reason-absentee-voting-bill-pushed-michigan-house/76869150/*

Feds can't access phone records in Calif. terror case

"Washington — The U.S. government's ability to review and analyze five years' worth of telephone records for the married couple blamed in the deadly shootings in California lapsed just four days earlier when the National Security Agency's controversial mass surveillance program was formally shut down."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/06/feds-access-nsa-phone-records-california-terror-case/76863954/*

Loan forgiveness sought for Flint to replace lead pipes

"The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is in talks with Flint officials about financing forgivable loans to replace lead-leaching water pipes while U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee is pursuing federal forgiveness for the city's nearly $21 million in past loans for drinking water infrastructure improvements."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:**

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/06/loan-forgiveness-sought-flint-replace-lead-pipes/76845170/

Election law front and center in newly introduced bills

"LANSING — A Grand Blanc Republican wants to make it harder for people to vote by absentee ballot and has introduced legislation toward that end."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/05/election-law-front-and-center-newly-introduced-bills/76802348/

London police treat subway stabbing as terrorism

"LONDON — Police here say they are treating a stabbing attack at a subway station as a terrorist incident."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/12/06/london-subway-stabbings-terror/76877268/

Aunt: San Bernardino suspect 'became more devout'

"Tashfeen Malik, the female suspect in the San Bernardino massacre in California, started to dress more conservatively and became more devout in the last few years, according to a report."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/06/san-bernardino-shooting/76879058/

President Obama to address the nation on San Bernardino shooting

"The White House says President Obama will address the nation from the Oval Office at 8 p.m. Eastern Time on Sunday about the steps the government is taking to keep people safe after the attack this past week in California."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/05/president-obama-address-nation-san-bernadino-shooting/76855608/

Macomb County Treasurer Ted Wahby dies

"Longtime Macomb County Treasurer Ted Wahby, who was well-known after spending more than 30 years

in politics and public service in the county, has died."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/12/06/macomb-county-treasurer-ted-wahby-dies/76868502/*

Morgan Freeman unhurt after plane's forced landing

"Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman was aboard a plane that had to make an emergency landing in Mississippi after blowing a tire, but nobody was hurt in the incident"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/life/people/2015/12/06/morgan-freeman-plane-landing/76876838/*

We are cowards when it comes to gun control

"Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold shot 37 people at Columbine High School."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/05/we-cowards-when-comes-gun-control/76731416/*

Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario

"Imagine an oil slick quickly growing through the Straits of Mackinac from a rupture of the 62-year-old, twin pipelines known as Line 5 traversing the bottom of where Lakes Michigan and Huron connect."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/05/enbridge-pipeline-straits-mackinac-oil-spill-waves/76728434/*

Michigan website aims to reduce cyber attacks on small businesses

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Cyber attacks can be child's play."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/state_rolls_out_website_to_edu.html#incart_river_home*

U-M engineering enrollment hits record, spurred by growth of high-paying jobs

"Three of the five most in-demand jobs for recent college graduates are in the field of engineering. That's been the trend for the better part of a decade since the economy's recovery from the 2008 depression."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/u-ms_college_of_engineering.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan paramedics wear bullet-proof vests to emergency calls

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Tedd Van Solkema and other paramedics frequently walk into crime scenes where tensions are high and anything can happen, even with a heavy police presence."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/some_west_michigan_paramedics.html#incart_river_home*

Howard Meyerson: Captain, fishing guide provides lifelong learning experiences

"Wayne Andersen was attempting to lead a hooked steelhead when Captain Chuck Scribner offered him some gentle pointers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/12/howard_meyerson_captain_fishin.html#incart_river_index*

Rick Haglund: Prosperity in Michigan relies on advanced education jobs

""Middle-skills" jobs — those requiring education and training beyond high school, but less than a four-year degree — are said to be in high demand by employers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/rick_haglund_prosperity_in_mic.html#incart_river_index*

Advocacy/Opinion

Finley: Gun laws won't stop terror

"More gun control laws won't stop terrorism."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/06/finley-opinion-gun-laws-san-bernardino-terror/76845650/*

Searching for a common target in the war on terrorism

"ISIS and rival groups competing for the hearts and minds of would-be jihadists have had only limited success in killing American civilians. But they've been depressingly effective at stampeding U.S. lawmakers into self-defeating policies and rhetoric that betray this country's values and strengthen Islamic State's apocalyptic narrative."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/05/visa-waiver-program/76742038/*

All the risk, none of the rewards for Michigan cities

"Lincoln Park's financial emergency, declared in 2014, inspired some serious rewrites of employee contracts and outsourcing of some city services. Retirees had their health coverage yanked."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/12/05/michigan-cities-financial-troubles/76859904/*

Mitch Albom: Gun laws need to change

"What made a young couple walk into a health facility and start shooting people? It wasn't our gun laws. It wasn't the easy ability to purchase a weapon in this country."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/12/05/mitch-albom-gun-control-san-bernardino/76846865/*

Home-life balance may be biggest challenge for governors

"Oh my, the anti-politician boo-birds will have a field day with this, because anytime something positive is said about our public servants, they tear it to shreds based on the notion that all of them are evil."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/home-life_balance_may_be_bigge.html*

Amendment to Balance the Federal Budget May Die in GOP House Committee

"Barring the unforeseen, the state House will not vote this year on legislation to place Michigan in an interstate compact petitioning for a federal balanced budget amendment. "

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-06-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21941*

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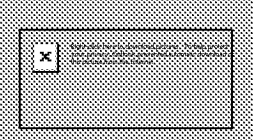
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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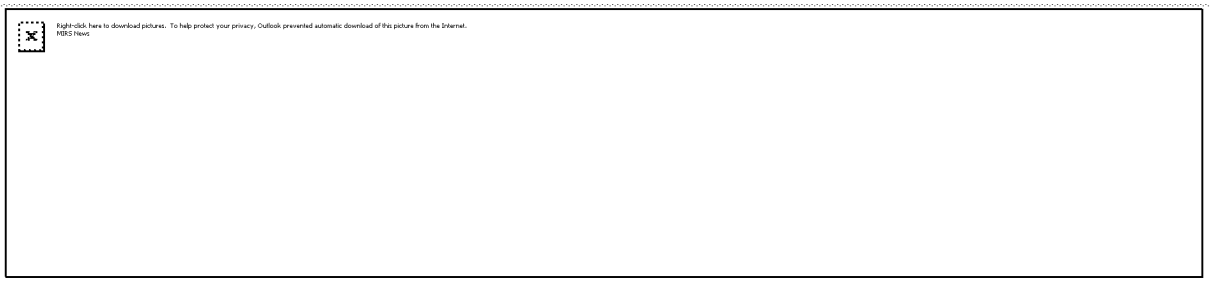

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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: Trump comments 'don't represent the spirit of America'

"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican who preaches relentless positive action, spoke out Wednesday against recent comments by GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_trump.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan Senate bets on bill to regulate charity poker 'millionaire parties' in state law

"LANSING, MI -- The so-called 'millionaire parties' hosted by local charities would be regulated in statute under a bill the Senate passed Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_senate_bets_on_bill_t.html#incart_river_index*

Federal fix or a $2B tax increase? Full Senate could vote on Medicaid match fee next week

"LANSING, MI -- The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday advanced a bill that would extend the life of the Health Insurance Claims Assessment, a fee levied on on health insurers and others to help Michigan match federal Medicaid dollars."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/federal_fix_or_a_2b_tax_increa.html#incart_river_index*

Republican Marco Rubio promises private sector support in Waterford Township stop

"WATERFORD TWP, MI – Almost 200 people packed a Waterford Township airport hanger to show support for Republican presidential hopeful Sen. Marco Rubio."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/florida_sen_marco_rubio_campai.html#incart_river_index*

Straight-ticket voting ban, absentee voting bills approved by Michigan House

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's Republican-led House moved late Wednesday to approve bills that would eliminate straight-ticket voting and allow no-reason absentee voting after an in-person ballot request."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/straight-ticket_voting_ban_abs.html#incart_river_index*

Charter schools need better transparency, accountability, study says

"The growth of for-profit management companies operating charter school has led to "scandalous" financial practices that steer money away from students and into the pockets of private business, according to a study released Thursday."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/better_transparency_accountabi.html#incart_river_home*

Trump wants his initial on Michigan GOP primary ballot

"Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trumppetitioned Michigan election officials last month to add his middle initial to his name on March 8 Republican presidential primary ballot."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/10/trump-wants-initial-michigan-gop-primary-ballot/77074832/*

House panel OKs moving Oakland executive election

"A House committee approved legislation Wednesday that is riling some Democrats because it would mean

moving the election for the Oakland County executive from the presidential election cycle to gubernatorial election years."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/house-panel-oks-moving-oakland-executive-election/77042202/*

Carson hits Trump's Muslim immigrant ban as faith bias

"Ypsilanti — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson said Wednesday that GOP frontrunner Donald Trump's call for blocking all Muslims from entering the country would be unconstitutional discrimination."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/carson-muslim-trump-faith-bias/77061840/*

Ex-Wayne County exec charged in retirement system fraud

"A former airport executive is facing charges for allegedly defrauding the underfunded Wayne County retirement system, prosecutors said."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/10/ex-wayne-county-exec-charged-retirement-system-fraud/77080476/*

Rubio hits Obama's policies, vows defeat of ISIS

"Waterford — Republican presidential hopeful Marco Rubio attacked the president's foreign and domestic policies Wednesday but sought to reassure Americans that his leadership would root out terrorism and make the country more prosperous."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/rubio/77040640/*

Carson tries to regain momentum with health care plan

"Ypsilanti — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson proposed Wednesday gradually raising the Medicare eligibility age to 70 and giving each American a tax-free health savings account at birth to pay for life-long medical expenses."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/carson-tries-regain-momentum-health-care-talk/77040514/*

Report: FCA faces $70 million fine from NHTSA

"The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is reportedly planning to fine Fiat Chrysler Automobiles $70 million for under-reporting vehicle crashes, deaths and injuries tied to its cars and trucks as early as Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/12/09/fiat-chrysler-national-highway-safety-administration-nhtsa-fine/77069226/*

Michigan House votes to eliminate straight-party voting

"LANSING — For the second week in a row, controversial changes to election laws have dominated the debate in Lansing, and on Wednesday, the House voted to eliminate straight ticket voting, despite impassioned pleas from Democrats that it was meant to disenfranchise voters."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/oakland-county-executive-bill-change-lansing/77031492/*

Shouting, reflection mark first year free of bankruptcy

"Detroit marks one year of freedom today from the nation's largest bankruptcy, but overflowing passions at an event Wednesday night to discuss the state of the city showed some residents remain angered and disappointed by the outcome."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/10/deroit-bankruptcy-anniversary/77052694/*

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5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti

"

Republican presidential hopeful Dr. Ben Carson returned to his home state of Michigan on Wednesday, Dec. 9, as part of his "We The People" campaign across the Midwest."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/5_takeaways_from_dr_ben_carson.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Community College leader: 3 steps to economic security

"There simply is no better predictor of individual economic security than a post-secondary credential that has

value in the labor market and with Michigan's growing knowledge economy, it's absolutely necessary."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/community-college-leader-steps-economic-security/77078002/*

Trott: ISIS policy 'anemic,' refugee effort uncertain

"Families in Southeast Michigan are rightly concerned about the threat terrorism poses to our national security and America's freedom. The recent attacks in Paris and the continued rise of Islamic extremist groups like ISIS have illustrated the terrible violence they are capable of inflicting. All Americans must recognize that if these terrorists can bring their deadly attacks to Paris, our nation also stands at risk."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/trott-security-vetting-syria-islamic-state/77078132/*

Bill to ban abortion procedure risks women's health

"As a physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, I feel grateful for meaningful work and for the opportunity to make a positive difference in women's lives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/starr-column-michigan-abortion-ban/77078258/*

Editorial: Metro Detroit among nation's growth leaders

"If we're starting to feel good about the economic revival of Metro Detroit, it's for good reason. Things are improving in the region, and the numbers prove it.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/09/editorial-metro-detroit-among-nations-growth-leaders/77078018/*

Jacques: 'Emergency manager' style takeover of DFT?

"Steve Conn must be seething."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/12/09/jacques-emergency-manager-style-takeover-dft/77077952/*

For state's GOP reps, gun rights trump war on terrorism

"President Barack Obama argues, not unreasonably, that it's insane to sell assault weapons to people whose suspected terrorist ties preclude them from boarding a commercial airline flight."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/10/guns-no-fly-list/76936174/*

Far from Flint, lead remains an irreversible scourge

"Across Michigan, in cities large and small, lead poisoning continues to plague children, limiting them in school and on the playground."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/far-from-flint-lead-remains-an-irreversible-scourge/*

Sink or swim: Higher education is key to Michigan's future

"It's the kind of study that conjures visions of a Michigan flush with opportunity one day soon. And, if its findings are accurate, it's a study that warns that doing nothing could ensure Michigan's decline as a place to live and work."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/sink-or-swim-higher-education-is-key-to-michigans-future/*

Press Releases

Video of Dem Floor Leader Singh's Point of Order

"House Republicans have said Democratic Floor Leader Singh did not ask a question. Please take a look at the video where you can clearly see he stated "Clearly one-fifth of the members supported a record roll call vote. So I am using this point of order to ask you to recognize one fifth of the members that are here and grant this record roll call vote as the state constitution demands?""

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449720454_singh.pdf*

Rep. Martin Howrylak - SB 13 no vote explanation

"I voted "no" on SB 13 because an appropriation was included in the bill."

Source: *Rep. Martin Howrylak* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449717125_howrylak.pdf*

House Dems Denounce Removal of Straight-Ticket Voting Option

"LANSING — The House Democratic Caucus voted today against a bill that would ban the straight-ticket voting option in Michigan. Senate Bill 13, which was voted out of committee and passed in the Senate on the same day last month, has been particularly controversial, as a version of the bill was twice passed in Michigan, and both times been repealed through voter referendum. In order to prevent the same check from being applicable to this bill, House Republicans attached two appropriations totaling $6 million to the bill, making it referendum-proof."

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449716320_DEMS.pdf

US-10/I-75 interchange project nears completion

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will begin to move eastbound US-10 traffic to the newly constructed eastbound bridge on Thursday, Dec. 10. Crews will also begin work to open ramps to and from eastbound US-10."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449712051_MDOT.pdf

Traffic Advisory Saginaw County

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete bridge inspections on the Veterans Memorial Parkway Bridge over I-675, Thursday, Dec. 10. This work will require lane closures on I-675 under the bridge, and ramp closures from Veterans Memorial Parkway to I-675."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449711982_MDOT.pdf

Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Denounces Voter Suppression Legislation

*"LANSING - The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) voted
today to categorically oppose Senate Bills 13 and639, and House Bill4724, all
of which are designed to. suppress the African American vote in next year's state-wide contests."*

Source: *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449705497_mlbc.pdf

Trott Authors Legislation to Rebuke Obama Administration's Recall of Needed

Armored Vehicles Used By

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today authored legislation to disapprove of President Barack Obama's executive order to recall armored defense vehicles used by law enforcement in communities in Southeast Michigan."

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449703426_trott.pdf*

Legislative Black Caucus Pens Open Letter to Sen. Knollenberg

"LANSING- Dear Sen. Marty Knollenberg:"

Source: *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449703327_mich.pdf

Heartland Institute Follows Paris COP-21 Success with Climate Conference in Germany

"The Heartland Institute will follows up its successful trip to Paris for the United Nations' COP-21 – at which some of the world's leading climate scientists and policy experts made international news with the "Day of Examining the Data" – with its Eleventh International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC-11). The event is cosponsored with the European Institute for Climate and Energy (EIKE), marking the second time Heartland and EIKE have partnered to host an ICCC."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449700260_heartland.pdf

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Michigan Democrats Call on Bishop, Walberg, and Casperson to Denounce Donald Trump's Hateful "Bigotr

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party has called on Mike Bishop, Tim Walberg, and Tom Casperson to denounce recent comments by Donald Trump calling for the United States to ban Muslims from entering the country. "

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449699682_mdp.pdf

Activists, Faith Leaders Hold Candle Light Vigil to Speak Out Against Gun Violence

"LANSING — Leaders in the faith community joined gun violence prevention activists from around the state on the steps of the Capitol this evening to hold a candle light vigil to speak out against gun violence. The message of the speakers highlighted that Michiganders and Americans must unite, reflect and act to prevent gun violence in our

communities and to prevent gun proliferation legislation from advancing in the legislature."

Source: *Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449698986_gun.pdf*

Green's 'moveable bridge' legislation passes Senate

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Legislation introduced by state Sen. Mike Green, R-Mayville, that would assist communities was voted out of the Senate on Wednesday with bipartisan support and will now go before the House of Representatives for consideration."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449698603_green 4.54.20 PM.pdf*

Stamas, Pettalia introduce bills for partnership of Alpena Regional Medical Center and MidMichigan H

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Jim Stamas and Rep. Peter Pettalia have introduced legislation to pave the way for a partnership of Alpena Regional Medical Center (ARMC) and MidMichigan Health."*

Source: *Sen. Jim Stamas* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449697829_stamas.pdf*

Kowall awards lapel pin to Vietnam veteran Bruce Kurth

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall welcomed Vietnam veteran Bruce Kurth and wife Karen and their family to his Capitol office on Wednesday. Kurth, who served two tours in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970 as part of the Navy Seabees, received a Vietnam veteran lapel pin from Kowall."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Kowall* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449697697_kowall.pdf*

Green Photo Advisory: St. Paul Lutheran student art on display in Lansing office

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green, R-Mayville, has announced that an impressive art collection from students of St. Paul Lutheran School in Millington is on display in his Lansing office. The art was submitted by teacher Amy Baldwin."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449695655_green.pdf*

Board of State Canvassers to meet Dec. 14

"The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 1:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 14 in room 426 of the state Capitol in Lansing."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449695579_sos.pdf

Muskegon County Commissioner Terry Sabo to Announce Candidacy for State House on Saturday

*"**Muskegon, Mich. —** Terry J. Sabo, Chairman of the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners and a nearly 25 year veteran of the Muskegon Heights Police and Fire Departments, will announce his candidacy for State Representative of Michigan's 92nd State House District to supporters at the Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice on Saturday at noon. Terry will be joined by family, and friends including: former State Representative the Hon. Doug Bennett, Muskegon County Clerk Nancy Waters, Muskegon County Prosecutor D.J. Hilson, and Muskegon County Treasurer Tony Moulatsiotis. Members of the media are invited to attend."*

Source: *Muskegon County Commissioner Terry J. Sabo* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693678_sabo.pdf

Jones introduces zoo animal breeding bill

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to allow five Michigan zoos to breed large carnivores for the protection of the species."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693332_jones.pdf

Sen. Hertel and Rep. Hoadley Issue Resolution to Memorialize Victims of Gun Violence

"LANSING, Mich. - State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D-Meridian Twp.) and State Representative Jon Hoadley (D–Kalamazoo) have introduced a resolution that would mark Dec. 9 through Dec. 16, 2015, as a week to remember those killed or injured by gun violence."

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693295_ananich.pdf

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MDP Response to Rubio Fundraising in Michigan Today

"Marco Rubio is fundraising in Michigan today. Marco Rubio opposed the auto industry rescue that saved 1.5 million jobs, many of them in Michigan, and made the American auto industry competitive again for the first time in decades. Had Marco Rubio and the Republicans running for president had their way, GM and Chrysler's doors would be closed, and the American auto industry would likely no longer exist."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449692254_mdp.pdf

Upton in The Detroit News: 'We can't arrest our way out of the opioid epidemic'

"Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph took to the pages of The Detroit News this week to highlight the work the Energy and Commerce Committee is doing to address the growing opioid abuse epidemic. During the past year, the committee has held a number of hearings with experts, stakeholders, law enforcement, individuals in recovery, and family members of opioid abuse victims in order to identify problems with how opioid addiction is treated and ways we can help those in need."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449692164_upton.pdf

TIME CHANGE TO NOON: Christmas Party & Congresswoman Lawrence Holiday Open Houses

"The 14th District Democrats are convening in December for our holiday gathering. This takes the place of our regular monthly meeting for December."

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449690633_repub.pdf

Challenging Times for Law Enforcement and the Public Alike

"These are challenging and anxiety-provoking times. For law enforcement, this has been especially true. Recently, there have been a number of videos showing police misconduct. As a law enforcement executive, I believe when there is wrongdoing it should be disclosed and rectified. This helps build trust and enhance confidence in police agencies. Law enforcement executives across the country agree with this strategy."

Source: *Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449689082_oak.pdf

New MIOSHA Injury and Illness Reporting Requirements in Effect

*"**December 9, 2015** – Employers in the state of Michigan are now required to report any work-related amputation,*

loss of an eye, or in-patient hospitalization of any employee to the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) within 24 hours of the incident."

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449668706_lara.pdf*

Pipeline Secrecy Bill is back!

*"**After fading away several months ago—thanks to serious pushback from members like you—this terrible bill is back.** In the name of national security, this bill would deny citizens and watchdogs alike from accessing key safety data on oil and gas pipelines right here in Michigan.*
*The pipeline secrecy bill is **set for discussion and a possible vote as soon as tomorrow.**"*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687639_mlcv.pdf*

Detroit casino revenues and wagering taxes reported for November 2015

*"**Detroit** - The three Detroit casinos' aggregate revenue was 1.8 percent higher in November compared with the same month last year. Through Nov. 30, the casinos' aggregate revenue was 3 percent higher than during the first 11 months of 2014."*

Source: *Michigan Gaming Control Board* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687787_mgcb.pdf*

Senate approves Jones bill to keep sex offenders away from schools

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to restore a law prohibiting sex offenders from working or living within 1,000 feet of a school."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687129_jones.pdf*

Michigan House to U.S. Senate: repeal COOL regulations

"The Michigan House of Representatives this week approved a resolution urging the U.S. Senate to concur with the U.S. House of Representatives and repeal country-of-origin labeling (COOL) regulations."

Source: *Rep. Jason Sheppard* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686925_sheppard.pdf*

Secretary of State's "get-in-line-online" service hits major milestone

"LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson today announced that the innovative MI-TIME Line service has hit a major milestone, with 2 million people using it since its launch less than two years ago."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686871_SOS.pdf

DEQ, Schuette reach settlement with company for sewage discharges

"The DEQ and Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced the state's settlement of civil litigation with the owners of a housing community in Flat Rock. "

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686381_deq.pdf

Senate GOP Votes to Enshrine Corporate Monetary Influence into Law

"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the Senate Republicans voting to enshrine Citizens United into Michigan law by passing SB638."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686133_mich.pdf

Main Street bridge in Niles reopens Thursday

*"**December 9, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) expects to reopen the M-139 (Main Street) bridge over the St. Joseph River in downtown Niles, Berrien County, around 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686083_niles.pdf

Paul Mitchell, Detroit Free Press guest writer

"In recent months there has been an uproar over a proposed low-level nuclear waste facility being developed along the shores of Lake Huron in Canada."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449684743_Mitchell.pdf

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Governor signs Zorn's firefighter certification bill

*"**LANSING, Mich. -** Sen. Dale Zorn and area fire chiefs joined Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday for a formal bill signing of Zorn's legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same requirements as Michigan."*

Source: *Office of Senator Dale Zorn* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686325_zorn.pdf

Legal Experts on Immigration Weigh in on Recent Political Discussions

"As immigration issues have become the forefront of discussions by various political candidates and by the nation as a whole, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School Professors from the law school's Michigan and Tampa Bay campuses, who are experts in Constitutional Law, Immigration Law, and Homeland Security Law are available to speak with members of the media. "

Source: *Western MI University* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686216_legal.pdf

BREAKING: Cyber Squadron Awarded to Michigan Air National Guard in Battle Creek

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, and Senator Gary Peters, D-Michigan, today celebrated the announcement that the Michigan Air National Guard's 110th Attack Wing, stationed in Battle Creek, will be host of a new Cyber Operation Squadron distinction."

Source: *Office of Congressman Upton* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449682608_upton cyber.pdf

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Gov. Snyder: Dept. of Defense chooses Battle Creek Air Nat. Guard Base-Cyber Operations Squadron

"LANSING, Mich. – The Battle Creek Air National Guard base is one of four locations in the United States chosen for a new Cyber Operations Squadron to help detect and protect against cybersecurity threats, Gov. Rick Snyder said today."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449682407_snyder cyber.pdf

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Vigil for End to Gun Violence on the Capitol Steps

"LANSING — In the wake of gun violence in Michigan and throughout the country, the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence will be holding a candle light vigil on the steps of the Capitol Building in Lansing today at 5

p.m. The vigil will also commemorate the third anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school, as well as the 90,000 Americans who have been victims of gun violence since December 2012."

Source: *MI Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449681253_mich.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Dept. of Defense chooses Battle Creek Air National Guard Base for new Cyber Operat

"LANSING, Mich. – The Battle Creek Air National Guard base is one of four locations in the United States chosen for a new Cyber Operations Squadron to help detect and protect against cybersecurity threats, Gov. Rick Snyder said today.

"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449681022_gov.pdf

Peters Education Measures to Be Signed into Law

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today applauded Senate passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), bipartisan legislation to reform the No Child Left Behind law and reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives last week and will be signed into law by the President, includes a bipartisan amendment Peters introduced with Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) supporting dual and concurrent enrollment in schools. Two additional measures Peters championed are also included in the bill – one to support funding for financial literacy programming and one to strengthen efforts to better identify dual status youth. Dual status youth are young people who come into contact with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449680545_peters.pdf

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Peters Pipeline Safety Provisions Move Forward in the Senate

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee today approved bipartisan legislation U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) introduced with his Commerce Committee colleagues to reauthorize the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) through 2019, and improve pipeline safety and oversight. The legislation, known as the Securing America's Future Energy: Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (SAFE PIPES) Act, included several pipeline safety provisions from the Pipeline Improvement and Preventing Spills (PIPS) Act that Peters introduced in September, along with Senator Debbie Stabenow."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449678804_peters.pdf

Michigan Data Center Alliance opposes rushed policy that picks winners and losers

*"LANSING – **Yan Ness**, spokesman for the **Michigan Data Center Alliance**, released the following statement today following a decision by the House Tax Policy Committee to rush through personal property tax reform targeted at one business, with no guarantee of a level playing field for existing businesses:"*

Source: *Michigan Data Center Alliance* **Date:** *12-10-2015* **Link: <**

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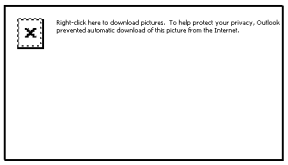
From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2015 11:27 AM
To: Fosdick, David (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Mukuna, Herve (DTMB);White, Keith (DTMB);Babb, Abbey (DTMB);Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Lead crisis in Flint? Here are cities with even higher rates

f.y.i.

From: Bridge Magazine [mailto:info@thecenterformichigan.net]
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2015 9:31 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Lead crisis in Flint? Here are cities with even higher rates

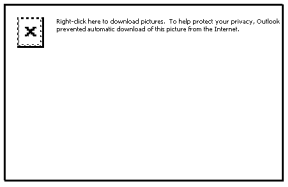
Far from Flint, lead remains an irreversible scourge



Lead poisoning rates have dropped dramatically in Michigan over the past decade. But in many cities and towns, child exposure rates far exceed those in Flint.

READ FULL STORY

Interactive map: Places with higher lead rates than Flint



Check out cities across Michigan with high lead exposure rates, as well as rates in your neighborhood

READ FULL STORY

Sink or swim: Higher education is key to Michigan's future

A new report by education, business, philanthropic and government leaders says Michigan's rise to an elite state depends on getting far more students to graduate from college or obtain a technical certificate after high school.

READ FULL STORY

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To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
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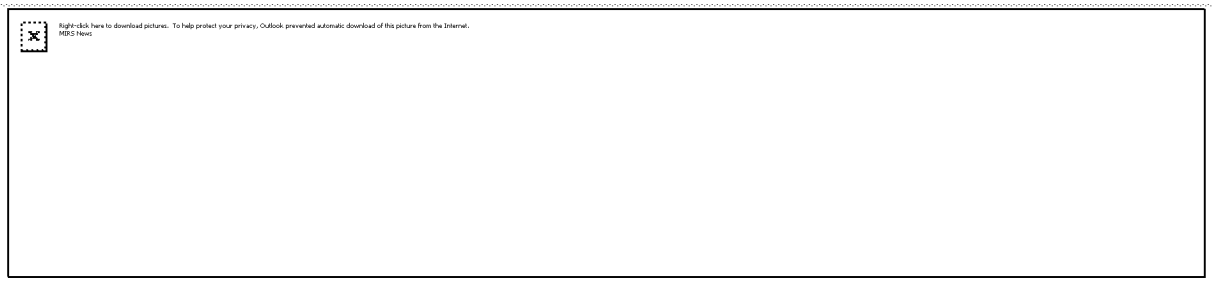

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Sen. Mike Green bill to fund drawbridge operations passes state Senate

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — A bill that would help some Michigan communities fund the operational costs associated with movable bridges was approved by the state Senate this week."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/bill_to_provide_state_funding.html#incart_river_index*

One year after exiting bankruptcy, Detroit 'modestly outpacing' projections

"DETROIT, MI -- A year ago today, the governor, the mayor and the emergency manger gathered at Detroit Police headquarters to announce that the city's ordeal in bankruptcy court was over."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/one_year_after_exiting_bankrup.html#incart_river_index

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Utility-backed group urges support on energy bill that doesn't exist

"LANSING, MI -- Turn on a radio or television set and listen a minute -- hear those ads urging you to support the "Nofs-Nesbitt energy bill" or "Nofs-Nesbitt energy plan?" That's close to impossible, since the bill doesn't exist."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/utility-backed_group_urges_sup.html#incart_river_index*

Why school leaders say energy bill will take $15M out of classrooms a year

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Grand Rapids Public Schools and districts across Michigan say a proposed rewrite of the state's energy law that eliminates the ability to choose electricity providers will take money from classrooms and further strain already tight budgets."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/why_public_school_leaders_say_1.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan marijuana legalization group extending petition drive, challenging 180-day policy

"LANSING, MI — A group seeking to put a marijuana legalization proposal on Michigan's 2016 ballot plans to blow by an initial 180-day window for collecting signatures and continue its petition drive into the New Year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_marijuana_legalizatio_7.html#incart_river_index*

Black students struggling more in Michigan than other states, according to report

"LANSING, MI — African-American students are further behind their peers in Michigan than in most other states, according to a new report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/black_students_struggling_more.html#incart_river_index*

'It's do or die' as Michigan competes for data centers

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – West Michigan could lose its best chance to land a new industry – data storage centers – if the state legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder fumble legislation that would create tax incentives to locate here, said Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place Inc.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/its_do_or_die_for_michigan_to.html#incart_2box_news_grand-rapids*

Flint taking step to ensure safe water after problems

"Flint — Flint says phosphates are being added to drinking water in an effort to help deal with problems with lead caused by the city's earlier use of Flint River water."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/flint-taking-step-ensure-safe-water-problems/77084910/*

Report: Mich. near bottom in black student achievement

"In a national study of African-American student achievement released Thursday, Michigan results are grim, with scores near the bottom in several crucial areas."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/black-student-achievement-michigan/77083696/*

Grand jury indicts ex=EAA principal, 2 others

"A federal grand jury in Detroit has indicted a former Educational Achievement Authority principal and an after-school tutoring vendor on multiple charges, including conspiracy and bribery."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/12/10/detroit-schools-eaa-indictment/77093012/*

Snyder puts former state GOP chair on Oakland U. board

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed the former chairman of the Michigan Republican Party to serve on the Oakland University Board of Trustees."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/12/10/bobby-schostak-appointed-oakland-university-board/77111454/*

Michigan's black students lag behind the nation

"Michigan ranks as among the worst states in the nation for the performance of African American students, according to a report out today from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/michigans-black-students-academic-performance/77099294/*

Former Flint mayor wants feds to probe lead in water

"LANSING — Former Flint Mayor James Sharp Jr., who had his own experience with contaminated water while stationed as a U.S. Marine at Camp Lejuene in North Carolina, is calling for federal investigations into the Flint water controversy and a more comprehensive outreach effort to contact and test those who may have drank water containing unsafe levels of lead."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/former-flint-mayor-wants-feds-probe-lead-water/77068024/*

GOP members of Congress from Michigan reject Trump plan

"WASHINGTON — All but two of the nine Republican members of Michigan's congressional delegation told the Free Press by Thursday afternoon that they reject presidential candidate Donald Trump's proposal that Muslims be barred from entering the U.S. in the wake of terrorist attacks in Paris and California."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/10/gop-members-congress-michigan-reject-trump-plan/77113226/*

Ex-star principal tells of her downfall in EAA scandal

"The first time Kenyetta (K.C.) Wilbourn Snapp broke the law, she had been in a new job for less than a week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/10/eaa-kc-wilbourn-scandal-federal-investigation/76742980/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Mackinac Center: Skip industry breaks, lower all taxes

"There is a rush on by lawmakers to push through special legislation that would grant tax (or perhaps other) advantages to Switch, a data storage company, for a project in west Michigan. If the incentive bill is passed, it could see the company moving into the old Steelcase Pyramid Building. As I write, lawmakers are squabbling about the size of the fiscal Christmas gift they intend to present and whether it should be extended to other companies in the same industry."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/switch-tax-breaks-cuts-development/77131794/*

Szymanski: Juvenile court best answer for 17-year-olds

"Throughout my career, I have worked to elevate juvenile justice issues to a level where the state policies that govern how youth in trouble with the law are handled can be thoroughly examined, and amended as necessary. One policy reform that I have consistently advocated for is ensuring that youth who commit a crime are treated differently than adult offenders. That's why I support the proposed legislation to raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 17 to 18."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/michigan-juvenile-offenders-adult-jails/77131860/*

Civil Rights commissioners: Stand up to hate

"In Michigan, more than 300 years of settlement and progress have taught us some things. As people around the world are reeling from terrorist attacks, it is important that we state these truths and underscore our commitment to protecting the civil rights of all people."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/civil-rights-commissioners-stand-hate/77131906/*

Editorial: Facts should inform gun debate

"The terrorist attack in San Bernardino last week has prompted calls for more gun control. But before the nation can have a meaningful conversation about changing gun laws, it must get the facts straight.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/10/editorial-facts-inform-gun-debate/77131714/*

Detroit school 'sickouts' measure system's dysfunction

"If there's any measure of just how bad things are in Detroit Public Schools, it's surely a series of "sickouts" — a coordinated mass absence under the guise of sick leave — which forced seven schools to close Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/12/10/detroit-school-sickouts/77097736/*

Press Releases

President Signs Every Student Succeeds Act into Law

*"**WASHINGTON** – Congressman Mike Bishop - a member of the House Education and the Workforce's Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee - issued the following statement in response to President Obama signing the Every Student Succeeds Act into law:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449784845_bishop.pdf

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Gun Violence Survivors, Michigan Moms and Community Leaders to Join Together for Orange Walk and Int

*"**LANSING, Mich**.—In the wake of the mass shooting in San Bernardino and heightened attention on the need for our nation's leaders to act to end gun violence, the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, part of Everytown for Gun Safety, will join together this weekend in Ann Arbor, Midland and Grand Rapids for Orange Walks and an Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence. During the walks and vigil, participants will share photos and post on social media using the hashtag #EndGunViolence. "*

Source: *Moms Demand Action* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449783660_mda.pdf

Urgent: Senate Bill 639 to disenfranchise Michigan voters

"Some in the Michigan legislature want to make it harder for you to vote."

Source: *ACLU of Michigan* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449783484_aclu.pdf

Heartland Institute Education Experts React to Release of Illinois PARCC Tests

"Illinois 2014–15 education test scores released Wednesday show only one-third of students are prepared for college and career. These are the first scores released under the Common Core-aligned Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449782423_heartland.pdf

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New Report Reveals Alternatives to Line 5 at the Straits, Press Conference

Monday 12-14

*"**Experts to State Advisory Board: Viable Alternatives to Straits Pipelines Must Be Pursued to Avoid Oil Spill Disaster in Great Lakes**"*

Source: *For Love of Water* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449782075_flow.pdf

Early impressions show deer harvest up in Lower Peninsula, down in U.P.

"Each year, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources generates preliminary estimates of the firearm deer harvest shortly after the season closes. The 2015 firearm deer season wrapped up Nov. 30, with indications of mixed results throughout the state."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781941_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781879_gov.pdf

Elm seed bug found in Michigan

*"**LANSING** – The Elm seed bug has made its way into Michigan. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development confirmed it has been discovered in Oakland County. The elm seed bug (Arocatus melanocephalus (Fabricius)) is a small, non-native home-invading pest native to south-central Europe. It uses its needle-like mouthparts to penetrate seeds and extract their nutrients. It feeds primarily on elm, but it has been reported from other tree species. In 2012, it was detected in Idaho, the first record of this insect in North America."*

Source: *Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781801_dard.pdf

Senate approves O'Brien's CARE Act

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Senate on Thursday approved the CARE Act to help prepare and support in-home caregivers when providing assistance for loved ones after they leave the hospital."*

Source: *Sen. Margaret O'Brien* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781035_obrien.pdf

Erick Kind named to lead MDOT Grand Region

*"**December 10, 2015** – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has named Erick Kind as Grand Region engineer. Kind will succeed Roger Safford, who is retiring Dec. 31 after 28 years at MDOT."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778853_mdot.pdf

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield in announcing that the health and wellness Building Healthy Communities program will be expanded to 100 additional Michigan schools. He will be joined by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon."

Source: *Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778211_gov.pdf

AGC of Michigan and MIOSHA Share a Cup of Coffee Over Worker Safety

*"**December 10, 2015** – The Associated General Contractors of Michigan, a full service construction trade association, partnered with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) today in Lansing to discuss workplace safety and health and allow employers and employees to learn about MIOSHA services."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778031_lara.pdf

Colbeck to hold December office hours in Livonia

"State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and District Manager Penny Crider will conduct monthly office hours for December in Livonia on Friday, Dec. 18. The office hours are at the Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public."

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449777372_colbeck.pdf

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Sportsmen's Alliance Appoints Heusinkveld as Interim President and CEO

"Effective Dec. 1, the Sportsmen's Alliance board of directors appointed Evan Heusinkveld as acting

President and CEO of Sportsmen's Alliance. "

Source: *Sportsmen's Alliance* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449776534_sport.pdf

Legislators Speak Out Against Barriers for African-American Voters

*"LANSING — State Representatives **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint) and **Brian Banks** (D-Detroit) and state Senator **Coleman Young II** (D-Detroit) are urging fellow legislators in the Senate to vote against Senate Bills 13 and 639 and House Bill 4724, which are biased against urban populations that are comprised largely of African-American voters. SB 13 and HB 4724 were passed by the House late last night by slim margins. SB 639 is still in committee in the Senate."*

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449773476_mhd.pdf

Why Does Congressman Tim Walberg Love Big Oil Subsidies, Hate Renewable Fuels Jobs in Michigan?

"A number of Republican Presidential candidates have been put on the defensive in recent days over their hypocritical opposition to the Renewable Fuel Standard at the same time they support billions of dollars in wasteful subsidies for the oil industry. But they're not the only ones who want to pick winners (Big Oil CEOs) and losers (consumers, Michigan jobs, rural economies, our national security and the environment)."

Source: *Americans United For Change* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449773270_auc.pdf

House Committee on Oversight and Ethics Employs Backdoor Measure to Sustain a Plan to Limit Transpar

"LANSING - The Michigan League of Conservation Voters stood opposed to legislation that would exempt pipeline safety information from the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) as it was moved out of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee today. Without enough votes to pass the legislation, the Committee voted to refer it to the House Natural Resources Committee. "

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771390_mclv.pdf

Nofs co-sponsors large carnivore breeding bill

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Sen. Mike Nofs, R-Battle Creek, co-sponsored legislation Thursday that would allow for five Michigan zoos to breed large carnivores in order to protect the species."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Nofs* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771339_nofs.pdf

Senate approves Jones bill to protect charitable gaming

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to allow charity poker rooms to continue to operate in Michigan. "*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771289_jones.pdf

Enough is Enough: Fire Union Bullies Hurting Detroit Kids

*"**DETROIT, MI, December 10, 2015** –The Michigan Freedom Fund today renewed its call on Detroit Public Schools and policymakers in Lansing to pursue every option to stand up to union bullies in the District, after teachers again walked out of their classrooms today to flex their union muscles, leaving Detroit students at 7 schools without their teachers and on the street."*

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771253_mff.pdf

Bill to improve recycling rate reporting moves forward

"The members of the Michigan Waste & Recycling Association (MWRA) would like to thank the Michigan Senate for moving recycling forward with their approval of Senate Bill 507 today. In particular, the association appreciates the efforts of sponsor Senator Mike Green to advocate for the legislation."

Source: *Michigan Waste Recycling Association* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766981_mwra.pdf

CLOSURE OF COURT - DECEMBER 11, 2015

"The 55th Judicial District Court will be closed to the public on Friday, December 11, 2015."

Source: *55th Judicial District Court* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766308_court.pdf

2015 America's Health Rankings Annual Report Finds Michigan Ranks 35th Among All U.S. States in Over

*"**DETROIT** (Dec. 10, 2015) – In the country's annual health checkup, Michigan ranks 35 this year when compared with other states – according to United Health Foundation's America's Health Rankings® Annual Report."*

Source: *United Health Foundation* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766224_uhf.pdf

Michigan CARE Act passes Senate

*"**[LANSING, MI]** Legislation supporting the state's family caregivers – an unpaid silent army about 2 million strong who help make it possible for older Michiganders to live independently at home – won overwhelming passage in the state Senate today."*

Source: *AARP Michigan* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766144_aarp.pdf

Michigan still lags significantly behind nation in per-pupil funding

"LANSING — Momentum to increase education funding must continue to better serve Michigan's students and workforce, according to a report released today by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a nonpartisan policy research organization based in Washington, D.C."

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449761866_mlpp.pdf

New Website Sends Coal to Lansing Politicians Who Made Voting Harder in Michigan

"LANSING – Today the Michigan AFL-CIO launched a new website to hold lawmakers accountable for passing legislation last night that will make voting harder in Michigan."

Source: *Michigan AFL-CIO* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449760984_aflcio.pdf

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MCUA Update Heads to Senate After Moving Easily Through House

"The Michigan House of Representatives on Wednesday passed a six-bill package that will modernize the Michigan Credit Union Act (MCUA) for the first time since 2003."

Source: *Michigan Credit Union Association* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449757748_mcua.pdf

MRP Chairman Statement on Theresa Abed running for the 71st House District

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 10, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement in response to Theresa Abed announcing she will be running for the 71st Michigan House District again:"*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756556_mrp.pdf

MDOT weekend construction 12/11-12/14/15

"MDOT weekend construction for 12/11-12/14/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US. (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756511_mdot.pdf

Schuette: Chesapeake Settlement Notifications Mailed to Northern Michigan Residents

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that his Corporate Oversight Division is in the process of mailing claim forms to approximately 700 Northern Michigan residents who were affected by a racketeering and bid–rigging scheme involving Chesapeake Energy Corporationthat caused lease prices on their land to plummet and defrauded hundreds of Michigan residents in 2010."*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-11-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756455_ag.pdf

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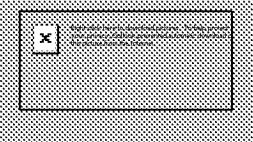
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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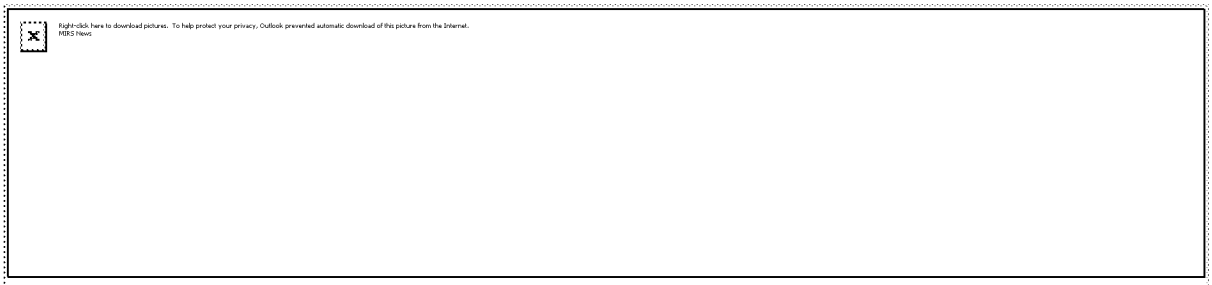
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 7:00 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, December 11, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, December 11, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

No-Fault Reform Expected To Move Back Into The Spotlight

The once quiet debate over how to reform Michigan's auto no-fault system has been getting louder this month, and some say the issue could return to the forefront as soon as early 2016.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45231

RTL Michigan: Defunding Planned Parenthood A Process, Not Event

Right to Life of Michigan lobbyist Ed RIVET this week told key Republican leaders that there "will be no cry from Right to Life of Michigan to 'Defund Planned Parenthood,'" but that doesn't mean the group doesn't want dollars reprioritized.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45229

Did MRP Chair Reach Out To Lawmakers On Straight-Ticket Bill?

A spokesperson for the Michigan Republican Party (MRP) didn't deny today an allegation that the party's chair reached out to House members to encourage them to support ending automatic straight-ticket voting.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45235

Moody's Rates MI's School Districts Lower Than Any U.S. Public Entity

Michigan's public schools' Baa financial rating score is lower than any other U.S. public finance sector rated by Moody's Financial Services. Michigan also is home to seven of the 20 school districts nationwide with below-investment grade rating, according to a recent report.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45224

DTE Electric Rates Hiked $238M, $132M Below What It Wanted

Striking middle ground like it did with Consumers Energy, the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) granted DTE Energy about $238 million in electric rate increases, which was $132 million below what the utility wanted.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45234

Mandatory Training Proposed For Security Guards

The Michigan Contract Security Association is pushing to establish the first statewide training requirements for security guards.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45232

Snyder Makes Former GOP Chair Schostak An Oakland Trustee

Gov. Rick SNYDER announced Thursday he would name former Michigan Republican Party chair Bobby SCHOSTAK to the Oakland University Board of Trustees.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45225

Allard-Graham Lawyer Goes Public

As far as Grand Rapids attorney Sarah Riley HOWARD is concerned this was a no-brainer and her two clients quickly signed off on her going public to explain their side of the whistleblower suit filed earlier this week against the GOP-controlled House of Representatives.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45230

Ruth Johnson: What's Next

She still has three years left in her current gig as Secretary of State but as everyone in town knows it's never too early to think about the next one and Ruth JOHNSON is there.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45223

United Health Foundation Pegs MI Health 35th

When it comes to Michigan's annual health check-up, the state isn't even in the top half of all states.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45227

Students Want Detroit Authorizers To Stop Authorizing Schools

A band of college students from across the state want charter authorizers to stop opening or closing schools in Detroit until a “local oversight board” is put in place to monitor such activities.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45236

Report: State Lags In Per-Pupil Funding

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities this week released a new report looking at per-pupil K-12 funding across the country and found Michigan ranks 12th worst in cuts to education.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45223

Governor Checking His List

While this is the time of the year to compile your gift list for the season, Gov. Rick SNYDER already has his list ready to go as he finishes the year with a check list of -- count them -- 23 "Highlights From 2015."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45233

Bits And Tidbits

Percentage Of Flint People With High Lead Levels Stays Flat In New Data

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45237

On This Day In Michigan History

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45226

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015
9:15 AM - **Finance**
(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 100 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
11:00 AM
Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours - Livonia
Location: Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154
Contact: Penny Crider 517-373-5713

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015
10:30 AM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield in announcing that the health and wellness Building Healthy Communities program will be expanded to 100 additional Michigan schools(Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield)
Location: Ridge Park Charter Academy
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
11:00 AM
For Love of Water Press Conference - New Report Reveals Alternatives to Line 5 at the Straits(Sponsored by For Love of Water)
Guest Speakers: Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, For Love of Water (FLOW); Jim Olson, President, For Love of Water (FLOW); Gary Street, Chemical Engineer & Former Director of Engineering, Dow Environmental - AWD Technologies; Rick Kane, Hazardous Materials Risk-manageme
Location: Michigan Environmental Council - Telepresser: Dial (517) 999-0409; Passcode 497786
Contact: Liz Kirkwood 231-944-1568
liz@flowforwater.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
4:00 PM
The Ann Arbor Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)
Guest Speakers: Barb McRae, Faith Outreach Lead, Michigan Chapter of Moms Demand Action; State Senator Rebekah Warren; Volunteers with the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
Location: Ann Arbor Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Contact: Lizzie Ulmer 269-271-2331
press@everytown.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
7:00 PM
The Midland Evening of Remembrance to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence with the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)
Guest Speakers: Kristen Moore, volunteer chapter Leader with the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action; Linda Brundage, Executive Director, Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence; Reverend Jeff Liebmann, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland; Volunteers with
Location: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, 6220 N Jefferson Ave, Midland, MI 48640
Contact: Lizzie Ulmer press@everytown.org
269-271-2331

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
4:00 PM
The West Michigan Orange Walk to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the

Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)
Guest Speakers: Dr. Erica Michiels, Associate Medical Director of the Pediatric Emergency Department at Helen Devos Children\'s Hospital; Raynard Ross, Member of the Grand Rapids Public School Board; Jerline Riley, Co-Founder of Mothers on a Mission, gun violence survivo
Location: Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Contact: Lizzie Ulmer 269-271-2331
press@everytown.org

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015
12:00 PM
Protest and press conference to demand a policy of ceasing all authorizing activities until the creation of a community oversight board(Sponsored by 482Forward and Students in Solidarity)
Guest Speakers: Students from Grand Valley State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and University of Michigan
Location: Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, 201 Townsend, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Nikki Kleiman-Moran 303-815-3359
nikkikm@umich.edu

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
10:00 AM
Sen. Ken Horn Office Hours
Location: St. Charles Public Library, 104 W. Spruce St., St. Charles, MI 48655
Contact: Melanie Ellison 517-373-1760

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015
10:00 AM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Grand Valley State University\'s commencement
Location: Van Andel Arena
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
3:00 PM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Christmas in Ionia, a show that pays tribute to military personnel
Location: Ionia Theatre
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
10:00 AM
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Governor\'s Talent Investment Board meeting to discuss building a stronger workforce system aligned with state education policies and economic development goals
Location: Operating Engineers Local 324 - Detroit Stationary Training Facility
Contact: Dave Murray murrayd1@michigan.gov
517-335-6397

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 - 29, 2016
0
2016 MPA Annual Convention(Sponsored by Michigan Press Association)
Guest Speakers: Bill Frakes
Location: Amway Grand Plaza
roselie@michiganpress.org

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM
Huizenga To Participate In Naturalization Ceremony In Grand Haven On Monday
Location: The Loutit District Library
Contact: Brian Patrick (202) 225-4401
Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov

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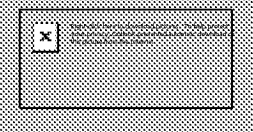
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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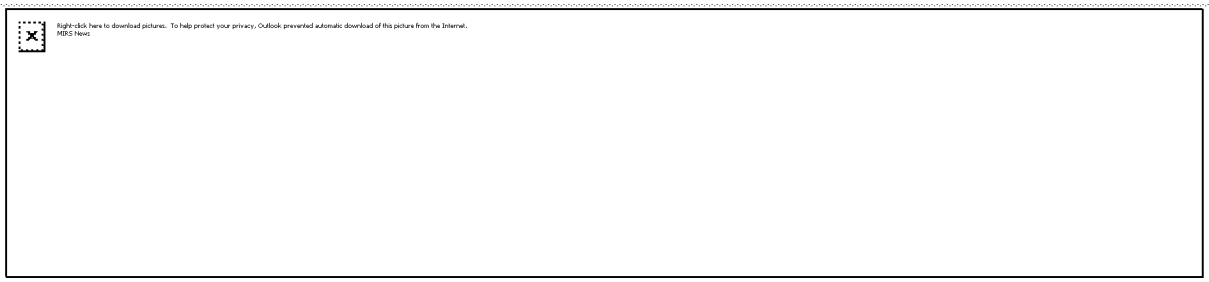
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 12, 2015 8:44 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Sen. Elizabeth Warren still hasn't endorsed, but how much does it matter?

"WASHINGTON -- Sen. Elizabeth Warren's endorsement in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination would be considered a trophy for whichever candidate she picks."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/11/sen-elizabeth-warren-still-hasnt-endorsed-but-how-much-does-matter/77147392/*

PUMPED DRY THE GLOBAL CRISIS OF VANISHING GROUNDWATER

"Much of the planet relies on groundwater. And in places around the world – from the United States to Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America – so much water is pumped from the ground that aquifers are being rapidly depleted and wells are going dry."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/pages/interactives/groundwater/*

Saudi women vote for the first time

"RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Thousands of Saudi women headed to polling stations across the kingdom on Saturday, both as voters and candidates for the first time in a landmark election."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/12/saudi-women-vote-first-time/77199684/*

Climate deal within reach; 'powerful' document drafted in Paris

"PARIS — Delegates from nearly 200 countries on Saturday were evaluating the latest — and what organizers hope is the last — draft of what is set to become the world's first-ever global climate agreement."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/12/climate-deal-paris/77200018/*

Responding to petition, White House says Obama won't declare Muslim holiday

"WASHINGTON — President Obama supports the right of Muslim Americans to celebrate religious holidays, the White House said Friday. He just can't give them the day off."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/11/responding-petition-white-house-says-obama-wont-declare-muslim-holiday/77194448/*

U.S. is hitting Islamic State 'harder than ever,' Obama says

"WASHINGTON — President Obama said Saturday that U.S. air strikes are hitting the Islamic State "harder than ever" amid a stepped-up U.S. campaign in Iraq and Syria."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/us-hitting-islamic-state-harder-than-ever-obama-says/77191360/*

State park seeks to stop vandalism at rebuilt structure

"Muskegon — Officials at Muskegon State Park in western Michigan are searching for ways stop a longtime problem with vandalism at one of its buildings."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/state-park-seeks-stop-vandalism-rebuilt-structure/77138724/*

Trump's Muslim ban finds supporters in Michigan

"Presidential candidate Donald Trump has faced withering condemnation since calling for banning Muslims

from entering the United States — yet his popularity among Republican voters remains strong."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/11/trump-message-wins-michigan-voters/77179216/

MDOT seeks input on 5-year road plan

"Drivers on Interstate 96 will have another headache to deal with next year if the Michigan Department of Transportation moves ahead with its list of road projects."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/12/11/mdot-plan-input-michigan-department-transportation/77179168/

Spring-like weather could break record in Metro Detroit

"Metro Detroit has a chance to match or beat record-high temperatures this weekend, but that won't melt way Ferndale's chances for a successful ice festival Saturday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/12/11/metro-detroit-warm-weather/77139540/

Election law reforms bode big changes for 2016

"LANSING — It's Nov. 8, 2016, and voters will be making their way to polling precincts to cast ballots for everything from president to U.S. and state representatives to township board members."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/11/election-law-changes-bode-big-changes-2016/77173518/

93-pound Petoskey stone confiscated by Michigan DNR

"COPEMISH, Mich. — State wildlife officials have confiscated a 93-pound Petoskey boulder from a man who pulled it out of Lake Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/93-pound-petoskey-stone-confiscated-michigan-dnr/77136330/

Dow: We'll stay committed to Michigan in DuPont merger

"Questions swirled about possible layoffs in Michigan after Midland-based Dow Chemical said today it would combine with its rival DuPont in a $130-billion deal and subsequently spin off tax-free into three independent, publicly traded companies."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/12/11/dow-dupont-combine-merger-equals/77138072/*

Search concealed pistol licenses by county

"During the last five years, the number of active concealed pistol licenses (CPL) in Michigan has nearly doubled, from 253,466 in 2010 to 497,016 as of Dec. 1."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/12/11/search-concealed-pistol-licenses-county/77143380/*

Report: Port Huron teacher dropped, kicked student

"A Port Huron early childhood special education teacher allegedly dropped, then kicked a child in the head and neck area twice in late October, leading to her removal from the classroom and eventual criminal charges, according to police reports."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/port-huron-teacher-discipline-kicking-kids/77175190/*

Secret Santas strike again, shower strangers with cash

"You can get cynical pretty easily during this holiday season. Stress. Terrible news all over the place. Money."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/12/11/secret-santas-strike-again-shower-strangers-cash/77170318/*

'People may get angry' with long lines under straight-ticket voting ban

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – More than 155,000 people in Kent County cast straight-ticket votes in the November 2012 presidential election."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-*

rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/lines_will_be_longer_people_ma.html#incart_story_package

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117 schools joining statewide health and wellness program

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – There are 117 Michigan schools that will receive tools and resources to improve student health while creating a healthier school environment, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and Blue Cross Blue Shield announced Friday, Dec. 11."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/117_schools_joining_statewide.html#incart_story_package*

DTE to raise electric rates by more than $8 per month next week

"LANSING, MI — DTE Electric Company will increase its electric rates by an average of $8.22 per month under an order approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission on Friday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/dte_will_raise_electric_rates.html#incart_river_home*

Botulism concerns prompt recall of Michigan-made food products

"LANSING, MI – Consumers who have purchased products from an Onaway food producer are being advised to throw the items away due to concerns of botulism."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/botulism_concerns_prompt_recal.html#incart_river_home*

Chronic wasting disease found in fourth Michigan deer

"CLINTON COUNTY, MI – A fourth Michigan deer has tested positive for chronic wasting disease, a deadly neurological disease found in the state's free-ranging deer population for the first time this year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/chronic_wasting_disease_found.html#incart_river_home*

Ken Braun: Bipartisan election reforms pass without bipartisan cooperation

"An attempt at genuine compromise was advanced this week by the Republicans running the state House of Representatives. A proposal that would allow no-reason absentee voting, generally an idea supported by

Democrats, was passed in tandem with a GOP idea to have Michigan join the majority of states that have abolished the archaic straight-ticket option."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/ken_braun_michigan_house_passe.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities

"The recent report of the Michigan Postsecondary Credential Attainment Workgroup on college access and completion in Michigan delivers good news about what has been happening in the field. Programs that can help students apply to college, apply for financial aid, enroll and succeed in college are making a difference, and more high schools should adapt them."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/some-college-no-degree-lots-of-debt-a-drag-on-students-schools-and-communities/*

Legislature Hoping for Improbable Federal Rescue of Medicaid Expansion

"The Obamacare Medicaid expansion approved by the Michigan Legislature in 2013 may be on the verge of extinction, causing trouble for legislators. "

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21988*

Snyder can do the right thing on LGBT rights and endorse Fair Michigan

"Gov. Snyder and reasonable Republicans have an historic opportunity before them. And I believe they will do the right thing."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/lgbt_rights_rick_snyder_republ.html#incart_most_shared-lansing*

Press Releases

Heartland Institute Experts React to New York Common Core Task Force Report

"The New York Common Core Task Force released its report reviewing the Common Core State Standards. The task force recommended Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) maintain "key instructional shifts set forth in the Common Core Standards" while revising parts that do not fit the needs of New York schools, educators, and

other stakeholders."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449869222_heart.pdf

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Following New Reports, Dingell & Walberg Question Patient Safety at Ann Arbor VA

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Following reports that surgeries have resumed at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Tim Walberg (MI-07) are seeking assurances that the surgeries are not being conducted in unsafe conditions. In November, Dingell wrote to Director Robert P. McDivitt following reports that surgeries for veterans had been canceled or moved to another facility because particulate matter was observed on sterile surgical equipment. This week, Dingell's office was notified by concerned constituents that surgeries have resumed despite the continued presence of particulate matter on the equipment. "*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell and Rep. Tim Walberg* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449868535_dingell.pdf

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Consumers Warned to Not Consume Lock Stock & Barrel Ranch Products Due to Potential Health Risk

*"**Lansing –** The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is warning consumers that may have purchased any of the products listed below, produced by Lock Stock and Barrel Ranch of Onaway, Michigan, to dispose of all products immediately because they were manufactured without using the required controls for the safe production of processed foods. This potential problem was discovered by MDARD Inspectors with the Food & Dairy Division during the course of a routine food safety inspection. Products under recall include the following:"*

Source: *Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449868239_energy.pdf

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MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its newest summary report on lead testing in Flint. According to preliminary data, 39 of 1,836 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867697_dhhs.pdf

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Huizenga To Welcome New Citizens In Grand Haven On Monday

*"**Washington, DC –** On Monday, December 14th, Congressman Huizenga will participate in a naturalization ceremony to welcome 62 applicants taking the oath of citizenship at the Loutit Library in Grand Haven. These 62, soon to be American citizens, come from 30 different countries across the globe. Monday's celebration follows a naturalization ceremony that took place on Friday afternoon in which 60 people from 34 different countries became American citizens. The ceremony on Monday will begin at 1:00 PM and will be held in "Room A" on the upper floor of the library.*

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Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867654_huizenga.pdf

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Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice: Detroit's legislators must take action to rein in risi

*"DETROIT—**Guy O. Williams**, President and CEO of **Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice**, issued the following statement regarding DTE Energy's 11.3 percent residential rate increase, announced today:"*

Source: *Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867612_byrum.pdf

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MPA convention featuring Bill Frakes

"Join us Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Amway Grand Plaza to hear Pulitzer-Prize winning photographer Bill Frakes during MPA's Annual Convention. In the Student Track, he will discuss today's photography trends for both digital and print. In the Audience Development Track, Frakes demonstrates how to multi-purpose material across a number of viewing platforms."

Source: *Michigan Press Association* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867598_mpa.pdf

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Don't Let a Holiday Mishap Ruin Your Seasonal Spirit

"(LANSING) The holiday season should be a time to focus on friends and family, not worry about whether your insurance coverage is sufficient. As you prepare to celebrate the season, the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) recommends you review your insurance policies to avoid potential holiday nightmares."

Source: *Department of Insurance and Financial Services* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449866971_difs.pdf

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MRP video features 8th Congressional District residents addressing

Gilbert's tax issues

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015 –** The Michigan Republican Party on Friday released a video where residents of the 8th Congressional District talk about taxes and accountability. Melissa Gilbert, a candidate for Congress from the 8th District, owes $470,000 in back taxes to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)."*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865923_mrp.pdf

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Snyder Media Advisory for Sat. Dec. 12, Sun. Dec. 13 & Mon. Dec. 14

"Snyder Media Advisory for Sat. Dec. 12, Sun. Dec. 13 & Mon. Dec. 14"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865348_gov.pdf

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Horn announces December office hours in St. Charles

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, announced that December office hours are scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865032_horn.pdf

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POTUS signs ESSA; Detroit Top Ten for Choice; EMU and CMU at Senate Ed; State Board 10 in 10; Chart

"TW&N: POTUS signs ESSA; Detroit Top Ten for Choice; EMU and CMU at Senate Ed; State Board 10 in 10; Charter Choir at White House; and more"

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449863140_glep.pdf

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Michigan medical marijuana businesses bust myths as regulatory proposals enter home stretch in Legis

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Cannabis Development Association** today debunked a series of myths and misinformation on medical marijuana proposals as the Michigan Legislature appears poised to take a final vote on bills to establish a strong, responsible regulatory framework. The legislation currently being debated in the Senate are House Bills 4209, 4210 and 4827, which passed the House with overwhelming support in October."*

Source: *Michigan Cannabis Development Association* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449862751_mcda.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts Comment on the University of WI System's Support of Free Speech Rights

"The University of Wisconsin-System Board of Regents on Friday approved a resolution reaffirming freedom of speech rights on its campuses throughout the state. The resolution comes after University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank wrote a blog post in November devaluing free speech rights in response to protests on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449862703_heartland.pdf

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Calls Needed for Land and Water Conservation Fund

"We've been asking you to call your Congressman or Congresswoman to renew the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund for the past few weeks. This weekend, it is more critical than ever. We expect a decision, one way or the other, to be made in the next week and we want to make sure the decision is to renew this critical public land and water access program, not gut it! "

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449861381_conserv.pdf

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Dingell: Customs Bill is "Christmas Tree" of the Holiday Season

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today voted against H.R. 644, a customs enforcement bill, which includes a number of political provisions that restrict negotiations on emissions standards and immigration and weaken existing law to deter human trafficking. Dingell spoke in opposition to the bill prior to the vote. Video is available here."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449860534_dingell.pdf

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Rep. Trott: "Currency Manipulation Protections a Win for Southeast Michigan"

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today voted in support of legislation designed to enforce American trade laws, remove barriers to legitimate trade, and help small businesses grow and create jobs. Rep. Trott was instrumental in securing stronger currency manipulation protections in the legislation to help protect Michigan businesses and America's automotive industry."

Source: *Rep. Dave Trott* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449860486_trott.pdf

Bishop Applauds House Effort to Fight Currency Manipulation

*"**WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (H.R. 644) by a vote of 256-158, **Congressman Mike Bishop** (MI-08) issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449859125_bishop.pdf

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MSC Dispositive Order: People of MI v Stephanie White

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued a dispositive order in No. 150661, People of Michigan v Stephanie White, which was argued on October 21, 2015.

For more information about the case and related briefs, click here. "

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858431_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf

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Benishek Protects Michigan Miners

"WASHINGTON - Today the House passed H.R. 644, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015. This trade agreement is the result of months of negotiation between the House and Senate. The bipartisan, bicameral legislation authorizes funds for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and puts in place effective tools to strengthen trade enforcement at the border and facilitate the efficient movement of legitimate trade and travel."

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858340_benishek.pdf

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MDOT seeks public comment on draft 2016-2020 transportation program

*"**December 11, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking public comment on its draft 2016-2020 Five-Year Transportation Program. The draft document includes information about MDOT's funding picture and a list of specific transportation projects planned for the next five years in each of MDOT's seven regions. You can view the location, description and proposed construction year for upcoming projects on an interactive map available online atwww.michigan.gov/mdot5yearplan."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858072_mdit.pdf

Students Demand Charter Authorizers Halt Activity Without Local Oversight

"LANSING – Students from Grand Valley State University, Central Michigan University, the University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University gathered in front of the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers (MCCSA) office to highlight their demands for community input and community control in Detroit's public schools (including Detroit Public Schools, Education Achievement Authority, and charters). The students called for a halt of opening and closing of schools in Detroit."

Source: *482Forward and Students in Solidarity* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858033_482.pdf

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Deer harvested in Clinton County confirmed to have chronic wasting disease

"As of Thursday, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources reports a total of 3,695 deer in Michigan this year have been tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD). Four deer have been confirmed positive for the disease, with the fourth positive just recently found."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449854776_dnr.pdf

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Open letter to Michigan US. Congress contingent Regarding Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA)

"Dear Michigan Congressmen: I was recently emailed a letter from my congressman proudly announcing his vote in favor of renewing ESEA, (now ESSA). Others may have received a similar email."

Source: *Republican Women's Federation of Michigan* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449850246_rwfm.pdf

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Holiday Drive Ends This Tuesday!

"TCRPC's Holiday Drive is wrapping up this upcoming Tuesday, December 15th! "

Source: *Tri-County Regional Planning Commission* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449849092_trcpc.pdf

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"Duck" Has Good Luck at Lefty and Romo's in Muskegon

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015** – A trip to his favorite sports bar turned into big money for a Muskegon County man who won a Club Keno The Jack prize from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449848797_lottery.pdf

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Lifts for marine traffic at Portage Lake Lift Bridge to end for season on Dec. 15

*"**December 11, 2015 –** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is reminding the public that, due to ongoing maintenance work on the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, the bridge will not be operable for marine lifts after Dec.15."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449845493_mdot.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/10/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/10/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449845180_court.pdf

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Michigan Lottery Gives Players a Chance to 'Unwrap a Win' This Holiday Season

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015** – Michigan Lottery players have a chance to win $10,000 and other prizes this holiday season by entering the "Unwrap a Win" giveaway."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449844553_msl.pdf

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Obama Signs ESEA Reauthorization and The Case for Affirmative Action

"President Obama signs into law the Every Student Succeeds Act."

Source: *Education Reform Now* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843361_ern.pdf

Audit Report Released - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System - GASB 68

"Report on internal control over financial reporting for the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of Employer Allocations and Schedule of Collective Pension Amounts for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014 Project number: 071-0164-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov"

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843284_auditor.pdf

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Students to Demand Halt of Charter Authorizing Without Accountability

"LANSING – Recognizing the plight that students and parents face with the lack of accountability in charter schools in Detroit, college students from across the state will gather on Friday afternoon to call for a halt of opening and closing of schools in Detroit. The students, along with the Students in Solidarity group, will hold a press conference at the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers (MCCSA) office to demand the Authorizing Council create a policy that will limit the activity of authorizers. The group points to the fact that there are 12 charter school authorizers disproportionately operating in the city of Detroit, with no oversight from residents in the city. This has left many neighborhoods in the city with no schools at all. The students will be standing in solidarity with the 482Forward fasters and marchers as they continue their protest of the lack of accountability within charter and EAA schools in Detroit."

Source: *482Forward* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843220_482.pdf

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Michigan Legislature Takes Big Step to Protect Kids with Food Allergies

*"**LANSING—**Moms of kids with life threatening food allergies today applauded the Michigan state House of Representatives and state Senate for sending new legislation to Governor Rick Snyder's desk that would protect children and adults who suffer sudden, severe allergic reactions. The bill was approved today by a vote of 38-0 in the state Senate and was previously approved 103-0 in the state House."*

Source: *Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Connection Team* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843183_food.pdf

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Pavlov comments on new Every Student Succeeds Act

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair Township, chairman of the Senate Education Committee,*

issued the following statement Thursday after the president signed the Every Student Succeeds Act."

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *12-12-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843102_pavlov.pdf*

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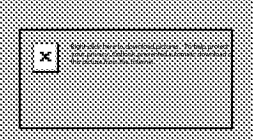

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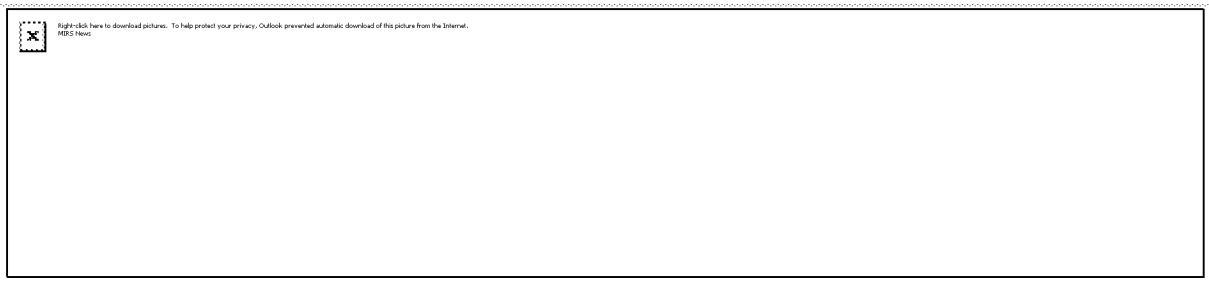

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Michigan Political Points: 'Tis the season for majority rule on election rules

"LANSING, MI — As 2015 nears an end, Republican majorities in the Michigan Legislature are pushing a series of proposals to change election rules ahead of 2016."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_political_points_tis.html#incart_river_home*

State of Michigan surplus sale brings long lines, empty warehouse

"LANSING, MI — The state of Michigan surplus sale supplied many customers with large savings, smiling faces and still money in their pockets."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/state_of_michigan_surplus_sale.html#incart_river_home*

'Too big to care': Deteriorating bank-owned homes costing taxpayers millions annually

"The vacant, foreclosed home that once stood at 210 S. Mansfield St. in Ypsilanti Township seemed to defy physics in not collapsing on itself."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/too_big_to_care_deteriorating.html#incart_river_home*

Grand Rapids' marijuana decriminalization stands after high court nixes hearing

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- The city's 2012 amendment to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana has cleared a final legal challenge."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand_rapids_marijuana_decrimi_8.html#incart_river_home*

In Flint and beyond, lead remains irreversible scourge among Michigan's children

"Across Michigan, in cities large and small, lead poisoning continues to plague children, limiting them in school and on the playground."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/health/index.ssf/2015/12/far_from_flint_lead_remains_an.html#incart_river_home*

Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate

"In 1999, as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was preparing regulatory language that would remove gray wolves in the Great Lakes region from the federal endangered species list, Wisconsin wolf biologist Adrian Wydeven figured the transition process from federal protection to state population management would be smooth."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/great_lakes_wolves_delisting_d.html#incart_river_home*

Whistleblowers shine light on lack of transparency and accountability in Lansing

"Nowhere is transparency more important than in government, where elected decision-makers must be held to the highest standard of accountability. Unfortunately, that standard has gone missing from the halls of Michigan's Capitol. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/whistleblowers_shine_light_on.html#incart_most_shared-ann-arbor*

Obama says world has 'met the moment' with climate pact

"Washington — President Barack Obama on Saturday hailed the newly passed international climate agreement that he said "offers the best chance we have to save the one planet we have.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/obama-says-world-met-moment-climate-pact/77230324/*

Community defends itself against hate at Dearborn rally

"Dearborn — Imad Hamad came not to condemn Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, but to thank him for "unveiling the mask" that hid the hatred fellow Americans are capable of."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/12/community-defends-hate-dearborn-rally/77227016/*

Michael Finney is fighting Michigan poverty with jobs

"With Census numbers showing more people in Michigan slipping deeper into poverty and with increased crime and unemployment as a result, Michael Finney left his job in state government to help."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/12/13/community-ventures-jobs-michael-finney/77143328/*

Exclusive Detroit poll: 69% say city headed in right direction

"A year after Detroit exited its historic bankruptcy and set out on an uncertain but hopeful path, residents say life in the Motor City has improved and a solid majority believe the city is moving in the right direction."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/13/poll-detroit-hope-rises-worries-linger/77095754/*

Donald Trump hits Ted Cruz, Saudi prince

"Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump is making it clear he doesn't take kindly to any criticism — not from his rivals, nor from Saudi princes."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/12/donald-trump-hits-ted-cruz-saudi-prince/77205622/*

On ISIL, rhetoric is biggest divide between Obama, GOP candidates

"The rhetoric of Republican presidential candidatesblasting President Obama's approach to combating Islamic State terrorism suggests a huge policy divide"

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/13/republicans-islamic-state-obama-2016/77057846/*

What the global climate accord means for you

"With more than 190 nations adopting an accord in Paris to fight global warming Saturday, Americans need not brace for a raft of new onerous regulations, laws and restrictions imposed as a result, experts say."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/cars/2015/12/12/climate-change-painless-us/77222700/*

Iowa Poll: Cruz soars past Trump into lead among GOP

"DES MOINES, Iowa — Seven weeks from the caucuses, Ted Cruz is crushing it in Iowa."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/12/iowa-poll-cruz-soars-past-trump-lead-among-gop/77218292/*

Search for San Bernardino shooters' hard drive concludes in California lake

"LOS ANGELES (AP) — An underwater search for a computer hard drive and anything else linked to the husband-and-wife shooters who killed 14 in the California attacks concluded on Saturday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/13/san-bernardino-shooters-hard-drive-evidence-lake/77242060/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editorial: Limit militarization of police

"The image has become all too familiar: military-grade tanks driving through American neighborhoods as they respond to emergency situations.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/12/editorial-limit-militarization-police/77215916/*

Finley: Big GOP bucks won't go to Trump

"It's the second Sunday in December and Donald Trump hasn't gone away. The Republican money is starting to plan what it will do if he never does."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/12/finley-trump-donors-gop/77215902/*

Attitudes changing for the better in Detroit

"Things are changing in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/13/50-detroiters-editorial-changing/77167052/*

Ex-star principal tells of her downfall in EAA scandal

"The first time Kenyetta (K.C.) Wilbourn Snapp broke the law, she had been in a new job for less than a week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/10/eaa-kc-wilbourn-scandal-federal-investigation/76742950/*

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: Donald Trump does not speak for me

"Just as terrorists who betray cherished values in the name of Islam do not speak for the 1.6 billion Muslims in the world, Donald Trump does not speak for me, the state of Michigan, nor the entire Republican Party."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-13-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/12/snyder-trump-speak/77181932/

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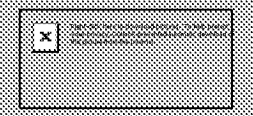

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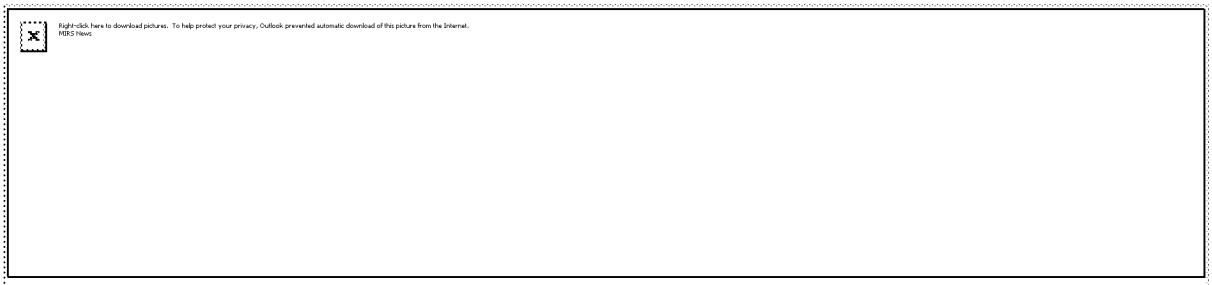
www.mirsnews.com

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 10:48 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, December 14, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, December 14, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

EXECUTIVE BRANCH CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/exec_branch_events/all

CAPITOL CALENDAR

http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Office Tasked With Services For Deaf Residents Faces Daunting Hurdles

"This state office concentrates on helping to improve the lives of Michigan's one million Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing citizens. Our mission is affirming the indisputable right of Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Persons to secure effective communication."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45246

New City Income Tax Exemption Plan Being Popped In Senate

The Senate is poised to discharge legislation Tuesday that is being drastically overhauled to allow certain employers to negotiate with Michigan's 22 cities with an income tax a special annual pre-payment that would be capped at that city's non-resident rate.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45238

Data Center, Energy Reforms Still Have A Chance In House This Week

With three session days left in 2015, the House could still hold votes on proposals to bring tax

exemptions for data centers and major energy reforms to the state.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45247

House Dem Campaign Targets Cotter: 'Tell Him It's Time To Resign'

A new fundraising email from the Michigan House Democrats' campaign says that House Speaker Kevin (R-Mt. Pleasant) "should make good on his own words and resign."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45243

Cops Not Bound To State Law In Marijuana Decriminalized Cities

>Local prosecutors and police are not forced to push the state's criminal marijuana laws in those 18 cities where local voters relaxed law enforcement on such offenses after the Michigan Supreme Court on Friday declined to take up a Court of Appeals ruling on the matter.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45239

Banks' New Auto No Fault Plan Intrigues CPAN

Auto insurance rates would be rolled back 12 percent in certain urban and rural locations for good drivers, under Rep. Brian BANKS (D-Harper Woods) legislation introduced Thursday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45240

Group Issues 'Malicious' Attack On Heise Over Presumptive Parole

A mysterious nonprofit organization that's previously reported a focus on competitive bidding has begun slamming Rep. Kurt HEISE (R-Plymouth) over his support for presumptive parole.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45244

Detroit Public Schools Reform Still Up In The Air

The oft-discussed plan for Detroit Public Schools remains a hot topic in the Senate as the end of the year approaches, although it's still unclear whether bills outlining the upper chamber's take on the issue will be introduced before the Legislature breaks.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45242

Schmidt Recall Petition Language Batted Away By Canvassers

Petition language proposing to recall Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) was swept away by the Board of State Canvassers (BSC) today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45241

Marsden Pledges Update On Pot Campaign By December's End

Matt MARSDEN, leader of one of the marijuana legalization ballot proposal campaigns, said his team

would have some kind of "announcement" to make by Dec. 31.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45245

Greens: Pipeline 5 Not Needed

Last July when Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE released a task force report on Pipeline 5 that runs under the Straits of Mackinac, he argued the energy flow into Michigan would be interrupted if the line were shutdown.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45249

Wyant: We'll Test All Schools for Lead

Reflecting that the state has learned a lot from the lead water contamination problem in Flint, the state's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) director promised that all schools will be tested for lead year round.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45248

Bits And Tidbits

UAW Members Ratify Proposed Contract With State

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45251

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 14, 1836, Michigan delegates signed a letter to Congress agreeing to give away the Toledo Strip in exchange for the Upper Peninsula at a meeting at the original Washtenaw County courthouse dubbed the Frostbitten Convention.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45250

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

Senate Committee Calendar Events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015
9:30 AM - **Local Government**
Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015

11:00 AM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**
Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

Capitol Calendar Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015
12:00 PM
Protest and press conference to demand a policy of ceasing all authorizing activities until the creation of a community oversight board(Sponsored by 482Forward and Students in Solidarity)
Guest Speakers: Students from Grand Valley State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and University of Michigan
Location: Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, 201 Townsend, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Nikki Kleiman-Moran 303-815-3359
nikkikm@umich.edu

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
10:00 AM
Sen. Ken Horn Office Hours
Location: St. Charles Public Library, 104 W. Spruce St., St. Charles, MI 48655
Contact: Melanie Ellison 517-373-1760

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015
10:00 AM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Grand Valley State University\'s commencement
Location: Van Andel Arena
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015
3:00 PM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Christmas in Ionia, a show that pays tribute to military personnel
Location: Ionia Theatre
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
10:00 AM
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Governor\'s Talent Investment Board meeting to discuss building a stronger workforce system aligned with state education policies and economic development goals
Location: Operating Engineers Local 324 - Detroit Stationary Training Facility
Contact: Dave Murray murrayd1@michigan.gov
517-335-6397

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 - 29, 2016
0
2016 MPA Annual Convention(Sponsored by Michigan Press Association)
Guest Speakers: Bill Frakes
Location: Amway Grand Plaza
roselie@michiganpress.org

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
1:00 PM
Huizenga To Participate In Naturalization Ceremony In Grand Haven On Monday

Location: The Loutit District Library
Contact: Brian Patrick (202) 225-4401
Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
9:00 AM
Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hours(Sponsored by Rep. Sam Singh)
Location: Okemos Public Library
Contact: Rep. Sam Singh
votesamsingh@gmail.com

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015
11:00 AM
A team of Great Lakes advocates and scientists will release a set of illustrated reports concluding that the twin Line 5 oil pipelines in the Mackinac Straits are not vital to Michigan's energy infrastructure and security - Telepresser: (517) 999-0409; Pa(Sponsored by For Love of Water)
Guest Speakers: Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, For Love of Water (FLOW); Jim Olson, President, For Love of Water (FLOW); Gary Street, Chemical Engineer & Former Director of Engineering, Dow Environmental - AWD Technologies; Rick Kane, Hazardous Materials Risk-manageme
Location: Michigan Environmental Council
Contact: Liz Kirkwood 231-944-1568
liz@flowforwater.org

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015
10:30 AM
State Police to Add Six Canine Teams(Sponsored by Michigan State Police)
Guest Speakers: Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue
Location: MSP Training Academy, 7426 N. Canal Rd., Lansing, MI 48913
Contact: Tiffany Brown (517) 241-0970
BrownT22@michigan.gov

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015
10:00 AM
House Returns to Session - 10:00 a.m.
Location:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015
10:00 AM
House Returns to Session - 10:00 a.m.
Location:

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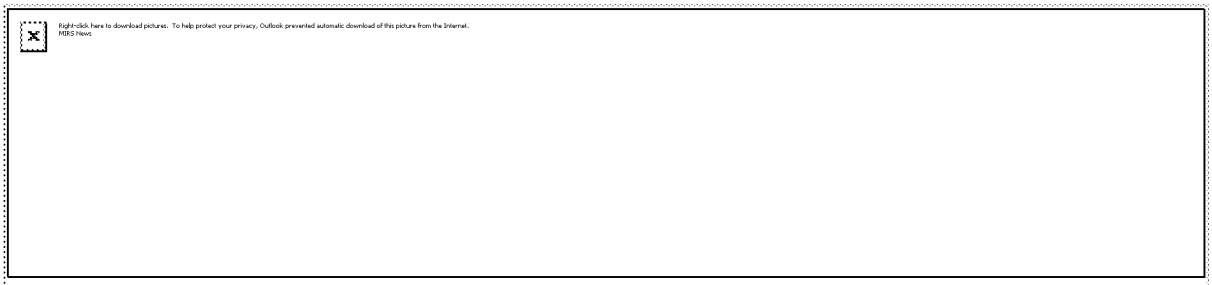
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 1:42 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 16, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 16, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733

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HOUSE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/894

SENATE ACTION REPORT

http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/895

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Dems Cry Foul As Senate Moves Straight Ticket Voting Repeal

Senate majority leadership called it an attempt to get things moving faster. Senate Democrats called it a shameful political ploy that limited their constitutional rights as lawmakers.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45285

Campaign Finance Bill Balloons By 41 Pages; Blows Out Of Legislature

As the last voting night of the 2015 legislative year wound down, Republican lawmakers signed off on a newly unveiled, 53-page bill to make numerous changes to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45284

HICA Put On Crowded Shelf For 2016

A bill extending the state's health insurance claims tax into 2025 was shelved today, the Legislature's

final day of voting for 2015, joining a series of other major policy initiatives that were pushed into 2016.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45283

Gov Signing Off On Flint Water 'Process' Changes

Gov. Rick SNYDER's special task force on lead contamination in the Flint water supply is suggesting some "process" changes and the Governor appears to be buying into the suggestions.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45276

State Nurses Say They Need Raises To Address Staff Shortages

Some nurses working in state hospitals say they are overworked and underpaid, leading to recruitment and retention problems, but the state has denied there's any issue.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45275

Snyder Puts On 'Nerd' Hat In Looking At Data Center Tax Credit

For Gov. Rick SNYDER, the future of two bills providing sales and use tax exemptions for data center equipment as part of an effort to lure a $5 billion investment to the Grand Rapids community comes down to the answers he finds to two questions.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45273

Fracking Ban Campaign Testing Theory In Resuming Sig Collection

The campaign looking to put a fracking ban on the 2016 ballot said it's resuming its signature-collecting operations after collecting just 150,000 signatures in six months (See "Ban Fracking Group Falls Short On Signatures A Third Time," 11/18/15).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45277

Love, Geiss: House Dems Forced Choice Of Siding With Caucus Or District

Reps. Erika GEISS (D-Taylor) and Leslie LOVE (D-Detroit) say they feel like their caucus forced them last week to choose between siding with the caucus or voting with their home communities.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45282

Dispensary Stings Not Entrapment If Business Is Violating MMMA, Court Rules

An Oakland County marijuana dispensary isn't getting out of charges stemming from a police sting operation by claiming entrapment as its defense, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45270

MSF-MEDC-MSHDA Merger Of Community Development Ops Completed

In what one official said was an "important date in state government," three state entities have officially

finalized a merger of their community development services.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45276

State Police To Add Six New Dogs, Increasing Forces By Three

For many college students finishing their degrees, graduation is just a few days away. But at the Michigan State Police Training Division, the same is true for six pairs of canines and the officers who have spent the last 14 weeks training together.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45272

Appeals Court Affirms Ford's Tax Victory Over Treasury

Ford Motor Co. is entitled to a $10.7 million refund for state use taxes it paid under protest on its test vehicles, and a Department of Treasury bill sent to Ford in 2008 on the same matter was "frivolous," the Court of Appeals ruled today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45269

Republican Calls For Expanding FOIA To Legislature

It's been in and out of the legislative hopper for years and Rep. John BIZON (R-Battle Creek) is hoping this time will be different.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45274

November Saw Small Rise In Unemployment Rate

Michigan's unemployment rate is up for the first time since May, but just slightly.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45271

Governor Signs Good Samaritan Expansions

Gov. Rick SNYDER today signed into law legislation, which would exempt individuals under 21 from prescription drug-related charges in the event they are reporting a life-threatening emergency connected to drug abuse.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45280

Bits And Tidbits

Franchise Bill Passes Along Mostly Party Lines

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45281

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 16, 1999, U.S. District Court Judge Victoria ROBERTS dismissed a lawsuit brought against MIRS by former Rep. Roland JERSEVIC.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45279

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015
11:00 AM
Attorney General Bill Schuette Year End Media Roundtable
Location: Williams Building
Contact: Andrea Bitely (517) 373-8060
nurenbergb@michigan.gov

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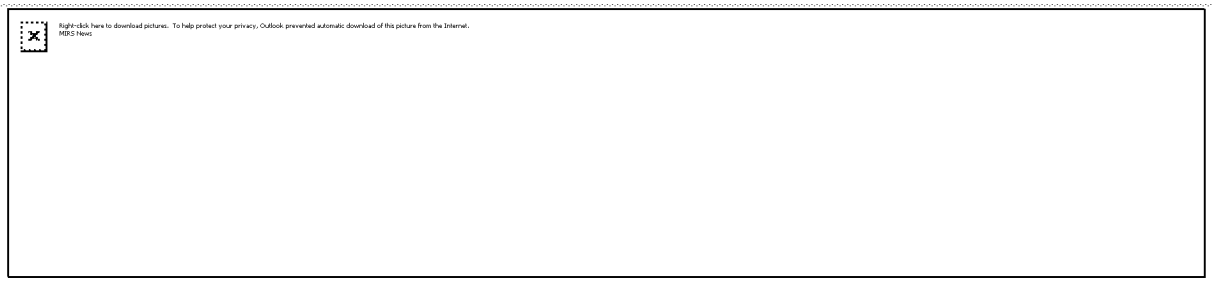
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 6:44 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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New contracts approved: State employees to get 1% raise, 1.5% lump sum payment

"LANSING, MI -- State employees will get a 1 percent raise and a 1.5 percent lump sum payment under new contracts approved by the Michigan Civil Service Commission on Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/new_contracts_approved_state_e.html#incart_river_index*

Ypsilanti City Council Member Anne Brown announces run for state House

"As 54th district State House Rep. David Rutledge is term limited next year, Ypsilanti City Council Member Anne Brown is planning a run for the seat. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti_city_council_member_2.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan Senators, locked in chamber, pass bill to eliminate straight-ticket voting

"LANSING, MI --A bill to eliminate straight-ticket voting in Michigan passed the Senate Wednesday night with high drama and without a companion bill that would have expanded absentee voting options."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-*

news/index.ssf/2015/12/senators_locked_in_chamber_pas.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan Legislature caps 2015 with flurry of election bill action

"LANSING, MI -- The Michigan House and Senate acted in concert Wednesday night to send bills eliminating straight-ticket voting and amending corporate political action committee rules to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_legislature_caps_off.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules

"LANSING, MI — A state policy requiring parents to sit down with a local health worker before obtaining a vaccination waiver for their kids is "bureaucracy gone a bit too far," according to the chairman of the Michigan House Health Policy Committee."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_lawmakers_want_to_eas.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan State Police raid Dearborn city clerk office

"Michigan State Police raided the office of Dearborn City Clerk Kathleen Buda on Wednesday as part of an embezzlement investigation, officials confirm."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/16/state-police-raid-dearborn-clerk-embezzle/77429252/*

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse

"Lansing — People under 21 who call for help during life-threatening emergencies as the result of abusing prescription drugs will be exempt from drug-related charges under a bill signed into law Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/snyder-oks-immunity-reporting-drug-overdoses/77420572/*

Spending bill aids Great Lakes cleanup, MSU facility

"Washington — The congressional year-end spending bill includes $300 million in federal funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and $100 million to continue building a facility for nuclear science at Michigan State University, officials said Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/spending-bill-aids-great-lakes-cleanup-msu-facility/77462050/

Car dealer aims for modern first in Mich. Dem primary

"The owner of a Cadillac car dealership in suburban San Diego could become the first person in modern history to submit enough signatures to qualify for a spot on Michigan's presidential primary ballot."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/car-dealer-aims-modern-first-mich-dem-primary/77462170/

Mich. lawmakers vote to end straight-party voting

"Lansing — The Michigan Legislature on Wednesday sent Gov. Rick Snyder a bill ending straight-party voting and included a $5 million appropriation that would shield the legislation from a possible voter referendum to overturn it."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/mich-senate-votes-end-straight-party-voting/77458548/

Great Lakes program would get $300M under compromise

"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — A wide-ranging Great Lakes cleanup program would escape President Barack Obama's proposal to cut its funding under a compromise federal spending plan, members of Congress said Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/16/great-lakes-cleanup-restoration/77444630/

Congress set to give Detroit demolitions a huge boost

"WASHINGTON — A massive federal spending bill expected to be passed this week includes a provision allowing the U.S. Treasury to transfer billions of dollars into a fund which has already sent or promised $130 million to Detroit to tear down thousands of blighted buildings and is expected to provide at least

tens of millions more."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/16/visa-restrictions-built-into-bid-spending-bill/77429476/*

Michigan Senate, House OK end to straight ticket voting

"LANSING -- After a day and night full of negotiations, the Legislature voted, mostly along party lines Wednesday to eliminate straight-party voting and removed a tie bar that would have allowed for no-reason absentee voting."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/lansing-ready-eliminate-straight-party-ticket-voting/77411352/*

Ann Arbor teachers union concerned about new evaluation system

"Ann Arbor Public Schools is implementing a new teacher evaluation system this year following new legislation the Michigan Legislature passed this fall."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann_arbor_teachers_unhappy_wit.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Senate absentee-voting bill takes away more than it gives

"While much of the rest of the country has brought voting into the 21st century, Michigan has kept its badly outdated election laws. It is one of a minority of states that offers a limited number of options for hard-working Americans to register to vote and cast a ballot before Election Day. A Michigan voter cannot vote before Election Day without a valid excuse, must register nearly a month before the election without exception and cannot register online as voters in more than half the country now can."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/senate_absentee-voting_bill_ta.html#incart_river_index*

Reading bill focuses on advancing students to proficiency

"House Bill 4822, which I sponsored and which passed the House in October, was the subject of a recent op-ed. The writer, psychologist Michael Ryan, is a longtime advocate for children and I commend him for his passion and contributions to improving literacy. However, a number of mischaracterizations and omissions warrant a response."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/reading_bill_focuses_on_advanc.html#incart_river_index

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McNeilly: Gun rights under attack

"It's date night and you and your spouse are walking home after a relaxing evening when you suddenly hear the sound of breaking glass. You spin and see three masked men breaking into a car just down the street."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/17/mcneilly-gun-rights-attack/77441610/

Durant: Give Michigan schools more freedom to innovate

"We have a public school crisis in Detroit and in Michigan. It is about outcomes, money and the need for new schools.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/16/michigan-schools-freedom-innovate/77464790/

Time, dollars needed for juvenile justice

"Re: The Detroit News' Dec. 7 editorial, "Raise juvenile age in Michigan": I agree that Michigan's juvenile justice system is in disrepair. But the solution the News is pushing, and which is under consideration in Lansing, misses the mark."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/16/juvenile-justice-offenders-mental-health/77464882/

Editorial: Deal to cap GM should be public

"General Motors Co. will invest $1 billion in Michigan by 2030, part of a new deal the company reached with the state to reconfigure and cap the automakers' tax credits under a program that gives companies credits for keeping jobs and other investments in the state.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/16/gm-general-motors-deal-tax-credits/77464810/

When did state know kids in Flint were lead poisoned?

"When did the State of Michigan first learn that kids in Flint had been poisoned by lead in the city's drinking water?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/12/17/flint-water-lead/77365380/*

Teachers in 'Worst Urban District' Twice as Likely to be Rated 'Highly Effective'

"According to the 2015 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) report released in October, the Detroit Public Schools system was rated the worst-performing urban district in the country for the fourth time since 2009."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21996*

GOP Helping Big Spending Public School Lobby

"Michigan's public school establishment is nothing if not persistent when it comes to devising new ways to extract more tax dollars. Two hearty perennials in this area areschool "sinking fund" taxes and using local "recreational authority" taxes for school amenities. Both have been advanced in previous legislatures, only to be halted by happenstance or when Republican leaders on either side of the Capitol realized they were on the verge of authorizing property tax hikes for more things."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21983*

When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything

"When it comes to building a brighter future for Michigan, no factor is more important than providing our state's residents the education and training they need to be successful. Children and adults become poised for success when they have the knowledge and skills they need to grow, thrive and contribute to Michigan's overall prosperity."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/when-it-comes-to-talent-michigan-needs-more-of-everything/*

Press Releases

Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons statement on Senate Bill 13

*"**State Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), chair of the House Elections Committee** issued the following statement this evening, following on the passage of Senate Bill 13:"*

Source: *Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450322909_LYONS.pdf

MDP Statement on Michigan Senate Republican Passage of Straight-Ticket Voting Ban

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement tonight, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Michigan Senate Republicans passage of legislation banning straight-ticket voting, while removing the tie-bar bill that would have allowed for more absentee voting:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319554_dem.pdf

Senate Votes Straight Ticket to Eliminate Straight Ticket Voting

"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the Michigan GOP's attempt to rig elections in their favor by repealing the straight ticket option on voting ballots. The move comes after a tie-barred bill that was a watered-down version of a no-reason absentee voting bill was removed. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319129_mich.pdf

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Issues Statement on Republicans Eliminating Straight-Ticket Votin

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) released the following statement in regards to the Senate eliminating straight-ticket voting:"

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319089_ananich.pdf

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Michigan AFL-CIO blasts Senate GOP for eliminating straight-party voting

"LANSING – Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber issued the following statement tonight in response to the Michigan Senate's vote to eliminate straight-party voting in Michigan."

Source: *Michigan AFL-CIO* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450318154_aflcio.pdf

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House Democrats penalize caucus members for voting their district

"In case you missed it, MIRS News today reported that state Reps. Leslie Love and Erika Geiss had their leadership positions taken away over their vote in favor of a bill supported by their districts. This heavy-handed tactic shows that House Democratic leadership cares more about the interests of ambulance chasers than what's best for the residents they represent."

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450310320_mrp.pdf

Kline, Bishop Applaud Senate Action to Extend Perkins Loan Program

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C. –** Education and the Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline (R-MN) and Rep. Mike Bishop (R-MI) issued the following statements today after the Senate passed legislation extending for two years the Federal Perkins Loan Program, which expired this fall:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450308990_bisho.pdf

Rep. Lawrence, Rep. Cicilline, et al introduce Assault Weapons Ban of 2015

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) today joined U.S. David N. Cicilline (D-RI) and other gun violence prevention advocates to introduce the Assault Weapons Ban of 2015 and prohibit the sale, transfer, production, and importation of new military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450305956_lawrence.pdf

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Close Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes, Fund Public Education

"MICHIGAN — On Thursday at 1 p.m., Americans for Tax Fairness will be joined by education leaders from the American Federation of Teachers and the Michigan Education Association to call for an end to loopholes that allow corporations to hide their profits overseas to avoid paying their fair share in taxes."

Source: *Americans for Tax Fairness* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450303247_amer.pdf

Dingell Urges FDA to Finalize E-Cigarette Rule after Roadblock Averted in Government Funding Bill

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today thanked negotiators for preventing a poison-pill policy rider from being included in the fiscal year 2016 government funding bill that would have exempted electronic cigarettes from regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In August, following numerous reports of injuries caused by defective electronic cigarettes, Dingell wrote a letter to FDA Acting Commissioner Dr. Stephen Ostroff urging him to finalize a proposed rule to regulate the products as soon as possible. Dingell's constituent, Sgt. Jason Diekman of Wyandotte, was among those injured this summer when an exploding electronic cigarette badly burned his arms and abdomen."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450302556_dingell.pdf

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Horn to hold December office hours in St. Charles

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, reminded residents that December office hours have been scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450301171_horn.pdf

Peters, Stabenow Applaud Extension of Perkins Student Loan Program

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today applauded Senate passage of theFederal Perkins Loan Extension Act of 2015, a bipartisan, two-year extension of the Perkins Loan Program, which provides low-interest loans to help students with exceptional financial need pay for their education. Peters and Stabenow previously sent a letter in October urging Senate leadership to pass an extension of the Perkins Loan Program after it expired on October 1st. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a one-year extension in September."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450300517_peters.pdf

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MDHHS releases revised Statewide Transition Plan for Home and Community-Based Services

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services provides home and Community-Based Services to individuals in the Medicaid program. These services help Michigan citizens with disabilities or other health issues to live at home or in the community. Michigan offers many of these services through waivers, which were approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450299760_dhhs.pdf

Schuitmaker Blue Alert legislation signed into law

*"**Lansing, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder has signed into law legislation that will protect the public and law enforcement after an attack on an officer. Public Act 167 of 2015, sponsored by state Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, will create the Blue Alert system in Michigan."*

Source: *Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450298979_schuitmaker.pdf

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Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Endorses Janee' Ayers for City Council

"DETROIT — The Metro Detroit AFL-CIO has unanimously endorsed Councilmember Janee' Ayers for the August 2016 primary election and the November 2016 general election to fill the remainder of her current term. Ayers was appointed to fill the At-Large council seat vacated by Saunteel Jenkins by her peers on the Detroit City Council."

Source: *Metro Detroit AFL-CIO* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450297571_aflcio.pdf

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Senator Johnson Introduces Water Affordability Act

"LANSING, Mich. - Senator Bert Johnson (D–Highland Park) today introduced legislation that would create an income-based water affordability program to help provide Michigan's most vulnerable residents with water bill assistance. "

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450297064_ananich.pdf

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Schuette Announces Guilty Plea for Petoskey Attorney Charged with Embezzlement from Senior

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced Petoskey lawyer Michael Aho Kennedy, 67, has pleaded guilty to one count of Embezzlement of over $100,000 from a Vulnerable Adult, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease and was his elderly client."*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450294957_ag.pdf

Grand Ledge student gets a 'selfie' with Gov. Snyder after bill signing

ceremony

"Gov. Rick Snyder ordinarily does not participate in "selfie" pictures, but Evan Dean managed to get one with the state's leader following a bill signing ceremony this morning at the Romney Building in Lansing"

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450294237_hughes.pdf

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Greimel: What's Worse than Sexual Harassment and Bribery Allegations? Putting District over Party Bo

*"**LANSING, MI, December 16, 2015** –The Michigan Freedom Fund today called on House Minority Leader Tim Greimel to take sexual harassment and bribery allegations seriously after reports he stripped two members of staff and caucus positions for casting votes he disagreed with, despite months spent refusing to punish a member accused of sexual harassment and another under federal investigation for her role in a pension board bribery scandal."*

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293586_mich.pdf

Peters, Stabenow Applaud Facility for Rare Isotope Beam Funding in Government Spending Bill

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow applauded the year-end government spending bill released today includes $100 million in federal funding to continue constructing the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University. The appropriations bill, the Fiscal Year 2016 Omnibus Appropriations Act funds the government through September 30, 2016, and Peters and Stabenow worked with their Senate colleagues to ensure this funding would be included in the final legislation."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293166_peteres.pdf

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Huizenga: Today's Announcement By The FOMC Is Long Overdue

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Monetary Policy & Trade Subcommittee Chairman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) announced its decision to raise interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point:*

"

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293113_huizenga.pdf

Yanez Resolution Tells Congress to Oppose TPP

*"LANSING — State Representative **Henry Yanez** (D-Sterling Heights) introduced a House resolution today calling on the United States Congress to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement. The TPP would govern trade between the U.S. and 11 other nations, including Japan and Mexico but excluding China."*

Source: *Rep. Henry Yanez* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293063_yanez.pdf

Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Edges Up

"Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November inched up slightly over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.1 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). The state's workforce rose in November by 21,000 as total employment advanced by 15,000, while the number of unemployed increased by 6,000."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291767_dtmb.pdf

Nominations Solicited for the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame

"Lansing, MI – What women in your community are worthy of recognition on the state level? Nominations are being accepted for the 2016 class of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. The Hall commemorates women of this state who have distinguished themselves in one or more fields of endeavor including, but not limited to, abolition, agriculture, architecture, art, athletics, aviation, business, chemistry, children's rights, civil rights, community service, conflict resolution/peace movement, dietetics, economics, education, entertainment, environment, folk life, government, history, human resources, journalism, labor, law, law enforcement, medicine/healthcare, military, music, Native American rights, philanthropy, politics, religion, science, social work/mission work, suffrage, television/radio, women's rights, and writing."

Source: *Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291677_mwhc.pdf

Double lane closure this weekend on SB I-75 in Monroe County

"I-75, Monroe County This weekend there will be a lane closure on southbound I-75 between South Otter Creek Road (Exit 9) and Luna Pier Road (Exit 6) for concrete pavement patching in the center lane. There will be a single lane closure starting at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 18. Then a double lane closure starting at 9 p.m. on Friday until 9 p.m. on Sunday, December 20. Motorists are advised to plan

extra time when traveling through the area this weekend watch for traffic back-ups. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291815_mdot.pdf

House Fiscal Agency - Depletion of the Autism Coverage Fund

"Prepared by Paul Holland, Senior Fiscal Analyst, December 15, 2015. This memo provides a brief explanation of the Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program (ACRP) and the Autism Coverage Fund (ACF), a description of the appropriations to and from the ACF, and an accounting of the number of claims submitted by carriers and amounts of reimbursements paid from the ACF."

Source: *House Fiscal Agency* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291267_hfa1.pdf

Colbeck introduces resolution calling for temporary halt on Syrian refugees to Michigan

*"**LANSING, Mich**. — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, introduced a resolution calling on Gov. Rick Snyder to continue his opposition to the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Michigan until the state is sufficiently assured that the federal government is properly vetting the refugees against any terrorists infiltrating the U.S. through the resettlement program."*

Source: *Sen. Patrick Colbeck* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291043_colbeck.pdf

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Heartland Education Experts React to Appointment of Mike Morath as Commissioner of the TX Ed Agency

"On Monday, Gov. Greg Abbott (R-TX) appointed Mike Morath as commissioner of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Morath has served as a trustee of the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) since 2011."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450289099_heartland.pdf

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Governor signs Hansen bill expanding 'Good Samaritan' law

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder (seated) on Wednesday signed Senate Bill 427, now Public Act 209 of 2015, sponsored by Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, (second from right). Joining Hansen at the bill signing were (from left) Tom Schmiedeknecht, president of Pro-Med, and Damon Obiden, director of operations of Kent County EMS, Inc. PA 209 adds licensed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers to the existing list of health professionals granted immunity when off duty and providing care to*

an individual."

Source: *Sen. Goeff Hansen* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450289050_hansen.pdf

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New Zorn, Pavlov legislation protects our natural resources

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Protecting Michigan's natural resources, hunting heritage and wild game just got easier under legislation sponsored by state Sens. Dale Zorn and Phil Pavlov and signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

Source: *Sen. Dale Zorn and Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288998_zorn.pdf

Jones bill to fight Chronic Wasting Disease headed to the governor

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones' bill that would allow state officials to take steps to address the ongoing problem of Chronic Wasting Disease has been sent to Gov. Rick Snyder to be signed into law."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288941_jones.pdf

DNR awards more than $1.3 million in Recreation Passport grant funding

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that 33 communities across the state will share $1,348,700 in Recreation Passport grants. Funding for this program is derived from sales of the Recreation Passport, the $11 annual pass that grants residents vehicle entry at state parks and recreation areas throughout Michigan. "

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288897_dnr.pdf

Rep. Hughes bill helps school districts address substitute shortage

"LANSING – Legislation sponsored by Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, became law this morning when Gov. Rick Snyder signed House Bill 4059 during a bill signing ceremony."

Source: *Rep. Holly Hughes* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288848_hughes.pdf

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Senator Gregory Issues Resolution to Oppose Trans-Pacific Partnership,

Refocus on Americans' Needs

"LANSING, Mich. — Senator Vincent Gregory (D–Southfield) today introduced a resolution urging the U.S. Senate to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)."

Source: *Sen. Vincent Gregory* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288798_gregory.pdf

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Legislation introduced to reform Michigan aquaculture

"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Darwin Booher introduced legislation on Wednesday that would help encourage the expansion of aquaculture in Michigan to help meet the rising demand for seafood."

Source: *Sen. Darwin Booher* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450285650_booher.pdf

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Gov. Snyder signs 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

"Gov. Rick Snyder today signed into law legislation which would exempt individuals under 21 from prescription drug-related charges in the event they are reporting a life-threatening emergency connected to abuse of these substances."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450283238_pscholka.pdf

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2016 Omnibus Spending Bill Protects the National Housing Trust Fund

"WASHINGTON, DC – The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) is pleased with the treatment of low income housing programs in the proposed FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill that Congressional leaders released this morning. While funding levels remain wholly inadequate to meet the housing needs of low income Americans, the bill is a significant improvement over the HUD appropriations bills passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Committee earlier this year under the constraints of sequestration. Increased funding was made possible by the lifting of the sequester caps in the "Balanced Budget Act" passed in October."

Source: *National Low Income Housing Coalition* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281435_nlihc.pdf

Creative Many CEO Re-Elected to National Arts Advisory Council

"DETROIT/WASHINGTON - Members of Americans for the Arts, the leading organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America, have re-elected Jennifer Goulet, president and CEO of Creative Many Michigan, as a member of their advisory council for the Private Sector Council. Goulet will advise

Americans for the Arts' staff on developing programs and services that will build a deeper connection to the field and the network membership."

Source: *Americans for the Arts' Advisory Council* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281388_art.pdf*

Consumers less satisfied with health insurance if their PCP not in network

"CHRT's latest survey report examines how factors influencing health plan selection, both on and off the marketplace, were related to consumer satisfaction with insurance coverage."

Source: *Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281115_chrt.pdf*

Retired teachers can return to the classroom under Hughes bill signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, Mich. – Teachers who have retired from the profession can return to work without sacrificing pension and health care benefits if they are teaching in a critical shortage area, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450280694_gov.pdf*

Michigan EIBC Praises Bipartisan Congressional Deal to Extend Solar and Wind Tax Credits

"LANSING – The Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (Michigan EIBC), praised the congressional deal reached early this morning to extend the solar investment tax credit (ITC) and wind production tax credit (PTC) for anoth

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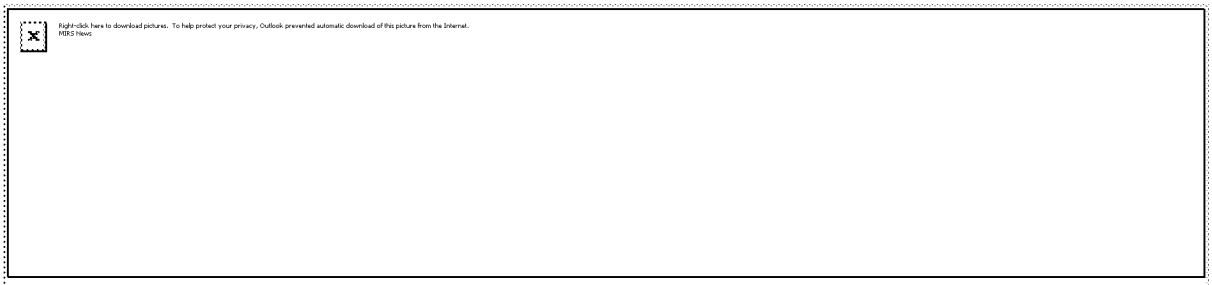
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 7:21 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 17, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 17, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734

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http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

PUBLIC ACTS
http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Feds, State Reach Compromise To Keep Healthy Michigan In Place

Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration and the federal government have reached a deal on a crucial waiver that will keep the state's Medicaid expansion program in place. But the way the program will unfold is likely not exactly how some state lawmakers originally envisioned it.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45269

SB 571 Bans Unions From Using Corporate Payroll To Raise PAC Money

Corporations with their own corporate political action committees (PAC) would no longer be allowed to administer the PACs of their employees' labor unions through their payroll system, under a hidden provision baked into the reworked version of legislation rushed through the Legislature Wednesday night.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45236

Schuette On Fundraising: `I've Still Got The Itch'

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE today acknowledged he spent time fundraising out of state last week but remained coy about any intentions he may have to run for governor in 2018.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45292

State's Servers Vulnerable, According To Audit

The security settings on 94 percent of State of Michigan's computer servers, the data warehouses for the state records, were not properly set, according to audit released today.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45297

Gov: I've Been Asked for Endorsement

Gov. Rick SNYDER endorsed 2012 presidential candidate Mitt ROMNEY days before the Michigan GOP primary four years ago and he told MIRS this week he sees himself doing the same thing in early 2016.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45287

Snyder Signs Bill Expanding Distribution Of Epi-Pens

A bill signed by Gov. Rick SNYDER today will allow Epi-Pens and other auto-injectables of epinephrine to be available in more public places to address severe allergic reactions.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45293

Ananich Not Impressed With Flint Task Force's Round 1

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) was looking for more from Gov. Rick SNYDER's Flint Water Force in its first significant correspondence with the Governor on how the state should move past Flint's lead-in-water issue.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45295

DeVos Money Doesn't Mean Endorsements

Some eyebrows were raised when it was learned that a DeVos family member threw a fundriser for to Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who up to now has not counted the prominent DeVoses as one of his closer benefactors.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45286

Fabiano: Trump Is American Original

She is not ready to endorse him, but mid-Michigan Tea Party activist Joan FABIANO is clearly thankful that Donald TRUMP is running for president because, "he has raised the most vital issue in our country, illegal immigration (and) he is an American original."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45289

Governor's Appointments

City of Pontiac Receivership Transition Advisory Board

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4734#45291

Bits & Tidbits

Small Business Association Of Michigan Announces Staff Changes

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4734#45294

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 17, 1798, Michigan's first participation in an American election began in Detroit, with each voter verbally announcing his choice for a delegate to the Northwest Territorial Assembly. At the conclusion, the loser accused the winner of buying votes with whiskey and threatening voters.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4734#45290

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4734#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015
11:00 AM
Attorney General Bill Schuette Year End Media Roundtable
Location: Williams Building
Contact: Andrea Bitely (517) 373-8060
nurenbergb@michigan.gov

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016
10:00 AM
Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hours
Location: Espresso Royale
jeffirwin@house.mi.gov

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
12:30 PM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health\'s annual meeting
Location: Detroit Port Authority - Waterview Loft
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

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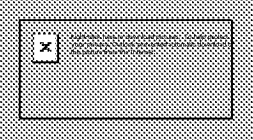

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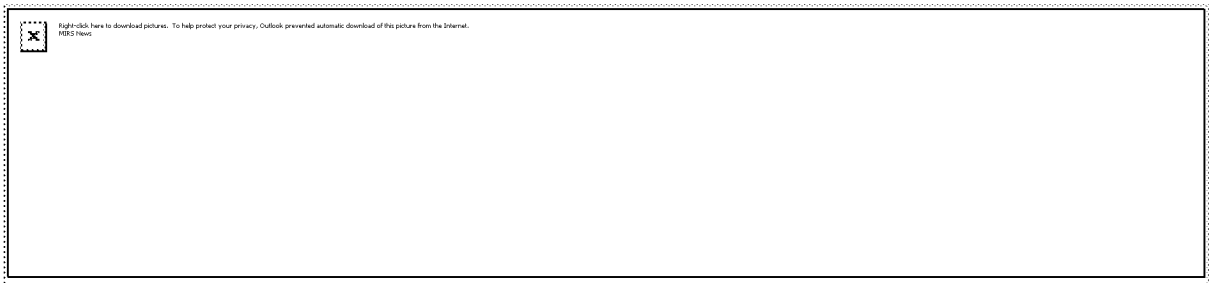

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Michigan wins crucial federal waiver to continue expanded Medicaid coverage program

"LANSING, MI — The Obama administration has approved a key waiver that will allow Michigan to continue its unique program for expanded Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act, Gov. Rick Snyder announced Thursday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_wins_crucial_federal.html#incart_river_index*

Is Senate Business Office subject to FOIA? Michigan Senator seeks a formal AG opinion

"LANSING, MI -- The Senate Business Office claims it is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act, but Sen. Vincent Gregory is asking Attorney General Bill Schuette whether that's actually the case from a legal standpoint."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/is_senate_business_office_subj.html#incart_river_index*

Snyder taps two advisers to help on Flint water crisis

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder has tapped two of his advisers to coordinate the state's health, environmental and public relations response to Flint's water crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/snyder-taps-two-advisers-help-flint-water-crisis/77479796/*

Schuette continues out-of-state fundraising

"Lansing — Attorney General Bill Schuette has an "itch.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/schuette-fundraising-attorney-general-michigan-governor/77507548/*

Feds approve Medicaid waiver for Michigan

"More than a half million Michigan residents will get to keep their expanded Medicaid health insurance next year and beyond after the federal government Thursday approved the final waiver required under state law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/feds-approve-medicaid-waiver-michigan/77480758/*

House Republicans push more than $600B in tax cuts

"Washington – — Republicans overwhelmed divided Democrats to whisk tax breaks for businesses, families and special interests through the House on Thursday as Congress sped toward final votes on a year-crowning budget accord that will also bankroll the government in 2016."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/house-budget-congress-taxes/77520360/*

Spending bill could boost program to fight blight

"Washington — The year-end spending bill under consideration by Congress would allow the U.S. Treasury to transfer up to $2 billion more to the fund that helps cities such as Detroit and Flint combat neighborhood blight."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/spending-bill-boost-program-fight-blight/77474652/*

Report rips security of state computer systems

"LANSING – Hundreds of state computer servers are vulnerable to hacking and failure because of outdated operating systems, ineffective security configurations, poor password control, failure to install security patches and a lack of timely scanning to detect vulnerabilities, according to a report released Thursday by Michigan Auditor General Doug Ringler."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/17/report-rips-security-state-computer-systems/77409206/

Hillary Clinton to stump in state Jan. 12

"Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is planning a campaign stop in Michigan on Jan. 12, ahead of the state's March 8 primary, according to sources."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/hillary-clinton--stump--state-jan-12/77475674/

Federal government approves waiver for Healthy Michigan

"The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has given Michigan a waiver for its Healthy Michigan plan, allowing nearly 600,000 low-income residents to continue with health care coverage."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/federal-government-approves-waiver-healthy-michigan/77483592/

Roque DeLaFuente may be on Michigan presidential ballot

"Most people have probably never heard of Roque (Rocky) DeLaFuente, a former car salesman and banker from San Diego, Calif. But come March 8, millions of Michigan voters may encounter his name on the presidential primary ballot."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/roque-delafuente-michigan-democratic-presidential-ballot/77506264/

Detroit-led blight fight may spur demolitions across U.S.

"WASHINGTON — A Michigan-led effort to get $2 billion more put into a federal neighborhood stabilization fund could touch off one of the biggest initiatives to demolish abandoned, derelict buildings in older urban centers ever seen, with cities across the Midwest — Detroit first and foremost among

them — standing to benefit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/detroit-led-blight-fight-may-spur-demolitions-across-us/77500028/

Advocacy/Opinion

Wolfram: Data center bill consistent with tax policy

"The state Senate recently passed bills that deal with exempting data centers from the sales and use taxes as well as the personal property tax. While most of the discussion has been about the effect on economic activity, in particular whether the tax reductions will advance economic activity in Michigan, it is useful to examine the fundamental theory of the sales taxes and whether the property tax exemption is consistent with current policy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/17/michigan-tax-policy-switch-data-center/77531752/

Editorial: Protect access to medical marijuana

"The Senate failed to pass legislation again this year that would legalize non-smokable forms of marijuana under the state's medical pot program. That means nearly 180,000 medical marijuana patients in Michigan remain in limbo, as do their caregivers and suppliers.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/17/medical-marijuanaaccess-pot-legalization-michigan/77530906/

Bankruptcy could be option for ailing DPS

"Each month the Legislature fails to act on Gov. Rick Snyder's proposals for fixing Detroit Public Schools brings the district a step nearer to a Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing, which now even the governor is calling an option."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/12/17/dps-inching-closer-bankruptcy/77528560/

Questions, answers in Duggan's Detroit demolitions plan

"The homes on the 1900 block of Calvert Street in Detroit are modest compared to the mansions a few blocks south in the historic Boston-Edison district -- solid wood and brick one- and two-family houses, built in the 1920s as the city grew north. While the number of owner-occupied homes on the street has declined over the last few decades, most of the homes are well-maintained."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/17/detroit-demolitions-duggan/77478794/*

Business Group, Utilities, Clash Over Rate Hikes, Electric Choice

"A business group is asking the Michigan Court of Appeals to overturn a rate hike it claims would give Consumers Energy the highest profits granted by regulators this year in the U.S. The lawsuit comes while Michigan customers face the highest electricity rates in the region and the state's two largest utilities, Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison, lobby the Legislature to return them to the status of full monopolies."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22001*

Press Releases

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450387269_gov.pdf*

Dingell, Peters, Stabenow Legislation to Award Medal of Honor to Ypsilanti Vietnam Veteran Included

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Debbie Stabenow (MI) today announced that legislation they introduced, which would allow Major Charles S. Kettles of Ypsilanti to be awarded the Medal of Honor, will move forward as part of the fiscal year 2016 government funding bill."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell and Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450387172_dingell.pdf*

Rep. Lawrence statement on Tax Extenders Vote

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Thursday issued the following statement

after voting against the tax extenders package."

Source: *Rep. Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450386495_lawrence.pdf

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Huizenga Votes to Provide Tax Relief For Hardworking Michiganders

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in support of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act:"*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450385017_huizenga.pdf

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Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health's annual me

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health's annual meeting. He will be joined by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383771_gov.pdf

Gov. Snyder signs bill making allergy pens more accessible for emergencies at youth camps, sporting

"LANSING, Mich. – Epi-Pens and other auto-injectibles of epinephrine will be available in more public places to address severe allergic reactions, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383611_gov.pdf

Bishop's Bill to Extend Perkins Loan Program Heads to President

*"**WASHINGTON** – Following Senate passage yesterday, the House today passed Congressman Mike Bishop's amended legislation to extend the Federal Perkins Loan Program for two years (H.R. 3594). In response,**Congressman Bishop** issued the following statement: "*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383569_bishop.pdf

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Governor Snyder Signs Bill to Protect Kids with Food Allergies

"New Law Gives Public Venues the Option to Stock Epi-Pens to Treat Patrons Experiencing Life Threatening Reactions"

Source: *No Nuts Moms Group* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383525_alergy.pdf

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Rep. Runestad calls on Obama to declare ISIS action genocide

"State Rep. Jim Runestad today introduced a House resolution calling on President Obama to declare ISIS terrorism as an act of genocide against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East."

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383458_runestad.pdf

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Lakewood Construction, MIOSHA Sign Partnership to Protect Workers

"

December 17, 2015 – Lakewood Construction, the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) recently signed a formal partnership with the goal of zero worker injuries, accidents and near misses during the construction of the new Caledonia High School South Campus building.

"

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383411_lara.pdf

Amendment fails to require timely reporting of independent expenditures

"An amendment to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act passed by the Michigan Legislature on its last day of voting in 2015 changes reporting schedules but it fails to require timely reporting of independent

expenditures. That should be the next order of business for Michigan lawmakers."

Source: *Michigan Campaign Finance Network* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450382062_mcfn.pdf*

Rep. Garcia introduces school calendar legislation

"State Representative Daniela García this week introduced a two-bill package providing more flexibility for local school districts to design the most efficient school calendar that will best benefit Michigan students."

Source: *Rep. Daniela Garcia* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450382142_garcia.pdf*

Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Denounces Attack on Urban Voters

"LANSING — The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) criticized the passage of Senate Bill 13 last night during a late session, calling the legislation a suppression of voter rights in urban areas of the state."

Source: *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450381411_mlbc.pdf*

Properly Fund Education By Closing Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes

"MICHIGAN — As part of the Americans for Tax Fairness campaign, education leaders from Michigan spoke out today against offshore corporate tax loopholes that rob much needed revenue to priorities back home, like public education. They called on elected officials like U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow to work in Washington, D.C. to put an end to the shell game."

Source: *Americans for Tax Fairness* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450381040_engage.pdf*

TC Chamber Honors Chuck Judson with Distinguished Service Award

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – A community thrives when its top professionals are deeply engaged in a wide range of local initiatives – a description that surely fits Charles B. "Chuck" Judson, the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450380511_tcac.pdf*

Ag leaders urge passage of Consolidated Appropriations Act

*"LANSING – The **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan (ALM)** today urged members of Michigan's U.S. House delegation to support passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, noting in a letter to lawmakers (attached) that the bill contains a wide range of provisions to benefit Michigan agriculture and prevent roadblocks to continued progress."*

Source: *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379895_alm.pdf

Benishek Fights for Michigan Taxpayers

"WASHINGTON - Today, the House voted in favor of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX). This bill makes permanent over 20 tax relief provisions, extends for 5 years or 2 years a number of other tax relief provisions that expired at the end of calendar year 2014, provides for a 2-year moratorium on the medical device tax, and includes a number of additional tax policy changes."

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379826_benishek.pdf

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Snyder Administration Leans on Lies to Avoid Flint Water Disclosures

"LANSING — In a recent story by the Detroit Free Press, it was reported that a lawyer for the Department of Health and Human Services claimed that documents related to the Flint Water Crisis could not be released because of a "litigation hold" placed on documents by the Attorney Generals office. However, the Attorney General claims he did not place a hold and the story points out that the term is not a phrase used in litigation surrounding public documents."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379750_mich.pdf

House Passes Pro-Growth Tax Package

*"**WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of H.R. 2029, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379144_bishop.pdf

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Small Business Association of Michigan Staff Changes

"LANSING – Several people have joined the staff of the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) in Lansing."

Source: *Small Business Association of Michigan* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377545_sbam.pdf*

Approval of federal waiver for Healthy Michigan Plan great gift to Michigan

"LANSING —The Michigan League for Public Policy issued the following statement on the the federal government's approval of the second waiver for the Healthy Michigan plan today:"

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377501_policy.pdf*

DNR honors hunter education instructor of the year

"Timothy Pifher of Davison, Michigan, was named 2015 hunter education volunteer instructor of the year by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377458_dnr.pdf*

Statement from Rep Schor federal approval of the waiver for the Healthy Michigan Plan

*"**Statement from state Representative Andy Schor (D-Lansing) on federal approval of the waiver for the Healthy Michigan Plan:**"*

Source: *Rep. Andy Schor* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377422_schor.pdf*

Statement from Sen. David Knezek on Shooting at Dearborn Heights Police Department

"Statement from Sen. David Knezek on Shooting at Dearborn Heights Police Department"

Source: *Sen. David Knezek* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377381_knezek.pdf*

Senator Johnson Introduces Legislation to Reduce Arson

"LANSING, Mich. — Senator Bert Johnson (D–Highland Park) today introduced legislation that would make it easier to prevent and investigate arson. Senator Rick Jones (R–Grand Ledge) was a cosponsor on the bill."

Source: *Sen. Bert Johnson* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450372936_johnson.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Healthy Michigan Plan continues for 600,000 residents with approval of second waiv

"LANSING, Mich. – The Healthy Michigan Plan will continue for nearly 600,000 residents, now that the state has obtained waiver approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Gov. Rick Snyder said today."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450371603_gov.pdf

Last elk hunt of 2015 a success for most hunters

"Although it may not feel like a Michigan December, the final 2015 elk hunt drew to a close last weekend."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450370631_dnr.pdf

DEQ announces $450,000 available to communities for residential recycling carts

"Local communities interested in purchasing recycling carts for residents now can apply for grants from the DEQ."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450366734_deq.pdf

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Wants More Urgency from Governor, Trained Emergency Coordinator o

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) responded to today's release of Flint Water Task Force correspondence. He reiterated specific actions that would help organize efforts with the Flint water crisis, including bringing in a trained emergency management professional to coordinate assistance within the City of Flint."

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450365657_ananich.pdf

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Cherry Republic just offered us a sweet deal we couldn't refuse!

"Earlier this week I got some very exciting news from one of sweetest companies in Michigan, Cherry Republic. ***Cherry Republic is including us in their annual 31 Days of Giving Environmental Challenge!****"*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450365226_micv.pdf

Fund Used for Blight Demolition Set to Receive Billions More Under Push by Congressman Dan Kildee

"WASHINGTON – A bill expected to be passed by Congress this week includes a provision fought for by Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) to transfer $2 billion more into the Hardest Hit Fund (HHF), a program that has already helped to remove and repurpose thousands of abandoned properties in cities across Michigan, including Flint and Saginaw. Additionally, these new funds would have greater flexibility and could be used to make additional progress on removing blight, including past 2017, when the funds currently expire."

Source: *Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364745_kildee.pdf

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Honest State Data Shows Troubling Achievement Gaps

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (December 17, 2015) – This morning, the Michigan Department of Education released further details on student performance on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), taken by students in Spring 2015. The new assessment data provides more honest, reliable information on how well our students are prepared."

Source: *Education Trust-Midwest* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364535_edu.pdf

Irwin - Coffee Hour, Transportation Update

"It is an honor and a pleasure to contact you once again as the state representative for the

53rd Michigan House District. Though this is the last installment of this year, I will send updates throughout 2016 to keep you informed about issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state."

Source: *Rep. Jeff Irwin* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364367_irwin.pdf

Late antlerless season reminder: Dec. 21 - Jan 1

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the 2015 late antlerless firearm deer season is right around the corner. Below is a list of the deer management units (DMUs) that are open and closed for this private-land-only hunt."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450362996_dnr.pdf

Sparrow's Operation Santa 2015 provides gifts for nearly 160 Lansing children

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Caregivers have once again generously supported less fortunate local children and families to ensure they enjoy the holiday season."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450362923_sparrow.pdf

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Amendment will delay reporting of millions by months

"News from the Michigan Campaign Finance Network...

An amendment to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act passed by the Michigan Legislature on its last day of voting in 2015 will substantially delay the reporting of millions of dollars in election spending if it is signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

Read about SB 571, a flawed bill that should not be signed into law by Gov. Snyder."

Source: *Michigan Campaign Finance Network* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361824_mcfn.pdf

MDOT weekend construction 12/18/15

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 12/18-12/21/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US. (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app for changes and latest info.)** **M-53: (Van Dyke Ave)** In Macomb County, south M-53 from 15 ½ Mile to 15 Mile Rd will have two lanes closed from Sat 8 am-Sun 5 pm for construction. **I-94:** In Wayne County, west I-94 from French Rd to M-3 (Gratiot) will have*

left lane closed Sat 6 am-Mon 5 am for road work."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361533_mdot.pdf

Close Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes, Fund Public Education

"MICHIGAN — Today at 1 p.m., Americans for Tax Fairness will be joined by education leaders from the American Federation of Teachers and the Michigan Education Association to call for an end to loopholes that allow corporations to hide their profits overseas to avoid paying their fair share in taxes."

Source: *Americans for Tax Fairness* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361428_engage.pdf

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Audit Report Released - DTMB, Statewide UNIX Security Controls (071-0563-15)

"Performance audit report on Statewide UNIX Security Controls, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget Project Number: 071-0563-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov"

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361345_auditor.pdf

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KNOLLENBERG PRESS RELEASE ON STRAIGHT TICKET VOTING

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Bill 13, legislation sponsored by State Senator Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) to rein in political party control over elections, passed the legislature Wednesday evening. "

Source: *Sen. Marty Knollenberg* **Date:** *12-18-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361274_knollenberg.pdf

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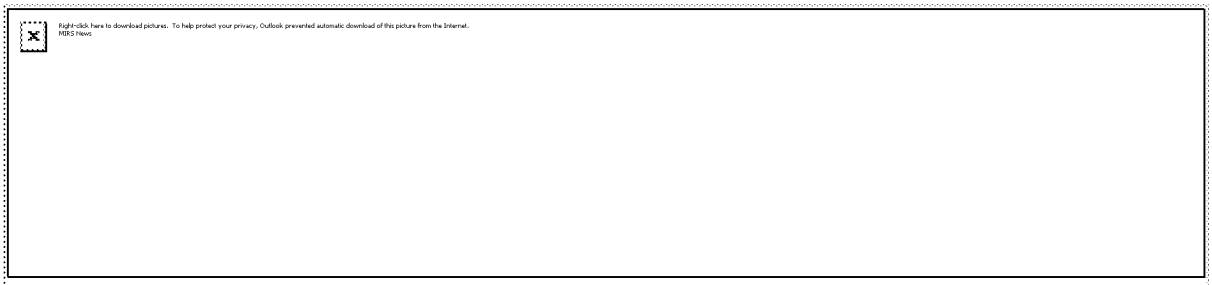
www.mirsnews.com

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2015 7:39 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, December 18, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, December 18, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4735

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Local Government, School Groups Asking For Veto Of SB 571

School districts and local government organizations are seething after discovering a late-night change to SB 0571 would ban officials from addressing a millage or bonding election 60 days prior to Election Day.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4735#45310

Michigan Has Youngest Legislature In Country

Michigan has the youngest House and Senate in the country, with an average combined age of 49.8 years of age, which is a full year younger than Florida's 50.8 years of age, the country's second youngest, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4735#45300

Recall Language Filed Against Meekhof

Recall language against Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) was filed with the Secretary of State's office for the leader's support of the higher gas tax and the vehicle registration fee bills that came with last month's $1.2 billion road funding package.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4735#45299

Corrections Head On Violent Criminals: 'Everybody Has Potential'

When it comes to rehabilitating violent criminals for release back into the public, the director of the Michigan Department of Corrections (DOC) said she believes everyone has potential.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45306

Audit: Guns, Propane Tank Stored With State's IT Servers

For the second day in a row, the security and stability of the state's information technology systems have come under scrutiny from an audit.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45304

Kivela Pleads Guilty To Drunk Driving Charge

Rep. John KIVELA (D-Marquette) today pleaded guilty to a first offense operating while intoxicated (OWI) charge associated with his November arrest.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45305

Legislative Black Caucus Calls For A State of Emergency In Flint

The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) today joined new Flint Mayor Karen WEAVER and the Flint City Council in urging Gov. Rick SNYDER to issue a State of Emergency to address the continuing health concerns caused by the increased lead levels in their water.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45302

Gov, AG Cautious On Separate Gun-Related Questions

Gov. Rick SNYDER and Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE had something in common this week. They both declined to answer a direct question about guns and gun control during separate media interviews.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45295

First Female Assigned As MI National Guard's Artillery Officer

The U.S. Secretary of the Army issued a 2014 directive authorizing more opportunities for women to serve in more roles in the U.S. Army and Michigan is beginning to see its impact.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45301

Young, McCormack Say Appeals To High Court Slowing

The Michigan Supreme Court (MSC) has seen fewer appeals as of late, which was chalked up by Justice Bridget McCORMACK as the high court "doing its job well."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45309

Bits And Tidbits

Bill Gives Local Schools Control Over Calendar

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45307

On This Date in Michigan History

On Dec. 18, 1927, Michigan's highway department became the first to paint solid yellow lines to indicate no passing zones on curves and hills. Signs had to be posted telling out-of-state motorists what the lines meant.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#45308

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4735#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Capitol Calendar Events

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016
10:00 AM
Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hours
Location: Espresso Royale
jeffirwin@house.mi.gov

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
12:30 PM
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health\'s annual meeting
Location: Detroit Port Authority - Waterview Loft
Contact: Dave Murray 517-335-6397
murrayd1@michigan.gov

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015
4:00 PM
Investiture of Oakland Circuit Judge Jeffery S. Matis(Sponsored by Oakland County Circuit Court)
Location: Board of Commissioners Auditorium, Oakland County Courthouse, Ground Floor, 1200 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac, MI 48341
Contact: Karen Koshen 248-858-0296
koshenk@oakgov.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016
11:30 AM
UM Wolverine Caucus January 20th(Sponsored by University of Michigan)

Location: Christman/MML Building, First Floor, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933
Contact: Angela McCullum (517) 372-7801
amccullu@umich.edu

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2015
11:00 AM
Sen. Rick Jones, Rep. Tom Barrett to set up nativity scene at Capitol on Saturday(Sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones and Rep. Tom Barrett)
Guest Speakers: Sen. Rick Jones, RGrand Ledge; Rep. Tom Barrett, RPotterville; Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth; Pastor from 2|42 Community Church; and Local residents.
Location: Michigan Capitol, East Lawn
Contact: Sandra McCormick (517) 410-9495
smccormick87@gmail.com

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015
10:30 AM
House Dem Leader Greimel to Wrap Up 2015 Legislative Session, Preview 2016(Sponsored by House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel & the House Democratic Caucus)
Location: House Democratic Leader\'s Office, Room 167, Michigan State Capitol
Contact: Katie Carey 517-373-8924
kcarey@house.mi.gov

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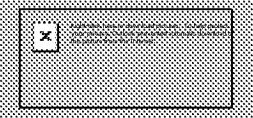

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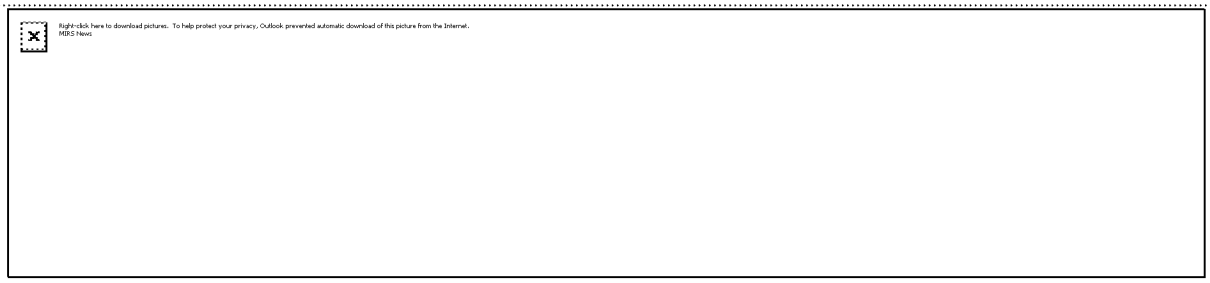
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2015 10:36 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Late night bill raises fear of stifling voter education

"Lansing — School leaders, municipal officials and Democrats are urging the governor to veto late-night legislation they say clamps a virtual gag order on local officials and may curtail union efforts to raise money for political causes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/18/bill-raises-fears-stifling-voter-education/77610120/*

WMU president donates salary increase to school

"Western Michigan University President John Dunn got a raise Friday morning — then gave it back to the university, plus some."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/wmu-president-donates-salary-increase-school/77558820/*

Michigan law lets arenas, other venues stock EpiPens

"LANSING — A new Michigan law lets arenas, camps and other venues stock epinephrine injectors to treat allergic reactions."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/michigan-law-epipens-arenas-other-venues/77622440/*

Michigan's late elk season a success for most hunters

"LANSING — This year's final elk hunt in northern Michigan has come to a close."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/michigans-late-elk-season/77622542/*

MSU president requests no raise; board approves

"EAST LANSING — Michigan State University President Lou Anna K. Simon will continue to receive a $750,000 annual salary after asking for the eighth time in 10 years not to get a pay increase."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/msu-president-requests-no-raise-board-approves/77577510/*

Feds: Detroit man built bombs to protect pot plants

"A Detroit man is facing federal charges for allegedly building bombs and placing them in his yard to protect his marijuana plants -- a plan that authorities say landed one man in the hospital."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/18/feds-detroit-man-built-bombs-protect-pot-plants/77584014/*

Texas company gives every employee $100K bonus

"HOUSTON — Talk about an early Christmas."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/nation-now/2015/12/17/company-gives-every-employee-100k-bonus/77473988/*

Long-secret audit shows Wayne Co. knew jail would blow budget

"Wayne County officials knew in 2011 that a proposed new jail was projected to be at least $41 million over budget but never told county commissioners or members of the Wayne County Building Authority, which was supposed to be overseeing the project."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/12/18/audit-wayne-county-jail/77547072/*

There They Go Again: Liberals Claim Bogus Education Funding Cuts

"The headline atop a press release from the Michigan League for Public Policy is clear enough: "Michigan still lags significantly behind nation in per pupil funding." But easily accessible data proves the headline wrong."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22023*

Lake Superior, other Great Lakes among world's fastest warming lakes

"The Great Lakes are some of the world's fastest warming lakes, a new study finds."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/12/new_study_shows_great_lakes_wa.html#incart_river_home

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EMU education faculty votes to censure regents' chairman after comments on EAA

"In the latest chapter of the Eastern Michigan University community's unrest over the Board of Regents continued dedication to the Education Achievement Authority, the school's College of Education faculty submitted a vote of censure against regent chairman Mike Morris."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu_education_faculty_submits.html#incart_river_home*

$2 billion for blight elimination efforts approved by Congress

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — As five Michigan communities wrap up the federally-funded demolition of thousands of blighted houses, Congress this week allocated an additional $2 billion expected to further fund the effort nationwide."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/congress_okays_2_billion_for_b.html#incart_river_home

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Eastern Michigan University regents to vote Monday on new interim president

"The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents will host a special meeting Monday, Dec. 21, at 9 a.m. to vote on the appointment of a new interim president. The meeting will take place on campus at 201 Welch Hall."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/eastern_michigan_university_ca_1.html#incart_river_home*

U.S. 131 pileup: Motorists describe chaos, fear as vehicles collided

"ALGOMA TOWNSHIP, MI – Drivers involved in a large pileup Friday on U.S. 131 described frightening scenes and near-misses as dozens of vehicles crashed in whiteout conditions."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/motorists_describe_chaos_fear.html#incart_river_home*

He's a college senior with a 3.4 GPA — and he's homeless

"YPSILANTI — Ramone Williams is always hungry, but at the end of a Shakespeare class recently at Eastern Michigan University, he was ravenous."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/12/hes_a_college_senior_with_a_36.html#incart_river_home*

Outrageous stories from Grand Rapids' 'Lost Restaurants'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Dining out, whether in the most elegant restaurants or humblest lunch counters, always has a final chapter."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand_rapids_historic_restaura.html#incart_river_home*

Dutch churchgoers with Michigan ties could set tone for presidential race

"A Dutch enclave with cultural and religious ties to West Michigan may have an extraordinary impact on this year's presidential campaign, the New York Times reports."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dutch_churchgoers_with_ties_to.html#incart_river_home*

President Obama commutes drug-related prison sentences for 2 Saginaw men

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Two former Saginaw men will be released from federal prisons earlier than expected next year due to commutations of their sentences announced this week by President Obama."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/president_obama_commutes_priso.html#incart_most_shared-*

lansing

Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules

"LANSING, MI — A state policy requiring parents to sit down with a local health worker before obtaining a vaccination waiver for their kids is "bureaucracy gone a bit too far," according to the chairman of the Michigan House Health Policy Committee."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_lawmakers_want_to_eas.html#incart_story_package*

Advocacy/Opinion

College: Islamic view, not hijab, got teacher suspended

"If Wheaton College professor Larycia Hawkins had simply donned a headscarf to support her Muslim neighbors without explaining herself, she still might be administering final exams this week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/2015/12/18/wheaton-college-professor-larycia-hawkins-firing/77591042/*

Simpler enrollment improves access to charter schools

"Charter schools are making their presence known in American cities. After more than a decade of steady growth, 10 percent of urban public school students are now enrolled in charters, where research shows the typical student benefitting more than at district schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/18/fixing-charter-school-access/77598088/*

GOP struggles with identity crisis on foreign policy

"National security was front and center this past week as nine presidential hopefuls took to the stage for the final Republican showdown of the year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/18/gop-struggles-identity-crisis-foreign-policy/77598210/*

Susan J. Demas: Anti-vaccination bills will harm Michigan children

"When it comes to keeping kids healthy in Michigan, it seems we always take one step forward and two steps back."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/vaccinations_michigan_hooker.html#incart_most_shared-lansing

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Press Releases

Defunding Planned Parenthood and Repealing ObamaCare

*"**Washington, D.C.** – House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) released the following statement announcing a House vote on reconciliation in January:"*

Source: *United States House Majority Floor Leader Kevin McCarthy* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473726_mccarthy.pdf

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Schuette: Orchard Lake Attorney Sentenced in Fake Mortgage Assistance Scheme

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced the sentencing of Stephen Barry Ruza, 52, of Orchard Lake, former owner of Home Legal Group Inc., for one felony count of Conducting a Criminal Enterprise. Ruza was sentenced to 12 months in Oakland County Jail, followed by five years of probation by Judge Nanci Grant in Oakland County's 6th Circuit Court. Ruza pleaded guilty to the charges of defrauding his victims with a fake mortgage assistance scheme in September. "*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473397_ag.pdf

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Beloved 52-1 District Court magistrate passes away

"Friday, Dec. 18, 2015, Novi, Mich. – Charles Y. Cooper, magistrate of 52-1 District Court in Novi, Mich., died this morning following a brief illness. He was 79."

Source: *Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473219_oak.pdf

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Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Members to Feed Those in Need

"DETROIT — Members of the Metro Detroit AFL-CIO will hand out food baskets for those in need. The giveaway will ensure that families will be able to enjoy a Christmas dinner."

Source: *Metro Detroit AFL-CIO* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450471186_aficio.pdf

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Legislature Wraps; More Detroit Talk; M-STEP Results; Education & Poverty; Unions down 20%; HS Grad

*"**Legislature wraps up for the calendar year***
The State Senate and House of Representatives have finished up their work for the year, and they are officially on recess until January 13, 2016. While there was much activity during the final days of session, none of the focus was on K-12 education issues. We expect to kick-start the debate on passing HB 4822 (K-3 Reading) in the Senate when they return on January 13. By the way, please click here to read Rep. Price's strong defense of HB 4822 in MLive."

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450469710_edu.pdf

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Clean Water Action launches "Lansing Clean Energy First" campaign

*"**LANSING** – Clean Water Action is asking businesses throughout the Board of Water and Light service territory to make their voices heard and encourage the BWL to become a national leader by investing in clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency first, before coal and natural gas-based energy production."*

Source: *Clean Water Action* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450468808_mich.pdf

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Michigan State Police Adds Six Canine Teams

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Michigan State Police (MSP) Director Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue is pleased to announce that Michigan citizens will soon benefit from the services of six new canine teams that graduated from the MSP 2015 Basic Canine School today.*

"
Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450467172_msp.pdf

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Dem Leader Greimel to Wrap Up 2015 Legislative Session, Preview 2016

*"LANSING – House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) will hold an informal press conference in **room 167 of the state Capitol on Monday, Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m.** to review the past year's legislative session and to look ahead to the major issues of 2016."*

Source: *Rep. Tim Greimel* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450467015_greimel.pdf

Obama Administration Announces Competition to Designate the Third and Final Round of Promise Zones

"WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that communities may now apply to be designated a Promise Zone under the third and final round competition. Read the new notice seeking Promise Zone applications."

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465603_usda.pdf

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Rally and March in Honor of Kajavia Globe Saturday, December 19th 4pm

*"**Detroit -** Tomorrow, Saturday, December 19, 2015, Council Member Sheffield and concerned young women from Detroit will march and rally in honor of Kajavia Globe and the hundreds of other young women who have been abducted and killed every year in America. Kajavia Globe was found murdered earlier this week."*

Source: *Detroit City Council - Mary Sheffield* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465105_detroit.pdf

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New Charges Against One Defendant in Linden Schools Shooting Plot

"Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton and Argentine Twp. Police Chief Dan Allen will hold a press conference to provide updates as to additional charges against one of the defendants charged in the alleged plot to shoot up Linden Schools."

Source: *Office of Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465037_genesee.pdf

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Congresswoman Dingell's Holiday Jingle

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today continued a Dingell holiday tradition, releasing the 2015 edition of the annual Dingell Jingle. Full text of the jingle can be read below."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450464673_dingell.pdf

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Heartland Education Experts React to Judge Denying Injunction against Croydon

School Board

"Strafford Superior Court Justice Brian Tucker on Monday ruled against the New Hampshire Department of Education's request for an injunction against the Croydon School Board for paying tuition to send five students to the Newport Montessori School. The following statements from education policy experts at The Heartland Institute – a free-market think tank – may be used for attribution. For more comments, refer to the contact information below. To book a Heartland guest on your program, please contact Jim Lakely, director of communications, at jlakely@heartland.org and 312/377-4000."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450463178_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf

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Shoulder closures next week on Trowbridge Road at US-127

"Trowbridge Road at US-127, Ingham County Starting Monday, December 21, through Wednesday, December 23, there will be a shoulder closure on Trowbridge Road at US-127. The shoulder closure is needed so crews can install temporary supports to bridges at the interchange. There will be no lane closures on US-127 while work is taking place. After this week, work will be suspended until the new year. Work will resume in Janurary after the holiday season. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462485_mdot.pdf

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First Female MING FA

"LANSING, Mich. - In 2014, a directive was issued from the secretary of the Army, authorizing more opportunities for women to serve in a wider range of roles within the U.S. Army. By January 2016, the U.S. military must open all combat jobs to women or explain why any must remain closed."

Source: *Michigan National Guard* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462232_mng.pdf

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HOUSE - The next legislative day set by the Constitution is Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 12:00 pm

"The next legislative day set by the Constitution is Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 12:00 pm"

Source: *Michigan House of Representatives* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462284_2016.pdf

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Peters Applauds Extension of Tax Credit for Businesses Employing Military Reservists & National Guar

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a former Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, today applauded the expansion and permanent extension of a tax credit for employers that provide differential pay to military reservists and National Guard members called to serve on active duty. The tax credit, which was included in an end-of-year government spending and tax bill, would apply to all businesses, but the extension is particularly helpful for small businesses that may find it more difficult to absorb the costs of providing differential pay. Earlier this year, Peters introduced the Military Reserve Small Business Jobs Act with Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), a former Lieutenant Colonel in the Iowa Army National Guard, to extend this tax credit for small businesses for five years, providing financial security for the families of Reservists and National Guardsmen serving on active duty."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462036_peters.pdf

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Dingell Statement on Omnibus Appropriations Bill

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined colleagues in the House to adopt, by a vote of 316 to 113, the fiscal year 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which funds the government for 2016."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456389_dingell.pdf

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Securing Michigan Priorities

*"**WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of the omnibus spending package, the Consolidated Appropriations Actfor FY 2016 (H.R. 2029), Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement: "*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456177_bisho.pdf

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Jones and Barrett to Set Up Nativity at Capitol

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones, with help from Rep. Tom Barrett, will be setting up a nativity scene on Saturday on the East Lawn of the Michigan Capitol. Jones encourages the public to come out to see the display, which will be up from Saturday through Christmas Day."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones and Rep. Tom Barrett* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456116_jones.pdf

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CPAN Administrative Director Receives Humanitarian Award

"LANSING – The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault (CPAN) is proud to announce that on Wednesday, Dec. 9, Administrative Director Martha Levandowski was awarded the Catalina Andres Humanitarian Award for her ongoing and tireless efforts to advocate on behalf of auto accident survivors. The award was presented to Levandowski by

the ACS Foundation during the acclaimed Holiday Schmooze black tie gala held at The Reserve in Birmingham."

Source: *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455910_cpan.pdf

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Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Calls For A State of Emergency In Flint

"LANSING – The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) today joined the City of Flint, and urged Gov. Rick Snyder to issue a State of Emergency to address the continuing health concerns caused by the increased lead levels in their water."

Source: *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455651_dem.pdf

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Hunting Access and Anti-Poaching Bills Signed

"In the past week, we have seen a lot of activity on a few of our priority issues at both the state and federal level. At the state level, we celebrated the passage of our anti-poaching and hunting access legislative packages with ceremonial bill signings with Governor Snyder on Wednesday! Members of the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation, the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association, and MUCC board and staff attended signings on Public Acts 185 and 187-189."

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455585_mucc.pdf

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Benishek Votes to Fund Michigan Priorities

"WASHINGTON - Today, the House voted in favor of a $1.1 trillion budget agreement that will keep the federal government funded through next September. "

Source: *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450454920_benishek.pdf

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Powerball Jackpot Tops $200 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 18, 2015** – A very happy holiday season could be in store for a lucky Michigan Lottery player if they win the $202 million Powerball jackpot on Saturday."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453762_lottery.pdf

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Huizenga Supports Omnibus Legislation Impacting West Michigan Economy

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in support of the year-end government funding legislation:"*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453426_huizenga.pdf

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Expert available to discuss historically high automotive sales forecast for December 2015

"It was announced yesterday that two companies who forecast automotive sales predict the U.S. will see the highest sales since July 2005. Consumers are expected to spend more than $44 billion on new vehicles this month, contributing $437 billion to automotive sales for 2015 overall. An AEG expert is available to discuss how these sales may affect the automotive industry."

Source: *Anderson Economic Group* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453060_aeg.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/17/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/17/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release,
see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450452118_court.pdf

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State transportation economic grants to support 155 jobs in St. Clair County

*"**December 18, 2015** – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling $266,503 that will support 155 jobs in Yale, St. Clair County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will leverage more than $5,453,500 in private investment, at a private-to-public ratio of about 20-to-1."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451604_mdot.pdf

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State transportation economic development grant to help support 100 new jobs in Howell

*"**December 18, 2015 --** One hundred new jobs in the city of Howell will be supported thanks to a state transportation*

economic development grant provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling $267,200 will leverage $52.5 million in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 196-to-1."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451565_mdot.pdf

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Upton Statement on Passage of Omnibus

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement upon passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451525_upton.pdf

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State transportation economic development grant to foster 175 new jobs in west Michigan

*"**December 18, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling $461,147 in Kent and Ottawa counties that will support the creation of 175 new jobs. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will help leverage $26,370,000 in private investment, at a private-to-public ratio of about 57-to-1."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451487_mdot.pdf

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UM Wolverine Caucus January 20th (Happy Holidays)

"

> As in the past, I am requesting that you note our University of Michigan Wolverine Caucus forums in your calendar of events. Attached is a flyer highlighting our first Wolverine Caucus forum of 2016 - Sustainable Energy Future for Michigan: Challenges, Opportunities and the Role You Play featuring Dr. Gregory Keoleian, UM School of Natural Resources.

"

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449701_um.pdf

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Seven Michigan Lottery Players Headed to Las Vegas for Monopoly Millionaires'

Club(tm) Game Show

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 18, 2015** – Seven lucky Michigan Lottery players are heading to Las Vegas to appear on the Monopoly Millionaires' Club game TV show."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449256_lottery.pdf

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MSP Canine School Graduation Ceremony Today

"The media is invited to attend the Canine School graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 at the MSP Training Academy. Six new canine teams will graduate. Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue will address the graduates."

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449205_msp.pdf

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Dapper Dads 2016 calendar raises funds for women's health

"LANSING, MI – Thirteen of the region's leading men are featured in the Dapper Dads 2016 calendar, a great Christmas gift that benefits the health of women in mid-Michigan."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449150_sparrow.pdf*

Audit Report Released - Physical Security & Environmental Controls Over IT Resources, DTMB (071-0500

*"**Report title:** Performance audit report on the Physical Security and Environmental Controls Over Information Technology Resources, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget · **Project number:** 071-0500-15"*

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449101_auditor.pdf

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Dingell Statement on Tax Extender Package

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on theProtecting Against Tax Hikes (PATH) Act."*

Source: *Rep. Debbie Dingell* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449057_dingell.pdf

Heartland Institute Experts Comment on the Omnibus Spending and Tax Bill

"The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate came to an agreement late last night over a $1.1 trillion omnibus spending bill and a separate $622 billion tax bill. The House approved the tax package Thursday afternoon. Additional votes are expected today and Friday."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450448999_heartland.pdf

Investiture of Oakland Circuit Judge Jeffery S. Matis

"The Honorable Jeffery S. Matis will be sworn in as the newest circuit judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court in Oakland County. Justice David F. Viviano of the Michigan Supreme Court will administer the oath of office to Judge Langton. You are invited to attend. Please RSVP with Karen Koshen, Court Resource and Program Specialist, at 248-858-0296 or at koshenk@oakgov.com."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *12-19-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450448956_oak.pdf

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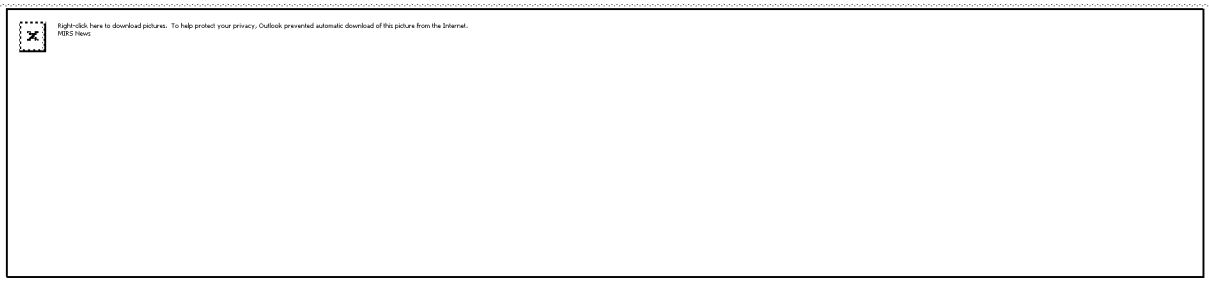

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Clinton says she'll still 'pick the flowers' at state dinners

"Hillary Clinton would make history if she wins the 2016 presidential election — and so would her husband, as the nation's first first gentleman. At Saturday night's Democratic debate, the former first lady was asked whether it was time to redefine the role of the presidential spouse."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/hillary-clinton-bill-debate/77654296/

Clinton, Sanders move past data spat in Dem debate

"MANCHESTER, N.H. — Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders moved quickly past the dispute Saturday night between their campaigns over Sanders' team's improper access of voter data compiled by Clinton's campaign."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/19/democratic-debate-clinton-sanders-omalley/77644578/

Sanders says Clinton is 'too much into regime change'

"National security figured to be a primary focus of Saturday's Democratic debate, the first since the San Bernardino attack, and Bernie Sanders sought to draw a distinction with Hillary Clinton on battling the Islamic State."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**

http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/clinton-sanders-regime-change-islamic-state/77651234/

Analysis: Democratic candidates did what they came to do at third debate

"GOFFSTOWN, N.H. — At the first Democratic presidential debate, challenger Bernie Sanders gave rival Hillary Clinton an unexpected gift. Relinquishing a potential point of attack, he told her that Americans "were sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails.""

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/19/analysis-democratic-debate-clinton-sanders-omalley/77645996/

Six takeaways from the New Hampshire Democratic debate

"The three Democratic presidential candidates — Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders and Martin O'Malley — gathered in New Hampshire for their third debate on Saturday. Clinton, while in a battle with Sanders in the Granite State, entered the race as the dominant front-runner. Did the last debate of 2015 change that dynamic?"

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/20/democratic-debate-takeaways-clinton-sanders-omalley/77654826/

Hillary Clinton returns late after commercial break

"Sure, ABC waited a half-hour after the scheduled start time to kick off Saturday night's Democratic debate. But wait a couple minutes for the Democratic front-runner to return to the stage after a commercial break? Well, there was no time for that."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/hillary-clinton-debate-stage/77651424/

Sanders apologizes to Clinton for data breach

"Manchester, N.H. — Bernie Sanders apologized to Hillary Clinton and his own supporters Saturday night for a breach of her campaign's valuable voter data, seeking to put the controversy to rest in a debate that quickly moved on to national security concerns and Americans' heightened fear of terrorism."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/will-clinton-handle-data-breach-dust/77633848/

Snyder: Detroit school fix could be addressed in steps

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said lawmakers could first tackle the Detroit school district's debt and possibly leave until later his call for a new commission to close or reconfigure poor-performing traditional, charter and turnaround schools in the city."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/19/snyder-priorities-detroit-schools-energy-justice/77638500/*

OCC program aims to ease deaf interpreter shortfall

"Waterford Township – James Berendzen was encouraged to become a sign language interpreter by his high school teacher. After submerging himself in the deaf community, the Walled Lake resident enrolled in Oakland Community College's sign language interpreter program."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/19/sign-language-interpreter-program-oakland-community-college/77638582/*

Mich. High Court takes case involving sex offender list

"Detroit — The Michigan Supreme Court has agreed to look at the case of a man who's on the sex offender list for life, although his conviction was erased nearly 20 years ago."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/20/mich-high-court-takes-case-involving-sex-offender-list/77657074/*

Powers restored to Detroit police civilian review board

"For the first time since Detroit went into bankruptcy in 2013, the city's police department is again under citizen oversight."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/12/20/detroit-police-civilian-oversight-board-tasers/77642422/*

64 middle-school robotics teams battle in Battle Creek

"BATTLE CREEK – A war between robots took place inside Lakeview High School Saturday – with middle

school students from all over Michigan at the controls and Gov. Rick Snyder standing by."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/first-tech-challenge-state-championship-battle-creek/77642432/*

Boy Scouts council closing 5 Michigan camps

"LANSING – Five Boy Scout camps will be closing in Michigan by the end of the 2016 season."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/20/boy-scouts-closing-camps/77660326/*

Teacher training is focus of new bills in Lansing

"LANSING -- Education policy jumped to the forefront of a slew of new bills introduced at the state Capitol last week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/teacher-training-focus-new-bills-lansing/77485580/*

Muslims rally in Dearborn against hate, terrorism

"A crowd of about 150 Muslims and supporters withstood the cold in Dearborn on Saturday to celebrate their religion and their American citizenship — while denouncing terrorism and hatred directed at their community."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/19/dearborn-muslims-rally-against-hate-terrorism/77636154/*

Keegan-Michael Key: How to use improv to aid Detroit kids

"Keegan-Michael Key is the hottest star around who hasn't forgotten his Detroit roots."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/entertainment/movies/julie-hinds/2015/12/19/keegan-michael-key-key-and-peele-detroit-creativity-project-improv-comedy/77575170/*

Educators, cities worry over bill limiting ballot education

"LANSING — The final bill passed before the Legislature adjourned last week has municipal and school

officials worried that educating the public about local ballot issues will become difficult, if not impossible."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/educators-cities-worry-over-bill-limiting-ballot-education/77593062/*

Could home demolition program be spreading lead dust?

"Detroit's ambitious demolition program, which has been razing thousands of unsightly and unsafe houses and other structures per year to fanfare and criticism, may be replacing one danger in neighborhoods with another: toxic clouds of lead dust from old paint."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/19/detroit-blight-house-demolition-lead-dust/75315966/*

Around 1,885 students graduate in EMU winter commencement ceremony

"Eastern Michigan University hosted its winter 2015 commencement Saturday, when roughly 1,885 students got diplomas at the EMU Convocation Center."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu_graduates_roughly_1500_at.html#incart_story_package*

Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority director resigns

"Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority Director Tim Colbeck is resigning from the post."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti_downtown_development_3.html#incart_story_package*

Congressional approval puts veteran one step closer to Medal of Honor

"The effort to honor an 85-year-old Ypsilanti veteran for his heroic 1967 actions that saved eight men's lives in Vietnam took a big step forward Friday when Congress approved a critical piece of legislation needed for him to receive the Medal of Honor."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/congress_oks_legislation.html#incart_river_home*

Mayor pins Flint's hopes on water disaster declaration

"FLINT, MI – The federal government may have never recognized a man-made water crisis like Flint's as a disaster before, but asking for the assistance has been Mayor Karen Weaver's plan since before she was elected Nov. 3."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/flint_mayor_karen_weaver_pin_h.html#incart_river_home*

Michigan city in 4th place for $5M energy prize

"HOLLAND, MI – The City of Holland has moved up the ranks in a two-year contest that is challenging communities to rethink their energy use, and comes with a $5 million purse for the winner."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_city_in_4th_place_for.html#incart_river_home*

Substitute teacher fill rates rise in Ann Arbor with increase in pay

"In September, nearly one in five available substitute teacher jobs were left unfilled in Ann Arbor Public Schools."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/substitute_teacher_fill_rates.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Retiring Michigan Sugar Co. executive taught me all about sugar beet piling

"Paul Pfenninger is the man who taught me everything I know about sugar beet piling."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/so_long_paul_pfenninger_thank.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Ann Arbor judge who resigned amid text scandal says he's on medical leave

"Christopher Easthope, the Ann Arbor judge who announced his resignation amid a text message scandal this past summer, says he plans to go back to practicing law when he steps down later this month."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann_arbor_judge_who_resigned_a.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Dave Agema says Donald Trump right about immigration, Islam

"As Gov. Rick Snyder and some other GOP leaders criticized Donald Trump's call to freeze Muslim immigration, Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema thinks the party's presidential frontrunner is right on."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dave_agema_says_donald_trump_r.html#incart_most_shared-lansing*

Advocacy/Opinion

Finley: Black inclusion in Detroit's comeback still lagging

"One year ago I asked the question of downtown Detroit, "Where are all the black people?""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/20/black-inclusion-detroit-comeback-still-lagging/77640424/*

Rochelle Riley: Legislature fails Detroit students again

"Once again, the Michigan Legislature has put cowardice before courage, politics before progress — all while managing to show 40,000 children that they don't care about them."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/19/michigan-legislators-detroit-schools/77412970/*

One Arabic sentence closes schools, and ignorance wins

"There are many good reasons to cancel school. Snow. A hurricane. No heat. A busted water pipe."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/12/20/mitch-albom-arabic-writing-exercise/77638430/*

Tom Wals: My 33 years of highs, lows on Detroit beat

"When I joined the Detroit Free Press in 1982, the interest rate on a 30-year home mortgage loan was 16.3%."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/12/19/tom-walsh-farewell-column/77411100/

All Michigan Republicans want is a permanent majority

"It was the week before Christmas, the last day both houses of Michigan's state Legislature would convene in 2015."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/19/michigan-gop-firewall/77547490/

Snyders can look back and laugh now, but true story was 'scary'

"One thing you learn in this business is that it may take some time, but eventually the true story behind a news event comes out."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-20-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/snyders_can_look_back_and_laug.html#incart_river_home

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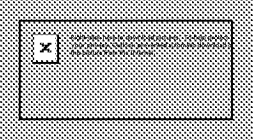

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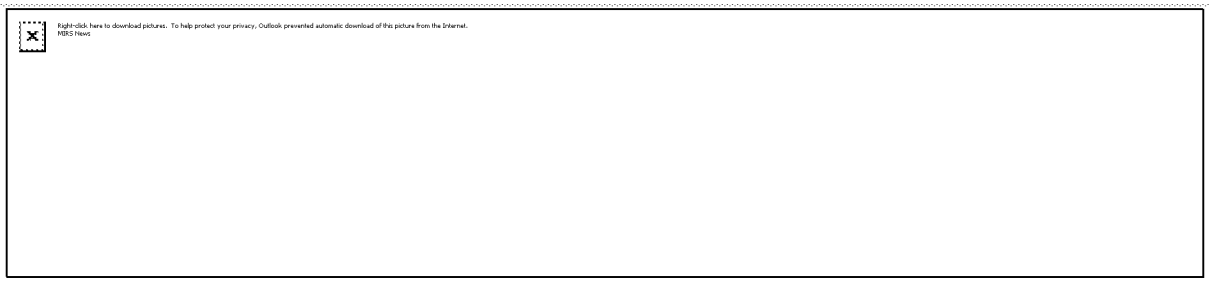
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 6:43 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Michigan could get 'lion's share' of blight money, lawmakers say

"FLINT, MI – Federal lawmakers said Michigan could get the "lion's share" of $2 billion in federal funds recently released to help fight blight across the country."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/politicians_say_michigan_could.html#incart_river_index

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No more emergency managers in Michigan cities after Lincoln Park escapes financial crisis

"LINCOLN PARK, MI – While three Michigan school districts are still run by emergency managers, there are no remaining state appointees running city governments after Lincoln Park officially escaped financial emergency Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/no_more_emergency_managers_in.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan judge's landmark DNA ruling could revolutionize CSI work

"MUSKEGON, MI – A Michigan judge has made the nation's first ruling on a new approach to analyzing DNA results that could revolutionize crime-scene investigation and court cases."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_judges_landmark_dna_r.html#incart_river_home

State health fund needed in response to Flint water crisis, congressman says

"FLINT, MI – As questions continue to swirl about who should be held responsible for the Flint water crisis, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee said the state needs to step forward and fund a program to benefit the health of the city's youngest residents."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/us_rep_dan_kildee_calls_for_st.html#incart_river_home*

Population estimates would cost Mich. seat in House

"If this were 2020, Michigan would lose one of its 14 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to population estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/12/22/population-estimates-would-cost-mich-seat-house/77740932/*

Lincoln Park is last Michigan city out from under EM

"LANSING — The City of Lincoln Park is returning to self-government, meaning that for the first time in 15 years, no Michigan city is under the control of a state-appointed emergency manager, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/22/last-michigan-city-out-under-emergency-management/77763798/*

Andy Dillon's gubernatorial committee fined $1,000

"LANSING — Former state Treasurer Andy Dillon has paid a $1,000 fine to settle an investigation by the Bureau of Elections into the financing of his unsuccessful 2010 campaign for governor."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/22/andy-dillons-gubernatorial-committee-fined-1000/77743408/*

Lincoln Park's financial emergy over, state says

"For the first time in 15 years, no Michigan city is under emergency financial management."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-*

county/2015/12/22/lincoln-parks-financial-emergency-state-says/77758476/

Michigan's surplus tax revenue may boost roads

"Lansing — Michigan lawmakers may have more than $700 million in surplus tax revenue on their hands when they return to the Capitol next month after a four-week holiday break."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/22/michigan-budget-surplus-roads-schools/77784192/

Advocacy/Opinion

Lawmakers leave roads a wreck, risk other funding

"After years of delay, neglect and political posturing, the Legislature and governor recently trumpeted their success in passing a plan that will fix Michigan roads. Unfortunately, they did no such thing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/22/road-funding/77778516/

Editorial: Hasten help to Flint

"Flint's financial crisis became a health crisis with the decision to unhook from the Detroit water system and start delivering water to residents itself. Since the city was under state emergency management at the time, much of the responsibility for fixing the problem rests with Lansing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/22/editorial-hasten-help-flint/77778316/

Howes: Best, worst of Mich. found around Lansing

"And, lo, in the closing days of the year 2015 AB — after bankruptcy — the call went out to all those not yet gone and making merry: Who are the best (and worst) in Michigan business and politics?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/12/22/howes-best-worst-michigan-found-around-lansing/77783618/

Why Do These Top-Ranked Schools Have Zero Top-Ranked Teachers?

"Central Academy, a charter school in Ann Arbor, was rated by The Center for Michigan's Bridge magazine as the top school in the state. Ashley Community Schools, a district some 40 miles north of Lansing, placed fourth. Yet, in 2014-15, neither Central Academy nor Ashley Community schools rated any of their teachers as "highly effective," the highest rating available to teachers."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22027*

Don't Blame Employees for Pension Underfunding

"It is unfortunate that government employees are often blamed for underfunded government pension systems. When concerns are raised that retirement systems owe members billions more than has been saved, high-earners and early retirees are viewed as the culprits. Policymakers in return cut the generosity of the plans. Yet these policy reforms will not fix the basic problems faced by pension systems."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21995*

Press Releases

2015 Population Estimates

"As many of you have heard, the U.S. Census Bureau released the National and State total populations and voter age populations. I wanted to drop everyone a note to remind them of this release. This is the first release in the 2015 series. The remainder of the 2015 estimates will be release on a flow basis through the first half of 2016. My notes on the release are attached here:

- *Notes on the 2015 State Estimates.pdf*

As always, please let me know if you have any questions,"
Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825328_dtmb.pdf*

Clean energy leaders urge stronger role for renewable energy to comply with Clean Power Plan

"LANSING—Liesl Clark, president of the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (EIBC) urged Governor Rick Snyder and his team to ensure a detailed and robust stakeholder input process on Clean Power Plan (CPP) state implementation, and cautioned against overreliance on natural gas at the expense of renewable energy like wind and solar – a strategy that puts Michigan families and businesses at risk for higher energy bills."

Source: *Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825232_meibc.pdf*

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will give remarks at Wish Upon a Teen's Winter Wishes

event

"Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 8:55 p.m. Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will give remarks at Wish Upon a Teen's Winter Wishes event, supporting teenagers with life-limiting medical conditions and learning disabilities. Location: Saint Andrews Hall 431 E. Congress St. Detroit, MI"

Source: *Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825178_calley.pdf*

Clean energy leaders urge stronger role for renewable energy to comply with Clean Power Plan

*"LANSING—**Liesl Clark**, president of the **Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (EIBC)** urged **Governor Rick Snyder** and his team to ensure a detailed and robust stakeholder input process on Clean Power Plan (CPP) state implementation, and cautioned against overreliance on natural gas at the expense of renewable energy like wind and solar – a strategy that puts Michigan families and businesses at risk for higher energy bills."*

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450821155_bf.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills making court paperwork more simple, accessible using e-filing

"LANSING, Mich. – Six bills signed by Gov. Rick Snyder today will modernize the Michigan court filing system by taking it online, and provide efficiency and cost benefits to local municipalities."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450819063_gov.pdf*

Michigan vendors protect youth from dangers of tobacco 15 years in a row

"LANSING, Mich. – A statewide survey indicates that 84.5 percent of retailers did not sell tobacco products to youth under age 18, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Office of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (OROSC)."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450816769_dhhs.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Judge John Hallacy to 37th Circuit Court

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Judge John Hallacy to the 37th Circuit Court, Calhoun County."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815972_gov.pdf*

SENATE FISCAL AGENCY - Michigan Economic Indicator - September 2015

"A Senate Fiscal Agency newsletter on key economic indicators"

Source: *Senate Fiscal Agency* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815583_sfa.pdf

Peters Calls on Obama Administration to Prioritize Funding to Cut Off Terrorist Financing

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, today announced that he has sent a letter to President Obama urging him to increase and prioritize funding for programs that combat terrorist financing in the Administration's upcoming budget request. Peters called for increased funding for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence (TFI), which houses the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). In the letter, Peters highlighted the need for expert personnel to have the capabilities to keep our homeland safe in the face of an increase in well-financed terrorist organizations across the world."*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815473_peters.pdf

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ICBA Bench Bar Conference

"The ICBA welcomes both its members and non-members to attend the Bench-Bar Conference.This event is scheduled to take place at the Veterans Memorial Courthouse on Saturday, February 20, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please mark the date on your calendar."

Source: *Ingham County Bar Association* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815389_icba.pdf

DNR honors Waterford engineer Jack Stockbridge with Partners in Conservation Award

"The Department of Natural Resources recently honored Jack Stockbridge of Waterford with a Partners in Conservation Award."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815092_dnr.pdf

MDOT extends timeline for development of state long-range transportation plan

*"**December 22, 2015 --** Due to the recent state and federal transportation revenue packages signed into law, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has extended the timeline for the development of the state long-range transportation plan (SLRP), known as the 2040 MI Transportation Plan. This extension will allow MDOT to assess the impacts and implications of pending policy changes. As MDOT continues to work on the development of the plan, the new adoption date is expected to be July 23, 2016 (previously May 19, 2016). "*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814704_MDOT Extends.pdf*

January 20th public policy forum, Detroit Public Schools

"Please accept this special invitation to a January 20th public policy forum, Detroit Public Schools: Quality, Accountability, and Governance. The luncheon forum will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in downtown Lansing at the Anderson House Office Building. There is no charge to attend but registration is required. Details are attached."

Source: *Michigan State University IPPSR* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814601_IPPSR.pdf*

Board of State Canvassers to meet Tuesday, Dec. 29

"The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 1:30 p.m., Dec. 29 in room 426 of the state Capitol in Lansing."

Source: *Secretary of State* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814467_State Board of Canvassers.pdf*

Social Workers Endorse Earned Paid Sick Day Campaign

"MICHIGAN — The Michigan Time to Care Coalition has landed another big endorsement of the campaign to put an earned paid sick time question on the November 2016 ballot as the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-Michigan) officially endorsed the campaign."

Source: *MI Time to Care Coalition* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450805722_mtcc.pdf*

TAKE ACTION - Would you eat a Frankenfish? - Martin Heinrich for Senate

"As you may have heard, the FDA recently said that "Frankenfish" salmon - fish that has been genetically modified to grow faster - does not have to be labeled as genetically engineered food."

Source: *Martin Heinrich for Senate* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450804589_heinrich.pdf

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Public comment requested on Michigan's Pathway to Integration section 1115 waiver proposal

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is requesting public comment on its 1115 Pathway to Integration Waiver application. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450803768_dhhs.pdf

MLA Urges Gov Snyder to Veto SB 571

"LANSING – Michigan Library Association (MLA) is urging Governor Rick Snyder to Veto SB 571. This legislationwould bar library employees and library boards from sharing factual and unbiased information about local ballot issues for 60 days prior to an election."

Source: *Michigan Library Association* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450803211_mls.pdf

Still time to enter the Wetland Wonders Challenge

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters to finish gathering their punches for the Consumers Energy-sponsored Wetland Wonders Challenge during the Zone 3 waterfowl hunting weekend Dec. 26 and 27. The Harsens Island, Shiawassee River and Fennville Farm managed waterfowl hunt areas will have staff members available to validate punch cards both days. The contest runs until Jan. 31, 2016. "

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450802998_dnr.pdf

Stabenow, Peters, Kildee: New Resources to Fight Blight will Help Strengthen Neighborhoods, Decrease

"FLINT – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator Gary Peters and Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) today announced new efforts recently signed into law to help remove and repurpose thousands of abandoned properties in Flint and other cities across Michigan. "

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Sen. Gary Peters, Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450802011_stabenow.pdf

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State Police Releases 2015 Preparedness Gift List

*"**LANSING.** With Christmas only days away, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) has released its annual list of emergency preparedness gift ideas."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450795489_msp.pdf

Jan 20 Urban School Forum - MSU

"This forum provides policymakers with insights on how research can be used to help urban schools succeed. Current research activity, both domestic and international, helps us to understand what is needed for school principals to successfully lead, teachers to effectively teach, and students to highly achieve. Specifically, panelists will explore recommendations for empowering the Detroit Public Schools as well as all urban schools in Michigan to demonstrate how schools can become a national model for urban education."

Source: *Michigan State University* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450795406_msu.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder wish Michiganders happy holidays

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder wished Michiganders a safe and happy holiday season. Click here to watch the video."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793670_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc._Mail_-_NEWS_RELEASE__Gov.pdf

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Grants available for volunteer efforts to clean Michigan's waters

"The DEQ and Great Lakes Commission today announced the availability of $25,000 for small grants to support local efforts to clean up Michigan rivers, streams and creeks."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793600_deq.pdf

Stabenow, Peters, Kildee to Hold Press Conference TODAY in Flint Discussing New Hardest Hit Funding

*"FLINT – Senator Debbie Stabenow, Senator Gary Peters and Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), along with local housing officials will hold a press conference **today, Tuesday, December 22, 2015, at 11 a.m. ET in Flint** to provide an update on removing blight in cities like Flint and discuss new resources available to remove and*

repurpose additional abandoned properties."

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Sen. Gary Peters, Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793535_stabenow.pdf*

MI Tech Hub Created to Attract Data Center to Muskegon County

"Muskegon, MI – With the recent announcement of Switch's $5 billion SUPERNAP data center in neighboring Kent County, and Michigan's new legislation helping attract data centers to the state, West Michigan is positioning itself to support an emerging data center industry."

Source: *Muskegon County Wastewater Management* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793403_muskegon.pdf*

Audit Report Released - MDOT, Traffic and Safety Section (591-0162-15)

*"**Report title:** Performance audit report on the Traffic and Safety Section, Michigan Department of Transportation **Project number:** 591-0162-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov"*

Source: *Auditor General Doug Ringler* **Date:** *12-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793269_auditor.pdf*

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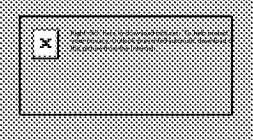

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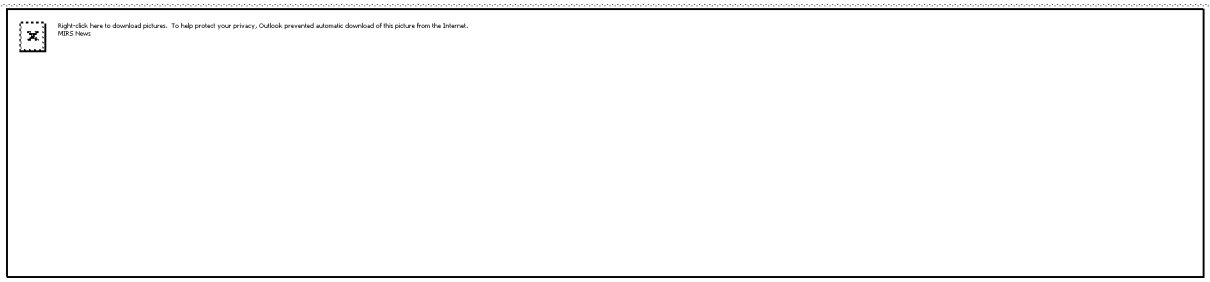

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Gov. Rick Snyder goes 1 for 4 on fall priorities as Michigan Legislature calls it a year

"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Legislature took its time in 2015, completing just one of Gov. Rick Snyder's top four fall priorities and sending him the fewest number of bills since Republicans took full control of state government five years ago."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/snyder_michigan_legislature_ba.html#incart_river_index*

Schools celebrate more local control with new federal law

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Local educators are encouraged by the new federal education law that give states more control over how to increase accountability, rigor and equity in public schools."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/schools_under_more_local_contr.html#incart_river_index*

George Heartwell appointed to state board, gets GVSU job

"George Heartwell has been tapped as an independent member of the Michigan State Transportation Commission, a six-person board that provides policy guidance for MDOT."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/george_heartwell_of_newaygo_ap.html#incart_river_index*

Gov. Snyder signs tax breaks for $5B Switch data center

"Gov. Rick Snyder today signed tax-reform legislation designed to attract the largest data center in the eastern United States to an empty building outside Grand Rapids."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/switch_snyder_michigan_data_ce.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan civil rights act co-author Daisy Elliott dies

"DETROIT (AP) — Civil rights activist and Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act co-author Daisy Elliott has died."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_civil_rights_act_co-a.html#incart_river_index*

Daisy Elliott, Detroiter behind civil rights law, dies

"Daisy Elliott, an African-American civil rights advocate and former Michigan representative who helped push through a landmark law aimed at protecting against racial bias as well as other forms of discrimination, has died at age 98, friends and family announced late Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/obituaries/2015/12/23/daisy-elliott-detroiter-behind-historic-law-dies/77797400/*

Snyder signs bills granting tax breaks to data centers

"Lansing — Two days before Christmas, Gov. Rick Snyder delivered sales tax and use tax exemptions to the data server industry and a $5-billion Grand Rapids area development planned by Las Vegas-based Switch corporation."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/12/23/snyder-signs-bills-tax-breaks-data-centers/77851120/*

Defense attorneys seek fed inquiry of MSP crime labs

"Southfield — Three defense attorneys are asking the federal government to investigate the Michigan

State Police crime laboratories, alleging misconduct in their testing for pending drug cases."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/23/michigan-state-police-crime-labs-federal-complaint/77852348/*

Mich. officials push back as feds recall military gear

"Washington — December is traditionally the season of giving. But this month, the federal government is taking back surplus military equipment it donated to local police — even as some Michigan authorities say the gear is needed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/23/mich-officials-push-back-feds-recall-military-gear/77865306/*

State agriculture officials lift ban on poultry shows

"LANSING — State agriculture officials have lifted the ban on poultry and waterfowl shows they imposed last summer to help prevent the spread of avian flu."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/23/michigan-poultry-show-ban/77867372/*

Snyder signs tax break bill to lure data center

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday signed into law measures that give tax breaks to data centers and are expected to draw what's been touted as a $5-billion investment in western Michigan by Nevada-based Switch Corp."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/23/snyder-signs-tax-break-bill-lure-data-center/77843680/*

State's handling of Flint water samples delayed action

"LANSING — Lead levels in Flint's drinking water would have spurred action months sooner if the results of city testing that wrapped up in June had not been revised by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to wrongly indicate the water was safe to drink, e-mails show."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/23/states-handling-flint-water-samples-delayed-action/77367872/*

Advocacy/Opinion

First lady Sue Snyder comes out of \'shell\' for good causes

"Apparently, it helps to know somebody when you want state support for one of your favorite projects."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/first_lady_sue_snyder_comes_ou.html#incart_river_index

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Michigan Citizen Action: Bring oversea profits home

"As end of the year budget discussions continue to unfold in Washington and the holiday season gets roaring, we need our elected leaders to look overseas."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/23/corporations-offshore-tax-loopholes/77867266/

Senate Bill 571 censors factual election information

"In today's busy world, we need more information about the important things going on around us — not less."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/23/election-factual-information-transparency-censor/77867274/

Our Editorial: New test scores set benchmark

"The Michigan Department of Education took its time releasing comprehensive testing data from this spring, but at least school districts now have a benchmark to judge future test results. Next year, the department must make sure it releases testing scores in a more timely manner if they are to be useful in the classroom."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/23/education-test-results-benchmark/77867198/

Global Warmist Media Thought Police

"How many times have we seen this? The TV news interviewer asks a politician to explain why he doesn't accept man-made global warming as a proven scientific fact. A patronizing incredulity — betraying the attitude that only fools could doubt there's a climate crisis — saturates the interviewer's tone. If the candidate had said he'd dined with an extraterrestrial, the questioner could hardly display greater scorn."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22030*

Gov. Snyder Signs Bill That Makes 'Guilty Mind' Necessary For Convictions

"House Bill 4713, a measure to prevent people from being convicted for unknowingly violating the law — something that has become increasingly likely as the number of regulations has increased — has been signed by Gov. Rick Snyder. The bill was passed unanimously by both chambers of the Michigan Legislature."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22031*

Press Releases

Governor signs MacGregor data center legislation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Legislation sponsored by State Sen. Peter MacGregor to help create jobs and increase business investment in the state by providing sales tax and use tax exemptions for data centers was signed by Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday."*

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450907800_gov2.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills modernizing tax structure to adapt to emerging technology

"LANSING, Mich. – Legislation signed by Gov. Rick Snyder today will modernize the structure of Michigan's tax code to ensure treatment of data center inputs more closely aligns with treatment of manufacturing inputs and tax laws in other states.

"

Source: *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450904210_bills.pdf

Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

today issued its bi-weekly summary report on lead testing in Flint. Preliminary data indicate that 43 of 2,182 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1.

"

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450902235_dhs.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder: Michigan is a better place today because of Rep. Daisy Elliott's advocacy

"LANSING, Mich. -- Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement on the passing of former state Rep. Daisy Elliott, 98. Elliott also the co-author of the landmark Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and other important pieces of legislation during her nearly two decades of elective service. She also was a delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention of 1961-1962."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450896216*

MSC Issues Two Orders

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #149372 People v Tomasik. View the orderhere. The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #149631-3 Morris v Morris, Schnoor & Gremel, Inc. View the order here."

Source: *MI Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450894941_MSC issues.pdf*

MSC issues order in ESPN v MSU

"

The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #152372 ESPN v Michigan State University. View the order here.

"

Source: *MI Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450894774_MSC issues order in ESPN v MSU.pdf*

Department of Natural Resources honors Ron Lundberg for lifetime of

conservation efforts

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission recently honored longtime conservationist Ron Lundberg with the Thomas L. Washington Lifetime Commitment to Conservation Award."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450892257_Ron Lundberg.pdf*

Almost One Week Left! Make Your 2015 Tax-Deductible Donation for Equality!

*"With just **eight days left**, now is the time to make your 2015 tax-deductible donation in the fight for LGBTQ equality! "*

Source: *Equality MI* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450892168_Equality MI.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments to the MiSTEM Advisory Council

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointments of Ralph Charles Dershimer, of Ann Arbor, Harrison Ford, of Flint, Lee Graham, of Fenton, Jim Heath of Richland, Kenneth Kelzer, of Royal Oak, Gerald "Jay" Kulbertis, of Gladstone, William Joshua Nichols, of Pleasant Lake, Kathleen Owsley, of Plymouth, Satish Udpa, of Okemos, Christian Velasquez, of Midland, and Carolyn Wierda, of Bay City to the MiSTEM Advisory Council."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450891477_Gov Snyder.pdf*

Quinnesec Mill Receives Michigan's Most Prestigious Worker Safety and Health Award

*"**December 23, 2015 –** Verso Paper Corp.'s Quinnesec Mill, a producer of printing and specialty papers and pulp, was recently awarded the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP) Star award from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) for the fifth time. The MIOSHA program is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450888940_LARA Verso.pdf*

DEQ announces $250,000 in grants to help reduce food waste

"The DEQ today announced the availability of $250,000 to assist communities and organizations in

developing projects that reduce and divert food waste."

Source: *MI Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450888653_DEQ.pdf*

Pavlov Named "Most Conservative Member" of state Senate in 2015

*"**LANSING**—Phil Pavlov is the most conservative member of the Michigan state Senate, according to an analysis released last night by Lansing's MIRS newsletter. According to MIRS, Pavlov voted conservatively 92 percent of the time in 2015, more than any other Senator. In addition, Pavlov had a perfect voting record, having never missed a vote in 2015."*

Source: *Office of Senator Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450888552_Pavlov.pdf*

Michigan Civil Rights Commission and Michigan Department of Civil Rights on the Passing of Daisy Ell

"Daisy Elliott, author and co-sponsor with Mel Larsen of Michigan's cornerstone civil rights law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA), has died at the age of 98. Elliott was also a co-author of the 1963 Michigan constitution, which created the Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC). MCRC is the only state civil rights agency mandated by constitution in the country."

Source: *MI Civil Rights Commission* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450888361_Civil Rights Daisy Elliott.pdf*

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542 Driver Inspections Conducted During 'Eyes on 94' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Effort

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Michigan State Police (MSP) motor carrier officers conducted 542 commercial driver inspections during the five-day 'Eyes on 94' commercial vehicle crash reduction effort along the I-94 corridor from Dec. 7 – 11."*

Source: *MI State Police* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450888399_*

Powerball Jackpot Climbs to $227 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 23, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player could have an extra merry Christmas if they win the $227 million Powerball jackpot on Wednesday."*

Source: *MI Lottery* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450886085_Powerball.pdf*

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/22/2015.

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/22/2015.f

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *MI Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450885998_Appellate.pdf

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MDOT weekend construction for 12/24-12/28/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US

"There will not be any additional construction projects set up over this weekend. This is the last weekend construction project report until it returns in Spring 2016."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450882018_Weekend_Construction.pdf

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MESP officials applaud new federal rules allowing for computer purchases with 529 plan

"LANSING – The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) today praised a "common-sense measure" approved by Congress that will allow families to save tax-free for a computer used for college."

Source: *GUD Marketing* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450881957_computers.pdf

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Michigan Poultry Exhibition and Swap Meet Ban Lifted

"

LANSING – Today, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development lifted the statewide ban on poultry exhibitions. MDARD implemented the ban as a precautionary measure in June 2015 in response to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreak happening across the U.S.

"

Source: *MI Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *12-24-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450881847_MI Poultry.pdf

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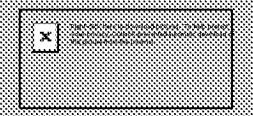

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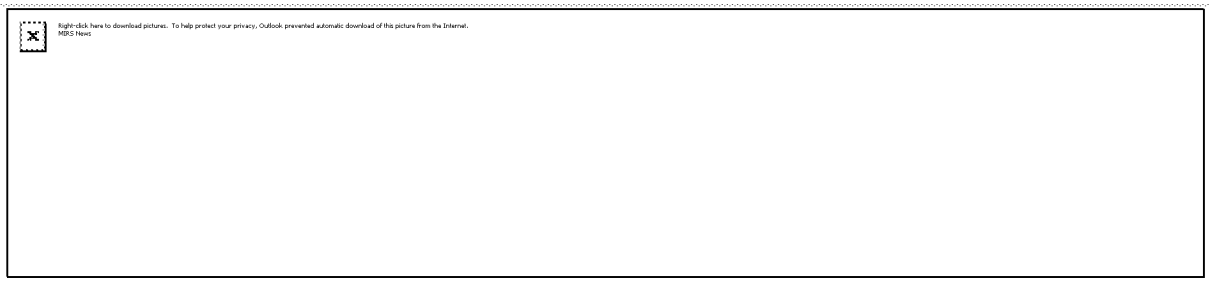
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, December 25, 2015 7:18 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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'Gag order' legislation concerns school districts

"Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign legislation that some school officials say will prohibit them from giving voters factual information about millage requests and other ballot proposals."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/social-affairs/20151224/gag-order-legislation-concerns-school-districts*

Congressman calls for state water crisis health fund on Rachel Maddow show

"FLINT, MI – U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee took to the Rachel Maddow show to continue his call for the state to create a health fund to help Flint's youngest residents potentially affected by the city's water crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/congressman_continues_call_for.html#incart_river_index*

Sluggish population growth may cost Michigan another Congressional seat after next Census

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's sluggish population growth means the state is poised to lose another Congressional seat after the 2020 U.S. Census, according to demographer Kurt Metzger."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/sluggish_population_growth_may.html#incart_river_index*

State denies hiding Flint data on rising lead levels

"State officials are denying new allegations of mishandling information in the Flint water crisis that has exposed residents to dangerous levels of lead."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/24/state-denies-hiding-flint-data-rising-lead-levels/77882732/

Advocacy/Opinion

Christmas story urges us to find compassion for exiled

"There are two Christmas stories. There is the romanticized antiseptic tale that has taken hold in our popular culture. It is the "Silent Night"/"Oh! Little Town of Bethlehem" version. Mary is smiling; Joseph is hovering protectively over mother and child. Animals provide warmth; angels are singing; and shepherds come to see the new born "Babe in the Manger". In this version, all is pure and all is bright."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/24/christmas-story-urges-us-find-compassion-exiled/77698456/

Our Editorial: And on Earth, peace

"As we together enjoy a holiday marked by family, friends and faith, we turn to some familiar passages to find both cheer and comfort.

"
Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-25-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/24/editorial-christmas-earth-peace-carol-dickens/77897602/

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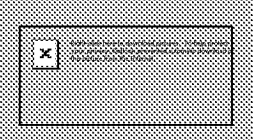

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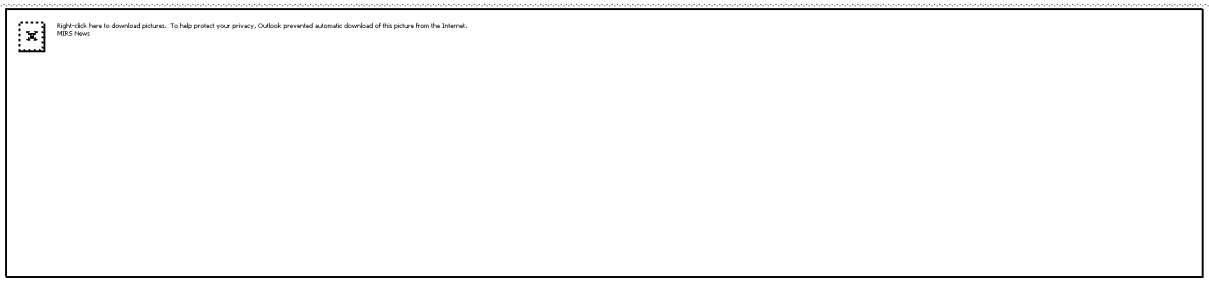

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Christmas storm woes continue as tornado hits Alabama

"BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Residents in northern Alabama were warned to be alert for moderate to severe flooding Saturday, a day after a tornado briefly touched down in the state's most populous city but caused only a hint of damage."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/26/severe-weather-toll-rises/77923874/*

2015: A list of state legislative achievements, inaction

"LANSING — Michigan's Legislature was dominated in 2015 with trying to find a solution for Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/26/2015-list-state-legislative-achievements-inaction/77769990/*

Lions' Pettigrew helps local kids amid uncertainty in Detroit

"Brandon Pettigrew is not a crutches guy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/sports/nfl/lions/2015/12/26/detroit-lions-brandon-pettigrew-possible-final-home-game/77934124/*

Internet speed wars heating up in Michigan

"Ultra-high-speed Internet service has arrived in Michigan and could be spreading to your neighborhood block or apartment building next year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/12/26/internet-speed-wars-comcast-rocket-fiber/76334670/*

Obama feels 'small' compared with members of US Marines

"Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii — President Barack Obama is one of the most powerful men in the world. He's commander in chief of one of its mightiest militaries, too."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/26/obama-feels-small-compared-members-us-marines/77925316/*

U.S. targets IS group with 17 Christmas Day strikes

"Washington — The Pentagon says the United States hit Islamic State group targets in Iraq and Syria with 17 airborne strikes on Christmas Day."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/27/us-targets-group-christmas-day-strikes/77936626/*

Dozens protest fatal officer-involved shooting

"Dearborn — While their fellow Metro Detroiters slept or shopped for deals the day after Christmas, several dozen protesters rallied at the Dearborn Police Department headquarters Saturday. The rally was held in response to the fatal shooting of Detroiter Kevin Matthews following a confrontation with a Dearborn police officer, Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/26/dozens-protest-fatal-officer-involved-shooting/77922124/*

Teacher works to make chemistry lovable to kids

"Beverly Hills — Julia Winter loves organic chemistry. So much so, the Detroit Country Day Upper School chemistry teacher created an app for students to make it fun so they can love it as much as she does."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-*

county/2015/12/26/organic-chemistry-teacher-apps/77924382/

Convicts paying for courts as lawmakers trump ruling

"Detroit — Without a comma of dissent, the Michigan Supreme Court struck down an enduring practice that had brought millions of dollars to local courts from people convicted of crimes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/26/convicts-paying-courts-lawmakers-trump-ruling/77927118/*

Oakland crash pilot inadequately trained, NTSB says

"A newly hired Oakland County pilot was inadequately trained when he crashed his plane on descent to Oakland County International Airport in January 2014, the NTSB concluded."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/26/oakland-crash-pilot-inadequately-trained/77925070/*

Christmas bird count tallies species in Southwest Michigan

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI --** Birdwatchers checked the skies for falcons, the waters for an unusual duck and the wooded areas around Kalamazoo for whatever else they might see Saturday morning, Dec. 26 in the 67th annual Kalamazoo Christmas Bird Count."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/christmas_bird_count_tallies_s.html#incart_river_home*

Freezing rain and high winds possible Monday in Southwest Michigan

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI--** Stock up on salt and charge those phones. At shortly before 4 a.m. The National Weather Service issued a winter storm watch for Kalamazoo, Barry, Allegan and Van Buren counties, and counties throughout west Michigan, that forecasts high winds and freezing rain moving through the area Monday, Dec.28 through Tuesday morning."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/freezing_rain_and_high_winds_n.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Proposed special ed tax increase would boost funding for Washtenaw County

schools

"A proposed millage could raise $22 million per year for special education, reducing the amount Washtenaw County school districts need to pay for special education program to a total of $2 million."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/washtenaw_isd_to_ask_for_speci.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Group wants probe of attempted fire at Calif. mosque

"TRACY, Calif. — A day after investigators said a Texas mosque fire was intentionally set, deputies here are looking into an attempted firebombing at a Muslim house of worship in California."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/12/27/california-mosque-fire/77937814/*

Advocacy/Opinion

What Michigan leaders hope for in the New Year

"It's the season for celebrating and starting anew. So with 2016 only days away, I asked luminaries across Michigan to share some of their New Year's resolutions and wishes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/12/26/michigan-leaders-new-years-resolutions/77830620/*

Dear Santa: See Virginia act on gun violence

"Thirty-two deaths in a single tragic instance can push a state to take drastic measures."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/27/dear-santa-see-va-act-gun-violence/77856080/*

Michigan Gave Away Tens of Millions for Little in Return

"In mid-December when the Michigan Legislature passed a law giving data centers tax exemptions, it set a job creation requirement of 400 jobs by 2022 and 1,000 by 2026."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22034*

Our editorial: Transparency is Job One in demo work

"Detroit hopes to get another bundle of money from Washington to help it keep tearing down blighted buildings. The expanded federal pipeline of funds makes it all the more urgent that the city's demolition programs operate under absolute transparency."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/26/transparency-job-one-demo-work/77924620/

Letter: Finley column points to key social challenge

"Re: Nolan Finley's Dec. 20 column "Black inclusion in Detroit's comeback still lagging": The column makes the important point, as Finley did a year ago ("Where are all the black people"), that African-Americans are benefiting far less than whites in the city's turnaround."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/27/detroit-social-change-black-african-american-inclusion/77924610/*

Flint water probe may unleash flood of findings on mistakes

"It was very revealing how some readers responded to the post that the first lady thought her husband might die from a blood clot. Instead of reflecting on the gravity of that story, lots of folks wanted to beat up on the governor for allegedly poisoning the kids in Flint with lead."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/flint_water_probe_may_unleash.html#incart_most_shared-lansing

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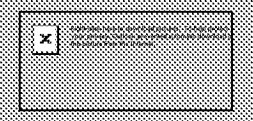

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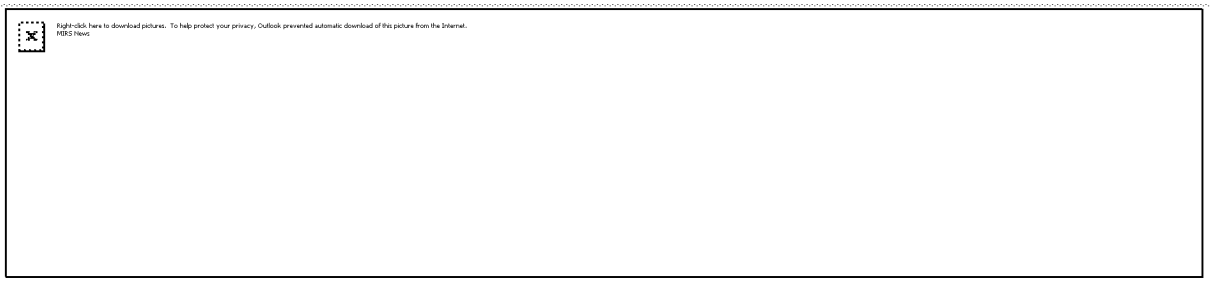
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Cybersecurity predictions for 2016

"Last year I quoted late, great sage and Hall of Fame baseball player Yogi Berra. Yogi once noted, "It's tough to make predictions especially about the future.""

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/columnist/2015/12/27/weisman-cybersecurity-predictions/77832588/*

Iraqi military claims key victory in Ramadi, says ISIL is in retreat

"BAGHDAD — Iraqi security forces on Sunday claimed control of a key government facility in central Ramadi, wresting more territory in the disputed city from Islamic State fighters after several days of fierce fighting."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/12/27/iraq-ramadi-islamic-state-isil/77945582/*

Low lake level reveals a glimpse of old town

"SALEM, Ore. — Heavy rainfall is washing away memories of the summer's drought but not a surprising historical discovery made at Detroit Lakewhen it was at its lowest level in 46 years."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/12/27/low-lake-level-reveals-glimpse-old-town/77949178/*

Ouch! 5 CEOs lost $20B this year

"And you thought you had a lousy year in the market. At least you didn't lose $20 billion."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/markets/2015/12/28/ceos-lost-money-stock-2015/77891088/*

Severe weather prompts Mo. gov. to declare emergency

"The flooding and severe weather hitting Southern and Midwestern states prompted Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon to declare a state of emergency Sunday."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2015/12/27/missouri-weather-state-of-emergency/77959226/*

The Donald strikes back: Trump attacks Bill Clinton's 'sexism'

"Donald Trump tried to turn Hillary Clinton's criticism of him as having "a penchant for sexism" back on her husband this weekend, in response to the news that Bill Clinton would begin to hit the campaign trail for his wife."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/27/donald-strikes-back-trump-attacks-bill-clintons-sexism/77960472/*

Iraq retakes central Ramadi from Islamic State

"BAGHDAD — Iraqi government forces retook central parts of the key city of Ramadi on Monday from Islamic State militants, the military said."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/28/iraq-ramadi-islamic-state/77963934/*

S. Korea, Japan reach landmark agreement on WWII sex slaves

"TOKYO — Japan and South Korea reached a landmark agreement Monday on a plan to end a long-running dispute over Korean women the Japanese military used as sex slaves during World War II. The issue has disrupted relations between the two key U.S. allies for decades and hindered U.S. diplomatic and security goals in the region."

Source: *USA Today* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/28/south-korea-japan-comfort-women/77962792/*

Exiting chief judge Rosen: I'll miss living on edge

"Detroit's federal courthouse has hosted some of America's most significant and sensational criminal and civil cases in the last seven years."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/12/27/exiting-chief-judge-rosen-miss-living-edge/77959780/*

Detroit area Syrians hope to shake stereotypes

"Bashar Imam says he loves America, his home since late 1979, when he left his native Syria for what he deemed a better, prosperous life."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/27/detroit-area-syrians-hope-shake-stereotypes/77959766/*

Legislature lets tragic failure in Detroit schools go on

"It is outrageous that our state Legislature could deliver year-end partisan holiday goodies like ending straight-ticket voting, and finding new ways for money to win elections while failing to deliver what is most needed in Detroit — a real plan to help Detroit school children learn once again."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/26/legislature-lets-tragic-failure-detroit-schools-go/77877974/*

Detroit to job-hunting felons: We can help

"At 52, Edward Jackson of Detroit has what he says is his first real job."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/27/detroit-job-hunting-felons-we-can-help/77563096/*

Michigan mead-makers looking for a way to change laws

"WASHINGTON — In the world of craft beer and beverages, Michigan's mead makers can only hope to someday

have the sway in Congress that hard cider makers do."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/27/michigan-mead-makers-looking-way-change-laws/77768094/*

Look for new life on old Detroit sites in '16

"Some of Detroit's most famous vacant sites finally may see new construction getting under way in 2016, turning some of the city's longest-running symbols of distress into emblems of renewal."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/12/26/detroit-development-dan-gilbert/77747676/*

Should Wisconsin city get OK to tap Lake Michigan water?

"Some worry a Wisconsin city's plan to divert Lake Michigan water for its use could set a precedent allowing others from far outside the Great Lakes region to come seeking water."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/28/waukesha-water-diversion-goes-great-lakes-states/77118598/*

Former Bay City scrapyard could be home to next big development

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — Could Bay City's next big development be located on the West Side?"*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/former_bay_city_scrap_yard_cou.html#incart_river_home_pop*

State police urge preparation ahead of 'hazardous winter storm'

"Michigan State Police are urging residents to prepare for a "hazardous winter storm"Monday, saying the weather could lead to "widespread power outages" and "dangerous traveling conditions.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/state_police_urge_preparation.html#incart_river_home*

73% of Michigan drunk drivers are men, and 5 more facts on DUI arrests, convictions

"Men were three times more likely than women to be arrested in Michigan for charges related to driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, according to 2014 statistics collected by the Michigan State Police."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/men_are_73_of_dui_arrests_and.html#incart_river_home*

How much freezing rain, sleet, snow is expected in Michigan

"MICHIGAN - A moisture-laden storm is going to bring a shot of moderate to heavy sleet, freezing rain and snow to all of Michigan today through tonight."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/12/how_much_freezing_rain_sleet_s.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Rick Haglund: Michigan economic future is optimistic

"Michigan's six-year-long economic recovery should continue at cruising speed through 2016 as auto sales keep climbing and job growth maintains a healthy pace."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/rick_haglund_michigan_economic.html#incart_river_index*

Editorial: Private dollars could boost Port Huron span

"While most of the international bridge conversation in Michigan has been focused on the proposed Gordie Howe Bridge across the Detroit River, southeast Michigan has an existing, vitally important span in Port Huron that could use some support."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/27/port-huron-plaza-funding/77957946/*

What is the right path for U.S. foreign policy?

"American voters will demand a fresh start for U.S. foreign policy when the next president is sworn into office on January 20, 2017."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/26/foreign-policy-path/77881944/*

Union Posts Names of Non-Members, Urges Shunning

"Local 412 of the United Auto Workers has placed a spotlight on employees who have chosen to exercise their right to not support the union financially under Michigan's right-to-work law. In a recent newsletter, the local urges co-workers not to share "tools, knowledge or support" with individuals who chose not to pay union dues."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22035*

'Prejudiced' Trump can't win, senior Michigan pol says

"This guy has forgotten more politics than Donald Trump has ever learned, and when asked what he thought of the Trump juggernaut, his response was swift and to the point: "Not much.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/prejudiced_trump_cant_win_seni.html#incart_river_home

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Press Releases

Restoration from Christmas Eve Windstorm Continues

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 26, 2015 –Favorable weather Saturday allowed the pace of restoration work to increase in the wake of a Christmas Eve windstorm which knocked out electricity to more than 170,000 Consumers Energy customers."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242562_energy.pdf

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Christmas Day Restoration Work Gains Momentum

" GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 25, 2015 –Continued calm weather allowed significant progress Friday on restoration from the Christmas Eve windstorm which knocked out power to more than 150,000 Consumers Energy customers across lower Michigan."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242493_energy.pdf

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Additional Crews, Good Weather Aid Consumers Energy Storm Restoration Efforts

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 25, 2015 – Santa Claus wasn't the only person working overnight across Michigan, as crews from Consumers Energy continued restoration efforts from a Christmas Eve windstorm that knocked out power to nearly 140,000 residents."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242423_energy.pdf

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Power restoration update (9:30 p.m.)

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 24, 2015 – Helped by improving weather conditions, Consumers Energy crews have restored power to one-third of nearly 140,000 Michigan homes and business that were affected by this week's Christmas Eve storms."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242371_energy.pdf

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Restoration Work Continues Across Michigan In Wake of Major Wind Storm

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 24, 2015 – More than 300 workers from five states are joining Consumers Energy and contract crews working around the clock to restore power to more than 135,000 customers left in the dark after damaging winds swept across Michigan late Wednesday and early Thursday."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242314_energy.pdf

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Consumers Energy Crews Work to Restore Power After Major Wind Storm Strikes Michigan

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 24, 2015 – Consumers Energy crews have started the work of helping homes and businesses that lost power in a storm that brought damaging winds across Michigan early Thursday. Crews from outside the state are expected to arrive in Michigan later today."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242249_energy.pdf

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High Winds Knock Out Power Across Consumers Energy's Territory

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 24, 2015 – Damaging winds with gusts topping 60 mph have left more than 82,000 Consumers Energy customers across much of western and northern Michigan without power."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242190_energy.pdf

Governor signs MacGregor data center legislation

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Legislation sponsored by State Sen. Peter MacGregor to help create jobs and increase business investment in the state by providing sales tax and use tax exemptions for data centers was signed by Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday."*

Source: *Sen. Peter MacGregor* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242127_macgregor.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills modernizing tax structure to adapt to emerging technology and data cent

"LANSING, Mich. – Legislation signed by Gov. Rick Snyder today will modernize the structure of Michigan's tax code to ensure treatment of data center inputs more closely aligns with treatment of manufacturing inputs and tax laws in other states."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242082_gov.pdf

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Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its bi-weekly summary report on lead testing in Flint. Preliminary data indicate that 43 of 2,182 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451242030_dhhs.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags in recognition of state Rep. Daisy Elliott

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today ordered U.S. flags within the State Capitol Complex to be lowered to half-staff on Monday, Dec. 28, in recognition of former state Rep. Daisy Elliott, who died Tuesday, Dec. 22."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241981_gov.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Michigan is a better place today because of Rep. Daisy Elliott's advocacy for equa

"LANSING, Mich. -- Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement on the passing of former state Rep. Daisy Elliott, 98. Elliott also the co-author of the landmark Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and other important pieces of legislation during her nearly two decades of elective service. She also was a delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention of 1961-1962."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241935_gov.pdf

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MSC issues two orders

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #149372 People v Tomasik. View the orderhere. The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #149631-3 Morris v Morris, Schnoor & Gremel, Inc. View the order here."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241883_msc.pdf

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MSC issues order in ESPN v MSU

"

The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order regarding #152372 ESPN v Michigan State University. View the order here.

"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241793_msc.pdf

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DNR honors Ron Lundberg for lifetime of conservation efforts

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission recently honored longtime conservationist Ron Lundberg with the Thomas L. Washington Lifetime Commitment to Conservation Award. The award was presented at the commission's regular monthly meeting earlier this month in Lansing."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241702_dnr.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**

http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241646_gov.pdf

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UM Wolverine Caucus January 27th (New Forum Date)

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> As in the past, I am requesting that you note our University of Michigan Wolverine Caucus forums in your calendar of events. Attached is a flyer highlighting our first Wolverine Caucus forum of 2016 - Sustainable Energy Future for Michigan: Challenges, Opportunities and the Role You Play featuring Dr. Gregory Keoleian, UM School of Natural Resources.

"

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241592_um.pdf

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Verso Paper Corp. Quinnesec Mill Receives Michigan's Most Prestigious Worker Safety and Health Award

*"**December 23, 2015 –** Verso Paper Corp.'s Quinnesec Mill, a producer of printing and specialty papers and pulp, was recently awarded the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP) Star award from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) for the fifth time. The MIOSHA program is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241503_lara.pdf

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Pavlov Named "Most Conservative Member" of state Senate in 2015

*"**LANSING**—Phil Pavlov is the most conservative member of the Michigan state Senate, according to an analysis released last night by Lansing's MIRS newsletter. According to MIRS, Pavlov voted conservatively 92 percent of the time in 2015, more than any other Senator. In addition, Pavlov had a perfect voting record, having never missed a vote in 2015."*

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241440_pavlov.pdf

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DEQ announces $250,000 in grants to help reduce food waste

"The DEQ today announced the availability of $250,000 to assist communities and organizations in developing

projects that reduce and divert food waste."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241334_deq.pdf

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542 Driver Inspections Conducted During 'Eyes on 94' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Effort

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Michigan State Police (MSP) motor carrier officers conducted 542 commercial driver inspections during the five-day 'Eyes on 94' commercial vehicle crash reduction effort along the I-94 corridor from Dec. 7 – 11."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241281_msp.pdf

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Michigan Poultry Exhibition and Swap Meet Ban Lifted

"LANSING – Today, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development lifted the statewide ban on poultry exhibitions. MDARD implemented the ban as a precautionary measure in June 2015 in response to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreak happening across the U.S."

Source: *Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241218_mda.pdf

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Computers for college: Michigan Treasury officials hail new federal rules

"LANSING – The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) today praised a "common-sense measure" approved by Congress that will allow families to save tax-free for a computer used for college."

Source: *Michigan Education Savings Program* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241163_mesp.pdf

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MDOT Weekend Construction

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 12/24-12/28/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US. (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app for changes and latest info.)** There will not be any additional construction projects set up over this weekend. This is the last weekend construction project report until it returns in Spring 2016."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241100_mdot.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/22/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/22/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241060_court.pdf*

Powerball Jackpot Climbs to $227 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 23, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player could have an extra merry Christmas if they win the $227 million Powerball jackpot on Wednesday."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451241009_lottery.pdf*

January 20, 2016 Civil Service Commission Meeting Notice

"The Michigan Civil Service Commission will hold a public meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, in Conference Room A, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, Michigan. This meeting is open to the public."

Source: *Michigan Civil Service Commission* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451240957_mdcs.pdf*

Storm preparation information from Consumers Energy

"Good morning. Damaging winds and thunderstorms are expected across much of Michigan's Lower Peninsula beginning Wednesday evening until Thursday morning. Some wind gusts may exceed 50 mph. Consumers Energy employees are preparing for an increase in power outages due to storm activity."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-28-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451240838_energy.pdf*

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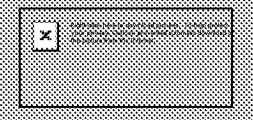
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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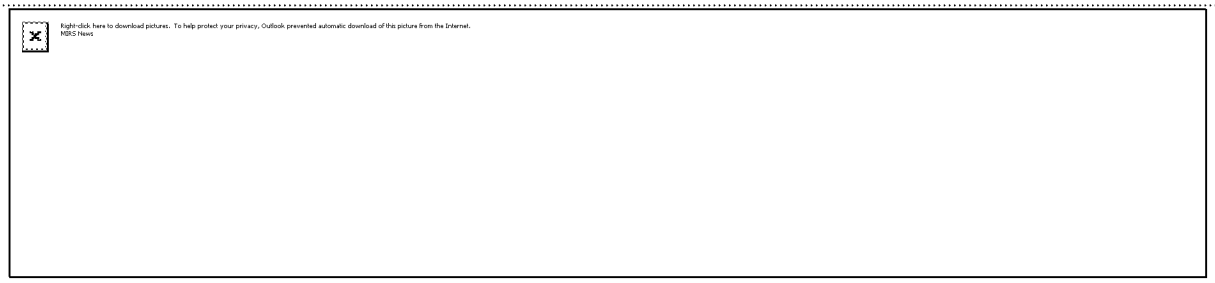

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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name top accomplishments of 2015

"LANSING, MI — Michigan's continued economic recovery was the top accomplishment for the state in 2015, according to Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_legis.html#incart_river_index*

Michigan criminal justice reforms, shelved in 2015, are on the radar for first half of next year

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder listed criminal justice reform as one of four things he wanted to accomplish in 2015, but with session officially over he's eyeing the first half of 2016 for progress."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_criminal_justice_refo.html#incart_river_index*

State Rep. Gary Glenn named 'freshman lawmaker of the year' by news service

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Almost a full year into his first term in the Michigan House of Representative, Midland-area lawmaker Gary Glenn has been named the Michigan Legislature's "freshman of the year" for 2015."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/rep_gary_glenn_named_freshman.html#incart_river_index*

Wayne County families sue over 'illegal' foreclosures

"Eighteen families on Monday sued the Wayne County Treasurer's office and several Metro Detroit cities in U.S. District Court, arguing their properties were illegally foreclosed on and sold to developers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/28/foreclosure-lawsuit/77973374/*

Obama signs into law Upton's bill banning microbeads

"President Barack Obama signed into law Monday a bill championed by southwest Michigan Congressman Fred Upton to phase out the production and sale of tiny bits of plastic called microbeads."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/28/obama-signs-law-uptons-bill-banning-microbeads/77990762/*

Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools slow to gain steam

"Lansing – — Detroit needs more than a revitalized downtown with new office workers to spur its rebirth following the largest public bankruptcy in U.S. history. It needs to upgrade a public school system that's considered the worst of its size in the nation. Michigan Gov. 's Republican governor Rick Snyder is proposing another pricey state bailout and a sweeping reorganization that could lead to closing independent, publicly funded charter schools, where an increasing number of city students are enrolled. The posture is at odds with Republicans' unflinching commitment to the school-choice movement, and the plan's implementation will require convincing bailout-fatigued lawmakers to send $715 million more to Detroit."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/12/28/snyder-plan-fix-detroit-schools-slow-gain-steam/77997530/*

Auditor general findings set off Flint water debate

"Findings compiled by Michigan's Office of the Auditor General have set off another debate about who is to blame for Flint's 18-month-long water crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/28/michigan-auditor-general-flint-water-debate/77982594/*

Advocacy/Opinion

'Prejudiced' Trump can't win, senior Michigan pol says

"This guy has forgotten more politics than Donald Trump has ever learned, and when asked what he thought of the Trump juggernaut, his response was swift and to the point: "Not much."

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/prejudiced_trump_cant_win_seni.html#incart_river_index*

Bieda: Bills would leave voters in dark

"Lawmakers in Lansing recently worked late into the night to pass a series of controversial bills, one of which grew from 12 to 53 pages in the span of an hour. Republicans barred Democrats' staff from the Senate floor to make it harder for us to review the amended legislation, and immediately forced a vote. It's ironic that they eliminated straight-ticket voting on the pretext of helping voters make educated decisions, and yet failed to allow educated voting in their own chambers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/28/bieda-bills-campaign-funding-straight-ticket/77998198/*

Press Releases

Sparrow prepares to welcome New Year's baby

"Each year, Sparrow welcomes the first baby of the New Year with an infant car seat, a teddy bear, and other gifts. Sparrow Marketing plans to alert local media shortly after the birth of the 2016 New Year's Baby with details on the delivery, followed by more in-depth information later in the day."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331903_sparrow.pdf*

Huizenga to Hold Live Facebook Town Hall Monday Afternoon

*"**Washington, D.C. –** Tomorrow, Congressman Bill Huizenga will hold a live Facebook Town Hall with West Michigan residents. The town hall will begin Monday afternoon at approximately 2:15 PM and run until 3:00 PM. West Michigan residents can join the conversation by visiting Congressman Huizenga's Facebook Page at Facebook.com/RepHuizenga. There, constituents will be able to ask Rep. Huizenga their question. Residents who have already "liked" Congressman Huizenga on Facebook should receive a notification when the event begins."*

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331812_huizenga.pdf*

Windstorm Restoration Wrapping Up; Preparation Underway For Expected Ice Storm

"JACKSON, Mich., December 27, 2015 –Mother Nature is ending 2015 on a blustery note, with an ice storm and high winds expected Monday, less than a week after a Christmas Eve windstorm cut power to more than 188,000 Consumers Energy customers."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331726_energy.pdf

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State Police: Prepare For Hazardous Winter Storm

*"**LANSING.** The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) encourages citizens and visitors to prepare for a hazardous winter storm expected to affect most of the Lower Peninsula from noon Monday, Dec. 28, and into Tuesday, Dec. 29. "*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331604_police.pdf

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#MiShoeYear - a movement for more movement

"Fitness resolutions come and go each year, but spending quality time with friends and family is no fad – and taking that family time out for a walk can make it a powerful fitness pledge."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331391_dnr.pdf

All Secretary of State offices in the Lower Peninsula closed today due to expected winter storm

"LANSING, Mich. – All Secretary of State branches in the Lower Peninsula will be closed the afternoon of Dec. 28 as part of a state of Michigan government closure due to expected severe weather."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451330704_sosrain.pdf

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Rep. Cole ranked among top conservative lawmakers in 2015

"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, is one of the top three lawmakers in Michigan according to the Mackinac

Center for Public Policy 2015 rankings."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451330551_cole.pdf

Review Confirms State Made Decision to Use Flint River, Failed to Ensure Corrosion Control

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) and State Representative Sheldon Neeley (D–Flint) responded today to an independent review that confirmed that Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the State was responsible for the decision to use the river as the City of Flint's primary drinking water source."

Source: *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich's Office* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451326785_flintananich.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder: State Emergency Operations Center ready to assist communities in need

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today activated the State Emergency Operations Center due to the hazardous winter storm expected to affect the entire state of Michigan from Monday, Dec. 28, through Tuesday, Dec. 29."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder's Office* **Date:** *12-29-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451325068_Snyder1.pdf

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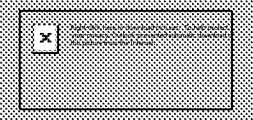
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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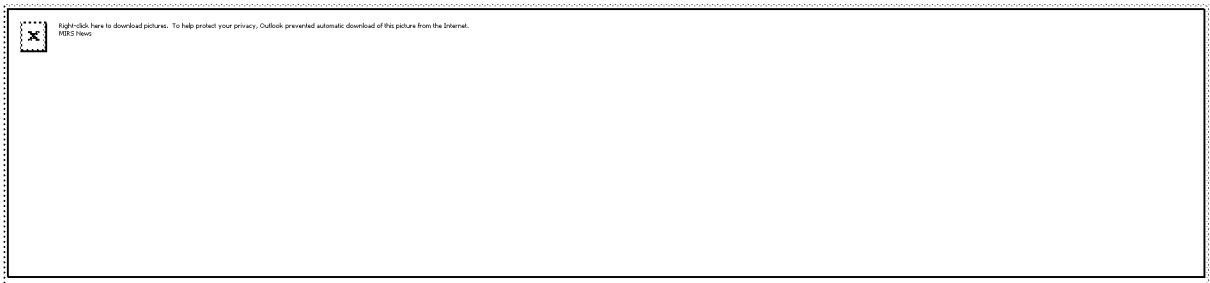
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 6:59 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, December 29, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, December 29, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4740

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Wyant Resigns As Task Force Slams MDEQ Over Flint Water Contamination

The resignation of the director of the Michigan Department Environmental Quality (MDEQ) came today -- the same day a special task force primarily blamed his department for the contamination of Flint's water supply.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4740#45370

Some See Hypocrisy In Move To Block Local Gov't Activity On Ballot Proposals

State lawmakers who can send out taxpayer-funded mailers on statewide ballot proposals have advanced a bill to Gov. Rick SNYDER that would essentially block local governments from doing the same thing on local proposals.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4740#45368

Fair Michigan Gets Go-Ahead To Circulate Petition Language

The State Board of Canvassers today approved language submitted by Fair Michigan for a petition to put a constitutional equal protection amendment for women and the LGBT community on the November 2016 ballot.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4740#45371

Canvassers Reject Ballot Language Recalling Gov, Lawmakers

The State Board of Canvassers today voted down recall attempts for Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive), Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) and Gov. Rick SNYDER on grounds that the reasons for recall were not clearly or factually stated.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45369

Cotter Says He Won't Endorse Trump In GOP Primary

House Speaker Kevin COTTER (R-Mt. Pleasant) went out of his way in an interview this month to note that he specifically wouldn't be endorsing Donald TRUMP in the Republican presidential primary.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45365

Detroit/Warren/Dearborn Area Sees Biggest Year-To-Year Jobless Drop

It was the Detroit/Warren/Dearborn area that saw the biggest decline in jobless rates between November 2014 and November 2015 according to new state figures.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45361

New Date Scheduled for Courser-Gamrat Suit Hearing

The story that refuses to go away has seen some new developments as two legal suits make it through both the state and federal judicial system.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45362

State Car Production 18.7 Percent Of U.S. Total For October

Michigan autoworkers produced 18.7 percent of all U.S. manufactured cars in October according to a new report released today by the Senate Fiscal Agency (SFA).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45366

New Multi-Line Phone Rules Go Into Effect

Owners of multi-line telephone systems (MLTS) or private branch exchange (PBX) phone systems in Michigan will be required to provide accurate location information when a user dials 911 by the end of next year.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45364

MIRS Subscribers Please Note

The offices of Michigan Information & Research Service Inc. (MIRS) will be closed Thursday, Dec. 31 and Friday, Jan. 1 in observance of the New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Holiday.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#45367

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 29, 1863, state officials prepared a report that stated 53,749 Michigan men "actually put in service" since the rebellion's outbreak in the spring of 1861. By war's end 16 months later, another 38,000 Michigan men had joined the Union army.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#46363

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?qid=4740#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016
9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell**
Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

Capitol Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

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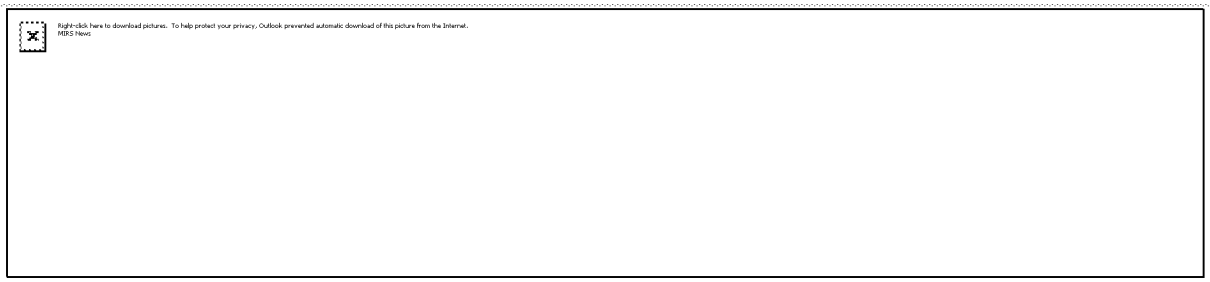
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 6:45 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name biggest disappointments of 2015

"LANSING, MI — The Flint drinking water crisis was the biggest disappointment of 2015, according to Gov. Rick Snyder and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who have very different perspectives on the situation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_legis_1.html#incart_river_index*

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition approved for circulation

"LANSING, MI — An initiative petition that would amend the Michigan Constitution to prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender, gender identity, sex or sexual orientation has been cleared for circulation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/fair_michigan_gay_rights_anti-.html#incart_river_index*

Rep. Fred Upton to help lead broad review of concussion effects, treatments

"The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee is about to undertake a broad review of causes, effects, and treatments for concussions, committee Chairman Fred Upton said.

"

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/rep_fred_upton_to_help_lead_br.html#incart_river_index*

DEQ spokesman also resigns over Flint water crisis, says city 'didn't feel like we cared'

"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality spokesperson Brad Wurfel has joined director Dan Wyant in resigning after a task force cited department failures in addressing the Flint water crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/deq_spokesman_also_resigns_ove.html#incart_river_index*

Flint leaders applaud DEQ director's resignation, governor's apology

"FLINT, MI – Mayor Karen Weaver and other local leaders say the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant and release of Flint Water Task Force findings Tuesday are the first steps toward holding people accountable for Flint's water crisis."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/gov_rick_snyder_accepts_mdeq_h.html#incart_river_home*

Rep. Upton plans congressional review of concussions

"U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, plans to use his House Energy and Commerce Committee chairmanship to launch a congressional review of concussions in 2016, his office said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/rep-upton-plans-congressional-review-concussions/78030500/*

Canvassers OK petition forms for gay rights measure

"Lansing — Supporters of amending Michigan's constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity cleared an initial procedural step."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/gay-rights-ballot/78008436/*

Flint water report prompts apologies, resignations

"Michigan's top environmental official resigned Tuesday after an independent task force delivered its initial findings on the Flint water contamination crisis — conclusions that also prompted an apology from Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/deq-director-wyant-resigns-due-flint-water-crisis/78028616/*

Mich. elections board approves gay rights petition

"LANSING — Supporters of amending Michigan's constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity cleared an initial procedural step Tuesday when the Michigan Board of State Canvassers approved the form and wording of the petition."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/29/elections-board-to-consider-form-of-gay-rights-petition/78006638/*

Snyder apologizes, Wyant resigns in Flint water crisis

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder apologized to the City of Flint on Tuesday for the drinking water crisis that has left children poisoned by lead and announced that he accepted the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant. "

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/29/deq-director-wyant-resigns-over-flint-water-crisis/78027052/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Lawmakers reinforce contempt for voters

"The Center for Public Integrity, in its annual November report card, said Michigan has the worst state government in the nation in terms of ethics, lobbying, political financing, transparency and accountability."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/568931/Lawmakers-reinforce-contempt-for-voters.html?nav=5052*

Editorial: Emergency management law working for cities

"Michigan will start the year with not one of its local communities under emergency management, with the emergence of Lincoln Park from state control last week. While Detroit Public Schools and other school districts, as well as Wayne County, still are operating under some form of state financial oversight, for the first time in 15 years no cities have emergency managers.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/29/editorial-*

emergency-management-works/78037684/

House Democrats Oppose 'Trapping' Detroit Students in Non-Union Schools

"Members of the Michigan House of Representative's Democratic caucus appear to have conflicting views toward Detroit schoolchildren, who, they say, are "trapped" in a failing school district."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22036*

Archaic Prevailing Wage Law Should Be Repealed

"In Michigan, government entities, such as school districts, must pay all contractors union wages for construction projects — the so-called prevailing wage. This wage rate is established by the state and is based on wages collectively bargained for by unions in the region where the construction work is being done. Market wages set by open competition are explicitly forbidden. The lawwas first enacted in 1965 when a much larger portion of Michigan's construction force was unionized, but today, in the construction industry, only one-fifth of workers belong to labor unions.

"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22029*

Press Releases

MDP Statement on Resignation of MDEQ Director Dan Wyant

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, regarding the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant over his handling of the Flint water crisis:"

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451433422_mdp.pdf

Rep. Jim Runestad December 2015 E-newsletter

"It is my wish that you enjoyed merry times with your friends and families this last week. I enjoyed my visits with the great residents, school districts and business owners of my district. The ribbon cutting at Blossoms, and hearing from our senior citizens at the Milford Senior Center, were a few of many great highlights from December."

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429991_runestad.pdf

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Rep. Neeley statement on the resignation of DEQ Director Dan Wyant

"Statement from state Representative Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) on the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant:"

Source: *Rep. Sheldon Neeley* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429893_neeley.pdf*

Presidential Candidate Makes Alzheimer's Part of the National Conversation

"Hillary Clinton has announced an aggressive approach to Alzheimer's that includes a $2 billion annual commitment to research. That's the level championed by the dementia movement, which includes the LEAD Coalition to which OWL belongs. Her plan also includes the goal of finding a cure by 2025, and ways to aid caregivers."

Source: *OWL* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429839_owl.pdf*

Rep. Gowdy: I Found My Candidate. It's Marco Rubio.

"

> **"The son of a bartender and the son of a housekeeper, who knows what it means to live the American Dream. I found my candidate. It's Marco Rubio." - Rep. Trey Gowdy**

"

Source: *Marco Rubio* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429781_rubio.pdf*

Progress Michigan Statement on Wyant Resignation

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant and the ongoing Flint Water Crisis."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429692_mich.pdf*

Flint Water Advisory Task Force Letter to Governor Snyder

"The Flint Water Advisory Task Force, which you appointed on October 21, 2015, has devoted considerable effort and countless hours to our review of the contamination of the Flint water supply: what happened, why it occurred, and what is needed to prevent a recurrence in Flint or elsewhere in the state. We have also been assessing ongoing mitigation efforts to help assure that short- and long-

term public health issues and water management concerns will be properly addressed to safeguard the health and well being of the Flint community."

Source: *Flint Water Advisory Task Force* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429557_fwatf.pdf

FWATF letter to Governor Snyder

"Lansing, MI—The Flint Water Advisory Task Force today released a letter sent to Governor Rick Snyder advising him of the Task Force's finding that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is primarily responsible for failing to ensure safe drinking water in Flint and must be held accountable. A copy of the letter is attached."

Source: *Flint Water Advisory Task Force* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429474_fwatf.pdf

AG Schuette Statement on Resignation of DEQ Director Wyant

"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today released the following statement regarding the resignation of Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant:"

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429367_ag.pdf

Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on DEQ Director Dan Wyant's Resignation

"FLINT — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement after Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant resigned over his handling of the Flint water crisis:"

Source: *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451421506_ananich.pdf

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OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE JUDGE LINDA HALLMARK RECEIVES NOMINATION FOR 2015 DANIEL J. WRIGHT LIFETIME

"Oakland County, MI (12/29/2015) – Oakland County Probate Judge Linda S. Hallmark was recently nominated for the 2015 Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award. Chief Justice Robert Young of the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon signed the certificate of Honorable Mention in recognition of Judge Hallmark's distinguished service to Michigan children and families."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451420785_court.pdf

SENATE FISCAL AGENCY - Michigan Economic Indicators - October 2015

"Michigan Economic Indicators OCTOBER 2015"

Source: *Senate Fiscal Agency* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451420555_sfa.pdf

Detroit Lions' Tahir Whitehead shares lunch and tips for school and life success with Detroit teens

"FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. – The holiday break was a little more special for a group of Detroit teens in foster care who enjoyed lunch today with Detroit Lions' linebacker Tahir Whitehead."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451419999_dhhs.pdf

Pscholka maintains perfect voting record entering final year as state Rep.

"For the fifth straight year since becoming a state Representative, Al Pscholka has achieved a perfect voting record across the legislative calendar."

Source: *Rep. Al Pscholka* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451419900_pscholka.pdf

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Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force

"In response to initial findings from the Flint Water Task Force, Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement: "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451418379_gov.pdf

(CORRECTION) New Rules for Multi-Line Phone Systems Will Improve Emergency Response

*"**LANSING, MICH.** In an emergency, seconds can save a life, which is why new rules go into effectDec. 31, 2016, that require all Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) or Private Branch Exchange (PBX) phone systems in Michigan to provide accurate locations for phones when a user dials 911 from one of these systems."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451416944_msp.pdf

DNR conservation officer academy starts Jan. 3 with 24 recruits

"Twenty-four potential new conservation officers will report Sunday, Jan. 3, in Lansing to attend the Department of Natural Resources' conservation officer training academy. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards-sanctioned academy will be led by the DNR's Law Enforcement Division employment and training section."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451413284_dnr.pdf

November Unemployment Rates Down Slightly in Most of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in November declined slightly over the month in most of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels rose moderately in the majority of regions in November."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451406514_dtmb.pdf

Club Keno Doubler Days Give Players a Chance to Double Their Prizes

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 29, 2015** – Club Keno players will have a chance to double their prizes in January during the Michigan Lottery's Doubler Days."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451404099_lottery.pdf

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Sparrow Hospice honors three Volunteers for their radical, loving care during 2015

"LANSING, MI – Three Sparrow Volunteers are being honored by Sparrow Hospice Services for their outstanding service and radical, loving care during 2015."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451400232_SPARROW.pdf*

REVISED - Criminal Justice Policy Commission Meeting Documents - January

6, 2015

"CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION MEETING Wednesday, January 6, 2016 Senate Appropriations Room, rd Floor State Capitol Building 3 9:00 a.m. Lansing, Michigan"

Source: *Criminal Justice Policy Commission* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451400107_cjpc.pdf

Schuette Puts Crate of Michigan Apples on Line for Wolverine Victory

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi today entered into a friendly wager over the upcoming Citrus Bowl in which the University of Michigan Wolverines will face the University of Florida Gators. Should the Wolverines be victorious, Bondi has pledged to send a crate of Fresh from Florida Oranges to Schuette. In the event that the Wolverines do not claim victory, Schuette has agreed to send a crate of Pure Michigan Apples to Ms. Bondi."*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451399870_ag.pdf

State Police: Stay Smart and Safe during the Winter Storm

"Lansing, Mich. – As today's hazardous winter storm starts to taper off, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is asking Michiganders to continue to make safety a priority."

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-30-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451399815_police.pdf

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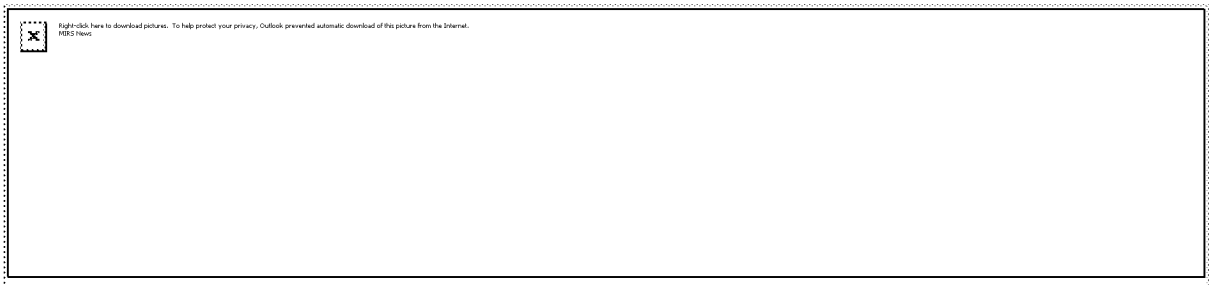
From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:11 PM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 30, 2015



MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 30, 2015

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741

PDA Friendly Web Version:

http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:

Quote Of The Year/Who's Most Quotable

Lawmakers, staffers and others in and around the Lansing community love to lob interesting and quippy quotes at MIRS staffers - all in pursuit of earning a "Quote of the Day."

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45380

Memorable Quotes Of The Day - 2015

Much of the first year of Michigan's 98th Legislature was dedicated to dealing with the scandal surrounding former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45381

Ananich: Legislative Oversight Of Flint Water Crisis Remains Priority In `16

For Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint), the Flint water situation is not a past tense conversation.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45376

Snyder Picks Creagh To Be Interim MDEQ Director

A day after the former director resigned amid growing criticism about water contamination in Flint, Gov. Rick SNYDER announced today a new interim director for the Michigan Department of Environmental

Quality (MDEQ).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45374

Equality Michigan Director: Irresponsible to Join Petition Drive

The executive director of Equality Michigan says it would be "irresponsible" for her organization to join the push for a ballot proposal to ban discrimination based on gender, gender identity and sexual orientation.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45375

Johnson Aims To Combat Arson In Detroit With Senate Legislation

Insurance companies could refuse payments on fire damage claims if there is insufficient proof that the fire wasn't intentional under legislation put forward by Sen. Bert JOHNSON (D-Highland Park).

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45372

House Oversight Panel Planning Hearing On Audit Of Water Office

As a crisis over water quality in the City of Flint continues, the chair of the House Oversight Committee says he plans to hold a hearing on an upcoming audit of the state's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45376

Runestad Wants To Revisit Campaign Finance Bill That's Before Snyder

At least one of the 58 House Republicans who voted for a wide-ranging set of campaign finance reforms on the last night of session says he would support Gov. Rick SNYDER allowing the Legislature to “revisit” the matter.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45377

Gubernatorial Appointments And Reappointments

Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45378

On This Day In Michigan History

On Dec. 30, 1936, the Flint sit down strike began. Spurred by an unfounded rumor that work was going to be transferred to plants with weak union support, autoworkers began a spontaneous sit down strike at General Motors' plants in Flint. Often described as the most important strike in American labor history, the Flint sit down strike ended in early February when General Motors recognized the United Auto Workers to represent its workers.

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45373

Updated Calendar Events:

http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#updated_events

House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

Senate Committee Calendar Events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016
9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell**
Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

Capitol Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

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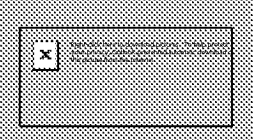

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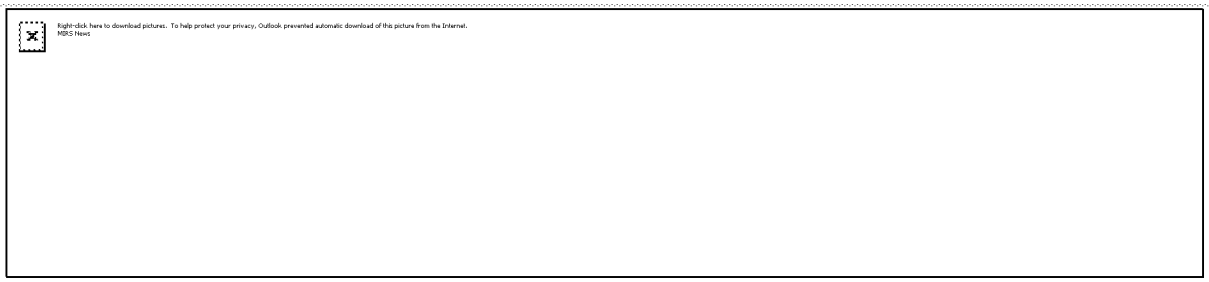

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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders describe top priorities for 2016

"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder went 1 for 4 on his top fall priorities in the Michigan Legislature this year, and the three unfinished items now top his agenda for 2016."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_legis_2.html#incart_river_index*

Flint water prompts state changes: DNR Director Keith Creagh appointed as interim DEQ director

"LANSING, MI -- Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh will serve as interim director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality after that director's resignation over the Flint water crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/flint_water_prompts_state_chan.html#incart_river_index*

Justin Amash on Tamir Rice grand jury's 'bad decision'

"After a grand jury on Monday, Dec. 28, decided not to charge two Cleveland police officers with a crime in the 2014 shooting death of 12-year-old Tamir Rice, U.S. Rep. Justin Amash tweeted that "police should not be given more leniency when it comes to self-defense than any other person.""

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-*

rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/justin_amash_on_tamir_rice.html#incart_m-rpt-2

Shakeup roils DEQ in wake of Flint water crisis

"Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality remained in flux Wednesday after a change in leadership at the top and ongoing questions about whether any rank-and-file staffers may get disciplined because of the Flint water contamination crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/30/snyder-taps-dnrs-creagh-interim-deq-chief/78075004/

Board rejects recall petitions for Snyder, senators

"Lansing — People attempting longshot efforts to recall Gov. Rick Snyder and two lawmakers from office will have to try again with state election officials."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/30/snyder-recall-petitions-rejected/78099694/

Third marijuana petition OK'd for signature collecting

"Lansing — A backer of a third marijuana-related ballot initiative has had the format of his petition approved by Michigan election officials."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/30/third-marijuana-petition-michigan-approved/78099834/

A year of apologies, tax fights and presidential barbs

"Michigan politics were rocked this past year by tax fights, unusual high-level apologies, lawmaker misconduct and presidential campaigning."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/31/year-apologies-tax-fights-presidential-barbs/78110406/

Michigan's minimum wage rises 35 cents to $8.50 an hour

"Lansing — Michigan workers making the minimum wage will get a 35-cents-an-hour raise starting Friday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/30/michigan-minimum-wage-rises/78099626/

2015 a good year for Michigan's national parks

"Hordes of visitors are descending on Michigan's national parks, setting records for two parks this year and following a national trend of visitors rediscovering America's scenic wonders."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/30/attendance-strong-michigan-national-parks/78109868/

Michigan's oversight of cable TV firms shuts off in '16

"Even more than the IRS and Ohio State, Michiganders love to hate their cable TV providers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/31/comcast-att-uverse-cable-television-michigan-public-service-commission-consumer-complaints/78097736/

Snyder names DNR chief Keith Creagh to head DEQ

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder named state Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh as the interim head of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality on Wednesday, one day after he accepted the resignation of Dan Wyant as part of the fallout from the Flint drinking water crisis."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/30/snyder-names-keith-creagh-head-deq/78068186/

'Gag order' legislation limits transparency, according to local officials

"While no timeline is present, Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign legislation that local school officials say will prohibit them from being transparent with voters."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/12/30/news/doc5683171c53d7b914597288.txt

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Advocacy/Opinion

Snyder's choice on voter options: Experts or lawmakers?

"Depending on your political predilections, this may be a grand case of "don't confuse me with the facts, my mind is made up.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/snyders_choice_on_voter_option.html#incart_river_index*

Gov. Rick Snyder needs to do more than just apologize for Flint water crisis

"Gov. Rick Snyder apologized this week for his administration's handling of the Flint water crisis, and the director and main spokesman of the Department of Environmental Quality each resigned."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/gov_rick_snyder_needs_to_do_mo.html#incart_river_home*

Election reform laws headed in wrong direction

"State lawmakers recently passed another law designed to reform elections in Michigan."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/568965/Election-reform-laws-headed-in-wrong-direction.html?nav=5052*

Buss: GOP should rethink climate change

"December tornadoes in Michigan. Blizzards in Texas. A 70-degree Christmas along the East Coast. This year's unusual winter weather will likely be a talking point on climate change for Democrats. Meantime, unless Republicans find a way to talk about climate change that doesn't make them sound out of touch, GOP presidential candidates will continue to struggle to relate to the average voter on this issue."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/31/gop-climate-change-republicans/78105346/*

Look back: Still little clarity in pot policy

"Watching police and policymakers contend with shifting public attitudes toward marijuana would be downright comical if the lives and liberty of so many people weren't hanging in the balance."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/30/medical-marijuana-michigan/77692634/*

In Detroit school reform debate, focus on accountability

"Nothing has been the focus of more effort by more people in recent years than the repeated attempts to reform the Detroit Public School System."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/30/detroit-school-reform-debate-focus-accountability/76033112/*

Less Than Half of Students 'Proficient,' but 97 Percent of Teachers Rated 'Effective' or Better

"Michigan recently administered a new series of tests to public school students between grades three and 11, covering the four separate subject areas of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. With one exception, more than half the students were rated less than "proficient" for their grade level."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22039*

Americans are Moving to Right-to-Work States

"New numbers from the Census Bureau on how many people move from state to state underscore another aspect of the right-to-work debate that does not often take center stage: Americans continue to move to right-to-work states."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22032*

Press Releases

Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451507627_gov.pdf*

Upton Reviews 2015 and Looks Ahead to 2016 in New Report

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released a new report titled"2015: The Year in Review and a Look Ahead" which outlines many of the legislative and policy priorities his office

tackled in 2015 and looks towards the new year."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451505776_upton.pdf

MSC Order: People v Robertson

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order denying leave to appeal in No. 150132,People v Robertson, which was argued on December 9, 2015.

For more information about the case and related briefs, click here. "

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451499747_msc.pdf

Treasurer Appointment Committee Meeting Notice and Agenda

"

There will be a meeting of the

TREASURER APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

on Thursday, January 7, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.,

on the 9th Floor of the County Administration Building,

in the Commissioner's Board Room,

One South Main Street

Mount Clemens, MI 48043"

Source: *Macomb County Treasurer* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451497214_treas.pdf

Showcasing the DNR: Busy 2015 marked with progress, successes

"Whether teaching a new angler to bait a hook, improving habitat for wildlife, leading a nature hike in the woods, expanding an off-road vehicle trail, or spearheading dozens of other efforts, for the staff at the Michigan Department Natural Resources, 2015 was one of the agency's busiest and best years."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451494785_dnr.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder taps DNR Director Keith Creagh to guide DEQ through leadership transition

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh will serve as interim director for the Department of Environmental Quality effective Jan. 4, Gov. Rick Snyder announced today."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451494593_gov.pdf

Horn announces January office hours in Merrill

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, announced that January office hours are scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451494556_horn.pdf

Last chance to apply for Pure Michigan Hunt

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that time is running out to apply for a chance to win over $4,000 worth of hunting gear and hunting licenses for elk and bear. The last day to apply for the 2016 Pure Michigan Hunt is Dec. 31. Watch the Pure Michigan Hunt video to learn more."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451490704_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc.pdf

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DNR lauds partners in battle against chronic wasting disease

"With deer hunting seasons coming to a close, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources wants to thank the important partners who have emerged in the ongoing fight against chronic wasting disease (CWD) – a neurological disease always fatal once contracted by deer, elk or moose."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451489531_dnr.pdf

Bureau of Fire Services Now Accepting Consumer Fireworks Applications

*"**December 30, 2015.** The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Bureau of Fire Services (BFS) today announced the opening of the 2016 consumer fireworks application period and low*

impact registration process. All consumer fireworks applications and required plans must be submitted bymidnight, April 1, 2016. Low impact registrations can be submitted at any time but must be completed at least 10 days prior to sales."

Source: *Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451487497_lara.pdf*

Powerball Jackpot Climbs to $300 Million

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 30, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player could close out 2015 in a huge way if they win the $300 million Powerball jackpot on Wednesday."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451486114_Michigan Information & Research Service Inc.pdf*

Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/29/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/29/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451484662_court.pdf*

Making Millionaires: Michigan Lottery Makes Dreams Come True For Players in 2015

*"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 30, 2015** – New homes, new cars, luxury vacations, and financial security top the wish lists of Michigan Lottery. In 2015, the Lottery helped make those dreams come true for countless players who collected a record of nearly $1.7 billion in prizes."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *12-31-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451483910_lottery.pdf*

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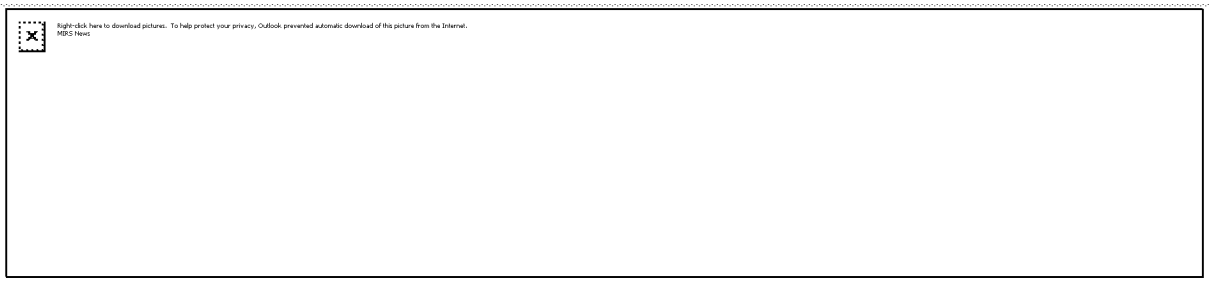

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Owens: Abuse at root of election bill

"In classic fashion, school officials and local governments are blaming everyone but themselves for a bill that is sitting on Gov. Rick Snyder's desk awaiting his signature."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2016/01/01/abuse-election-bill-snyder/78190986/*

Proposed rule would boost ban on pay-or-jail sentences

"Detroit — The Michigan Supreme Court is proposing a rule that would strengthen the ban on sending poor people to jail if they can't afford to pay fines."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/01/proposed-rule-boost-ban-pay-jail-sentences/78175850/*

Completing U.S.-Mexico wall would be daunting task

"Brownsville, Texas — Close to the southern tip of Texas a border wall suddenly ends. Its final post sits in a dry cornfield half a mile from the nearest bend in the Rio Grande river, the actual border with Mexico."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2016/01/01/us-mexico-border-wall/78183552/*

Police chief of Memphis, Michigan, dies during surgery

"The police chief of Memphis died Friday during emergency surgery, the department announced."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/01/police-chief-dies-memphis-michigan/78195798/*

UAW unit publishes names of workers opting out of union

"A local United Auto Workers chapter in Warren is singling out workers who decide to opt out of the union."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2016/01/01/uaw-unit-publishes-names-workers-opting-union/78161726/*

Obama: Let's try to stop 'epidemic of gun violence'

"Honolulu — President Barack Obama issued a New Year's Day call to Americans to help him fight an "epidemic of gun violence" in the U.S., signaling it as a top priority as he considers whether to impose new gun-control measures under existing federal law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/01/obama-gun-violence-control/78182666/*

Tech show to feature driverless concepts, electric cars

"CES 2016, the technology trade show that kicks off next week in Las Vegas, is becoming just as vital to carmakers and suppliers for showcasing new products as any auto show."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2016/01/01/ces-tech-show-preview-autos-ford-gm-bolt-vw-delphi-toyota-mark-fields-mary-barra-raj-nair/78191734/*

DNR: Deer killed in Clinton Co. may have wasting disease

"LANSING – State wildlife officials say a deer killed by a bow hunter in Watertown Township this month might have been carrying chronic wasting disease."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/12/30/dnr-deer-killed-clinton-co-may-wasting-disease/78107900/*

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8 CEOs just hauled in $60 billion this year

"Stop complaining about how lousy the stock market was this year. It was great — to the tune of $60 billion — for titans in the right industries."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/12/30/ceos-just-hauled-billion-year/78115950/*

Judge tosses Quicken lawsuit against Justice Department

"A federal judge on Thursday dismissed a preemptive lawsuit filed by Quicken Loans in April that accused the federal government of trying to strong-arm the Detroit-based mortgage lender into a big settlement over its lending practices."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/12/31/judge-tosses-quicken-lawsuit-against-justice-department/78138004/*

Michigan sugar producer to invest $125M at 4 plants

"BAY CITY — A Michigan sugar producer plans to invest $125 million in four of its facilities."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2016/01/01/michigan-sugar-company-invest-plants/78171902/*

Academic improvement key part of Pontiac's financial plan

"The Pontiac School District's plan to eliminate a $33-million deficit also includes an ambitious plan to improve academic achievement in the district's struggling schools."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2016/01/02/academic-improvement-key-part-pontiacs-financial-plan/78105232/*

Michigan's oversight of cable TV firms shuts off in '16

"Even more than the IRS and Ohio State, Michiganders love to hate their cable TV providers. "Honestly, I haven't heard anybody say they like their cable company," said Linda Krieger, 71, of Oak Park."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/31/comcast-att-uverse-cable-television-michigan-public-service-commission-consumer-complaints/78097736/*

Merge the Great Lakes? No way, Jose

"Gee, what did Michigan ever do to Jose Canseco?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/31/jose-canseco-merge-great-lakes-new-year-resolution/78135896/*

Freep writers: The stories we'll be watching in 2016

"Predicting the future has never been easy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/31/2016-detroit-michigan/78092148/*

Macomb Community College to help transfer students

"Macomb Community College will use a $300,000 grant to help figure out how their students that transfer to four-year colleges can have better success."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/01/macomb-community-college-help-transfer-students/77696762/*

At Detroit school, it's cool to be green

"An ocean-themed explosion of color fills a tall atrium, where long tendrils of blue plastic create a flowing waterfall for rainbow-colored fish dangling from the glass ceiling."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2016/01/01/detroit-school-green/77174694/*

December breaks heat records in southeast Michigan

"Southeast Michigan ended the year with the warmest December on record, essentially getting two average back-to-back Novembers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/01/december-breaks-heat-records-southeast-michigan/78187950/*

Nearly 200 Muslim workers fired over prayer dispute in Colorado

"DENVER - About 190 workers, most of them immigrants from Somalia, have been fired from a Colorado meat packing plant after walking off the job during a dispute over workplace prayer."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation-now/2016/01/02/colorado-muslim-workers-fired-prayer-dispute-meat-packing/78199966/*

Can consent agreement help turn around Pontiac schools?

"On paper, the Pontiac School District appeared to be on the brink of collapse in 2013. The district's massive deficit had ballooned from $38 million to $52 million in just one year. Bills weren't getting paid. And residents were on the hook for a nearly $8-million court settlement."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2016/01/01/pontiac-school-district-consent-agreement/77741448/*

Downriver city looking for feds' help with traffic jams

"WASHINGTON — As transportation projects across Michigan and the U.S. have gotten federal funding under a competitive grant program, officials in the Downriver community of Woodhaven have begun to wonder what they have to do to have some of it come their way."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2016/01/01/downriver-city-looking-feds-help-traffic-jams/77743272/*

What You Read Last Year: Our Top Stories of 2015

"Stories about hating political opponents, EPA overregulation, union bullying, and right-to-work income gains were among our top stories of the year."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22041*

Prosecutor sends stern open-meetings warning to Swartz Creek schools

"SWARTZ CREEK, MI – Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton sent a stern warning to Swartz Creek schools officials that they had better brush up on the Michigan Open Meetings Act."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2016/01/potential_violation_by_swartz.html#incart_river_home_pop*

Advocacy/Opinion

Letter: Be true to values, stand up to terror

"Ask yourself, what can you do for your country? We take in the poor. We protect the innocent. We give equal rights to every citizen. Our country has victims of terrorism. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2016/01/01/letter-terror/78190984/*

Economists: Rethink world health ratings

"As open enrollment season comes to a close for health insurance markets, it's a good time to reflect on the progress of the U.S. health system. With the Affordable Care Act, the U.S. made efforts to close its uninsured gap with other industrialized nations. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2016/01/01/economists-rethink-world-health/78190758/*

The unfair questions Muslims face every day

"It must be tiresome to have to explain, after every terrorist incident: "I have nothing to do with this. I am innocent. I feel just the way you do"."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/30/muslims-should-embrace-chance-educate-american-people/78074524/*

Black lives must matter all the time

"Plenty of people watched the video of a police officer killing 12-year-old Tamir Rice in a public park last

year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/31/rochelle-riley-black-lives-must-matter-to-black-people/78035980/*

Susan J. Demas: The Flint water crisis will cause pain for decades to come

"The Flint water crisis is one of those stories that seems too terrible to be true. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-02-2016* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/01/flint_water_snyder_republicans.html#incart_river_index

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From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 8:16 AM
To: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: Bill inspired by Flint water crisis would make data manipulation by Michigan officials a felony

Bill inspired by Flint water crisis would make data manipulation by Michigan officials a felony
http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill_inspired_by_flint_water_c.html#incart_river_home

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 8:21 AM
To: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Horn, Daniel (DTMB);Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: Freep Editorial on Flint

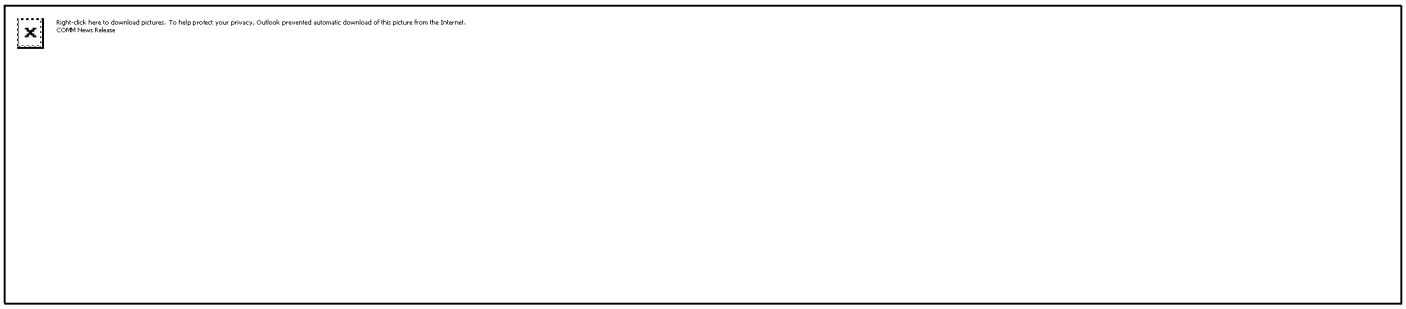
Detroit Free Press: State apology, resignation over Flint water first step
http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2016/01/05/snyder-flint-water/78068836/

From: Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 4:31 PM
To: Budget 6th Floor Staff
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Snyder declares emergency for Genesee County

Fyi...

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050

From: GOV Newsroom [mailto:govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Snyder declares emergency for Genesee County



Contacts: Dave Murray, Laura Biehl, or Anna Heaton

517-335-6397

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2016

Editor's note: A copy of the official declaration is available at the link below.

Gov. Snyder declares emergency for Genesee County

State Emergency Operations Center activated to assist with relief efforts

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today declared a state of emergency for Genesee County due to the ongoing health and safety issues caused by lead in the city of Flint's drinking water.

By declaring a state of emergency, Snyder has made available all state resources in

cooperation with local response and recovery operations. The declaration authorizes the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) to coordinate state efforts.

"The health and welfare of Flint residents is a top priority and we're committed to a coordinated approach with resources from state agencies to address all aspects of this situation," Snyder said. "Working in full partnership with the Flint Water Advisory Task Force, all levels of government and water quality experts, we will find both short-term and long-term solutions to ensure the health and safety of Flint residents."

In addition to the emergency declaration, Snyder activated the State Emergency Operations Center to coordinate state response and recovery activities. State agencies will report to the center to coordinate resources, assess the situation and begin providing assets to assist with local relief operations.

"Our staff recognizes the urgency of this situation and is already working closely with local officials," said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, Deputy State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "We will continue to collaborate with state, city and county leaders to coordinate relief efforts, streamline communication and use all available resources to help residents."

On Jan. 4, Genesee County declared a "local state of emergency," which activated local emergency response and recovery plans. By requesting a governor's declaration, the county has determined local resources are insufficient to address the situation and state assistance is required to protect public health, safety and property to lessen or avert the threat of a crisis.

The city of Flint has been under a local emergency declaration since Dec. 14, 2015.

The SEOC is the emergency operations center for the state of Michigan. Located in Lansing, the center is overseen by the MSP/EMHSD and coordinates response and recovery efforts by state agencies and local government. The SEOC is staffed by members of state agencies and other partners for decision making and information coordination during disasters or emergencies in the state of Michigan.

#

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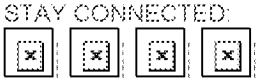
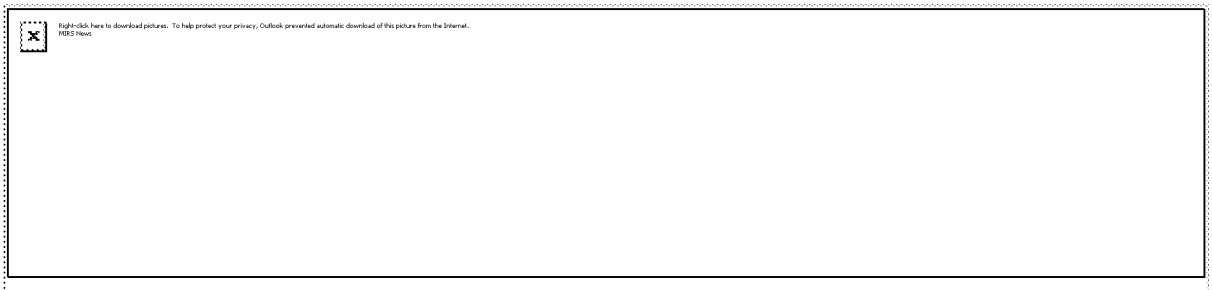


This email was sent to weisskt@michigan.gov on behalf of: The Executive Office of the Governor · 111 South Capitol Avenue · Lansing, MI 48909 · 517-335-7858

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 6:33 AM
To: Babb, Abbey (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow trying to stop closures that could slow down Michigan mail

"LANSING, MI -- Democratic Sen. Debbie Stabenow on Monday introduced an amendment to current legislation that would delay the closure of three United States Postal Service facilities in Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_sen_debbie_stabenow_f.html#incart_river*

Gov. Rick Snyder, in rare remarks before civil rights panel, says little about LGBT rights effort

"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday made a rare appearance before the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, outlining goals to improve race relations, welcome migrant farm workers and re-examine criminal sentencing guidelines."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/gov_rick_snyder_in_rare_remark.html#incart_river*

Gov. outlines rights priorities

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder, in a rare visit Monday, urged the state's Civil Rights Commission to consider a range of issues including drones, police body cameras and race relations while saying American Indian culture should be celebrated more."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/27/gov-outlines-rights-priorities/22388167/

Mayor says governor needs to visit Flint to see water crisis first hand

"FLINT, MI – Mayor Dayne Walling wants Gov. Rick Snyder to come to Flint to see the city's water crisis in person."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/flint_mayor_governor_needs_to.html#incart_river

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Spat lands Detroit rep in Appropriations vice chair

"Lansing — New Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter has chosen Detroit Rep. Harvey Santana as minority vice chairman of the Appropriations Committee after 11 Democratic committee members refused the position."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/26/spat-lands-detroit-rep-appropriations-vice-chair/22376145/

Snyder makes rare visit to civil rights panel

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder made a rare appearance Monday before the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, but said little about the unsettled debate over banning discrimination against gays and lesbians."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/26/gov-snyder-civil-rights-panel/22346617/

Snyder lacks key business ally in road tax fight

"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder may have to sell a May 5 sales tax increase proposal, tied to boosting road funding by $1.2 billion, without the full support of a powerful business ally."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/25/snyder-lacks-key-business-ally-road-tax-fight/22333879/

State police float Michigan-wide drone use

"Lansing — The Michigan State Police could become the first police agency in the nation with statewide authorization to deploy an aerial drone to photograph vehicle crash scenes and give a bird's-eye view of other emergency situations."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/26/michigan-state-police-drone/22386343/*

Justices: No lawsuit against disgraced ex-Detroit judge

"WASHINGTON – The Supreme Court has put an end to a civil lawsuit against a former Detroit judge who had an affair with a woman while he presided over her bid for child support."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/26/wayne-county-judge-lawsuit/22347075/*

Snyder makes rare appearance at civil rights panel

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder appeared Monday before the Michigan Civil Rights Commission in what state officials believe is the first such visit by a sitting governor in more than 50 years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/26/governor-snyder-civil-rights/22342339/*

Law would protect service dogs for struggling war vets

"David Knezek did two tours in Iraq, but it wasn't until he came home that the former Marine and now Democratic state senator from Dearborn Heights lost a buddy from his unit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/01/26/lawmaker-ex-marine-turned-lawmaker-wants/22343995/*

Adviser: Detroit faces risks to financial turnaround

"One of the key power brokers who helped rescue New York City from the financial brink in the 1970s told members of Detroit's Financial Review Commission Monday that the city faces unpredictable risks to its financial future as it works toward post-bankruptcy stability."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2015/01/27/detroit-financial-advisory-board-richard-ravitch/22379281/*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: 'Pot for potholes' has a nice ring, and a majority of Michiganders agree

"Even if you did not indulge during the drug-ravaged 70's, you must admit the slogan is a dandy: Pot for potholes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/01/tim_skubick_pot_for_potholes_h.html#incart_river

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Will Michigan sink or swim in river of opportunity?

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder sees life as a vast river of opportunity, carrying Michiganders toward whatever fate awaits."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/556869/Will-Michigan-sink-or-swim-in-river-of-opportunity-.html?nav=5052

Arellano: Celebrate quality charter schools

"The fact that our state is struggling to provide Michigan children with a high-quality education is no secret. Today Michigan ranks 42nd in the nation in fourth grade math and is one of only six states that has posted an overall loss in student performance in fourth grade reading — an important predictor of students' future academic success — since 2003."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/01/26/celebrate-quality-charter-schools/22234513/

Prevailing wage law should be repealed

"A new effort has been launched in the Legislature to repeal the economically crippling prevailing wage law. Led by Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive, the three-bill package should be passed so that Michigan can get rid of the archaic law, which has been in effect since 1965.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/01/26/edit-repeal-prevailing-wage-law/22234559/

Editor's Note: Right, left join forces over FOIA

"Miracles do happen. Two Michigan institutions on opposites sides of the political spectrum recently found some common ground."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/01/27/editor-note-ingrid-jacques-foia/22370103/*

JACK SPENCER: Moderates just won't compromise

"

The word is c-o-m-p-r-o-m-i-s-e; the end-product of give and take, allowing reason to prevail over stubborn single-mindedness, the art of settling for half a loaf. 'Moderates;' those who claim they dwell in the wide middle lands of the political spectrum, preach that the great failing of the political right and political left is an unwillingness to compromise."

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/01/26/jack-spencer-moderates-just-wont-compromise/*

Press Releases

Speaker Cotter announces new committee assignments

"Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, today issued the following statement announcing new committee assignments for the House of Representatives:"

Source: *House Speaker Kevin Cotter* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422316679_Committees.pdf*

Michigan Municipal League Issues Statement in Support of May Road Funding Ballot Initiative

"The following is Michigan Municipal League's statement in support of the May 5 ballot proposal on transportation funding. The statement can be attributed to Wakefield Mayor Pro Tem Richard Bolen, President of the Michigan Municipal League Board of Trustees."

Source: *Michigan Municipal League/Martin Waymire* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422309108_MML.pdf*

OAKLAND COUNTY ADULT TREATMENT COURT CELEBRATES 41st COMMENCEMENT

*"**When: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 – 2:00 pm** "*

Source: *Oakland County* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422308813_Oakland.pdf

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Muskegon Woman Wins $1 Million Lotto 47 Jackpot from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Jan. 26, 2015** – A Muskegon woman filed her bank account with cash today after winning a $1 million Lotto 47 jackpot over the weekend. "*

Source: *MI Lottery Bureau* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422308662_lottery.pdf

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What About The Seats?

"It's hard at times to know what should and should not be shared with people about the mechanical processes of official government, nor what is even worth sharing, and how it affects them. As a representative my first duty is of course to God, then to my family, then my home district, and finally to the great people of our state that truly want a voice that is uncompromising in its advocacy for the cause of freedom and liberty. All of this should be done with a sense of decorum and civility that is due the respect of the office with which I have been entrusted. "

Source: *Rep. Todd Courser* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422308265_Seats?.pdf

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Cliff Vennix, longtime agribusiness leader, receives MABA "Leaders and Legends" award

*"LANSING - The **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** recently presented **Clifford "Cliff" Vennix** of Auburn with the "Leaders and Legends" award for his commitment to growing Michigan's agriculture industry. **MABA** president **Jim Byrum** presented the award at the Association's 2015 Winter Conference in Lansing."*

Source: *MI Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422308170_MABA2.pdf

MABA recognizes Sutherland, Needler, Co-op Elevator Co. for industry leadership

*"LANSING - Two individuals and one company have been honored for their commitment to the **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** and Michigan's agriculture sector during MABA's recent Winter Conference in Lansing."*

Source: *MI Agri-Business Association* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422308044_MABA1.pdf

Public open house to discuss reconstruction of I-96/Cascade Road interchange

"Public open house to discuss the planned 2015-16 reconstruction of the I-96/Cascade Road interchange in Grand Rapids Township. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and township officials will be available for questions and comments. "

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422307960_MDOTOpen.pdf

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Senator Stabenow Introduces Measure to Stop U.S. Postal Service Facilities Closures

*"**WASHINGTON D.C.** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow today introduced an amendment that would stop the U.S. Postal Service from continuing the closure of facilities for two years, preventing delays in services that will impact Michigan families and small businesses. Sen. Stabenow joined Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and 11 other senators in authoring this amendment to legislation currently before the Senate. The amendment would also re-establish overnight delivery standards for first-class mail."*

Source: *Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422307836_Stabenow.pdf

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What's New for Pure Michigan Visitors in 2015

"LANSING – A new year brings new attractions and events throughout the state of Michigan. In 2015, visitors to the state will find a diverse offering of new and improved things to do, places to stay, food to eat and activities to explore."

Source: *Pure Michigan* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422307688_PureMI.pdf

Detroit Physician Summarily Suspended

"The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice medicine of Carl Dennis Fowler, M.D., based on his convictions in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan. "

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422294326_detlara.pdf

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South Haven Physician Assistant Summarily Suspended

"The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a physician assistant of James Lander Wertheimer, P.A., based on his conviction in the United States District Court, District of South Carolina."

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422294261_lara.pdf

2015 College Goal Sunday Helps Students, Families File for Financial Aid

"

LANSING – College-bound students and their families can find help in February tackling the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA from hundreds of 2015 MI College Goal volunteers at 30 sites across Michigan."
Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422294129_ed.pdf

Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program accepting applications for 2015-2016

"Applications currently are being accepted for the Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program for the 2015 spring, summer and fall and 2016 winter residencies. The Artist-in-Residence Program is open to artists and artisans whose work can be influenced by the unique northern wilderness setting of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park – also known as "the Porkies.""

Source: *Michigan Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422293955_ppine.pdf

Tickets for New Lucky For Life Game on Sale Tomorrow from the Michigan Lottery

*"**LANSING, Mich., Jan. 26, 2015** – Michigan Lottery players will have a chance to win $1,000 a day for life when tickets for a new game, Lucky For Life, go on sale tomorrow."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422290946_lot2.pdf

Michigan Department of Education Press Release

"

LANSING – State Superintendent Mike Flanagan today told hundreds of local school superintendents that he is supporting the statewide ballot initiative that will raise funds to improve Michigan's roads and bridges, and schools."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422290143_ballot.pdf

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WMU-Cooley Graduation Sunday in Lansing

"On Sunday, Jan. 25, WMU-Cooley Law School will hold commencement exercises at the Wharton Center in East Lansing, Mich. This will be the school's second graduating class since Cooley Law School and Western Michigan University affiliated in August 2014. The keynote will be presented by State Bar of Michigan President Thomas Rombach."

Source: *SeyferthPR* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422289244_cooley.pdf

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Clinton County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery

"

***LANSING, Mich., Jan. 26, 2015** – A Clinton County educator known for using nature-focused activities, such as sampling and testing water from Lake Michigan and a local river, to help students learn about science has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422288998_loto.pdf

Michigan's Path to Advanced Energy Economy Hinges on Eliminating Barriers, Implementing Actio

"

Michigan has multiple opportunities to reap the economic benefits of a world transitioning from fossil-fuel based energy sources to advanced energy technologies that will power the century ahead, provided it can eliminate the barriers that stand in the way. Those barriers range from transactional and organizational issues to barriers that are economic and policy-based. That is among the findings outlined in Barriers to Advanced Energy in Michigan, a report by the Institute for Energy Innovation (IEI) funded by the C.S. Mott Foundation with support from The Energy Foundation.
"

Source: *Public Relations* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422288868_barriers.pdf

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DNR announces name of new hiking and bicycling trail from Belle Isle to Ironwood

"We asked and you answered – to the tune of nearly 9,000 name suggestions for Michigan's planned, statewide hiking and bicycling trail stretching from Belle Isle Park in Detroit to Ironwood in the western Upper Peninsula. The Department of Natural Resources today announced this showcase trail will officially be called Michigan's Iron Belle Trail."

Source: *MIDNR* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422285586_dnrbike.pdf

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Michigan Veterinary Conference offers state of the art technology and networking opportunities

*"**Lansing, Mich.** –Veterinarians and veterinary professionals from across the state will learn about cutting edge medicine, network with colleagues, and learn the best ways to work with staff and clients at the Michigan Veterinary Conference (MVC) Jan. 30 – Feb. 1, 2015 at the Lansing Center. The conference is put together by the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) and Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine."*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422285471_vet.pdf

Consumers Energy Crews to Travel to East Coast on Monday, Ready to

Help as Blizzard Approaches

"

JACKSON, Mich., Jan. 25, 2015 –
Consumers Energy is mobilizing more than 50
employees and equipment to assist New York
and New England energy providers bracing
for a severe winter storm expected Monday and Tuesday
"

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422285288_conenergy.pdf

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Lopsided income growth in Michigan

"The top 1 percent in Michigan took home 25 times more than the bottom 99 percent in 2012, according to new analysis published by the Economic Policy Institute for EARN -- the Economic Analysis and Research Network. "

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422285119_growth.pdf

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MTA welcomes new lobbyist

*"**Delta Charter Township, Mich.**—The Michigan Townships Association (MTA) welcomes a new member to its team. Justin Dickman recently joined the Association as a lobbyist. In his new role as legislative counsel, he will advocate for townships and lobby state lawmakers."*

Source: *Michigan Townships Association* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422284352_lob.pdf

Pavlov tours Michigan Sugar Company

*"Companies like Michigan Sugar are one of the reasons the state's agricultural economy is booming' **LANSING**—Sen. Phil Pavlov on Friday toured the Bay City production facility of the third largest beet sugar processor in the United States, Michigan Sugar Company."*

Source: *Senator Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422284264_philpavl.pdf

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Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development and Chinese

Delegation Sign Formal Agreement

"

LANSING, Mich. *- The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) hosted a Chinese Delegation from the Jiangsu Province today in Lansing. The goal of the delegation was to learn more about Michigan's aquaculture industry along with agreeing upon a shared commitment to foster mutual understanding and opportunities between Michigan and the Jiangsu Province. "*

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422284112_mdar.pdf*

MDOT statement on Detroit People Mover derailment

"***January 23, 2015 --*** *The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) commends the Detroit People Mover (DPM) in its efforts to safely evacuate passengers from a derailed train last night."*

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422283971_mdot.pdf*

Snyder Media Advisory for Sunday, Jan. 25 and Monday, Jan. 26

"***Monday, Jan. 26 at 2 PM***
Snyder will share his second-term priorities at the Michigan Civil Rights Commission meeting."

Source: *Executive Office of the Governor* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422283698_sma.pdf*

MI Lead Coalition To Give Women a Stronger Voice in Michigan

"

Nonpartisan Coalition of More Than 30 Groups Seeks to Protect Women's Rights, Empower Women By Giving Them More Say in State Policies
WHO*: MI Lead Co-Directors Merissa Kovach and Lara Chelian; Kaitlyn Vitale, Law Students for Reproductive Justice; Viktoria Krajnc, Medical Students for Choice; Shirley Zeller, Business & Professional Women; Kindra Speech, Center for Education of Women, University of Michigan; and Erin Keyes, R.N., health professional."*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422283733_strongw.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder makes reappointments to Workers' Compensation Board of Magistrates

"LANSING, Michigan – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced eight reappointments to the Workers' Compensation Board of Magistrates."

Source: *Executive Office of the Governor* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422283339_compensation.pdf

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Keller Named Motor Carrier Officer of the Year

"

***LANSING**. Michigan State Police (MSP) Director Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue is pleased to announce that MC Ofcr. Christopher Keller of the Alpena Post is the recipient of the 2014 Motor Carrier Officer of the Year Award. Keller received the award at a special ceremony in Lansing.*
"

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422283200_keller.pdf

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Gaylord Post Trooper Named Trooper of the Year

*"**LANSING.** Michigan State Police (MSP) Director Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue is pleased to announce that Tpr. Corey Hebner of the Gaylord Post is the 2014 recipient of the Dr. Carl A. Gerstacker Trooper of the Year Award. Hebner received the award at a special ceremony in Lansing."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422282975_hebner.pdf

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Michigan Workers Embracing Workplace Freedom as Union Membership Plummets

*"**LANSING, MI, January 23, 2015** –Michigan Freedom Fund President Greg McNeilly issued the following statement today, as new data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics showed union membership in Michigan dropping significantly in 2014: "As Michigan workers become aware of their rights, more and more are choosing freedom, opting out of their unions, and keeping dues money in their family's bank accounts, not their union boss's.""*

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422262685_miworkers.pdf

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First bats to die from white-nose syndrome this winter reported in Keweenaw County

"Today, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced that it has received the first reports this winter of bats dying from white-nose syndrome. Members of the public found dead bats outside the opening of an abandoned copper mine near Mohawk in Keweenaw County and reported it to DNR field staff."

Source: *Michigan Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422282404_bats.pdf

Theme development - a key topic at AIPH Expo Conference

*"How to identify and implement the right expo theme will be a key takeaway from the new, **AIPH Expo Conference** taking place on Thursday, 19 March 2015 in Paris, France."*

Source: *International Association of Horticultural Producers* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422262243_keytopic.pdf

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HRC Highlights Michigan's LGBT Protections, Laws and Legislative Proposals in National Report

*"**WASHINGTON** – The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization, in partnership with the Equality Federation, today released its first national report assessing the status of state legislation affecting LGBT equality across America, including in Michigan."*

Source: *Human Rights Campaign* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422282124_humrights.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts React to West Virginia Legislature's Repeal of Renewable Power Mandates

"The West Virginia House today passed a bill that would repeal the state's Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio by a vote of 95-4. The state Senate unanimously passed a similar bill earlier this week, and a unified bill will soon be sent to the desk of West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D). If signed, the new law will mean the state no longer must generate at least 25 percent of its power from renewable sources – such as solar and wind –

by 2025."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *01-27-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1422282022_heartland.pdf

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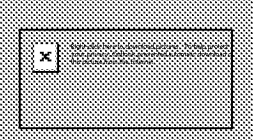
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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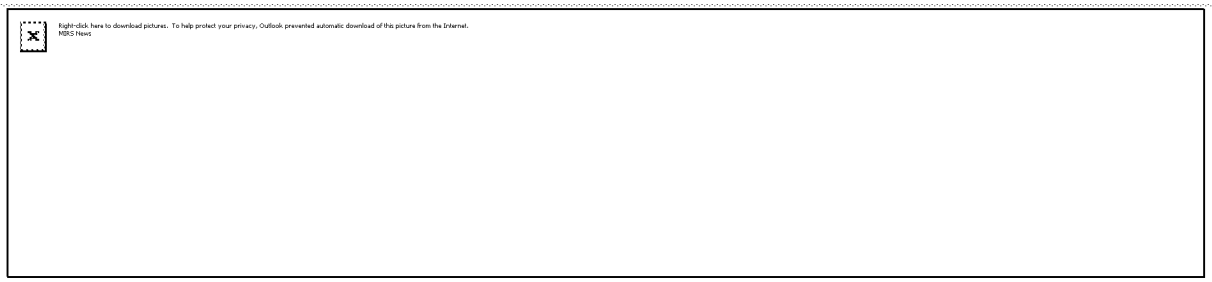

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Class action lawsuit claims Snyder, Flint put water cost above safety

"FLINT -- City and state officials supplied highly toxic water to Flint residents solely because it was the cheaper option, attorneys seeking a class action lawsuit claimed in a news conference today, Nov. 16."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/class_action_lawsuit_claims_sn.html#incart_river_home*

'People should be outraged' by allowing guns at school, Grand Rapids superintendent says

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Grand Rapids Superintendent Teresa Weatherall Neal and a school board committee are recommending the district oppose gun legislation that would allow concealed carry instead of open carry in schools."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/supeintendent_says_people_shou.html#incart_river_index*

Candice Miller: Gov. Snyder's prior willingness to accept Syrian refugees was 'off the mark'

"U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Twp., joined WJR 760 AM host Paul W. Smith on Monday to make clear her concerns regarding the U.S. accepting Syrian refugees in the wake of Friday's terrorist bombings in Paris.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/candice_miller_gov_snyders_pri.html#incart_river_index

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Cindy Gamrat's husband behind 'extortion' texts, bugging her, says police report

"LANSING, MI -- Besides orchestrating blackmail texts threatening to expose an affair between his wife and former Rep. Todd Courser, a police report released Monday shows Joe Gamrat planted recording devices and extracted information about his wife from legislative staff."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrats_husband_behind_e.html#incart_river_index*

Lead-exposed Flint kids need better nutrition now, Stabenow says

"FLINT, MI – Michigan's senior U.S. senator says Flint needs its water problems fixed and questions answered, but also needs to get lead-exposed children better access to good nutrition."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/stabenow_says_shes_working_to.html#incart_river_home

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National group defends Schuette on pollution fight

"The Republican Attorneys General Association is rushing to the aid of Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, airing a cable television ad to counter other ads portraying Schuette as a friend of corporate polluters."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/schuette-ads/75873326/

Army Corps gets $1.35M to study upgrade for Soo Locks

"Washington — The Obama administration has approved $1.35 million in funding that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requested for a cost-benefit study of an additional shipping lock on the river that connects Lakes Huron and Superior."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/army-corps-engineer-fed-funds/75903696/

Snyder among at least a dozen governors not taking Syrian refugees

"Northville Township — After Gov. Rick Snyder suspended the acceptance of Syrian refugees following the Paris killings and bombings in Lebanon last week, the governors of at least 12 other states followed suit as President Barack Obama defended his policy of taking in 10,000 more Syrians next year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/16/syrian-refugees-governors-glance/75868806/

Report: Joe Gamrat denied he planned threatening texts

"Lapeer — The husband of former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat twice denied to a Michigan State Police investigator that he was the source of anonymous text messages his wife and then-Rep. Todd Courser received in May threatening to expose their affair if they didn't resign from office."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/report-joe-gamrat-denied-planned-threatening-texts/75894386/

Michigan's delay on Syrian refugees spurs debate

"The decision to suspend moving Syrian refugees into Michigan is drawing mixed reactions from Metro Detroiters, opening up debate on the region's role as a haven for Mideast immigrants."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/2015/11/16/michigan-syrian-refugees-reaction/75908874/

Snyder suspends Syrian refugee effort in Michigan

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder's decision to suspend efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan in light of the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday has sparked controversy and launched the state into the national debate of how to protect U.S. citizens while providing a haven for those who desperately need help."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/15/snyder-suspends-efforts-settle-syrian-refugees/75825736/

Judge: Firm to turn over coding for Express SOS system

"LANSING — A Kent County judge on Monday ordered a computer firm to turn over to the State of Michigan the "source code" for the Express SOS online vehicle registration system, giving the state a partial victory in its ongoing legal fight with a fired contractor."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/judge-firm-turn-over-coding-express-sos-system/75873040/*

Gamrat husband ID'd as person who sent Courser texts

"Lapeer County Prosecutor Timothy Turkelson said he will not file charges in the case of anonymous text messages sent to former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat in an effort to get them to end an extramarital affair."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/gamrat-husband-idd-person-who-sent-courser-texts/75862402/*

Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition

"WASHINGTON — Gov. Rick Snyder's announcement Sunday that he would back off — at least temporarily — from an effort to relocate Syrian refugees in Michigan set off a wave of even stronger opposition by governors across the U.S. on Monday, with several saying they would reject outright any attempts to resettle Syrians in their states."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/snyder-clarifies-stance-syrian-refugees-michigan/75865256/*

Voting on UAW-Ford contract to enter crucial 2nd phase

"The ratification process of the UAW's proposed national agreement with Ford will enter a crucial second phase on Tuesday as workers at plants representing 45% of the automaker's total workforce begin to weigh in on the contract."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/11/16/setback-uaw-ford-deal-2-plant-no-votes/75866214/*

Funding approved for Soo Lock study

"WASHINGTON — Michgan's U.S. senators said Monday night that the Army Corps of Engineers and the Office of Management and Budget has agreed to move $1.35 million into a cost-benefit study which could potentially lead to a new super-size shipping lock being built in Sault Ste. Marie someday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/16/funding-approved-soo-lock-study/75901350/*

Should Michigan change tax law to lure $5B data center?

"A vacant Grand Rapids site could become the largest data center in the eastern half of the United States but only if the Michigan legislature grants the company a tax break potentially worth millions of dollars."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/11/16/data-center-switch-steelcase-grand-rapids-pyramid/75896236/*

Advocacy/Opinion

State Legislature, heal thyself

"

Since convening 10 months ago, the current Michigan Legislature has cracked down on local minimum wage requirements, authorized commercial quadricycles to serve alcohol, and even addressed (however inadequately) the chronic underfunding of state roads.
"

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567629/State-Legislature--heal-thyself.html?nav=5052*

Editor's Note: Clinton shuns charter schools

"Hillary Clinton doesn't like charter schools anymore. While this won't come as a surprise to many school choice advocates, it's a telling move on the part of the Democratic presidential frontrunner."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/17/jacques-clinton-shuns-charters/75909562/*

Lupher: Initiative petition process cries for reform

"We are about one year away from the 2016 general election and efforts are in full swing to qualify initiated statutes and constitutional amendments for that statewide ballot. Already we're seeing evidence with those efforts of the dysfunction that we've come to associate with the law/amendment drafting, petition circulation process, and voter information that comes with ballot questions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/17/opinion-reform-michiagn-initiative-petition-process/75909610/*

Help available for those struggling with utility costs

"As temperatures begin to drop and forecasts of snow loom, the Coalition to Keep Michigan Warm is working to educate the public about options for energy assistance. With needs likely to outweigh funding from the state, it's important to plan ahead."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/17/help-available-utility-costs/75909614/*

Why collective bargaining still works

"The recently concluded negotiations between the Detroit 3 and the UAW shows the benefits of collective bargaining in a democratic society. The parties reached accords in a manner devoid of media hype to serve the interests of their employees, companies and communities. Their agreements impact the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of workers and affect a large swath of the U.S. economy, with global repercussions. Given recent attacks on unions and collective bargaining, it behooves us to elaborate the benefits of this longstanding and legally sanctioned workplace decision-making process between labor and management."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/16/why-collective-bargaining-still-works/75881774/*

Press Releases

TCRPC's Turkey Drive is wrapping up this upcoming Friday!

"Since the beginning of November, we have been collecting donations for the Greater Lansing Food Bank, a non-profit organization providing emergency food to individuals and families in need. There will be a collection at our reception desk until Friday, November 20! Look for the big turkey and add a feather(s) to represent your donation!"

Source: *Tri-County Regional Planning Commission* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447711567_tcrpc.pdf*

Camphous-Peterson Forms Campaign Committee for State House of Representatives Race

"HARRISON TOWNSHIP — Dana Camphous-Peterson announced today that she has filed the necessary paperwork to form a campaign committee to run for the state House of Representatives in House District 24. The seat is currently held by term-limited Republican Rep. Anthony Forlini."

Source: *Dana Camphous-Peterson* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447709230_filing.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flag in honor of victims of the Paris terror attacks

"Lansing, MI. – Gov. Rick Snyder joins President Barack Obama's proclamation to lower Michigan and U.S. flags to half-staff today through sunset on Thursday, Nov. 19 in honor of the victims of the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in Paris, France."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447706192_gov.pdf

Progress Michigan Statement on AG Bill Schuette's New Role

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan is calling attention to Attorney General Bill Schuette's new role as Chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA). Attorney General Schuette will serve in his new capacity in the coming year."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707401_prog 3.55.51 PM.pdf

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Hunting Access Program hunters: remember to register at HAP headquarters before hunting

"Michigan's Hunting Access Program has been providing great hunting opportunities in areas with limited access for hunters since 1977. With properties stretching across southern Michigan and a portion of the eastern Upper Peninsula, the program currently allows public hunting on 19,000 acres of privately owned lands."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707313_dnr.pdf

Pending Passage of Legislation, Nevada-Based Company, Switch, Will Choose Michigan As Site For New 2

"LAS VEGAS - November 16, 2015 – After substantial consideration in the search for its eastern U.S. data center campus, Switch has announced that upon the passage of three-data center bills currently in the Michigan Legislature, Michigan will be home to the company's new 2 million square-foot, five-billion dollar SUPERNAP data center campus. The total capital investment reflects the costs for both the data centers and the computer servers that will be placed inside the buildings over a multi-year period. SUPERNAP Michigan will be the largest data center campus in the eastern U.S. and will serve the company's current clients in geographic redundancy and new clients with national connectivity."

Source: *Switch* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707276_switch.pdf*

Southbound I-75 scheduled to re-open Nov. 16

*"**November 16, 2015** – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will reopen the southbound lanes of I-75 south of Saginaw today, marking the end of the first phase of the I-75 expansion between Hess Road and Dixie Highway. Work on this year's portion of the overall two-year, $45 million investment included reconstructing the King Road, Hess Road and Baker Road bridges over I-75. The King Road bridge was opened in June, while crews opened the newly rebuilt Hess Road bridge to traffic last week. The Baker Road bridge is nearly complete and should open to traffic by Friday, Nov. 20."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705954_mdot.pdf

Bishop: U.S. Must Pause, Develop Protocols for Syrian Refugees

*"**WASHINGTON** – During a House Judiciary Committee hearing with FBI Director James Comey last month, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) voiced concerns about the vetting of Syrian refugees who wish to enter the United States, specifically the state of Michigan. Director Comey told Rep. Bishop that while the intelligence community has "gotten better at querying our holdings," there is little to no data on many of their refugees – which means the vetting process is not "risk-free.""*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705911_bishop.pdf

U.P. Focus: Firearm deer season opens with improvement over last year

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources staff said Sunday's opening day of the firearm deer hunting season was improved in some parts of the Upper Peninsula over last year, based on reports from deer check stations."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705852_dnr.pdf

Snyder's Rhetoric on Refugees is Cowardly and Hypocritical

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan lambasted Gov. Rick Snyder for his cowardly reversal on accepting Syrian refugees into Michigan. Previously, Snyder had said Michigan would roll out the welcome mat for those fleeing violence and terrorism abroad. "

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447704855_gov.pdf

Macomb County Circuit Court to Celebrate Adoption Day

"Macomb County Circuit Court will celebrate Adoption Day on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. and will be held on the second floor of the Circuit Court Building, 40 N. Main Street, Mount Clemens, Michigan."

Source: *Macomb County Circuit Court* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447703589_macomb.pdf

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Livonia Woman Wins $1.3 Million Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Jackpot

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015** – The shock of winning a $1.3 million jackpot playing the Michigan Lottery's Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle hasn't worn off for a Livonia woman."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447702024_lottery.pdf

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National Emergency Preparedness Program Offered to Michigan's Fifth-Grade Students

*"**LANSING.** The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is offering elementary schools across the state an opportunity to enroll their fifth-graders in the Student Tools for Emergency Planning program. Known as STEP, this classroom curriculum enables teachers to prepare students for various emergencies, including tornadoes, flooding and storms."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447701984_police.pdf

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Rep. Runestad's bills protect state from possible terrorists

"State Rep. Jim Runestad recently drafted legislation giving state and local governments the ability to regulate which refugees are allowed to resettle in their communities, as well as suspending an existing admission program until the state's system of vetting the backgrounds of refugees can be reviewed."

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447703625_runestad.pdf

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New Report Reveals that Mortgages Over $500,000 are Rare in the U.S.

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – A Rare Occurrence: The Geography and Race of Mortgages Over $500,000, released today by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), reveals that only 5% of the mortgages obtained in the past three years in the U.S. were larger than $500,000 and that lowering the Mortgage Interest Deduction (MID) cap to $500,000 would have no impact on the majority of homeowners nationwide given the rarity of mortgages over that amount. "

Source: *National Low Income Housing Coalition* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447701090_nlihc.pdf*

Loving homes needed for 300 children in state's foster care system; November is Adoption Month in Mi

"LANSING, Mich. – Close to 300 children in Michigan's foster care system are waiting for adoptive families to open their hearts and homes."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447700082_dhhs.pdf*

Phil Pavlov Signs The ObamaCare Repeal Pledge

"St. Clair, Michigan — Today, Independent Women's Voice announced that Phil Pavlov (R-MI) has signed the ObamaCare Repeal Pledge. Pavlov is a candidate for Congress in Michigan's 10th Congressional district."

Source: *Independent Women's Voice* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447698219_iwv.pdf*

Michigan Department of Transportation Rumble Strip Initiative Honored with a National Roadway Safety

"(Washington, DC) -- During a national awards ceremony on Capitol Hill, the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today honored the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for its efforts to reduce run-off-the-road and fatal crashes caused by lane departure. MDOT's initiative was one of 10 recognized with a 2015 National Roadway Safety Award. "

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697499_mdot.pdf*

Huizenga Legislation To Reform The Federal Reserve on the Floor This Week

"WASHINGTON – The House is scheduled to vote next week on legislation designed to improve the

economy's performance by making the Federal Reserve more accountable and transparent."

Source: *Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697426_huizenga.pdf

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One thousand jobs targeted for veterans through MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer program

"LANSING, Mich. – Nearly 1,000 good-paying jobs are ready to be filled by veterans at companies throughout Michigan that recognize and respect their military skills, training and experience."

Source: *Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697365_mvaa.pdf

Give something that means something - Give blood or host a blood drive

"(Nov. 16, 2015) – The American Red Cross encourages individuals and organizations to give something that means something this winter by making a lifesaving blood donation or hosting a blood drive."

Source: *American Red Cross* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697302_redcross.pdf

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The 2015 MVCA Annual Awards Dinner is right around the corner!

"At the 2015 Annual Awards Dinner on November 30, the Michigan Venture Capital Association will honor Michigan's top investors and entrepreneurs, and celebrate the Great Lakes Region's venture capital successes. Honorees include Duo Security with the MVCA "100" Award, Mina Sooch with the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and Arboretum Ventures with the Capital Event of the Year Award. Trillium Ventures' founder and general partner Tom Porter is receiving the MVCA Lifetime Achievement Award. The evening of the dinner, MVCA will also announce the winner of a new award, the "Up and Coming Investor of the Year", in recognition of a new investor making their mark on the entrepreneurial and investment community in Michigan."

Source: *Michigan Venture Capitol Association* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447692671_mvca.pdf

MSU releases comprehensive assessments of state takeovers and Flint during emergency manager years

"EAST LANSING, Michigan – Many cities in the United States are dealing with fiscal pressures, but no other state has dealt with more challenges at the municipal level than Michigan, most dramatically exemplified by the Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing of Detroit, the largest municipal bankruptcy filing in history. Policy changes at the state level allow the state to take over, through the appointment of emergency managers, school districts

and even entire cities. "

Source: *Michigan State University* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447691507_msu.pdf*

Progress Michigan Launches 'Sunshine Squad' Website and Campaign

"LANSING — On the heels of a recent report showing Michigan sitting dead last in the United States when it comes to ethics and transparency laws, as well as numerous problems with cronyism and secrecy from some of the state's elected officials, Progress Michigan today launched a new website as part of a broader "Sunshine Squad" campaign that aims to make the Michigan legislature more accountable."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447691449_*

DNR conservation officers find lost hunter and deer tracker in Gladwin County

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers were successful early Saturday in locating a lost bowhunter and a friend of his who had tagged along to help track a wounded deer in Gladwin County."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447687939_dnr.pdf*

SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES GRETCHEN DRISKELL FOR CONGRESS

*"**Saline, MI**: The Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club today announced its endorsement of Gretchen Driskell (democrat) in the 2016 election in Michigan's 7th Congressional District."*

Source: *Sierra Club of Michigan* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447687168_sierra.pdf*

The inside scoop on Ready for Hillary

"As Ready for Hillary's first staff member, I had the opportunity to be part this movement from the very beginning. I came in when Ready for Hillary was just two volunteers and a P.O. Box, and I watched as you helped us grow into a movement powered by 4 million grassroots supporters."

Source: *Ready for Hillary PAC* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447687097_hillary.pdf*

Time Running Out For $50,000 Fantasy 5 Winner to Claim Big Prize!

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015** – Only two weeks remain for the winner of a $50,000 Fantasy 5 prize to claim the big pile of cash!"*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681489_lottery.pdf

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Army Veteran, Tax Accountant and Media Owner to sue the State of Michigan over violation of "Headlee

"Army Veteran, Tax Accountant and Media Owner to sue the State of Michigan over violation of "Headlee" - Tax Limitation Amendment Michigan politics in 2015 has been a real battle, fighting our term limited Gov. Rick Snyder and his agenda to raise fuel taxes and registration fees to provide road maintenance and bridge repairs."

Source: *Patriot Voice Radio Network* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681276_veteran.pdf

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Statement on second Democratic debate

*"**LANSING, Mich., Nov. 14, 2015 –** Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDanielon Saturday released the following statement regarding the second Democratic Presidential Primary debate:"*

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681156_mrp.pdf

Peters Statement on Paris Terror Attacks

*"**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) released the following statement after the attacks in Paris:"*

Source: *Sen. Gary Peters* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681110_peters.pdf

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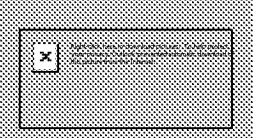
Bishop Statement on Terror Attacks in France

*"**WASHINGTON** – In response to the terror attacks in Paris tonight, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *11-17-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681069_bishop.pdf

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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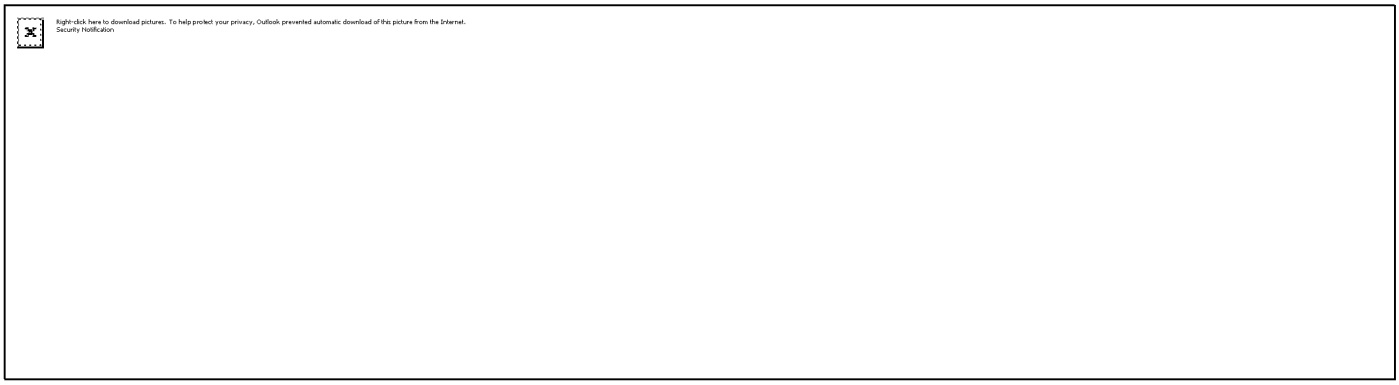
From: DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM
To: Bailey, Sandra (DTMB)
Subject: Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



Protest Activity

Date/Time:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Details:

Please be aware that there is a protest event planned for today, October 28, outside of the Constitution Hall from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The event is being held in response to the water condition in Flint. Please plan your daily activities with this in mind as a large turnout for this event is anticipated. DTMB and MSP will be working together to monitor the situation.

Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov or 517-373-6227

This email was sent to baileys5@michigan.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of DTMB · Lewis Cass Building · 320 South Walnut Street Lansing, MI 48933 · 517-373-1004

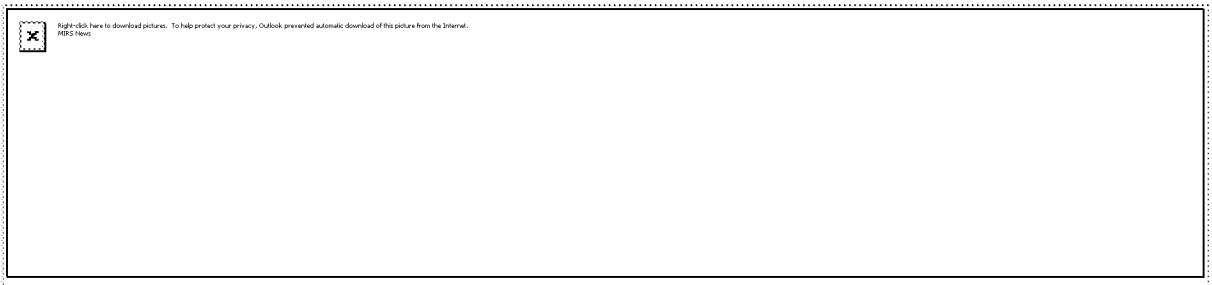
From: Bankowski, Jeffrey S. (DTMB)
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 7:05 AM
To: Lowe, Richard (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

Good article on Snyder and cyber security at U of M

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Date: October 23, 2015 at 6:51:31 AM EDT
To: <bankowskij@michigan.gov>
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Fuel taxes, registration fees and tax relief: 14 things to know about new House GOP roads plan

"LANSING, MI - With bipartisan road funding negotiations stuck in neutral, Michigan House Republicans on Wednesday night introduced and quickly approved a new $1.2 billion plan, responding to external pressures with a shot across the bow."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/fuel_taxes_registration_fees_a.html#incart_river*

Michigan congressman asks FBI chief how refugees are vetted

"DETROIT, MI -- U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, asked FBI Director James Comey during a House Judiciary Committee oversight hearing Thursday about the process of vetting incoming refugees from the Middle East."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_congressman_asks_fbi.html#incart_river*

Freedom Caucus' Amash backs Ryan for speaker

"Washington — U.S. Rep. Justin Amash of Cascade Township said he is among the Republican conservative hard-liners who have decided to back Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan's bid to become the next speaker of the House."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/freedom-caucus-amash-backs-ryan-speaker/74387918/*

Jeb Bush attends Oakland County fundraiser

"Lansing — Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush was back in Michigan on Thursday for an evening fundraiser in Oakland County for his presidential campaign — his fourth visit to the state this year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/jeb-bush-oakland-county-fundraiser/74401554/*

Kilpatrick likely to appeal to U.S. Supreme Court

"Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick likely will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn his public corruption conviction and 28-year prison sentence, his lawyer said Thursday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/22/kilpatrick-loses-another-appeal-bid/74389488/*

New Michigan roads plan strains budget, but 'doable'

"Lansing — The latest legislative plan for fixing Michigan's crumbling roadways would divert $806 million from the state's $10 billion general fund plus untold hundreds of millions in future income tax reductions when fully implemented by 2021."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/new-michigan-roads-plan-strains-budget-doable/74415404/*

UAW to push for richer deal at GM

"The United Auto Workers will push for a richer deal with General Motors Co. than it did at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, where members overwhelmingly supported a sweetened, four-year contract in a second round of voting this week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/10/22/uaw-gm/74407652/

Michigan State Police using cell snooping devices

"For nearly a decade, the Michigan State Police has had secretive cellphone tracking devices that were bought to fight terrorism but instead are used to solve everyday crimes, internal documents show."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/22/stingray/74438668/

Tiny NW Michigan town sends nearly all to college

"Baldwin — Unlike many of his peers before him, David Simmons is determined to go to college."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/22/baldwin-promise-college-scholarship-program/74438244/

Everything we know about the House roads package

"LANSING State lawmakers have been trying for years to reach an agreement to raise an extra $1.2 billion a year to fix and maintain Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges, and the latest development is a package of bills Republicans in the state House passed Wednesday with almost no Democratic support."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/everything-we-know-house-roads-package/74389832/

Kwame Kilpatrick to appeal to U.S. Supreme Court

"The defiant ex-Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick isn't giving up his fight for freedom, as he is now heading to the U.S. Supreme Court, hoping the nation's highest court overturns his public corruption conviction that sent him to prison for 28 years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/22/ex-detroit-mayor-kwame-kilpatrick-loses-appeal-again/74386772/

Michigan poised for big shift in how it pays for roads

"LANSING -- Michigan would make a major shift in the way it pays to fix and maintain roads — away from user fees in favor of increased reliance on general fund dollars — if the Legislature gives final approval to either of the plans being considered by lawmakers and Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/michigan-poised-big-shift-how-pays-roads/74379470/

Agencies reject discrimination claims by MDOT official

"LANSING -- State and federal civil rights agencies have rejected complaints from a top official in the Michigan Department of Transportation that department Director Kirk Steudle discriminated against her because of her age and gender."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/agencies-reject-discrimination-claims-mdot-official/74379798/

FBI director: Planes over Dearborn not for mass spying

"At a congressional hearing on Thursday, FBI Director James Comey addressed the controversial spy planes that flew over Dearborn earlier this year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/22/dearborn-spy-plans-fbi-james-comey/74431132/

Michigan loses shot at $45 million for charter schools

"The U.S. Department of Education has rejected a $45-million grant request from Michigan to boost and expand charter schools, largely because the state lacks oversight of the authorizers who approve and oversee them."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/23/michigan-loses-shot-at-charter-grant/73997230/

Gov. Snyder says $1.2B House road funding plan is positive, but needs 'extensive analysis'

"The Michigan House Republicans introduced and approved a $1.2 billion road funding plan Wednesday night despite little support from their Democratic counterparts, but before taxpayers see hikes in gas taxes and fees, the bill still has to make it past the Senate and Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_snyder_says_houses_12b_roa.html#incart_river_home*

Gov. Rick Snyder shares story of identity theft during U-M cyber security conference

"It's been nearly 10 years, but Michigan's multimillionaire governor Rick Snyder was on the receiving end of phone calls and letters from debt collectors who demanded he pay the bills that were racked up in his name."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_rick_snyder_shares_story_o.html#incart_river_home*

Advocacy/Opinion

Shields: Make a rational investment in higher education

"As college students in Michigan begin making their way to their chosen institution, they are filled with anticipation and high hopes for a successful year. They are also filled with high hopes that their institutional choice is the right one. It is a high-stakes choice, in that one year of college can cost as much as a new automobile."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/08/27/shields-rational-investment-higher-education/32426155/*

Our Editorial: Keep momentum on roads solution

"The House late Wednesday passed a $1.2 billion road bill package that is far from perfect, but it's also far from a done deal. The bills now go to the Senate, where there is an opportunity to make them better.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/22/editorial-momentum-roads-*

solution/74431758/

Dear House GOP: Try harder

"Try again."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/22/dear-house-gop-try-harder/74389552/*

How Effective Will Law Cutting Welfare for Truancy Be?

"A new law that kicks in next June threatens to cut off cash welfare payments to low-income families whose children routinely skip school with no valid excuse. At first glance, this looks like a potentially effective get-tough policy, especially in communities where nearly half the students are labeled "chronically absent" by the state."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21837*

The Case for Energy Competition

"Opponents of electricity choice make two common arguments against injecting more competition in the energy industry: it will lead to higher prices and it will decrease investment in new energy generation. Fortunately, data are available to assess each of these claims, and a recent report by the Compete Coalition, a group of hundreds of electricity stakeholders, does just that."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21836*

In one tech-heavy cyber school, a low-tech strategy spurs learning

"From her desk in Okemos, third-grade teacher Kim Roberts welcomes students with a smile and a wave, and describes a book they're going to read together in class."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/in-one-tech-heavy-cyber-school-a-low-tech-strategy-spurs-learning/*

Three years later, jury still out on Michigan's cyber school expansion

"From his Lansing office, Gov. Rick Snyder read aloud a book about a goldfish and its fishbowl neighbors. As he finished each page, he turned the book around to face his computer screen and

smiled."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/two-years-later-jury-still-out-on-michigans-cyber-school-expansion/*

Building a path to better, higher-paying Michigan jobs

"Jon DeWys spent four years on a local school board and has a daughter who's a senior in high school thinking about different career tracks. He also is president and CEO of DeWys Manufacturing near Grand Rapids, a firm that has sometimes come up empty-handed while trying to hire skilled workers."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/building-a-path-to-better-higher-paying-michigan-jobs/*

Press Releases

Rep. Cole approves real solution to Michigan road-funding crisis

"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, voted to approve the House Republican road funding package today, including an amendment he offered that ensures every dollar in the $600 million reserve fund be directly contributed to fixing Michigan's roads and bridges."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445547516_COLE.pdf

Bishop on NDAA Veto: President Put Political Games Ahead of Responsible Governing

*"**WASHINGTON** – In response to President Obama's veto of the FY16 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) today, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Rep. Mike Bishop* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/144554866414_bishop.pdf

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Rep. Cole's bill to reform civil asset forfeiture signed into law by Gov.

"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Snyder signed five bills into law on Tuesday as he approved a bipartisan bill package to reform civil asset forfeiture laws. State Rep. Triston Cole of Mancelona, left, authored House Bill 4503 now Public Act No. 150 of 2015, which will safeguard oversight of civil forfeiture by ensuring that forfeiture funds are properly used and that state department agencies do not pursue an improper source of revenue. The approval of this landmark legislation will provide much need transparency to the forfeiture process and serves as a good starting point going forward with the new

forfeiture-reporting act."

Source: *Rep. Triston Cole* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546284_cole.pdf

Upton on POTUS Veto of Bipartisan NDAA: "It's Unacceptable"

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement after President Obama vetoed the 2016 Fiscal Year National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546219_upton.pdf

Kowall celebrates Apple Crunch Day

*"**LANSING, Mich. —** State Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall and his colleagues on Thursday stand at the Senate rostrum with Crimson Crisp Michigan apples as part of Michigan's third annual Apple Crunch Day."*

Source: *Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546163_kowall.pdf

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Michigan students set baseline for new state assessment

"LANSING – Michigan students have set the course for success when they took the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) this past spring, establishing a new baseline for performance, with statewide results available in the days ahead, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today."

Source: *Department of Education* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546044_mde.pdf

LOCAL ATTORNEYS TO STAR IN VETERANS PROJECT

"Peppermint Creek Theatre Company is proud to be in its 13th Season. Its Passion Statement is "to produce contemporary theatre that addresses vital issues in our society, raises awareness, and encourages dialog while entertaining." Peppermint Creek has stayed true to its purpose for all these years."

Source: *Ingham County Bar Foundation* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544226_ingham.pdf

Citizens Groups Back EPA Probe of Flint Drinking Water Crisis

"In a letter to the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today, the Ecology Center and Sierra Club today asked the EPA for a formal investigation into how the EPA and a state agency charged with drinking water safety handled Flint's drinking water crisis. "

Source: *Michigan Sierra Club* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544178_sierra.pdf

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Judge Economy Earns National Honors

"Recently, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) honored Ingham County Probate Judge R. George Economy at the 2015 Angels in Adoption™ ceremony held October 6-7, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Judge Economy was nominated for this award by U.S. Senator Gary Peters for his outstanding advocacy of adoption. For over 29 years, Judge Economy has been a probate judge and during that time has presided over more than 6,000 adoptions. Locally, Judge Economy is well recognized for his actions on adoption highlighted annually during the Christmas season. His actions and timing of the Court's actions has highlighted the need for and success that can be achieved by adoptions."

Source: *Ingham County Bar Foundation* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544126_ingham.pdf

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DEQ seeking input on water quality monitoring locations

"As part of its ongoing effort to improve surface water quality, the DEQ is seeking input on where to focus monitoring efforts."

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541747_deq.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder makes judicial appoints to Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court, Probate Court; Allen Par

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Adel Harb to the 3rd Circuit Court, Wayne County, and Lawrence Paolucci to the Wayne County Probate Court."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541698_gov.pdf

September Unemployment Rates Decline Seasonally in All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in September fell seasonally in all of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment was mixed over the month in the various areas while labor force levels decreased seasonally in the majority of regions."

Source: *Department of Technology, Management and Budget* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541229_dtmb.pdf*

Rep. Runestad testifies about need for organizational charts

"State Rep. Jim Runestad today testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Ethics, urging lawmakers to support his bill requiring all government departments to post easy-to-follow organizational charts so citizens can easily contact public servants."

Source: *Rep. Jim Runestad* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445540645_runestad.pdf*

USDA Awards Nearly $2.3 Billion in Loans for 77 Rural Electric Infrastructure Projects

"WASHINGTON, Oct. 22, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced nearly $2.3 billion in loans to build and improve rural electric infrastructure in 31 states."

Source: *Michigan USDA* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445540146_usda.pdf*

Upton Statement on Congressman Paul Ryan

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement after Congressman Paul Ryan met with members of the Tuesday Group, a caucus of the House Republican Conference. Upton is a founding member and the group focuses on crafting constructive solutions for challenges facing the American people."

Source: *Rep. Fred Upton* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445538584_upton.pdf*

2nd Annual "State of the Youth" Symposium

*"**Detroit -** Council Member Mary Sheffield has assembled an impressive line-up of **Grammy-nominated and critically-acclaimed national recording artists, radio personalities and***

political/civic leaders *to address students at Martin Luther King High School located in the heart of District 5. The Panel will come together for the* ***2nd Annual "State of the Youth" Symposium*** *to have an open and honest discussion about the challenges Black youth face today. The Symposium will take place in* ***Martin Luther King High School's Auditorium on Friday, October 23, 2015 from 10 A.M. - 12:00 P.M..***"

Source: *Detroit City Council* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445537030_detroit.pdf

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Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority gets inspection report, elects new officers

"***October 22, 2015*** *-- Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority (SSMBA) board members held their first meeting today in the board room of the new International Bridge administration building on the toll plaza."*

Source: *Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445536533_bridge.pdf

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Democratic Legislators Demand Action on Common-Sense Gun Safety Legislation

"LANSING — Bills that take aim at the ongoing problem of gun violence in Michigan were the subject of a press conference held today in Lansing. State Representatives ***Jim Townsend*** *(D-Royal Oak),* ***Robert Wittenberg*** *(D-Oak Park),* ***Stephanie Chang*** *(D-Detroit) and* ***Jeff Irwin*** *(D-Ann Arbor) outlined their common-sense gun safety measures and called for action on their legislation."*

Source: *Michigan House Democrats* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534570_dem.pdf

Latest House roads plan lacks specifics on budget cuts, is concerning for townships

"The following statement should be attributed to Larry Merrill, executive director of the Michigan Townships Association."

Source: *Michigan Townships Association* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534471_mta.pdf

Nearly 1 million children benefit from state's child support system

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan children benefit the most when financial support is given by both parents, the Michigan Department of Health and Human

Services is emphasizing during Child Support Month."

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534282_mdhhs.pdf*

Advanced energy businesses to legislature: Protect clean energy standards to reduce electricity cost

"LANSING—More than 60 advanced energy businesses today sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader ***Arlan Meekof (R-West Olive)*** *and House Speaker* ***Kevin Cotter (R-Mt. Pleasant)****, calling for protection and expansion of Michigan's clean energy standards to reduce costs for ratepayers, encourage innovation and spark investment."*

Source: *Byrum and Fisk* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534242_fisk.pdf*

Manufacturers Approve House Anti-Steel Dumping Resolution

"LANSING — The Michigan Manufacturers Association applauds the initiative of the Michigan House of Representatives for passing House Resolution 87, sponsored by Representative John Kivela (D-Marquette), urging the President and the U.S. Congress to take action to halt the illegal dumping of foreign steel into the U.S. market. H.R. 87 was adopted by the Michigan House on Thursday, 10/22/15."

Source: *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445533864_michmanu.pdf*

Statement: New roads plan hurts low earners, budget and future

"LANSING — The Michigan League for Public Policy issued the following statement on the new road funding plan passed by the Michigan House last night:"

Source: *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445528058_mlpp.pdf*

Michigan Natural Resources Commission travels to eastern Upper Peninsula

"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission took a whirlwind two-day trip to the eastern Upper Peninsula earlier this month for tours and meetings in Cedarville."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445528006_dnr.pdf*

Senate OKs Jones legislation to allow tax donations to American Red Cross

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved measures sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to allow residents to make voluntary donations on their state tax returns to help support the American Red Cross in Michigan."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527643_jones.pdf

Citizens for Fair Taxes Blast House GOP Roads Bill

"LANSING – Today the Citizens for Fair Taxes blasted Lansing Republicans for once again advancing a bill that targets middle class and working families with higher taxes and fees, while letting corporations off the hook. The Republican roads bill calls for an increase in the gas tax, higher vehicle registration fees, and a $600 million cut to the state's general fund, impacting public safety, healthcare, and other priorities—all while giving corporations yet another free pass on paying their fair share."

Source: *Citizens for Fair Taxes* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527310_fairtaxes.pdf

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Schuitmaker bills aiming to reduce drunk driving offenses, protect motorists pass Senate

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The state Senate on Thursday passed a package of bills sponsored by Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker that aims to reduce drunk driving offenses."*

Source: *Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527260_schuitmaker.pdf

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Sens. Gretchen Whitmer, Curtis Hertel endorse Nathan Triplett

*"EAST LANSING– Former Senate Democratic Leader **Gretchen Whitmer** and State Senator **Curtis Hertel** today announced their support for Nathan Triplett for reelection to East Lansing City Council."*

Source: *Byrum and Fisk* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524833_fisk.pdf

Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit set for Oct. 28 in East Lansing

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced today that the Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit will take place Wednesday, Oct. 28, at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center in East Lansing. "

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524765_dnr.pdf

DEQ receives federal funds to support land addition to Petoskey State Park

"The DEQ's Office of the Great Lakes recently received a $205,000 federal grant to fund the purchase of 6.3 acres of land adjacent to Petoskey State Park in Emmet County. "

Source: *Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524717_deq.pdf

MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 10/23/15-10/26/15

*"**MDOT weekend construction for 10/23-10/26/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)**"*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445522974_mdot.pdf

North Central Region Center for Rural Development director named

"EAST LANSING, Mich. – Mark Skidmore has been named director of the North Central Region Center for Rural Development effective January 1, 2016. He is currently a Michigan State University Extension public policy specialist and a professor in the MSU departments of Economics and Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics."

Source: *Michigan State ANR* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445522919_anr.pdf

It's time to cut the ribbon for #M231, opens to traffic Friday, Oct. 30

"Ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the new M-231 route in the heart of Ottawa County. M-231 connects the townships of Crockery and Robinson with the sixth-longest bridge in the state of Michigan, and just the fourth crossing of the Grand River in the county."

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445521099_mdot.pdf

Sparrow PHP chair receives prestigious Michigan Congressional Black Caucus Delegation award

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Physicians Health Plan Board Chair James Butler III (U.S. Army –Retired) has received the prestigious Courage and Valor Award for Distinguished Military Service from the Michigan Congressional Black Caucus Delegation for service to his country during the Vietnam War."

Source: *Sparrow* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445519131_sparrow.pdf

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Back To The Future? Nope, Blast From the Past

"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan responded to yet another late-night House session where this time — rather than dealing with cheating legislators — the House GOP was trying to cheat Michigan voters out of a decent roads plan."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518542_progress.pdf

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Road Plan Fails to Ensure that Everyone Pays Their Fair Share for Public Investment

"LANSING – Today, Michigan House representatives passed a road-funding plan that includes diverting income tax revenue from the state budget general fund to transportation. The plan does not specify what areas of the budget will be cut in order to fund fixes to Michigan's transportation infrastructure."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518436_engage.pdf

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Audit Report Released: MDHHS - Follow-up on Youth Transitioning from Foster Care to Self-Sufficiency

"Follow-up report on the performance audit of Youth Transitioning From Foster Care to Self-Sufficiency, Department of Human Services Project number: 431-0279-11F"

Source: *Auditor General* **Date:** *10-23-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518382_auditor.pdf

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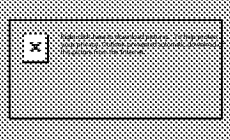
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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www.mirsnews.com

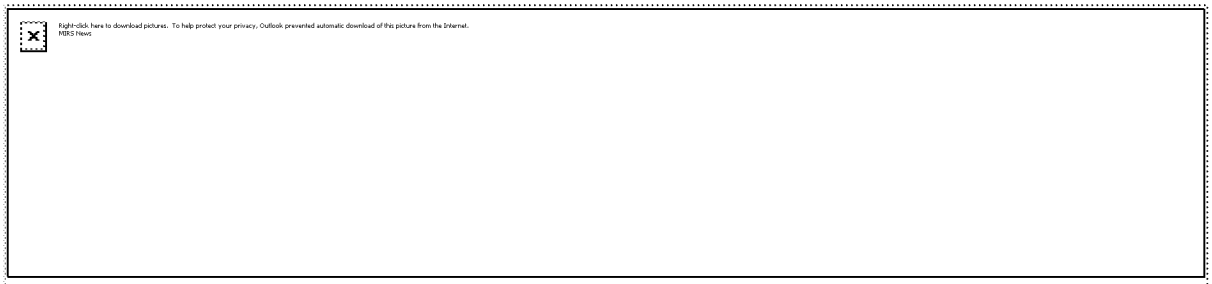
From: Bankowski, Jeffrey S. (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 3:55 PM
To: pat@themcdonnellcompany.com
Subject: Fwd: MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM

Just FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Date: December 29, 2015 at 3:22:24 PM EST
To: <bankowskij@michigan.gov>
Subject: MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM



MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM

http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert_id=2154

Dan **WYANT**, the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), is resigning in the wake of criticism about how the state handled elevated lead levels in Flint drinking water.

Gov. Rick **SNYDER** announced Wyant's resignation in a statement today. Also, in the statement, the Governor said his administration would invite scientists who have been tracking the situation "to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water."

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened," Snyder's statement added. "And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure."

On Wyant, Snyder said Wyant offered his resignation, "and I've determined that it's appropriate to accept it."

"I'm also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force," Snyder's statement said.

Those other changes haven't been finalized yet, according to Laura **BIEHL**, a spokesperson for the Governor.

The news of Wyant's resignation comes as a task force continues to work on a report about the Flint water crisis, which occurred after the city's water source was switched to the Flint River in 2014.

"Although the task force's final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed," Snyder said today. He continued, "We'll continue to work with the community members to make sure we hear and respond to their concerns."

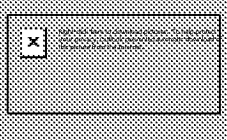
Snyder also noted the he called Flint Mayor Karen **WEAVER** last week and the two are going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.

Wyant has been MDEQ director since Snyder took office in 2011.

Previously, Wyant was the director of the Department of Agriculture under former Govs. John **ENGLER** and Jennifer **GRANHOLM**.

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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PO Box 19303
Lansing, MI 48915
Phone 517-482-2125 Fax 517-374-0949

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI);McGroarty, Michael (CEPI);Jones, Carol (CEPI);Handley, Heather (CEPI)
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Attachments: List of All Flint Schools 9_30_15.xlsx; ATT00001.htm; EEMDownloadResults_Flint.xml

Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <Starr51@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> Scott-
> Here is what I received through MDE last week.
>
> Thanks,
> Maggie
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
> **Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
> **To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>;

Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request

According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Caroline Liethen
> Legislative Analyst
> Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
> Michigan Department of Education
> Office: (517) 373-1948
>
> *Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** CEPI
> **Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
> **To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> Hi Caroline,
>
> Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:
>
> 1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
> 2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
> 3. Click "Detailed"
> 4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
> 5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
> 6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
> 7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
> 8. Click "Add Criterion"
> 9. Click "Search"
> 10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"

11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education -- helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	EntityTypeName	EntityId	EntityOfficialName	OriginalEntityCode	EntityAddressId	EntityId2	AddressTypeId
2	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74425	10600	1
3	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74426	10600	2
4	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51234	1616	1
5	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51235	1616	2
6	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51651	1704	1
7	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51652	1704	2
8	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51359	1674	1
9	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51360	1674	2
10	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74427	10601	1
11	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74428	10601	2
12	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75766	11194	1
13	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75765	11194	2
14	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51373	1688	1
15	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51374	1688	2
16	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51303	1684	1
17	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51304	1684	2
18	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51616	1743	1
19	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51617	1743	2
20	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51246	1630	1
21	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51247	1630	2
22	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51267	1651	1
23	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51268	1651	2
24	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51369	1682	1
25	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51370	1682	2
26	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51264	1648	1
27	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51265	1648	2
28	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51197	1646	1
29	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51198	1646	2
30	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74278	10531	1
31	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74279	10531	2
32	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65104	7913	1
33	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65061	7913	2
34	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51469	1742	1
35	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51470	1742	2
36	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51467	1741	1
37	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51468	1741	2
38	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74430	10602	1
39	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74429	10602	2
40	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51387	1698	1
41	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51388	1698	2
42	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51645	1701	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	AddressTypeCode	Street	AddressLine2	City	State	Zip4	EffDate	MapURL
2	Mailing	3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
3	Physical	3400 N Jennings Rd		Flint	MI	485041757	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
4	Mailing	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		FLINT	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
5	Physical	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
6	Mailing	G-6161 HOPKINS RD		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
7	Physical	6161 HOPKINS RD # G		FLINT	MI	485061657	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM	No Map Found
8	Mailing	G-3493 BEVERIDGE RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
9	Physical	3493 Beveridge Rd # G		Flint	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
10	Mailing	6302 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
11	Physical	6302 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
12	Mailing	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
13	Physical	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
14	Mailing	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322366	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
15	Physical	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322341	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
16	Mailing	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075699	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
17	Physical	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM	No Map Found
18	Mailing	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
19	Physical	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM	No Map Found
20	Mailing	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
21	Physical	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM	No Map Found
22	Mailing	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
23	Physical	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
24	Mailing	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323562	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
25	Physical	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323533	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM	No Map Found
26	Mailing	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
27	Physical	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
28	Mailing	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
29	Physical	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM	No Map Found
30	Mailing	923 E KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031974	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
31	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
32	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
33	Physical	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	48507	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
34	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
35	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM	No Map Found
36	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
37	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM	No Map Found
38	Mailing	6602 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
39	Physical	6602 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
40	Mailing	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
41	Physical	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	485062246	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
42	Mailing	G-4302 UNDERHILL DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
1	AddressTypeName	XLocation	YLocation	Latitude	Longitude	USCongressionalDistrict	MISenateDistrict	MIHouseDistrict	CGIStatusDate
2	Mailing								
3	Physical	682847.8683	280645.7794	43.05429601	-83.75283278	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
4	Mailing								
5	Physical	685485.0809	283059.2749	43.07537287	-83.71964447	5	27	34	2/16/2015 12:42:41 PM
6	Mailing								
7	Physical	695951.4996	283828.1288	43.07963205	-83.59087384	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM
8	Mailing								
9	Physical	683206.8885	274037.4649	42.99472586	-83.75062424	5	27	49	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
10	Mailing								
11	Physical	684757.797	282346.7266	43.06913831	-83.72881883	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
12	Mailing								
13	Physical	687355.7367	272274.3877	42.97783367	-83.70034397	5	27	49	6/25/2015 2:08:53 PM
14	Mailing								
15	Physical	681274.409	277335.634	43.02464487	-83.7730952	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
16	Mailing								
17	Physical	686841.6851	269757.4285	42.95530569	-83.70750238	5	14	50	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM
18	Mailing								
19	Physical	682839	281045.1	43.05516364	-83.75284113	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM
20	Mailing								
21	Physical	687789.9	277474.6	43.02552676	-83.6933395	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM
22	Mailing								
23	Physical	686397.4514	276338.7424	43.014655	-83.71072298	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
24	Mailing								
25	Physical	682529.0348	276096.7463	43.01342699	-83.75825441	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM
26	Mailing								
27	Physical	686559.0213	275144.9047	43.00386911	-83.70914516	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
28	Mailing								
29	Physical	690548.8	273387.2	42.98741964	-83.66088539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM
30	Mailing								
31	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.018348	-83.670809	5	27	49	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
32	Mailing								
33	Physical	685162.28	270103.8	42.958839	-83.727966	5	14	50	6/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
34	Mailing								
35	Physical	683677.2	282991.7	43.07525532	-83.74195061	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM
36	Mailing								
37	Physical	683657.025	282723.5105	43.07280012	-83.74220722	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM
38	Mailing								
39	Physical	684753.6416	282513.0083	43.07063603	-83.72881398	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
40	Mailing								
41	Physical	695085.4057	281263.6304	43.05677608	-83.602417	5	27	48	7/26/2011 10:33:59 AM
42	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
1	CGIStatusId	CGIStatus	BlockGroup	CivilDivision	FIPSCounty	County	DistCode	CGIData	EEMEndTime
2									8:59:42 AM
3	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
4									8:59:42 AM
5	2	Validated by CGI	0001003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
6									8:59:42 AM
7	2	Validated by CGI	0120091	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
8									8:59:42 AM
9	2	Validated by CGI	0109101	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
10									8:59:42 AM
11	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
12									8:59:42 AM
13	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
14									8:59:42 AM
15	2	Validated by CGI	0108112	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
16									8:59:42 AM
17	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
18									8:59:42 AM
19	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
20									8:59:42 AM
21	2	Validated by CGI	0136001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
22									8:59:42 AM
23	2	Validated by CGI	0015003		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
24									8:59:42 AM
25	2	Validated by CGI	0109102	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
26									8:59:42 AM
27	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
28									8:59:42 AM
29	2	Validated by CGI	0035003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
30									8:59:42 AM
31	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
32									8:59:42 AM
33	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
34									8:59:42 AM
35	2	Validated by CGI	0105012	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
36									8:59:42 AM
37	2	Validated by CGI	0105012	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
38									8:59:42 AM
39	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
40									8:59:42 AM
41	2	Validated by CGI	0120082	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
42									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
43	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51646	1701	2
44	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51389	1699	1
45	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51390	1699	2
46	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75700	11161	1
47	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75699	11161	2
48	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51155	1611	1
49	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51156	1611	2
50	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51250	1632	1
51	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51251	1632	2
52	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51173	1628	1
53	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51174	1628	2
54	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51175	1629	1
55	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51176	1629	2
56	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51248	1631	1
57	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51249	1631	2
58	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51307	1686	1
59	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51308	1686	2
60	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51242	1624	1
61	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51243	1624	2
62	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74218	10501	1
63	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74219	10501	2
64	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72194	9639	1
65	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72195	9639	2
66	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	66053	8175	1
67	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	69911	8175	2
68	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71682	9420	1
69	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71616	9420	2
70	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	66111	8233	1
71	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	69964	8233	2
72	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71808	9469	1
73	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71809	9469	2
74	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70790	9083	1
75	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70791	9083	2
76	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75056	10861	1
77	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75057	10861	2
78	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	66888	9010	1
79	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	70692	9010	2
80	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73852	10356	1
81	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73853	10356	2
82	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71893	9511	1
83	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71894	9511	2
84	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	66235	8357	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
43	Physical	4302 UNDERHILL DR # G		FLINT	MI	485061534	5/19/2011 11:51:35 AM	No Map Found
44	Mailing	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
45	Physical	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	485061714	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
46	Mailing	1020 W COLDWATER RD		FLINT	MI	485054831	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
47	Physical	G5159 Summit Street		Flint	MI	485051429	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
48	Mailing	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
49	Physical	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	5/19/2011 11:54:31 AM	No Map Found
50	Mailing	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
51	Physical	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
52	Mailing	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
53	Physical	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
54	Mailing	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
55	Physical	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	5/19/2011 11:54:28 AM	No Map Found
56	Mailing	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
57	Physical	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	5/19/2011 11:54:05 AM	No Map Found
58	Mailing	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
59	Physical	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	5/19/2011 11:53:44 AM	No Map Found
60	Mailing	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
61	Physical	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
62	Mailing	310 E 3RD ST		FLINT	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
63	Physical	310 E 3rd St		Flint	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
64	Mailing	2400 N SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485054442	9/21/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
65	Physical	2400 N. Saginaw St.		Flint	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:22:08 AM	No Map Found
66	Mailing	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
67	Physical	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:20:32 AM	No Map Found
68	Mailing	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485032076	5/27/2009 8:25:38 AM	No Map Found
69	Physical	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST	SUITE 3C	FLINT	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 10:26:05 AM	No Map Found
70	Mailing	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
71	Physical	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	5/19/2011 10:20:24 AM	No Map Found
72	Mailing	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	6/1/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
73	Physical	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	5/19/2011 10:24:29 AM	No Map Found
74	Mailing	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/4/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
75	Physical	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/19/2011 10:28:10 AM	No Map Found
76	Mailing	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
77	Physical	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
78	Mailing	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
79	Physical	6103 Eagle Ridge Ln		Flint	MI	485056740	6/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
80	Mailing	1185 E FOSS AVE		FLINT	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
81	Physical	1185 E Foss Ave		Flint	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
82	Mailing	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
83	Physical	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	5/19/2011 10:23:33 AM	No Map Found
84	Mailing	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
43	Physical	694434.2697	282794.6681	43.07072504	-83.60986815	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:51:35 AM
44	Mailing								
45	Physical	696471.2827	282691.0537	43.06926211	-83.58489777	5	27	48	7/26/2011 10:35:53 AM
46	Mailing								
47	Physical	687140.024	283641.0423	43.08019817	-83.69912691	5	27	49	5/28/2015 11:48:54 AM
48	Mailing								
49	Physical	689490.4744	277010.6758	43.01992912	-83.67255326	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:54:31 AM
50	Mailing								
51	Physical	687060.552	273155.262	42.98235234	-83.70771607	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
52	Mailing								
53	Physical	685592.729	283061.47	43.07524397	-83.72973579	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
54	Mailing								
55	Physical	690402.6894	276614.9196	43.01613634	-83.66149993	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:28 AM
56	Mailing								
57	Physical	691687.2203	279250.26	43.03952969	-83.64482724	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:05 AM
58	Mailing								
59	Physical	679573.7	274200.8	42.99703451	-83.79488844	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:44 AM
60	Mailing								
61	Physical	687519.771	274505.155	42.99665372	-83.69971783	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
62	Mailing								
63	Physical	688389.0765	276453.4879	43.015191	-83.686255	5	27	49	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
64	Mailing								
65	Physical	687718.9	279023.5	43.0380872	-83.6936355	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:22:08 AM
66	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
67	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.9819543	-83.6628483	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:20:32 AM
68	Mailing								
69	Physical	688709.8	277146.1	43.02100791	-83.6826803	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:26:05 AM
70	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
71	Physical	683045.9	280981.8	43.05727	-83.75028	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:20:24 AM
72	Mailing								
73	Physical	684105.6	276145.8	43.01338639	-83.73902163	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:24:29 AM
74	Mailing								
75	Physical	690918.9	274058.5	42.99302258	-83.6569739	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:28:10 AM
76	Mailing								
77	Physical	684714.2577	281267.5119	43.05943503	-83.72971581	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
78	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
79	Physical	688306.6	282323.3	43.0678255	-83.6854165	5	27	34	6/14/2010 7:57:25 AM
80	Mailing								
81	Physical	688626.2342	282762.6813	43.0719195	-83.68118426	5	27	34	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
82	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
83	Physical	689032.4	277364.2	43.02208689	-83.68036121	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:23:33 AM
84	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
43	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
44									8:59:42 AM
45	2	Validated by CGI	0120091	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
46									8:59:42 AM
47	2	Validated by CGI	0103044	55980	049	Genesee	04500		8:59:42 AM
48									8:59:42 AM
49	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
50									8:59:42 AM
51	2	Validated by CGI	0135005		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
52									8:59:42 AM
53	2	Validated by CGI	0103043		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
54									8:59:42 AM
55	2	Validated by CGI	0030003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
56									8:59:42 AM
57	2	Validated by CGI	0027002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
58									8:59:42 AM
59	2	Validated by CGI	0108134	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
60									8:59:42 AM
61	2	Validated by CGI	0135002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
62									8:59:42 AM
63	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
64									8:59:42 AM
65	2	Validated by CGI	0136001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
66	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
67	2	Validated by CGI	0035002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
68									8:59:42 AM
69	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
70	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
71	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
72									8:59:42 AM
73	2	Validated by CGI	0109112	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
74									8:59:42 AM
75	2	Validated by CGI	0033002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
76									8:59:42 AM
77	2	Validated by CGI	0005001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
78	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
79	2	Validated by CGI	0017002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
80									8:59:42 AM
81	2	Validated by CGI	0017002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
82	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
83	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
84	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
85	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	70086	8357	2
86	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75169	10918	1
87	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75170	10918	2
88	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	66296	8418	1
89	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	70146	8418	2
90	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	66481	8603	1
91	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	70326	8603	2
92	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75627	11125	1
93	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75628	11125	2
94	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70972	9120	1
95	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70898	9120	2
96	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	66264	8386	1
97	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	70114	8386	2
98	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	66195	8317	1
99	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	70046	8317	2
100	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Begnnings	990001001	72846	9903	1
101	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Begnnings	990001001	72847	9903	2
102	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72484	9750	1
103	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72485	9750	2
104	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70997	9190	1
105	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70998	9190	2
106	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	66340	8462	1
107	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	70190	8462	2
108	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75431	11039	1
109	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75432	11039	2
110	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	66381	8503	1
111	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	70229	8503	2
112	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74337	10559	1
113	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74338	10559	2
114	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72458	9739	1
115	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72459	9739	2
116	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	66420	8542	1
117	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	70267	8542	2
118	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75677	11150	1
119	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75678	11150	2
120	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	71960	9547	1
121	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	75347	9547	2
122	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	66474	8596	1
123	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	70319	8596	2
124	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	66440	8562	1
125	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	70286	8562	2
126	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72754	9857	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
85	Physical	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM	No Map Found
86	Mailing	519 S SAGINAW ST STE 200	Ste 200	FLINT	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
87	Physical	519 S Saginaw St		Flint	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
88	Mailing	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
89	Physical	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM	No Map Found
90	Mailing	719 Harrison Street		Flint	MI	485021613	9/26/2008 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
91	Physical	719 HARRISON ST		FLINT	MI	485021613	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM	No Map Found
92	Mailing	5075 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
93	Physical	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
94	Mailing	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/13/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
95	Physical	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM	No Map Found
96	Mailing	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
97	Physical	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM	No Map Found
98	Mailing	1776 WEST WARREN AVE		DETROIT	MI	482082215	5/13/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
99	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	485072404	4/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
100	Mailing	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	48504	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
101	Physical	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	485041894	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
102	Mailing	642 E PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053395	5/7/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
103	Physical	642 E Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	51900	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM	No Map Found
104	Mailing	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/16/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
105	Physical	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM	No Map Found
106	Mailing	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
107	Physical	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM	No Map Found
108	Mailing	915 S DORT HWY STE H		FLINT	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
109	Physical	915 S Dort Hwy		Flint	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
110	Mailing	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
111	Physical	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM	No Map Found
112	Mailing	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	48507	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
113	Physical	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	485072211	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
114	Mailing	2001 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	48505	4/30/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
115	Physical	2001 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	50479	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM	No Map Found
116	Mailing	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
117	Physical	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM	No Map Found
118	Mailing	507 West Atherton Road		Flint	MI	48507-2404	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
119	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	48507	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
120	Mailing	PO Box 25023		Lansing	MI	489095023	7/10/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
121	Physical	2015 Gold Ave		Flint	MI	485032133	8/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
122	Mailing	1235 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
123	Physical	1235 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
124	Mailing	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
125	Physical	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM	No Map Found
126	Mailing	817 E KEARSLEY ST	Suite #B	FLINT	MI	485032076	9/11/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
85	Physical	690348.5	275849	43.00923933	-83.66508447	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM
86	Mailing								
87	Physical	688057.0838	276508.8792	43.01577271	-83.69030789	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
88	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
89	Physical	680063.7	275936.1	43.01258	-83.78854	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM
90	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
91	Physical	688297.4	276383.4	43.01454305	-83.68743705	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM
92	Mailing								
93	Physical	685653.0333	269833.2597	42.95628262	-83.72204312	5	14	50	3/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
94	Mailing								
95	Physical	682279.2	279691.2	43.04588466	-83.76010635	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM
96	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
97	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	43.0036284	-83.6521503	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM
98	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
99	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
100	Mailing								
101	Physical	684503.4622	279790.4107	43.046191	-83.732799	5	27	34	9/1/2010 12:00:00 AM
102	Mailing								
103	Physical	687572.5	281497.6	43.06084342	-83.69563539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM
104	Mailing								
105	Physical	689138.6	276568.4	43.01599595	-83.67705509	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM
106	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
107	Physical	694320	284318.2	43.08434795	-83.61669073	5	27	48	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM
108	Mailing								
109	Physical	690973.0485	276838.8328	43.01800697	-83.65442631	5	27	34	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
110	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
111	Physical	688020.9	280466.8	43.05146936	-83.68843922	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM
112	Mailing								
113	Physical	686849.1431	272837.0035	42.98302345	-83.70636886	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
114	Mailing								
115	Physical	684775.2	282991.3	43.07497851	-83.72841952	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM
116	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
117	Physical	687671.2	282234.9	43.06741	-83.69308	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM
118	Mailing								
119	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
120	Mailing								
121	Physical	690182.6395	277503.0049	43.02418556	-83.66389268	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
122	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
123	Physical	687300.4209	275504.2638	43.00691923	-83.69993064	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
124	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
125	Physical	684513.1	279487.4	43.04469901	-83.73275911	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM
126	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
85	2	Validated by CGI	0032002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
86									8:59:42 AM
87	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
88	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
89	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
90	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
91	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
92									8:59:42 AM
93	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
94									8:59:42 AM
95	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	GENESEE	14550		8:59:42 AM
96	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
97	2	Validated by CGI	0034001		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
98	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
99	2	Validated by CGI	0035001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
100									8:59:42 AM
101	2	Validated by CGI	0009001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
102									8:59:42 AM
103	2	Validated by CGI	0006004	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
104									8:59:42 AM
105	2	Validated by CGI	0029002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
106	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
107	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
108									8:59:42 AM
109	2	Validated by CGI	0031002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
110	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
111	2	Validated by CGI	0020002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
112									8:59:42 AM
113	2	Validated by CGI	0135005	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
114									8:59:42 AM
115	2	Validated by CGI	0001001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
116	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
117	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
118									8:59:42 AM
119	2	Validated by CGI	0035001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
120									8:59:42 AM
121	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
122	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
123	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
124	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
125	2	Validated by CGI	0009001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
126									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
127	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72755	9857	2
128	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73041	9986	1
129	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73042	9986	2
130	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72937	9936	1
131	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72938	9936	2
132	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	66672	8794	1
133	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	70495	8794	2
134	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	66681	8803	1
135	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	70503	8803	2
136	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71943	9538	1
137	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71944	9538	2
138	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	66723	8845	1
139	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	70543	8845	2
140	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73024	9978	1
141	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73025	9978	2
142	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	66760	8882	1
143	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	70580	8882	2
144	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75564	11104	1
145	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75565	11104	2
146	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73411	10151	1
147	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73412	10151	2
148	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73844	10352	1
149	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73845	10352	2
150	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	66786	8908	1
151	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	70606	8908	2
152	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70962	9176	1
153	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70887	9176	2
154	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58755	5061	1
155	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58756	5061	2
156	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58753	5060	1
157	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58754	5060	2
158	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58721	5029	1
159	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58722	5029	2
160	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65426	8008	1
161	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65427	8008	2
162	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65424	8007	1
163	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65425	8007	2
164	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65436	8017	1
165	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65437	8017	2
166	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58629	4952	1
167	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58630	4952	2
168	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58600	4976	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
127	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM	No Map Found
128	Mailing	1401 E COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485032089	5/11/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
129	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	7/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
130	Mailing	3500 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042353	2/15/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
131	Physical	3500 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042353	5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM	No Map Found
132	Mailing	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	48503	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
133	Physical	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	485033620	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
134	Mailing	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
135	Physical	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	485070008	5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM	No Map Found
136	Mailing	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	7/6/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
137	Physical	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM	No Map Found
138	Mailing	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
139	Physical	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM	No Map Found
140	Mailing	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	48504	4/29/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
141	Physical	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	485045002	7/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
142	Mailing	303 EAST KEARSLEY 1313 WSW		FLINT	MI	485020000	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
143	Physical	509 Harrison St		Flint	MI	485021715	5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM	No Map Found
144	Mailing	2040 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
145	Physical	2040 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
146	Mailing	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
147	Physical	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
148	Mailing	6436 BRAY RD		FLINT	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
149	Physical	6436 Bray Rd		Flint	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
150	Mailing	4406 LENNON RD		FLINT	MI	48507	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
151	Physical	4406 Lennon Rd		Flint	MI	485071029	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
152	Mailing	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/13/2009 9:11:38 AM	No Map Found
153	Physical	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM	No Map Found
154	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
155	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
156	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
157	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
158	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
159	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM	No Map Found
160	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
161	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM	No Map Found
162	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
163	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM	No Map Found
164	Mailing	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
165	Physical	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM	No Map Found
166	Mailing	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
167	Physical	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM	No Map Found
168	Mailing	1700 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046214	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
127	Physical	688709.8	277146.1	43.021008	-83.68268	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM
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129	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.01834848	-83.6708089	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
130	Mailing								
131	Physical	683591.4	279781.1	43.04628852	-83.74400614	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM
132	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
133	Physical	687438.9474	275569.8441	43.00747544	-83.69820423	5	27	49	9/4/2014 2:34:33 PM
134	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
135	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.96466	-83.71872	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM
136	Mailing								
137	Physical	684574.5	277603.4	43.02623129	-83.73295366	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM
138	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
139	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.98875	-83.680646	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM
140	Mailing								
141	Physical	685166.4677	281884.5932	43.06487788	-83.72395718	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
142	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
143	Physical	688153.5	276594.5	43.01647344	-83.68912579	5	27	49	5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM
144	Mailing								
145	Physical	684740.3528	283025.1642	43.07524921	-83.72880504	5	27	49	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
146	Mailing								
147	Physical	681937.7488	277941.1174	43.03017212	-83.76489796	5	27	49	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
148	Mailing								
149	Physical	690539.7186	286074.0701	43.10124061	-83.65654448	5	27	48	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
150	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
151	Physical	681822.0186	273192.514	42.987457	-83.767885	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
152	Mailing								
153	Physical	686838.1	277483.8	43.02444284	-83.70452604	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM
154	Mailing								
155	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
156	Mailing								
157	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
158	Mailing								
159	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM
160	Mailing								
161	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM
162	Mailing								
163	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM
164	Mailing								
165	Physical	682167.1	272284.2	42.97915519	-83.76393644	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM
166	Mailing								
167	Physical	682839.1	281040.2	43.05520496	-83.75284154	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM
168	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
127	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
128									8:59:42 AM
129	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
130									8:59:42 AM
131	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
132	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
133	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
134	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
135	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
136									8:59:42 AM
137	2	Validated by CGI	0013001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
138	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
139	2	Validated by CGI	0035001		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
140									8:59:42 AM
141	2	Validated by CGI	0003001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
142	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
143	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
144									8:59:42 AM
145	2	Validated by CGI	0103043	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
146									8:59:42 AM
147	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
148									8:59:42 AM
149	2	Validated by CGI	0121001	31800	049	Genesee	20070		8:59:42 AM
150	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
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152									8:59:42 AM
153	2	Validated by CGI	0015002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
154									8:59:42 AM
155	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
156									8:59:42 AM
157	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
158									8:59:42 AM
159	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
160									8:59:42 AM
161	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
162									8:59:42 AM
163	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
164									8:59:42 AM
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166									8:59:42 AM
167	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
168									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
169	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58601	4976	2
170	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58578	4959	1
171	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58579	4959	2
172	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58838	5023	1
173	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58839	5023	2
174	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75702	11162	1
175	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75701	11162	2
176	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75405	11028	1
177	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75406	11028	2
178	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75408	11029	1
179	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75407	11029	2
180	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63960	7449	1
181	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63961	7449	2
182	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51379	1690	1
183	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51380	1690	2
184	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51371	1683	1
185	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51372	1683	2
186	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62414	6561	1
187	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62415	6561	2
188	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75226	10944	1
189	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75225	10944	2
190	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74635	10699	1
191	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74634	10699	2
192	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74368	10573	1
193	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74367	10573	2
194	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53646	268	1
195	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53647	268	2
196	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53682	271	1
197	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53683	271	2
198	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64244	7561	1
199	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64245	7561	2
200	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53510	267	1
201	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53511	267	2
202	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64076	7403	1
203	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64077	7403	2
204	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72056	9580	1
205	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72057	9580	2
206	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73879	10369	1
207	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73878	10369	2
208	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74478	10626	1
209	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74477	10626	2
210	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74312	10548	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
169	Physical	1700 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046214	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM	No Map Found
170	Mailing	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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172	Mailing	303 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485021950	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
173	Physical	303 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485021907	5/19/2011 11:07:19 AM	No Map Found
174	Mailing	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485058505	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
175	Physical	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485054831	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
176	Mailing	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
177	Physical	1002 S. Saginaw		Flint	MI	485021499	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
178	Mailing	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
179	Physical	4287 W. Pasadena Ave.		Flint	MI	485042342	9/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
180	Mailing	G3284 MACKIN RD		FLINT	MI	485043285	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
181	Physical	G2138 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
182	Mailing	3329 Burnell Ave		Flint	MI	485044303	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
183	Physical	3329 BURNELL AVE		FLINT	MI	485044303	5/19/2011 11:53:15 AM	No Map Found
184	Mailing	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
185	Physical	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615	5/19/2011 11:53:17 AM	No Map Found
186	Mailing	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
187	Physical	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
188	Mailing	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084	6/23/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
189	Physical	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084	6/23/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
190	Mailing	310 W OAKLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485033915	7/11/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
191	Physical	310 W Oakley St		Flint	MI	485033915	7/11/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
192	Mailing	3196 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042330	4/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
193	Physical	3196 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042330	4/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
194	Mailing	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
195	Physical	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708	5/19/2011 11:39:06 AM	No Map Found
196	Mailing	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
197	Physical	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753	5/19/2011 11:38:52 AM	No Map Found
198	Mailing	6170 TORREY RD		FLINT	MI	485075954	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
199	Physical	6170 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075954	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
200	Mailing	530 W PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053114	8/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
201	Physical	530 W Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	485053114	8/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
202	Mailing	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
203	Physical	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642	5/19/2011 10:49:14 AM	No Map Found
204	Mailing	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740	10/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
205	Physical	4358 Richfield Rd		Flint	MI	485062016	7/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
206	Mailing	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
207	Physical	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
208	Mailing	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	48503	9/11/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
209	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	10/8/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
210	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

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170	Mailing								
171	Physical	689654.1	276845.3	43.01834844	-83.67080891	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:09:13 AM
172	Mailing								
173	Physical	688132.4	276760.9	43.01769618	-83.68989349	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:07:19 AM
174	Mailing								
175	Physical	687468.7029	284736.6313	43.08997726	-83.69471741	5	27	49	5/28/2015 1:25:37 PM
176	Mailing								
177	Physical	688346.6246	276039.7424	43.01147796	-83.68691146	5	27	49	9/11/2014 12:38:39 PM
178	Mailing								
179	Physical	681992.7163	279696.2722	43.04595776	-83.76363806	5	27	49	9/11/2014 12:10:19 PM
180	Mailing								
181	Physical	684660.1336	283022.1077	43.07524145	-83.72979101	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
182	Mailing								
183	Physical	683713.4	277467.4	43.02549671	-83.74318147	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:15 AM
184	Mailing								
185	Physical	687568.8	271428.8	42.97021233	-83.69798023	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:17 AM
186	Mailing								
187	Physical	693813.6	282661.2	43.06968	-83.61753	5	27	48	7/20/2011 3:17:04 PM
188	Mailing								
189	Physical	684714.2577	281267.5119	43.05943503	-83.72971581	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
190	Mailing								
191	Physical	688891.5758	274464.0866	42.99715832	-83.6807723	5	27	34	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
192	Mailing								
193	Physical	683893.084	279786.4296	43.04630546	-83.74029085	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
194	Mailing								
195	Physical	689099.5	274448.2	42.99696003	-83.67816847	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:39:06 AM
196	Mailing								
197	Physical	681228.4	280877.2	43.04976933	-83.77253416	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:38:52 AM
198	Mailing								
199	Physical	684914.7643	267914.3537	42.93919194	-83.73173258	5	14	50	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
200	Mailing								
201	Physical	686273.1374	281493.6301	43.061085	-83.710504	5	27	34	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
202	Mailing								
203	Physical	692381.9	280269.8	43.04989069	-83.63593213	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:49:14 AM
204	Mailing								
205	Physical	693474.7349	280581.0491	43.051049	-83.622426	5	27	48	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
206	Mailing								
207	Physical	685949.737	283092.1695	43.07555389	-83.71392822	5	27	48	8/22/2012 9:56:02 AM
208	Mailing								
209	Physical	688662.2166	277107.3733	43.021008	-83.68268	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
210	Mailing								

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
169	2	Validated by CGI	0016003		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
170									8:59:42 AM
171	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
172									8:59:42 AM
173	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
174									8:59:42 AM
175	2	Validated by CGI	0103041	55980	049	Genesee	04500		8:59:42 AM
176									8:59:42 AM
177	2	Validated by CGI	0028001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
178									8:59:42 AM
179	2	Validated by CGI	0108111	29020	049	Genesee	14550		8:59:42 AM
180									8:59:42 AM
181	2	Validated by CGI	0103043	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
182									8:59:42 AM
183	2	Validated by CGI	0108123	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
184									8:59:42 AM
185	2	Validated by CGI	0110103	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
186									8:59:42 AM
187	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
188									8:59:42 AM
189	2	Validated by CGI	0005001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
190									8:59:42 AM
191	2	Validated by CGI	0038002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
192									8:59:42 AM
193	2	Validated by CGI	0105011	55980	049	Genesee	35970		8:59:42 AM
194									8:59:42 AM
195	2	Validated by CGI	0038002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
196									8:59:42 AM
197	2	Validated by CGI	0105022	55980	049	GENESEE	35970		8:59:42 AM
198									8:59:42 AM
199	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	33420		8:59:42 AM
200									8:59:42 AM
201	2	Validated by CGI	0004001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
202									8:59:42 AM
203	2	Validated by CGI	0024003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
204									8:59:42 AM
205	2	Validated by CGI	0120062	31800	049	Genesee	20070		8:59:42 AM
206									8:59:42 AM
207	2	Validated by CGI	0103046	55980	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
208									8:59:42 AM
209	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
210									8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
211	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74311	10548	2
212	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74314	10549	1
213	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74313	10549	2
214	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74785	10770	1
215	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74784	10770	2
216	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65094	7904	1
217	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65095	7904	2
218	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72318	9582	1
219	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72060	9582	2
220	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51218	1605	1
221	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51219	1605	2
222	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51222	1607	1
223	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51223	1607	2
224	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64849	7865	1
225	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64850	7865	2
226	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59672	5309	1
227	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59673	5309	2
228	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59399	5289	1
229	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59400	5289	2
230	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59389	5280	1
231	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59390	5280	2
232	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59405	5296	1
233	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59406	5296	2
234	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59129	5283	1
235	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59130	5283	2
236	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59385	5278	1
237	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59386	5278	2
238	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59139	5291	1
239	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59140	5291	2
240	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61517	6333	1
241	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61518	6333	2
242	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75796	11209	1
243	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75795	11209	2

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
211	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
212	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
213	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
214	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073493	7/2/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
215	Physical	5081 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075999	9/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
216	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
217	Physical	3136 SOUTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485073004	6/7/2010 1:49:01 PM	No Map Found
218	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
219	Physical	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
220	Mailing	5089 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
221	Physical	5089 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
222	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
223	Physical	1493 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613	5/19/2011 11:54:13 AM	No Map Found
224	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
225	Physical	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	485073429	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
226	Mailing	G-1379 WEST LOUIS AVE		FLINT	MI	48505	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
227	Physical	G-1379 WEST LOUIS AVE		FLINT	MI	48505	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM	No Map Found
228	Mailing	G4285 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	485322711	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
229	Physical	G4285 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	485322711	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM	No Map Found
230	Mailing	1505 W COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035002	9/26/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
231	Physical	1505 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035002	9/26/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
232	Mailing	5191 RICHFIELD RD		FLINT	MI	485062114	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
233	Physical	5191 RICHFIELD RD		FLINT	MI	485062114	5/19/2011 11:03:57 AM	No Map Found
234	Mailing	2319 BAGLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485044613	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
235	Physical	2319 BAGLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485044613	5/19/2011 11:05:11 AM	No Map Found
236	Mailing	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
237	Physical	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637	5/19/2011 11:03:59 AM	No Map Found
238	Mailing	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
239	Physical	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM	No Map Found
240	Mailing	1235 W. COURT ST.		FLINT	MI	485035015	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
241	Physical	1235 W. COURT ST.		FLINT	MI	485035015	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
242	Mailing	6103 Eagle Ridge Lane		Flint	MI	48505	7/14/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
243	Physical	6103 Eagle Ridge Lane		Flint	MI	48505	7/14/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
211	Physical	685648.1307	269800.1861	42.955986	-83.722114	5	14	50	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
212	Mailing								
213	Physical	685648.1307	269800.1861	42.955986	-83.722114	5	14	50	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
214	Mailing								
215	Physical	684834.6823	269859.2791	42.956718	-83.732063	5	14	50	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
216	Mailing								
217	Physical	681481.242	272760.628	42.98038842	-83.77228837	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:49:01 PM
218	Mailing								
219	Physical	685681.3116	269797.8961	42.95595733	-83.72170847	5	14	50	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
220	Mailing								
221	Physical	685650.843	269814.859	42.95623558	-83.72199574	5	14	50	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
222	Mailing								
223	Physical	686790.4	270180.9	42.95917168	-83.70808884	5	14	50	5/19/2011 11:54:13 AM
224	Mailing								
225	Physical	685162.2793	270103.7995	42.95883881	-83.72796644	5	14	50	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
226	Mailing								
227	Physical	686295.051	284570.0024	43.08877	-83.70919	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM
228	Mailing								
229	Physical	682521.076	277517.845	43.01448671	-83.73669488	5	27	34	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM
230	Mailing								
231	Physical	686971.3099	275468.2773	43.006677	-83.703979	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
232	Mailing								
233	Physical	694519.1	280713.1	43.05200337	-83.60926666	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:03:57 AM
234	Mailing								
235	Physical	685445	276966.7	43.01987106	-83.71966449	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:05:11 AM
236	Mailing								
237	Physical	684478.2	276449.9	43.01605809	-83.73411109	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:03:59 AM
238	Mailing								
239	Physical	684151.676	274168.634	42.99552682	-83.73913683	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:59 PM
240	Mailing								
241	Physical	687286.8876	275516.984	43.00703757	-83.70008714	5	27	49	7/11/2012 1:03:10 PM
242	Mailing								
243	Physical	688299.1393	282300.6981	43.06784391	-83.6853531	5	27	34	7/14/2015 11:18:28 AM

	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
211	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
212									8:59:42 AM
213	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
214									8:59:42 AM
215	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
216									8:59:42 AM
217	2	Validated by CGI	0109121	29020	049	GENESEE	33420		8:59:42 AM
218									8:59:42 AM
219	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
220									8:59:42 AM
221	2	Validated by CGI	0129052		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
222									8:59:42 AM
223	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
224									8:59:42 AM
225	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
226									8:59:42 AM
227	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
228									8:59:42 AM
229	2	Validated by CGI	0016004		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
230									8:59:42 AM
231	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
232									8:59:42 AM
233	2	Validated by CGI	0120082	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
234									8:59:42 AM
235	2	Validated by CGI	0016002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
236									8:59:42 AM
237	2	Validated by CGI	0016004	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
238									8:59:42 AM
239	2	Validated by CGI	0109113		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
240									8:59:42 AM
241	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
242									8:59:42 AM
243	2	Validated by CGI	0017002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM

From: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:25 PM
To: Howell, Thomas (CEPI);Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI);McGroarty, Michael (CEPI);Handley, Heather (CEPI)
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

The team is working to transpose the XML file you provided.

Carol G. Jones
(517) 335-6445 (office)

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**

Scott-
Here is what I received through MDE last week.

Thanks,
Maggie

From: Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request

According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Caroline Liethen
> Legislative Analyst
> Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
> Michigan Department of Education
> Office: (517) 373-1948
>
> *Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** CEPI
> **Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
> **To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> Hi Caroline,
>
> Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:
>
> 1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
> 2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"

3. Click “Detailed”
4. Set the Status field to “Open-Active”
5. Set the Characteristic field to “Physical Address City” (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to “Equals”
7. In the Value field, enter the word “Flint”
8. Click “Add Criterion”
9. Click “Search”
10. Near the bottom of the page, click “Download Entity Data”
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the “Entity Code” and “Official Name of Entity” for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the “Include Address Types” box
14. Click “Start Download”
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we’re doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: Fonger, David (MCSC)
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 9:56 AM
To: Blonde, Cheryl (DTMB)
Subject: Activity Code

Cheryl,

I need to set up an activity code that will not generate any pay.

the Flint Drinking Water project #900040-00. The intent is to track the hours, but not generate pay.
Can you help me?

David Fonger
Quality of Life Human Resources
DCDS & HRMN Security Administrator
Supporting DEQ, DNR, MDARD
Phone: 517-284-5025
Fax: 517-241-7433
E-mail: fongerd@michigan.gov

From: Fonger, David (MCSC)
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 3:07 PM
To: Blonde, Cheryl (DTMB)
Subject: RE: Activity Code

Yes, I did get it done

David Fonger
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Fax: 517-241-7433
E-mail: fongerd@michigan.gov

From: Blonde, Cheryl (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 3:07 PM
To: Fonger, David (MCSC)
Subject: RE: Activity Code

Just checking you got this done right?

From: Fonger, David (MCSC)
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 9:56 AM
To: Blonde, Cheryl (DTMB) <blondec@michigan.gov>
Subject: Activity Code

Cheryl,

I need to set up an activity code that will not generate any pay.

the Flint Drinking Water project #900040-00. The intent is to track the hours, but not generate pay.
Can you help me?

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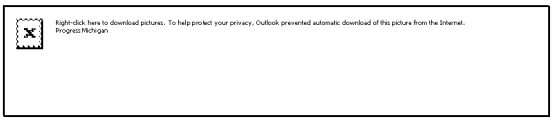
E-mail: fongerd@michigan.gov

From: Lonnie Scott <progress@progressmichigan.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 4:06 PM
To: Blonde, Cheryl (DTMB)
Subject: Lead Poisoning = Prison Time?



Cheryl,

In November, we were the first to call on the U.S. Attorney's Office to investigate the Snyder administration's responsibility for the Flint water crisis. Together, we've repeated that call in the days and weeks since.

Today that call was answered.

The U.S. Attorney's Office just announced that federal prosecutors are investigating the Flint water crisis – meaning that Snyder officials could finally be held accountable in the lead-poisoning thousands of Flint children and residents.

Let that sink in: **because of your determination, Snyder administration officials could face meaningful sanctions for their actions.** Today's announcement means we are one step closer to real accountability for the Flint water disaster and real justice for victims and their families.

Now we need to keep up the pressure to make sure that anyone found criminally negligible is held criminally responsible. Chip in $10 toward our Flint accountability work today.

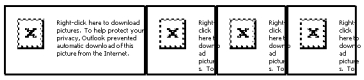
Thousands of Flint residents, including children, were poisoned as a result of Snyder administration failures. The effects of lead poisoning are irreversible.

Gov. Snyder's failure to hold those responsible accountable confirms that only a federal investigation can bring Flint residents justice. Contribute $10 today to help us keep the pressure at this critical moment.

For a more progressive Michigan,

Lonnie Scott

Executive Director, Progress Michigan



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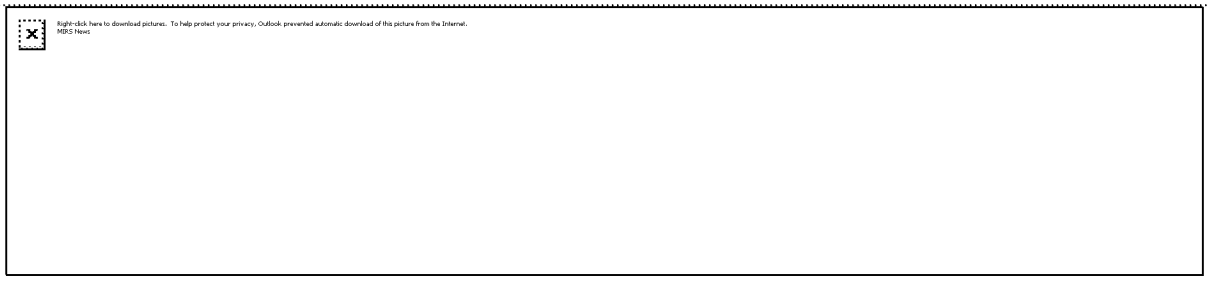
From: Karns, April (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 7:29 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FW: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

From: MIRS Delivery [mailto:mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 6:59 AM
To: Karns, April (DTMB) <KarnsA@michigan.gov>
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Cruz supporters stage live nativity at Michigan Capitol, others plan gay pride 'Festivus' pole

"LANSING, MI — "One unplanned pregnancy changed the world," according to supporters of Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz, who staged a live nativity and sang Christmas carols outside of the Michigan Capitol on Saturday and Sunday night."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/cruz_supporters_stage_live_nat.html#incart_river_index*

Long-shot Dem seeks ballot access in Michigan primary, Donald J. Trump adds middle initial

"LANSING, MI — Rocky De La Fuente, a long-shot Democrat running for president, is trying to make Michigan's primary ballot the old fashioned way. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/long-shot_democrat_donald_trum.html#incart_river_index*

Donald Trump to campaign in Michigan next week

"LANSING, MI — Republican presidential candidate Donald J. Trump will return to Michigan next week for a rally in Grand Rapids."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/donald_trump_to_campaign_in_mi.html#incart_river_index*

Mayor Karen Weaver declares water crisis state of emergency in Flint

"FLINT, MI – Mayor Karen Weaver has declared a state of emergency in Flint, saying the city needs federal help to deal with its lead in water crisis."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/mayor_karen_weaver_declares_st.html#incart_river_home*

Election board rejects recall petition against Snyder

"State canvassers rejected recall petitions against Gov. Rick Snyder and Sen. Wayne Schmidt on Monday — Snyder because of Flint water problems and Schmidt for his Nov. 3 votes on a road funding package."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/snyder-petition-rejected-canvassers-schmidt/77302992/*

Donald Trump returns to Michigan for rally next week

"Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump will return to Michigan next week to hold a campaign rally in Grand Rapids."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/14/donald-trump-michigan-rally-grand-rapids/77316220/*

Dems wield auto bailouts as issue against GOP hopefuls

"Seven years after a Republican president initiated taxpayer-funded rescues of General Motors and Chrysler, Michigan Democrats still see the issue as a political trump card they can use in 2016 against Republican

presidential hopefuls who opposed the bailouts."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/dems-wield-auto-bailouts-issue-gop-hopefuls/77332878/*

Gov. Snyder 'open' to ending EAA school reform

"Gov. Rick Snyder said Monday he's "open" to disbanding his controversial Education Achievement Authority if it's part of a deal with the Legislature to overhaul public education governance in Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/snyder-end-eaa-education-achievement-authority/77306098/*

Trump's call to ban Muslims creating an uproar

"Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has created an uproar across not just the country, but the world."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/12/14/news/doc566af49ff2d3b603447926.txt*

Vaccines, auto insurance rates among introduced bills

"LANSING — The state Department of Health and Human Services would be prohibited from imposing more stringent rules on vaccinations than is already allowed under state law under a bill that was introduced last week."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/vaccines-auto-insurance-rates-among-introduced-bills/77101678/*

Donald Trump returning to Michigan for campaign stop

"Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump will return to Michigan next week with a visit to Grand Rapids on Dec. 21."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/donald-trump-returning-michigan-campaign-stop/77314288/*

Report: Straits of Mackinac oil pipeline not necessary

"Continuing to move up to 23 million gallons of crude oil per day through 62-year-old, underwater pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac is too risky and not necessary, an environmental group said Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/14/straits-mackinac-oil-pipeline-line5/77174364/*

Hillary Clinton campaign forms Mich. Leadership Council

"Hillary Clinton is launching a Michigan Leadership Council to help win the state's March 8 primary -- a group that includes more than 140 elected officials, such as current and former Detroit leaders like Mayor Mike Duggan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/15/hillary-clinton-detroit-michigan-2016-2016-campaign/77320120/*

Pressure builds for a new school plan for Detroit kids

"State Sen. Bert Johnson said Monday that he would co-sponsor legislation to create a new school district for Detroit children and put an elected school board in charge of retiring the old district's debt."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/14/detroit-schools-governor-legislature-new-plan/77325502/*

Advocacy/Opinion

As Legislature considers medical marijuana proposals, facts must overcome fiction, myths

"The Michigan Legislature is poised to provide much-needed clarity to our state's medical marijuana law. By approving a framework of strong regulations that hold people accountable, policymakers can end seven years of confusion that has harmed patients, local communities and responsible businesses eager to follow the rules."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/as_legislature_considers_medic.html#incart_river_index*

Editorial: Slow down on tax hike

"Lawmakers are rushing to extend a bill that levies a tax on Michigan businesses that promises to grow exponentially over the next few years. There is no need for such haste."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/14/health-insurance-claims-assessment-tax-michigan/77255680/*

Howes" Dow-DuPont tie-up fans familiar anxiety in MI

"The last time Michigan got sold a "Merger of Equals" it didn't work out so well."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/12/14/howes-dow-dupont-tie-fans-familiar-anxiety-mi/77332000/*

Is the State to Blame For Detroit Public Schools' Financial Woes?

"The Democratic-controlled State Board of Education recently released a statement that appears to blame Michigan's state government for the Detroit school district's crippling debt. The board wrote, "Detroit Public Schools has been under state control for nearly 15 years, and currently is experiencing its fourth Emergency Manager.""

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21993*

"We're Number 10' in School Choice

"The "fix Detroit schools" discussion ought to begin and end with what best serves students and their families, rather than what serves school administrators, unions or any other interest group. A new report from a respected education reform group describes one feature that should be at the forefront of this conversation."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21992*

The forest-loving Farm Bill at 25

"Many people have seen a two-person crosscut saw in action. For those who haven't, it's the lumberjacks' long hand saw, with large teeth along its edge and hardwood handles at both ends."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/the-forest-loving-farm-bill-at-25/*

Press Releases

National Voting Rights Groups Oppose SB 639

"MICHIGAN – Today, a dozen prominent national voting rights groups sent a letter to Governor Rick Snyder opposing Senate Bill 639 and calling on him to veto the legislation in the event that it reaches his desk. The following quote can be attributed to the organizations listed below:"

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450127461_mich.pdf

Rep. Banks Unveils Auto Insurance Reform Bills to Lower Rates

"LANSING – State Representative and Detroit Caucus Chairman Brian Banks (D-Detroit) today announced that he has introduced two bills to reform auto insurance by lowering rates for urban and rural drivers while still keeping the current no-fault system in place. The two bill package would give Michigan residents in areas with the highest auto insurance rates affordable policies while maintaining their benefits and protections for accident victims, a new fraud authority, and a tax credit for participating insurance companies. House Bills 5134 and 5135 were introduced recently with bipartisan support."

Source: *Rep. Brian Banks* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450127105_banks.pdf

MDHHS Releases 2016 Fluoridation Equipment Grant RFP

"LANSING, Mich. – Fluoridation of a community water system is one of the most cost effective and efficient ways to reduce dental disease in a population. For 70 years, research on this topic has proven community water fluoridation to be safe and effective in improving the oral health of our communities. "

Source: *Department of Health and Human Services* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450124275_dhhs.pdf

Michigan NOW Ready to End Discrimination

*"**Lansing—**The Michigan National Organization of Women (NOW) today announced its commitment to and support for Fair Michigan – the constitutional ballot committee formed to pass a Constitutional amendment that will ensure equality for all Michiganders, no matter their gender, gender identity or sexual orientation."*

Source: *Fair Michigan* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450124222_mich.pdf

Global Climate Pact Hailed by MI Groups

"LANSING, MI — Michigan climate advocates hailed the global agreement reached Saturday by leaders of nearly 200 nations to address climate change, and urged Michigan leaders to move forward with strong clean energy policies."

Source: *Michigan Climate Action Network* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450120529_mcan.pdf

Library of Michigan Expands Hours and Services Beginning January 9, 2016

"LANSING – The Library of Michigan will expand its hours and services to better serve Michigan citizens and state government."

Source: *Department of Education* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450118649_mde.pdf

Newly Proposed No-Fault Reforms Worthy of Strong Consideration

"LANSING – State Representative and House Insurance Committee Minority Chairman Brian Banks (D-Detroit) today announced the introduction of two bills that would lower rates for Michigan drivers while maintaining the life-saving personal injury benefits provided by the current no-fault system."

Source: *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450117365_cpan.pdf

Schmidt announces upcoming December coffee hours

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Wayne Schmidt announced he will hold coffee hours in the 37th District this month."*

Source: *Sen. Wayne Schmidt* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450116556_schmidt.pdf

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Poll: Detroit continues its comeback

"Governor Snyder is not someone who spends too much time focusing on polls. Many of you remember when he was in the "margin of error" back in 2009. However, polling is used to measure public opinion and

how it changes over time on important policy issues."

Source: *Relentless Positive Action PAC* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450115890_rpapac.pdf

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Hune named 'Most Conservative' member of Legislature, perfect voting attendance

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg, was named the most conservative member of the Michigan Legislature by Inside Michigan Politics with a 100 percent conservative voting record. He is also the only member of the Legislature to have a perfect voting attendance."*

Source: *Sen. Joe Hune* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450115826_hune.pdf

New Ad: Learn from Mistakes

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Rand Paul for President today released a new*

advertisement highlighting the need for a conservative realist foreign policy in which our nation's leaders learn from mistakes we have made in the past, and secure our borders. This advertisement contrasts Senator Paul's views on national security with that of fellow senators and Republican Presidential candidates Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio.
"

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450112830_rand.pdf

Horn Hometown Tours: Kluck Nursery

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn recently wrapped up his Hometown Tours for the year at Kluck Nursery and Christmas tree farm in Thomas Township."*

Source: *Sen. Ken Horn* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450110280_horn.pdf

MICHIGAN NOW SUPPORTS FAIR MICHIGAN

"Michigan National Organization of Women (NOW) has a long history of working for women's rights in our state, and we are excited to announce that we are strengthening our work for equality as a partner in the Fair Michigan Coalition that will work to pass a constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. Why a constitutional amendment? We need it. Women should be treated as full citizens and should have access to all of the protections guaranteed in our state constitution. A constitutional amendment is a clear statement that the people of Michigan believe that the

women in our state deserve full equality. It is a stronger guarantee of rights than simply passing a law that can be easily repealed or amended."

Source: *National Organization for Women* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450109033_notw.pdf

Sportsmen's Alliance Files Brief in Great Lakes Wolf Case

"On Dec. 8, the Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation and our partners filed its brief before the U.S. Court of Appeals in the long-running Western Great Lakes wolf lawsuit. The case, brought by Humane Society of the United States and their anti-hunting allies, sought to reinstate federal Endangered Species Act protections for gray wolves in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Alliance and our partners are fighting to ensure wolves are delisted and returned to state management."

Source: *Sportsmen's Alliance* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450106970_mich.pdf

Straits Oil Pipelines Not Needed to Meet Michigan, Midwest Demand, New Report Finds

*"**TRAVERSE CITY, MI --** Decommissioning the twin pipelines in the Mackinac Straits to prevent a catastrophic oil spill would not disrupt Michigan's or the Midwest's crude oil and propane supply, contrary to assertions by the pipelines' owner, according to a Great Lakes law and policy group that released a set of expert reports today."*

Source: *For Love of Water* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450108635_flow.pdf

Michigan Data Center Alliance throws support behind job creation guarantees, accountability

*"LANSING – Leaders of the **Michigan Data Center Alliance** today renewed their call for fairness and equity in any tax reform bills passed by the state legislature, and urged that all data companies receiving tax breaks or special treatment be required to guarantee – and be held accountable for – job creation in Michigan."*

Source: *Michigan Data Center Alliance* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450107666_data.pdf

Secretary of State offices to close for Christmas and New Year's holidays

"LANSING, Mich. - Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450104011_sos.pdf

All children deserve the gift of a home for the holidays

"As you gather with family and friends this holiday season, all of us at the ACLU of Michigan hope you'll take a moment to remember 13,000 Michigan children in the state's care who want nothing more than to be placed in a loving home."

Source: *Michigan ACLU* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103258_aclu.pdf

Gun Violence Survivors, Michigan Moms and Community Leaders to Join Together for Orange Walk and Int

*"**LANSING, Mich**.—In the wake of the mass shooting in San Bernardino and heightened attention on the need for our nation's leaders to act to end gun violence, the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, part of Everytown for Gun Safety, will join together this weekend in Ann Arbor, Midland and Grand Rapids for Orange Walks and an Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence. During the walks and vigil, participants will share photos and post on social media using the hashtag #EndGunViolence. "*

Source: *Moms Demand Action* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102578_mdm.pdf

Rand Paul for President Issues Debate Statement

*"**WASHINGTON, D.C.**- Prior to CNN's Republican Presidential debate announcement, Rand Paul for President has had discussions with the RNC and CNN in which the campaign indicated that Rand Paul should be on the main stage on Tuesday. Our campaign asserts that fairness in dealing with polling variances, which previously allowed for amended rules for Carly Fiorina for CNN's August Republican Presidential debate, would indicate Rand Paul should be on the main stage during Tuesday's debate. "*

Source: *Rand Paul* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102530_paul.pdf

DNR Fisheries Division recognizes partners for critical work

"The Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division recently presented five Outstanding Partnership Awards to recognize individuals and organizations outside the division or the department that have shown dedication and enthusiasm in helping to provide recreational fisheries and/or protection of Michigan's fishery

resources."

Source: *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102468_dnr.pdf

Experts to State Advisory Board: Viable Alternatives to Straits Pipelines Must Be Pursued to Avoid O

*" **Lansing press conference and telepresser.** A team of Great Lakes advocates and scientists will release a set of illustrated reports concluding that the twin Line 5 oil pipelines in the Mackinac Straits are not vital to Michigan's energy infrastructure and security. The risk to the Great Lakes posed by these 62-year-old pipelines can be eliminated by utilizing existing infrastructure around the Great Lakes rather than Line 5 through the Straits. Natural gas liquids and propane could still flow across the Upper Peninsula and through the Straits unaffected. The team will deliver the reports to Gov. Snyder's Pipeline Safety Advisory Board to assist in the state's study of Line 5's risks and alternatives to prevent a catastrophic oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac."*

Source: *For Love of Water* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103001_water.pdf

Consumers Energy Named a 'Customer Champion' Among Nation's Electric, Natural Gas Providers

"JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 14, 2015 – An independent national survey has ranked Consumers Energy fifth in the nation among providers of electricity and natural gas and a "Customer Champion" for strengthening its bond with residential customers."

Source: *Consumer Energy* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103353_energy.pdf

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State Police to Add Six Canine Teams

"During Media Day, reporters are invited to get an in-depth look into the MSP Canine Unit to learn more about how canine teams train. Attendees will be able to get photo and video of tracking and detection demonstrations, as well as speak with canine handlers and the commander of the Canine Unit. The media is also invited to attend the Canine School graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 at the MSP Training Academy. Six new canine teams will graduate. Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue will address the graduates."

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102312_police.pdf

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MDOT looking for northern Michigan Road Watchers

*"**December 14, 2014** – Though winter is curiously absent so far, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is bringing back its "Road Watchers" program in the northern Lower Peninsula for when the snow returns."*

Source: *Department of Transportation* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102265_mdot.pdf*

The whole world is watching

"Should we really have to tell political leaders not to fuel ongoing hatred and bigotry?"

Source: *Michigan ACLU* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102185_aclu.pdf*

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CWD TSE PRION REPORT DECEMBER 14, 2015

"CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CWD, SCRAPIE, BSE, TSE PRION REPORT UNITED STATES DECEMBER 2015"

Source: Date: *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102140_cwd.pdf*

JEB BUSH: A WELFARE PLAN FOR GETTING AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

"My fundamental belief is that every American has the God-given ability to achieve earned success and rise up the income ladder, as long as there is an environment that gives them the opportunity to do so. The problem is that for too long, a dysfunctional Washington has imposed rules and regulations that create additional barriers for people. "

Source: *Jeb Bush* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450101990_bush.pdf*

Straight-Ticket Voting and Last 2015 Coffee Hour

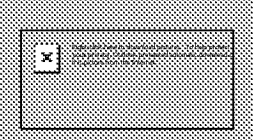
"This week, I was incredibly disappointed in the decision of our legislative majority to put political posturing over the good of the people of our state when they voted to eliminate straight-ticket voting. I firmly believe that the Michigan Legislature should be working to making voting easier for people, not more cumbersome. Straight-ticket voting has been a practice in Michigan for over a century, and it is a right that tens of thousands of Democrats and Republicans choose to use every election. The current option to cast straight-ticket ballot makes voting easier, less time consuming, and as a result, encourages greater participation in

elections."

Source: *Rep. Sam Singh* **Date:** *12-15-2015* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450101940_singh.pdf*

MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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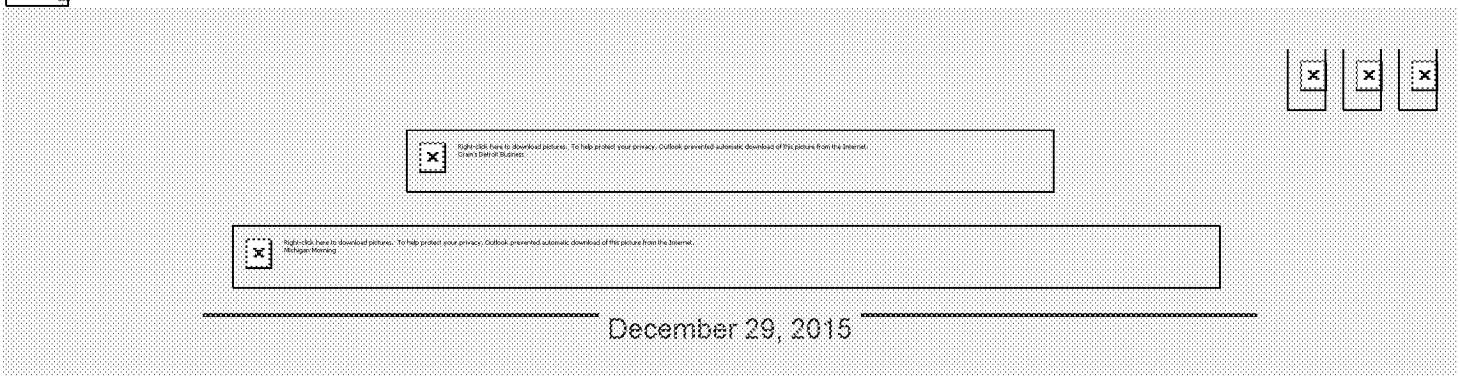
Lansing, MI 48915
Phone 517-482-2125 Fax 517-374-0949
www.mirsnews.com

From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 7:53 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Detroit Bagger Dave's closes | First ride on M1 Concourse track | Obama signs bill banning microbeads to protect Great Lakes

Having trouble viewing this email? See the online version.



Bagger Dave's downtown Detroit location, 7 others closed

Southfield-based Diversified Restaurant Holdings Inc. shut down the "underperforming" restaurants on Sunday.

KIRK PINHO

First-look ride on M1 Concourse recreational test track under construction

Brad Oleshansky, the project's developer, calls it "the newest, most state-of-the-art track in Michigan in 40 years." Construction continues at the site, which is expected to feature about 260 climate-controlled car condos.

Huron Capital buys specialty chemical business for

platform company

The Detroit-based company acquires National Paint Industries of New Jersey to roll into Valentus Specialty Chemicals.

Obama signs bill banning microbeads co-sponsored by Upton

Plastic microbeads used in soaps, body washes and other personal-care products that can be harmful to the Great Lakes will be phased out starting in 2017 under legislation signed by President Barack Obama on Monday.

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

IHS acquires Canadian used-vehicle history provider for $460 million

The Colorado market research company, whose automotive arm is based in Southfield, said it has acquired London, Ontario-based Carproof Corp., which provides vehicle history reports to dealers, consumers and others in Canada.

Advertisement

State offices to reopen, clean-up work follows Michigan winter storm

Thousands are still without power as clean-up and restoration efforts are underway following a storm Monday and overnight that brought high winds, freezing rain and snow.

Interactive map: DTE Energy outages

Check for outages in your area by ZIP code.

2015 saw big changes in Detroit media

Retirements, buyouts and job changes dominated media industry headlines over the past 12 months, with the *Detroit Free Press* and *The Detroit News* in particular

experiencing uncertainty with their respective owners.

Auditor: State erred on Flint water but didn't mislead feds

Accused of misconduct, Judge Lisa Gorcyca withdraws from siblings case

"Continued assignment may create an appearance of impropriety," the Oakland County judge wrote in an opinion.

Advertisement

10 things to remember about 2015: Kroger buys Hiller's grocery stores

The Kroger Co. of Michigan's acquisition of Hiller's Markets was meant to not only bring Kroger more market share locally, but provide entrée to the specialty and ethnic food products for which the smaller chain became known.

In 2016, what's next for housing prices?

Housing prices, which helped drive the plunge into the Great Recession but which have also fueled the engine of recovery, have climbed back to approach all-time highs in Detroit's suburbs.

TRAVERSE CITY RECORD-EAGLE

Grand Traverse County government moves toward substantial changes

County commissioners passed a 2016 budget that eliminated a $3.5-million deficit by consolidating a handful of departments, eliminating several staff positions, and freezing wages and cutting benefits for some employees and retirees.

GUEST BLOG: DONALD LEVITT

How Barton Malow handles difficult issues in

family business

THE MACOMB DAILY

Downtown Mount Clemens to transform in 2016 with county government changes

The $65 million renovation, construction and demolition project for government facilities will intensify and become more apparent in 2016.

GUEST BLOG: SAULIUS MIKALONIS

FAST Act could provide about $1 billion a year to Michigan

BAY CITY TIMES

Former Bay City scrapyard could be home to next big development

The Bay City Commission approved an option agreement with the RiversEdge group to purchase the 12-acre property for $1,000.

Lions vs. Chicago Bears: A by-the-numbers financial comparison of this week's opponent

CORRECTED: *Crain's* List of Largest Philanthropic Gifts of 2015

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 7:16 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Detroit Homecoming wraps up today | Arena framework to begin this month | Flint water emergency: Plan to be unveiled

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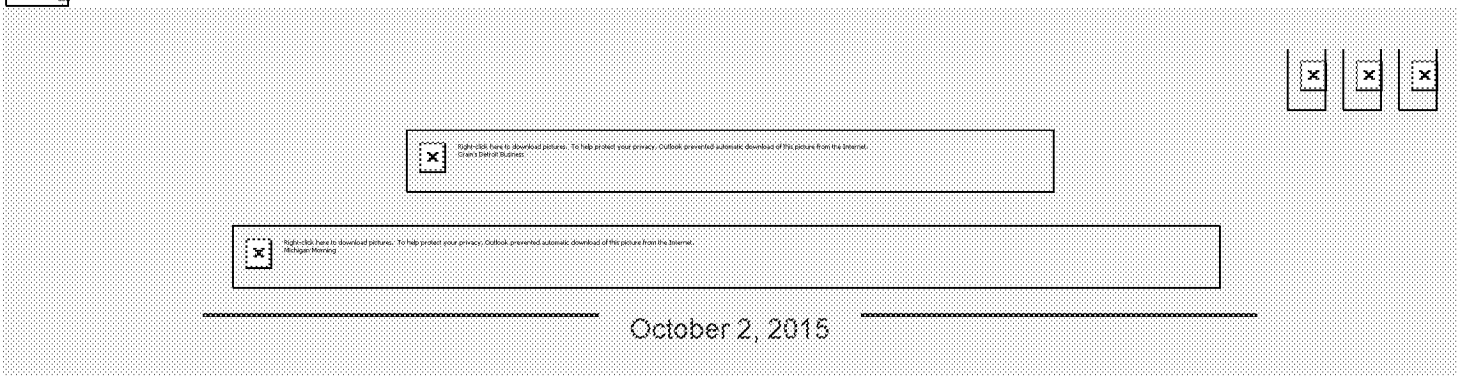

Scenes from Day 2 of Detroit Homecoming: Outcomes, challenges and a night on the Town(house)

Here are a few scenes of Day 2 of Detroit Homecoming, which started at the DIA and ended at the Townhouse. In between, there was a lot of dialogue, ideas and energy among the Detroit expats.

Who are the expats? Here's a list of who's at Detroit Homecoming

Work on steel frame for new Red Wings arena to begin by Halloween

LINDSAY VANHULLE

Taylor lawmaker sponsors bills to regulate human breast milk banks

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Frugal traveler visits Detroit for cheap eats, DIY art and local charm

Slows to Go and Grand Trunk Pub were among the stops on this writer's quick tour of the city.

Advertisement

GM to donate $100,000 to Detroit entrepreneur featured in Michael Bolton documentary

General Motors Foundation recognizes the work of Veronika Scott's nonprofit The Empowerment Plan, which hires women in shelters to make coats that convert to sleeping bags for the homeless.

DETROIT HOMECOMING

Duggan: 8 gas stations part of pilot crime-prevention effort to start by January

A camera and lighting ordinance may eventually lay out standards for businesses open after 10 p.m.

DETROIT HOMECOMING

Former Olympic gymnast Wendy Hilliard to move NYC-based foundation to Detroit

The Harlem-based Wendy Hilliard Gymnastics Foundation has been promoting the sport to inner-city children for 19 years.

SHERRI WELCH

Expat champions pitch their favorite local nonprofits for Detroit Homecoming Crowdrise

campaign

TOM HENDERSON

8 pitches for cash at Detroit Homecoming continue a busy season

Advertisement

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley to leave today for weeklong promotional trade trip to India

Michigan lawmakers consider tax-free accounts for people with disabilities

Texas company to acquire Troy software company New World Systems for $670M

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Auto supplier's expansion helps Greenville rebound from image as declining Midwest factory town

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

$1.2 billion in donations puts DeVos family on *Forbes* top philanthropy list

Advertisement

State officials to detail Flint drinking water action plan today

Genesee County commissioners on Thursday declared a public health emergency for residents using water from the Flint River through the city's water system.

Oakland County businesses invite students to explore careers during Manufacturing Day

10 things to do this weekend

Catch the last weekend of the Michigan Renaissance Festival, get a free health screening or welcome autumn with a food, music or art fair.

Lions vs. Seattle Seahawks: A by-the-numbers financial comparison of this week's opponent

EVENTS CALENDAR

2015 Opera Ball Gala

A black-tie benefit for Michigan Opera Theatre. Cocktails and dinner followed by performances by American Ballet Theatre dancers Misty Copeland and Gabe Stone Shayer and tenor Sean Panikkar and soprano Nicole Cabell. Young patron party begins at 8 p.m. with strolling dinner, music by Ben Sharkey Quartet held on the box level of the Detroit Opera House.

Date: Saturday, October 3 6:30pm - 11:00pm

Place: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit

Contact: Stephani Yates | (313) 237-3268 | syates@motopera.org

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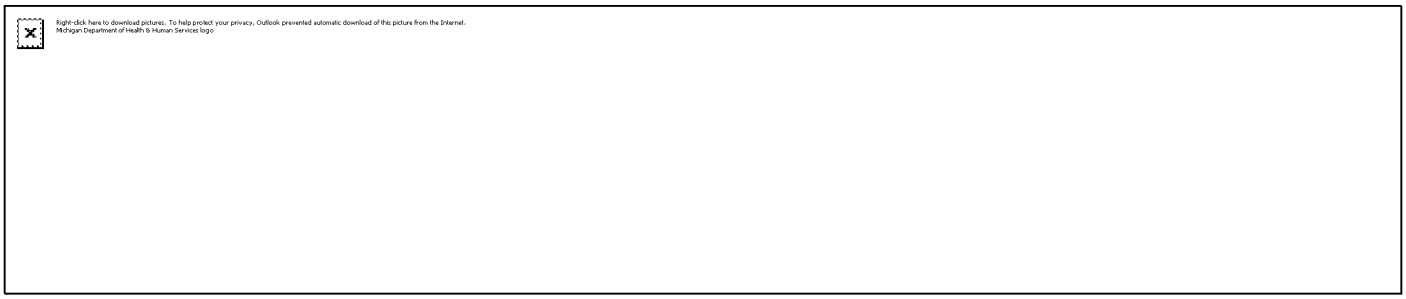
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 4:09 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday

LANSING, Mich. – Free water filters will be available to current Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients and Flint residents at four locations beginning Tuesday, October 6, at 9 a.m. through a partnership between the MDHHS and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. Free National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters are being provided to Flint residents as part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area.

Current MDHHS clients are encouraged to visit either the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office location to obtain a free, certified home water filter. Residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs should visit the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices located at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be onsite at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation.

"Ensuring that families in the Flint area have access to resources that will help reduce the potential for lead exposure is our top priority," said Nick Lyon, director of the MDHHS. "I want to thank our partners who have mobilized to make water filters available – a point that highlights the importance of continued collaboration at the local, state and federal level as we move forward."

MDHHS clients in the city of Flint who are active Family Independence Program (FIP), Food

Assistance Program (FAP), Child Development and Care (CDC), State Disability Assistance (SDA), or Social Security Insurance (SSI) recipients should bring valid identification and a copy of their water bill to their local MDHHS office to receive their filter free of charge. Flint residents who are not active MDHHS clients should bring identification and their water bill to the GCCARD location.

Although blood lead levels throughout the city of Flint have remained steady, last week, MDHHS data was found to be consistent with a recent Hurley Children's Hospital study indicating increased blood lead levels in children residing in two Flint ZIP codes after a 2014 change in water source. While lead paint remains the number one cause of lead poisoning in Michigan, the recent data prompted MDHHS to take action to reduce potential lead exposures through water sources.

MDHHS is urging parents in Flint and throughout the state to do their part in preventing elevated blood lead levels in children. For more information about steps you can take now, visit www.michigan.gov/lead, or contact your local health department. For updates on Flint water and available resources, visit www.michigang.gov/flintwater.

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- Flint Filters Press Release 10515.pdf

Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
DHHS Footer

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

Questions? Contact Us

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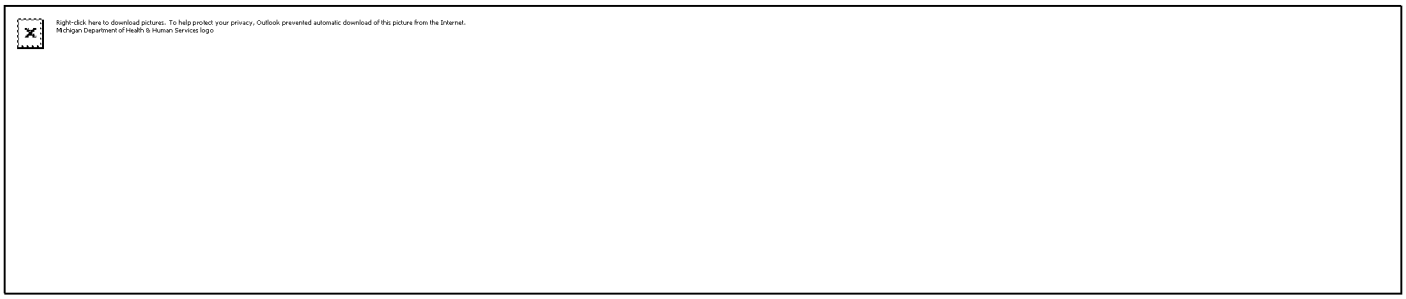
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:51 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD



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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 7, 2015
CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD

Nearly 5,000 NSF certified filters issued by MDHHS to Flint residents since Monday

LANSING, Mich. – Flint residents and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients with a city of Flint water bill will now be able to take advantage of extended hours this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department 2727 Lippincott location. Extended hours will be offered at the Lippincott facility only, and will run until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The other three locations will maintain 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. operating hours, Monday through Friday, for filter pick up.

Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive, reemphasized that the Brita SAFF-100 filters being distributed by the department and GCCARD do meet the NSF/ANSI 53 standards for drinking water treatment units.

“The Brita faucet filtration system that we are distributing to residents are National Sanitation Foundation certified to reduce lead in drinking water,” said Dr. Eden Wells. “When connected appropriately, these filters improve water quality by filtering out contaminates including lead, chlorine, benzene and other chemicals.”

Since Monday when MDHHS announced that free water filters would be distributed at four Flint locations, the state and GCCARD have partnered to issue approximately 5,000 free NSF certified

water filters to residents that are on the city of Flint water system. The distribution of filters is part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area. These NSF certified water filters remove lead in the water administered through water taps in homes.

MDHHS clients and residents with a city of Flint water bill may take advantage of the extended hours at the Lippincott GCCARD. During the regular business hours, MDHHS clients are encouraged to visit either the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office location; residents on Flint water who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs should visit the GCCARD offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw. Staff will be onsite at all four locations to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation.

MDHHS clients in the city of Flint who are active recipients should bring valid identification and a copy of their water bill to their local MDHHS office. Flint residents who are not active MDHHS clients should bring identification and their city of Flint water bill to a GCCARD location.

MDHHS is urging all residents do their part to prevent elevated blood lead levels in children. For more information on prevention, visit www.michigan.gov/lead, or contact your local health department. For updates on Flint water and resources, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

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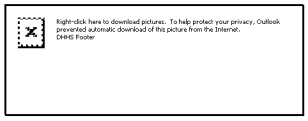
- Flint Extended Hours Press Release 10715.pdf



Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

Questions? Contact Us

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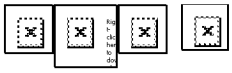

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:23 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Breakfasts lead to George P. Johnson-Pulse220 deal | New burger diner to open in Dearborn | Lawmakers debate banning microbeads

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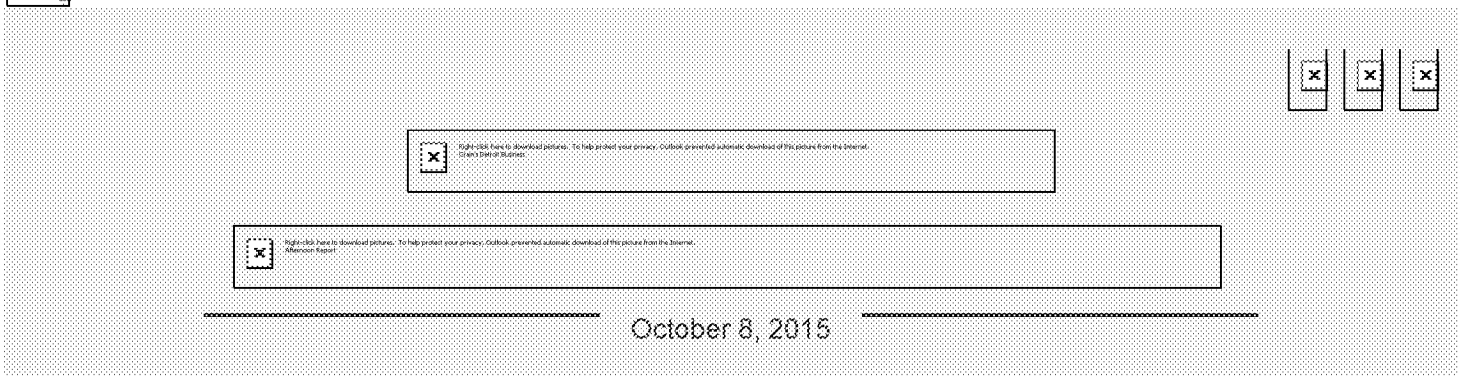


George P. Johnson buys events manager Pulse220

A long-term business relationship between two local marketing colleagues culminated in the deal announced this morning. "... we're set to shine on a much bigger stage," Ferndale-based Pulse220 founder Craig Erlich said.

Fiat Chrysler offers UAW higher wages in new tentative deal, sources say

The automaker is said to be offering Tier 2 workers as much as $29 an hour — up from $25 previously proposed — under a new agreement that avoided a strike by 40,000 union members.

LINDSAY VANHULLE

Michigan lawmakers debate banning plastic microbeads in body care products

A bill pending in the state House natural resources committee

would ban the use of synthetic microbeads, which are not biodegradable, to keep them out of the Great Lakes.

Belle Isle supporters don fancy hats, shoes for 'Polish the Jewel' luncheon

More than 450 women community leaders gathered Thursday for the 11th annual Polish the Jewel luncheon on Belle Isle. Since its inception, the event has raised $2.5 million to fund maintenance projects at Belle Isle.

Manardo to take on Detroit COO duties as Brown moves to water department

Advertisement

Snyder supports switching Flint water system back to Detroit

The governor will ask Michigan lawmakers for $6 million, half of the $12 million needed to reconnect Flint to Detroit's system through next summer.

TABLE TALK

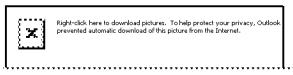
DCD debuts Homegrown Rye | Brome Burgers set to open | Wine dinner at 220 Merrill

Here's a roundup of local food, drink and restaurant news.

Senate panel OKs bills defining relationship between franchise owners, employees

GUEST BLOG: LISA KATZ

Job postings at record levels, hiring up — what's next for Southeast Michigan economy?



Coming Sunday: *Crain's* 40 under 40

This year's honorees are high achievers making an impact as executives, managers, entrepreneurs and community leaders who come from diverse industries, professions and backgrounds.

Advertisement

State to pay $1.9 million to lawyers in landmark gay marriage case

Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell hospitalized for heart procedure

J.P. Morgan Chase teams to help Detroit nonprofits launch new programs

Looking back: '80s Supreme Court case protected wetlands, deterred development

'You can't pay people to change health habits': Workers often opt out of employer wellness programs

10 things to do this weekend

Get in the Halloween spirit with movies, fun runs and festivals, celebrate Homecoming at Wayne State, catch a show and more. What do you have planned this weekend?

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 7:25 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: ArtPrize winners named tonight | Crystal Mtn. expansion gets funding | SE Michigan hiring up: What's next?

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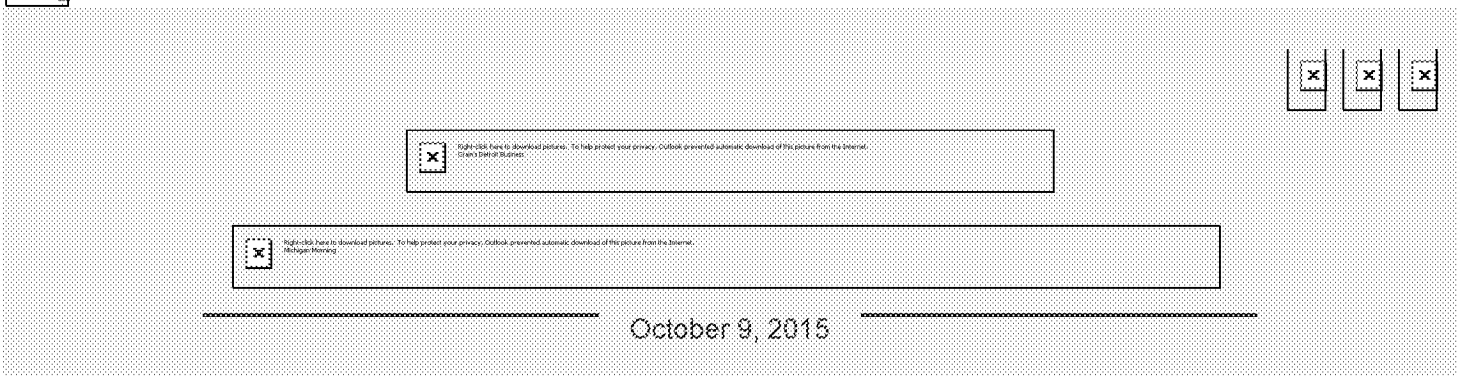

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ArtPrize winners to be revealed in Grand Rapids tonight

Two $200,000 grand prizes are at stake in the annual art competition.

Crystal Mountain, Pictured Rocks among community development projects to get Michigan funding

Five projects that are expected to generate nearly $14 million in total investment are getting more than $2 million in support from the Michigan Strategic Fund.

J.P. Morgan Chase service corps to help Eastern Market, TechTown

The third cohort of the Detroit Service Corps, made up of 12 managers from all of the bank's lines of business, will start helping

four area organizations with a variety of projects Monday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

National Wildlife Federation sues federal government, wants plans mandated for dealing with big oil spills

The environmental group accuses the U.S. Department of Transportation of failing for 20 years to issue regulations on crafting spill strategies for pipelines running beneath the Straits of Mackinac, among other sites.

GUEST BLOG: LISA KATZ

Job postings at record levels, hiring up — what's next for Southeast Michigan economy?

Advertisement

LANSING STATE JOURNAL

State needs 12 more weeks to fix tax bill problem: 'We really goofed this up'

Michigan Treasury will need more time to sort through 67,000 taxpayer accounts that may have been erroneously flagged as delinquent, department officials told a legislative oversight panel on Thursday.

Snyder supports switching Flint water system back to Detroit

The governor will ask Michigan lawmakers for $6 million, half of the $12 million needed to reconnect Flint to Detroit's system through next summer.

Manardo to take on Detroit COO duties as Brown moves to water department

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Advertisement

ACC 31st Annual Civic and Humanitarian Awards Gala

The Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC), a nonprofit human service organization serving southeast Michigan, will honor The Honorable Arlan B. Meekhof, The Honorable Tim Griemel, Jim Murray, Nidhal Garmo, Auday Arabo and The Shinola Company at its 36th Annual Civic and Humanitarian Awards Gala. A general reception will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the program and dinner at 7 p.m.This year's black-tie optional event will attract more than 1,000 guests, including Dr. Alia Bouran, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United States, who is slated to attend; national and state political leaders and members of the judiciary.

Date: Saturday, October 10 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Place: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, 400 Renaissance Drive, Detroit

Contact: Kimberly Hassan | (248) 559-1990 | kimberlyh@myacc.org

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 7:24 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: 40 Under 40 | Wineries visitors savor experience after law change | Grand Hotel best historic resort

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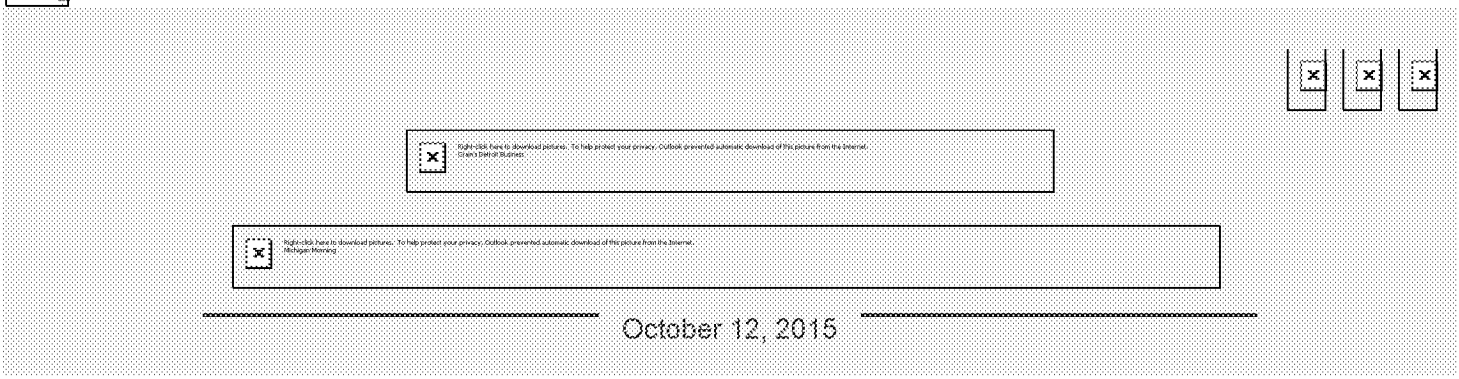

Crain's 40 Under 40

These 40 professionals in Southeast Michigan have made their marks before age 40. This year's winners launched successful companies, grew established firms, took on high-pressure projects and gave a hand to those in the community.

Rule change uncorks chance for winery visitors to linger longer over wine, scenery

Wineries are taking advantage of a change five years ago to Michigan's liquor law, which allows wineries to charge for wine tasting and sell glasses of wine on site.

With economy improved, LPGA shoots for success in Michigan

The recent announcement that the Ladies Professional Golf

Association would stage a new tournament in Ann Arbor next May has some wondering when the men's pro tour will end its six-year absence from the state.

DTE, Consumers Energy want to shut off Michigan's renewable energy mandates

The utilities say new federal rules make Michigan's mandates redundant.

Mackinac's Grand Hotel named best historic resort by Historic Hotels of America

The award was one of several this year and among a long list for the Grand, including in June the Fodor's Travel list of 10 best all-inclusive resorts in the U.S.

Advertisement

SECOND STAGE

The long path to a deal: A deeper look inside Garden Fresh's sale to Campbell Soup

Michigan, NY artists grand prize winners at ArtPrize

MEDC looks to establish relationships in India for small, midsize Michigan businesses

UM sports teams star in web series on Derek Jeter's Players' Tribune

State of Michigan under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis

Advertisement

Focus: Hope idles workforce training after state grants lapse

Banking legend Aubrey Lee remembered: 'He was a hero among us'

Aubrey Lee, who in 1966 became the first African-American manager at National Bank of Detroit, will be remembered this week by family, friends and community. The funeral is 11 a.m. Thursday.

Advice to would-be sellers: Do homework to make best deal

Peter Roth of Varnum LLP offered a few words of advice to would-be sellers in this interview with writer Rachelle Damico.

New International Affairs agency seeks to expand Detroit's global partnerships

Fall beauty is here: Share your photos

Michigan is a beautiful place to be this time of year as the crisp temperatures paint our state a rainbow of colors. We'd love to see your photos of fall fun and scenery, and share them with our readers.

Advertisement

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

FCA's new agreement concedes on Tier 2 without busting budget

MARY KRAMER

State universities goal: Work together

Here are some of the ideas that emerged at last week's gathering of more than 100 Michigan university presidents and elected and appointed trustees.

LOOKING BACK

All the rage 30 years ago, Japanese classes make culture shift

J.P. Morgan Chase service corps to help Eastern Market, TechTown

The third cohort of the Detroit Service Corps, made up of 12 managers from all of the bank's lines of business, will start helping four area organizations with a variety of projects Monday.

EVENTS CALENDAR

ACG Detroit hosts meeting on Detroit's Resurgence with City Leaders

Association for Corporate Growth Detroit Chapter, a 350-person nonprofit business association, featuring a panel of government, business and civic leaders who will discuss Detroit's resurgence from the recent bankruptcy. The panel will feature: · Tonya Allen, CEO, The Skillman Foundation
· Dennis Archer Jr., president and CEO, Ignition Media Group
· Phil Cooley, owner of Slows Bar BQ and Ponyride board member
· K.C. Crain, executive vice president, director corporate operations, Crain Communications Inc.
· Bud Denker, senior vice president, Penske
· Ton Lewand, group executive, jobs and economic growth, city of Detroit
· Dan Mullen, executive vice president, Bedrock Real Estate
· Moderator: Jacques Panis, president and CEO, Shinola

Date: Tuesday, October 13 7:00am - 9:30am

Place: Detroit Golf Club, 17911 Hamilton, Detroit

Contact: Sharon Kimble | (877) 894-2754 | skimble@acg.org

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:08 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Orleans Landing ready to break ground | Motor City Match names $500,000 winners | What does Flint's return to Detroit water mean?

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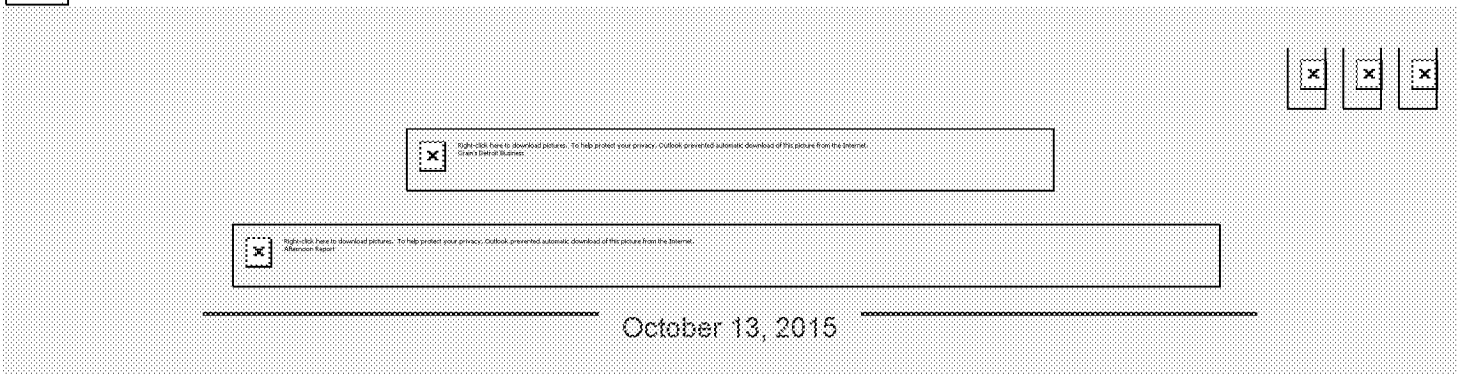

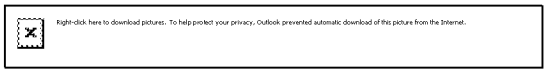

First phase of $65 million Orleans Landing mixed-use project to break ground next week

About 200 market-rate units and 10,000 square feet of retail space are planned along the Detroit River in the first phase, which is expected to be complete by next year, developer Richard Baron said.

Motor City Match names first winners of $500,000 in grants

Detroit Historic Commission considers changes to building that could house Nike store

The project architect for 1261 Woodward Ave. proposes removing an entry and replacing aluminum frontage.

Snyder: $1.2 billion road-funding talks at an impasse

Flint's temporary return to Detroit water system could bring one-time, $8 million revenue bump

The benefit from more customers is unlikely to offset the need for rate increases on other regional customers.

Advertisement

State could save $286.8 million in 5 years with better IT, report finds

LPGA finds success in Michigan; could men's golf tour follow?

Lewand-Monroe named Detroit Land Bank Authority acting executive director

Michigan Supreme Court opens term today with new justice, 11 cases this week

3 weeks of business events across Southeast Michigan

From networking to awards events, here's a guide to key local events.

Advertisement

Tigers' local TV ratings fall, but remain among MLB leaders

Assisted-suicide advocate Jack Kevorkian's papers open to public at UM

GRAND RAPIDS BUSINESS JOURNAL

Atwater Brewery uses downtown Grand Rapids taproom to strengthen connection between Detroit, West Michigan

Forget Beijing: Mall owner Taubman likes second-tier China cities

Which Detroit landmark should be built for new Legoland exhibit?

Analysts: Trans-Pacific Partnership unlikely to have major impact on auto

DHL adds Boeing 767 cargo service at Detroit Metropolitan Airport

Michigan vs. Michigan State: By the numbers

Fall beauty is here: Share your photos

Traveled up north lately? We're looking to help you show off your best pictures of autumn.

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 7:23 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Busy season for business events: A guide | Midland hotel troubles point to Dow CEO | UM-MSU rally today in Detroit

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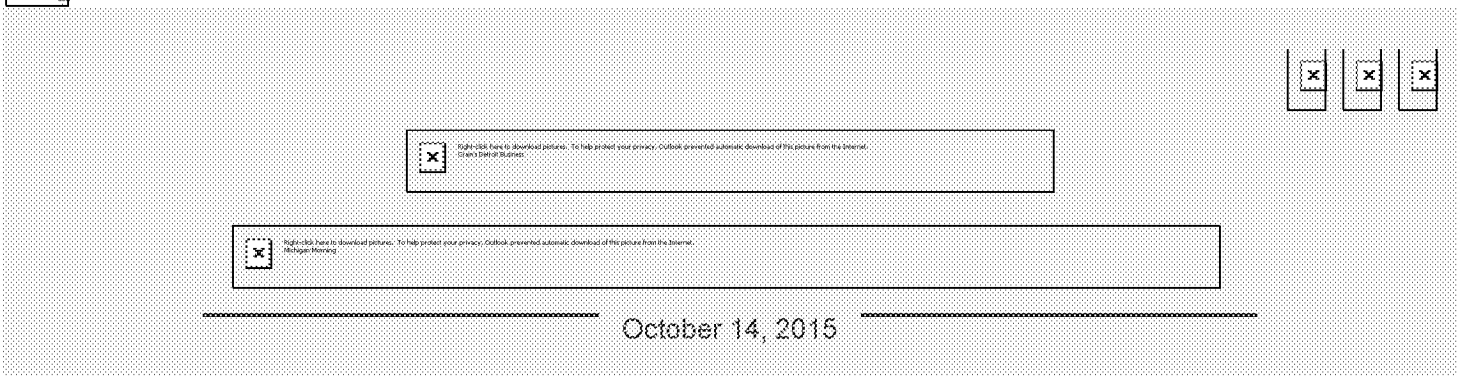

3 weeks of business events across Southeast Michigan

From networking to awards presentations, here's a guide.

REUTERS

Closer look at renovation of Midland's H Hotel points to role of Dow CEO's wife in $13 million cost overrun

The hotel project provides insight into the way Dow Chemical CEO Andrew Liveris has intersected his personal life with his role as head of the Midland-based company.

UM launches M-Prize international chamber music competition

The annual competition aims to showcase the highest caliber of chamber ensembles in the world and award a total prize pool of

$200,000, including a $100,000 grand prize.

Campus Martius to host Spartan-Wolverine football rally today

The Big Game Detroit Rally will feature Detroit high school marching bands, food, live music - and flag football.

Mackinac Island ferry 'Miss Margy' to make maiden voyage this morning

The 85-foot vessel is the first ferryboat to be built in northern Michigan.

Advertisement

Detroit Historic Commission considers changes to building that could house Nike store

The project architect for 1261 Woodward Ave. proposes removing an entry and replacing aluminum frontage.

10 Detroit small businesses get boost from Motor City Match program

First phase of $65 million Orleans Landing mixed-use project to break ground next week

Flint's temporary return to Detroit water system could bring one-time, $8 million revenue bump

The benefit from more customers is unlikely to offset the need for rate increases on other regional customers.

State could save $286.8 million in 5 years with better IT,

report finds

Advertisement

Snyder: $1.2 billion road funding talks at an impasse

Republican House Speaker Kevin Cotter said a key sticking point was linking a road proposal to a broader tax cut. The GOP governor declined to specify why a deal remained elusive.

UPNORTHLIVE

Northern Michigan cherry farm turned into golf course goes green, wins *Golf Digest* award

THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Brown algae mats spreading in Torch Lake, other northern Michigan waters

Lewand-Monroe named Detroit Land Bank Authority acting executive director

Assisted-suicide advocate Jack Kevorkian's papers open to public at UM

Advertisement

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Radical (because it's un-radical) management idea: A 40-hour workweek

Troy-based United Shore Financial Services is among companies using a 'firm 40' policy to help recruit higher-caliber employees: those who will commit to a 9-to-5 schedule but agree to fully unplug

when they leave the office.

Back to 1985: See what made headlines 30 years ago today

Detroit companies study Japanese | Grant will quit downtown site | Tire sales up; profits go flat

EVENTS CALENDAR

Capuchin Soup Kitchen's 2015 SOCK Event

The 43rd annual fund-raiser features dinner, cocktails, musical entertainment and the Second Helping AfterGlow event.

Date: Friday, October 16 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Place: Cobo Center's Grand Riverview Ballroom, 1 Washington Boulevard, Detroit

Contact: | (313) 579-2100, ext. 153

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 7:03 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Metro Detroit home sales rise | State to give $9.3M for Flint water crisis | Growing industrial diamonds at MSU

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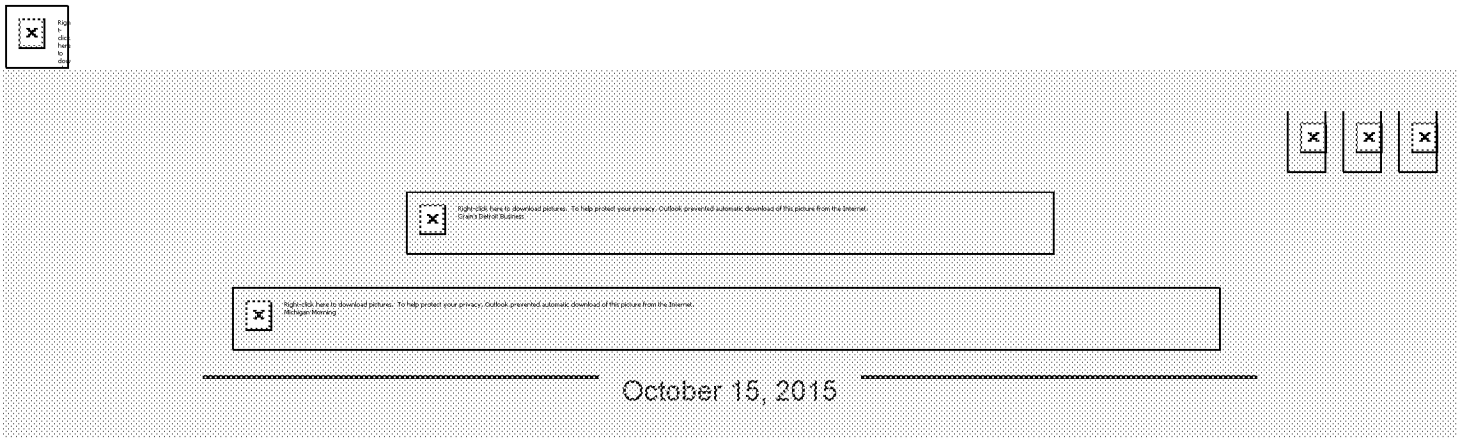

Southeast Michigan home sales increase, led by jumps in Oakland, Livingston counties

Report released today says the median sale price of homes and condos in region rose 5 percent to $156,500

House gives unanimous OK to $9.3 million for Flint water crisis; Senate will vote today

The bill includes $6 million to connect Flint to Detroit water and $1 million for water filters for Flint residents.

Salort-Pons starts today as Detroit Institute of Arts director; he'll earn $375,000 first year

Controversy brews over Michigan's awarding $42 billion Medicaid HMO contracts

Several Medicaid HMOs are expected to appeal the state's decision to award contracts worth $7 billion annually that cuts into their business plans.

MSU, Fraunhofer USA to invest $5 million to expand diamond-growing lab

Advertisement

Michigan's official Christmas tree is 66-foot spruce from western U.P.

The tree will arrive at the state Capitol on the morning of Halloween and be lit Nov. 20 during Lansing's Silver Bells in the City celebration.

MLIVE

Ikea to open Windsor location

GUEST BLOG: MICHELLE GILBERT

8 reasons to manage your personal brand online

Michigan unemployment rate dips below U.S. rate for first time in 15 years

Martha Stewart: Regrets not buying Kmart, but not a fan of 'horrible' headquarters in Troy

To the home goods mogul, not everything about the discount retailer was a good thing.

Advertisement

Moosejaw to open 2nd store in Detroit for holiday shopping

The recreation apparel and gear retailer's pop-up will offer "special, hard-to-find styles rarely seen in stores."

JAY GREENE

Millennials' online shopping habits are changing health care marketing

ANN ARBOR NEWS

EMU OKs $39.5M budget to overhaul science building

Detroit casinos' revenue up in September, 3rd quarter

Legislature OKs increasing Michigan 529 college savings account limit to $500,000

The legislation is part of a package to let residents with disabilities open savings accounts to pay for long-term needs.

Advertisement

Jones Lang LaSalle hires Larry Emmons as Detroit managing director

Chicago schools chief, a former DPS exec, pleads guilty in kickback scheme

Barbara Byrd-Bennett, who was chief academic officer for Detroit Public Schools under former emergency manager Robert Bobb, pleaded guilty to her role in a scheme to steer $23 million in no-bid contracts to education firms for $2.3 million in bribes and kickbacks.

10 things to do this weekend

Take home a glass pumpkin, go to the opera, take a trip to a cider mill and more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit presents The Big Event

Join Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit for a Latin-themed, fun filled night of wining,dining and dancing. VIP reception at 6:30 p.m.Revenue generated from this event is used for programs serving vulnerable youth in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Date: Friday, October 16 7:30pm - 11:00pm

Place: International Banquet Center, 400 Monroe Street, 8th Floor, Detroit

Contact: Cheryl Haithco | (313) 309-9236 | cheryl.haithco@bbbsdetroit.org

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 3:42 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: SE Michigan home sales rise | Wayne State med school probation lifted | Ex-Detroit schools exec under investigation

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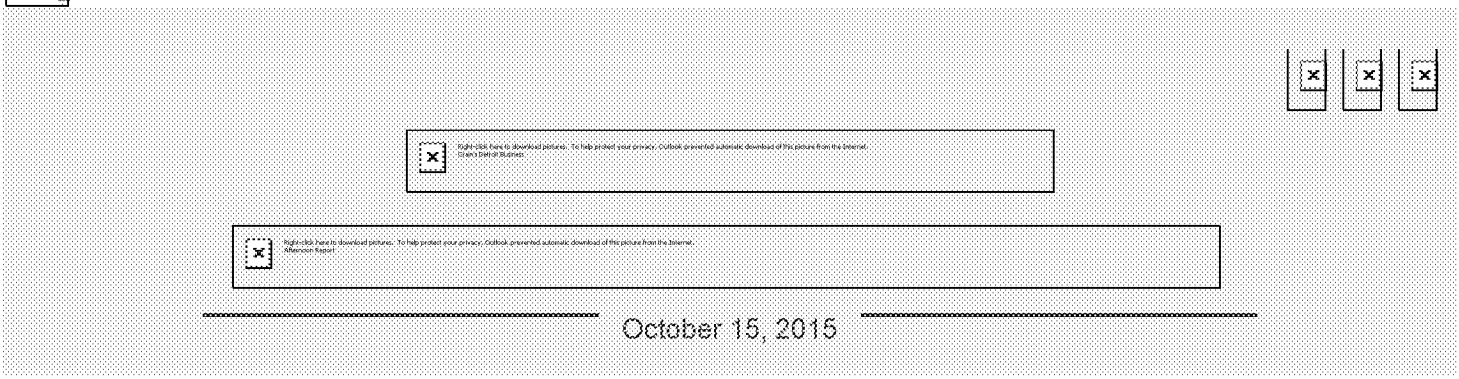


Southeast Michigan home sales increase, led by jumps in Oakland, Livingston counties

Wayne State medical school probation lifted, but program placed on 'warning' status

Jack Sobel, M.D., dean of Wayne State's medical school, testified about the 12 accreditation violations in an appeal hearing Tuesday.

Michigan Supreme Court hears case on whether cities can adopt prevailing wage ordinances

Concerto opening additional clinics for Medicare-Medicaid patients in Detroit

Authorities investigate ex-Chicago schools CEO's tenure in Detroit

Barbara Byrd-Bennett, who was chief academic officer for Detroit Public Schools under former emergency manager Robert Bobb, pleaded guilty to her role in a scheme to steer $23 million in no-bid contracts to education firms for $2.3 million in bribes and kickbacks.

Advertisement

U.S. Supreme Court appears divided in Campbell Ewald class-action lawsuit case

Legislature finalizes $9.3 million to address Flint water crisis

Arts, Beats & Eats raises $255,802 for 60 nonprofit, community organizations

Brian DeBano steps down as president of Michigan Restaurant Association

Art Van 'keeping the magic alive' with new Thanksgiving parade float

Advertisement

Rule change uncorks chance for Michigan winery visitors to linger longer over wine, scenery

Wineries are taking advantage of a change five years ago to Michigan's liquor law, which allows wineries to charge for wine

tasting and sell glasses of wine on site.

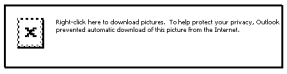
DIA unveils website that showcases government-owned art

Art lovers can search for more than 26,000 U.S. General Services Administration-owned pieces from the 1850s to the present, including more than 350 on display at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Salort-Pons starts today as Detroit Institute of Arts director; he'll earn $375,000 first year

He succeeds Graham Beal, who retired as director in June.

Michigan unemployment rate dips below U.S. rate for first time in 15 years



GUEST BLOG: MICHELLE GILBERT

8 reasons to manage your personal brand online

TOM HENDERSON

Conference in Ypsilanti targets existing, would-be angel investors

Chocolate-themed fundraiser gives a boost to Detroit riverfront

Hamtramck-based Bon Bon Bon and the GM RenCen presented the unofficial "world's largest box of chocolates" Wednesday evening to raise money for the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy.

10 things to do this weekend

Take home a glass pumpkin, go to the opera, take a trip to a cider mill and more.

World Watch: Michigan companies doing

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 7:15 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Wayne State med school probation lifted | West Michigan credit unions merge | UM vs. MSU: How they compare

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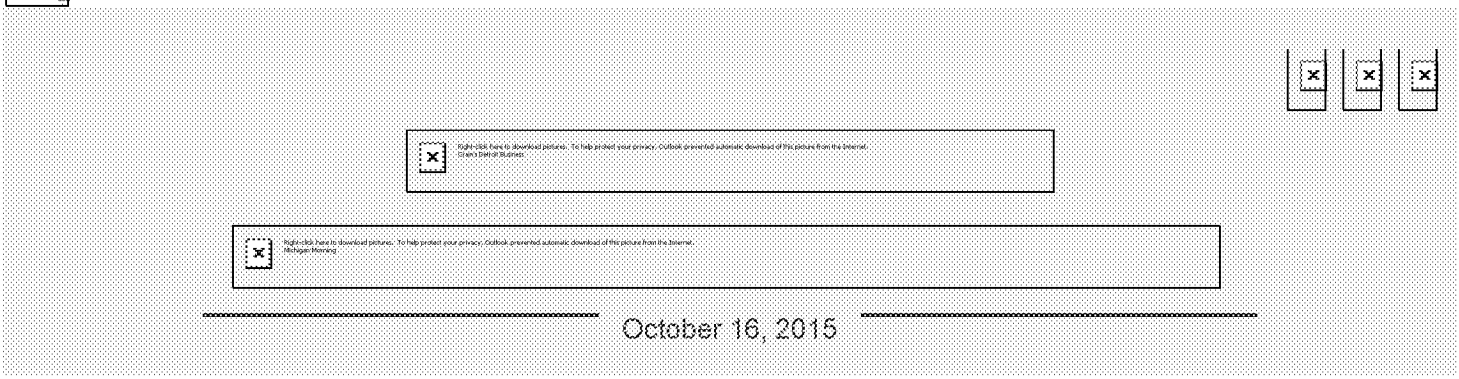

Wayne State medical school probation lifted, but program placed on 'warning' status

Jack Sobel, M.D., dean of Wayne State's medical school, testified about the 12 accreditation violations in an appeal hearing Tuesday.

University of Michigan endowment rises to $10 billion, posts 3.5% return

TABLE TALK

Vertical Detroit to open Monday | Sapori hosts social supper | ROAK's fall beers | Wine tasting in dark

A roundup of local food, drink and restaurant news.

MLIVE

West Michigan credit unions announce historic merger

Calling it the "largest merger in credit union history," Lake Michigan Credit Union of Grand Rapids and United Federal Credit Union of St. Joseph announced they will merge, creating the nation's 19th largest credit union.

Fall beauty arrives in Michigan

From the Porcupine Mountains to Kensington Metropark, Crain's readers share their photos of autumn colors.

Advertisement

Bill Clinton to speak, receive award at Michigan State University

The former president will be the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service, established by ex-Gov. Jim Blanchard and his wife Janet.

Revamped Fox Theatre marquee again lights up Detroit sky

After a monthslong renovation, the signature entertainment district signage debuted Thursday evening with modern touches.

Concerto opening additional clinics for Medicare-Medicaid patients in Detroit

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

High-end 'tiny house' settlement planned for Travese City area RV park

Michigan vs. Michigan State: By the numbers

The UM and MSU football teams play Saturday in Ann Arbor in the 108th meeting between the in-state rivals.

Advertisement

Legislature finalizes $9.3 million to address Flint water crisis

Michigan Supreme Court hears case on whether cities can adopt prevailing wage ordinances

Brian DeBano steps down as president of Michigan Restaurant Association

MLIVE

Black business owners sue Grand Rapids bank for alleged lending discrimination

Business owners contend Mercantile sought to increase minority lending but took a "zero tolerance approach" when borrowers sought to catch up on missed payments or refinance loans.

Multi-court chief judges appointed in effort to improve Michigan's trial courts

Advertisement

U.S. Supreme Court appears divided in Campbell Ewald class-action lawsuit case

Arts, Beats & Eats raises $255,802 for 60 nonprofit, community organizations

TOM HENDERSON

Conference in Ypsilanti targets existing, would-be angel investors

Art Van 'keeping the magic alive' with new Thanksgiving parade float

GUEST BLOG: SAULIUS MIKALONIS

EPA ordered to tighten ballast water discharge permits

10 things to do this weekend

Take home a glass pumpkin, go to the opera, take a trip to a cider mill and more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

College for Creative Studies 34th Detroit International Wine Auction

Browse a fabulous array of auction items and a curated exhibit of College for Creative Studies alumni art while savoring an exquisite five-course meal and taking in a performance by Macklemore and Ryan Lewis.

Date: Saturday, October 17 7:00pm - 11:30pm

Place: Coleman A. Young International Airport, 11499 Conner Street, Detroit

Contact: Jen Nelson | (313) 664-7983 | jennelson@collegeforcreativestudies.edu

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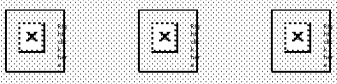

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 7:17 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Housing market hits high | Henry Ford, Sparrow lose in Medicaid reorganization | State: Water protocol not followed in Flint

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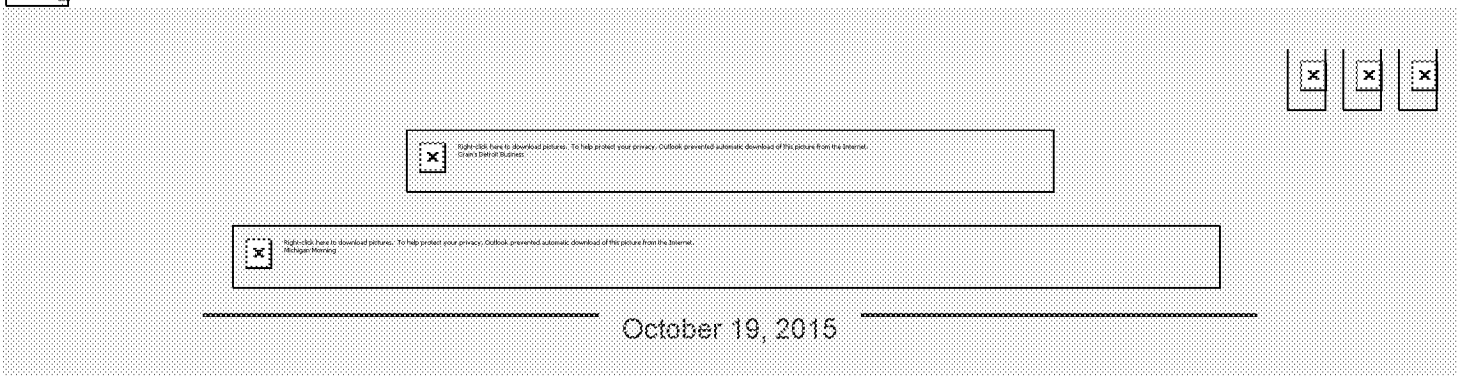

New heat for Southeast Michigan's housing market: Sales, prices hit 10-year highs

Experts say the market is strengthening because of several factors: pent-up demand from buyers who sat out the last recession, sellers who are no longer underwater on mortgages, and a clearing inventory of bank-owned homes.

Michigan's new Medicaid regions could be costly for Henry Ford Health System

Lansing-based Sparrow Health System also could take a hit.

BILL SHEA

Analysis: Why Ilitches might sell the Detroit

Tigers — and why they might not

MICHIGAN RADIO

State DEQ admits not following protocol to keep lead out of Flint water

When the city started pumping from the Flint River, it didn't do any kind of corrosion control, an investigation shows.

Indie costume shops not spooked by monstrous rivals as Halloween approaches

Advertisement

SPECIAL REPORT: HEALTH CARE

Employers and consumers lead push for better data on price and quality in health care industry

Travel Michigan seeks social media help for tourism industry

EDITORIAL

Snyder must take lead on energy issues

MARY KRAMER

Business community should rally around plan to make sure 3rd-graders can read

Lansing-area athletic apparel retailer sues over 'Run Detroit' name

Advertisement

Young Detroiters to experiment with entrepreneurship during Startup Weekend

KIRK PINHO

Martin family opens its first hotel in downtown Ann Arbor

Looking back: 30 years ago, Michigan automotive suppliers were in low gear over high-tech

NATIONAL JOURNAL

Detroit Boxing Gym founder fights to curb illiteracy, hopeless-ness

Upper Peninsula business owners fight tax appeals by big-box retailers

Advertisement

Average state gas price falls 12 cents in past week to $2.33

EVENTS CALENDAR

Automation Alley's Education and Industry Partnership Summit: Growing the Manufacturing Pipeline

The Automation Alley Education and Workforce Committee invites you to be part of an important discussion on bridging the gap in the manufacturing talent pipeline.Featuring a keynote presentation by Karen McPhee, senior education policy adviser for Gov. Snyder, the summit is intended to facilitate the formation of partnerships between the manufacturing business community and area K-12 schools, resulting in employer-backed school programming to promote manufacturing as a viable career path. The event will include case studies from Michigan school districts that have successfully

partnered with manufacturing companies to create programs that expose students to manufacturing career paths.

Date: Tuesday, October 20 7:30am - 2:00pm

Place: TechShop Detroit, 800 Republic Drive, Allen Park

Contact: Karol Friedman | (248) 457-3232 | friedmank@automationalley.com

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 3:28 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools could cost state $715M | Drew Lane out at WMGC | Campbell Ewald appeals loss of $457M Navy account

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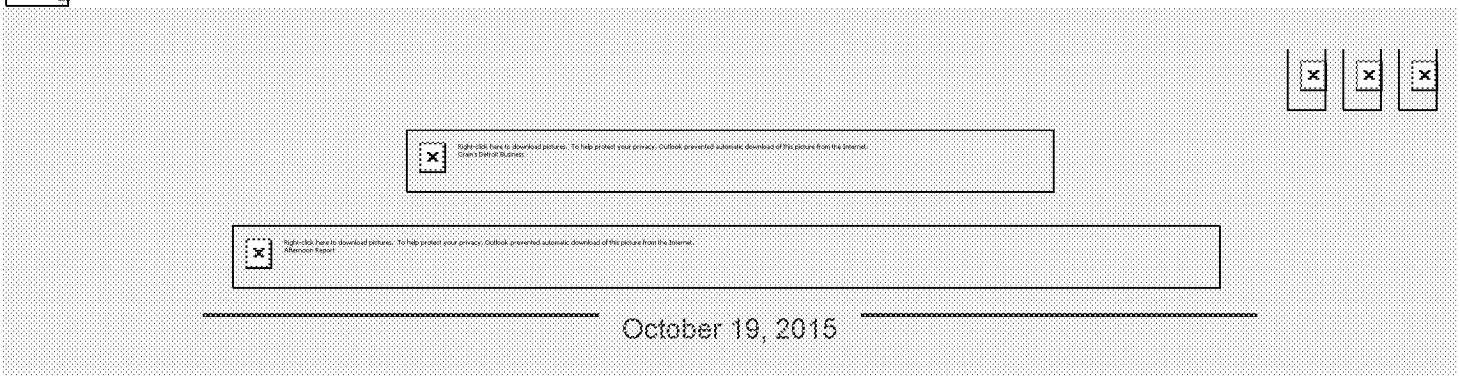

Snyder details plans to fix Detroit schools; could cost state $715 million

Gov. Rick Snyder today outlined plans to split Detroit's troubled public schools system into two districts to help improve academic performance while paying down more than $500 million in operating debt.

Drew Lane out at WMGC 105.1 FM after contract talks break down

Disagreements over show content and talent were the problem, not money, Lane's agent says.

Campbell Ewald appeals loss of $457 million Navy ad account

Navy unfairly awarded its recruitment advertising contract to a rival firm, the Detroit ad

agency says in appeal to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

New heat for Southeast Michigan's housing market: Sales, prices hit 10-year highs

Experts say the market is strengthening because of factors including pent-up demand from buyers who sat out the last recession, sellers who are no longer underwater on mortgages and a clearing inventory of bank-owned homes.

BILL SHEA

MM3rdQB: UM gets an education in Twitter toxicity

The social media reaction to Michigan's game-losing bungled punt attempt Saturday apparently caught the university's top brass by surprise. Oh, and the Lions won a game!

Advertisement

DEGC taps Washington, D.C., real estate consultant to replace Holdwick

Moddie Turay takes a new role as executive vice president of real estate and finance, calling the Detroit job "probably the best economic recovery opportunity in my lifetime."

A123 hires Chris Eisenhart as COO

Indie costume shops not spooked by monstrous rivals as Halloween approaches

MARY KRAMER

Business community should rally around plan to make sure 3rd-graders can read

Detroit Land Bank program boosts vacant lot sales

Advertisement

Major media collection donated to Michigan State

The Rovi Media Collection, which includes more than 850,000 CDs, DVDs, Blu-rays and video games, will be publicly available through the school's library and interlibrary loan services.

DEQ official: Federal water rules not followed in Flint, changes being made

"Our actions reflected inexperience, and our public response to criticism was the wrong tone early in this conversation," Michigan DEQ Director Dan Wyant said.

MARY KRAMER ON WJR

Metro Detroit housing prices hit 10-year high | Medicaid changes may rock insurers

Crain's Detroit Business Publisher Mary Kramer talks with Paul W. Smith on WJR about stories from the Oct. 19, 2015, issue.

Top metro Detroit real estate execs move on to new jobs

Larry Emmons (pictured) and Barry Swatsenbarg are among the recent brokerage moves.

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 7:10 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: House OKs road plan: 3.3-cent gas tax hike | Court sets deadline in Moroun bridge lawsuit | Downtown Pontiac welcomes bikes

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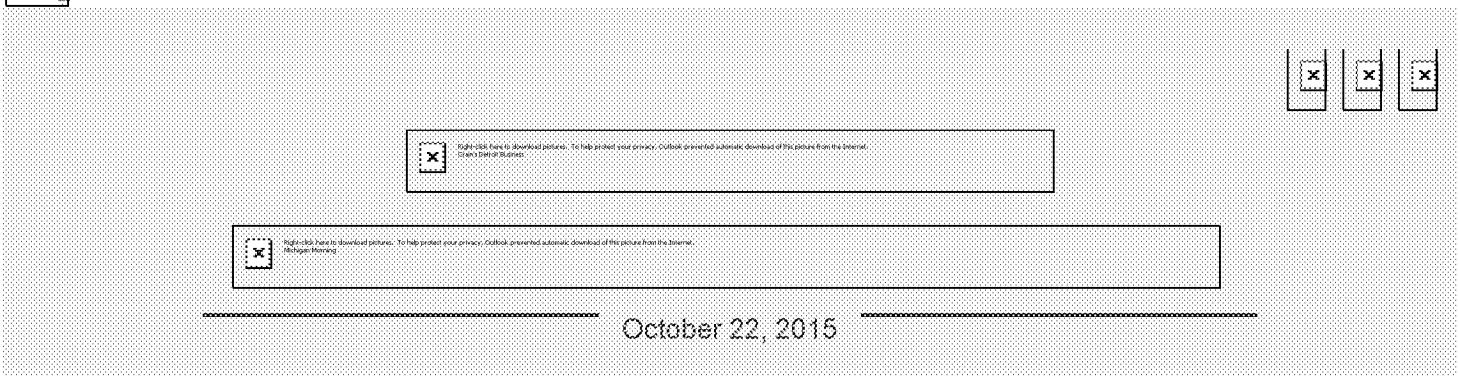

Michigan House OKs new roads plan with gas tax, fee hikes

The plan approved late Wednesday includes a 3.3-cent gasoline tax hike and 40 percent vehicle registration fee increase; a governor's spokeswoman expressed concern about the proposal.

Michigan businesses open to 'Eureka' tech, but need more workforce training, report finds

Disruptive technologies like 3-D printing require talent in addition to funding.

Court sets Jan. 4 deadline to address Detroit River bridge permit holdup in Moroun lawsuit

KIRK PINHO

Here's what Pontiac Silverdome site would look like without a stadium

Under a conceptual scenario, the old football stadium would be razed and replaced with things like a hotel, restaurants, 750,000 square feet of light industrial space and a corporate headquarters building.

Results of UAW vote on Fiat Chrysler deal to be released today

Advertisement

Fiat Chrysler buys naming rights at The Palace, DTE Energy Music Theatre venues

Terms of the deal were not disclosed, but in January, Dennis Mannion, president and CEO of Palace Sports & Entertainment LLC, told *Crain's* that he expected naming rights for the West Atrium to sell for at least $1 million annually.

Improvements make downtown Pontiac more accessible for bicyclists

New bicycle loops, repair stations and signs were recently added to help riders get to the library, downtown businesses and city parks from the Clinton River Trail.

Federal agency offers disaster loans to Michigan small businesses hit by cold weather

TRAVERSE CITY RECORD-EAGLE

Traverse City winery CEO doesn't want you to waste a drop

Ed O'Keege Jr.'s brainchild is a countertop device that dispenses wine by the glass from a refrigerated bag that preserves the product for up to six months.

KIRK PINHO

Detroit's first Applebee's will have exclusive Atwater beer

The restaurant will mark its opening day Monday by serving Eight Mile Amber — and by donating 10 percent of food sales to Gleaners.

Advertisement

Task force to review Flint's water use, testing

Domino's launches oven-equipped pizza delivery car

The Ann Arbor-based company worked with General Motors and Roush Enterprises to reconfigure a Chevrolet Spark into a vehicle made for delivering hot pizzas.

Detroit contractor DMC Consultants Inc. faces $265,200 in MIOSHA fines

The Sporting News adds Tom Gage to postseason baseball coverage

The Hall of Fame baseball writer is reporting on American League playoffs after a brief stint with Fox Sports Detroit and 36 years with *The Detroit News*.

Detroit ad veteran Fred Yaffe stepping aside as CEO of firm he started in 1960

Advertisement

MIBIZ

LG Chem to manufacture Chevy Bolt battery cells in Holland, analysts say

THE FLINT JOURNAL

Two groups partner to relaunch Capitol Theatre in downtown Flint

Michigan Medicaid program to receive $250,000 in lab testing fraud settlement

Vezina Law Group, a Birmingham-based law firm specializing in False Claims Act cases, was part of a legal team that helped secure a $256 million settlement with Millennium Health of San Diego.

10 things to do this weekend

Check out the Detroit Zoo Boo, explore a Detroit beer festival, meet some football legends this weekend and more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

"Shock the (Urban) World" - Urban Entrepreneurship Symposium 2015

The Urban Entrepreneurship Initiative will hold its Urban Entrepreneurship Symposium on Oct. 23 in Detroit. The second annual event brings together business innovators, academics, students and community and government leaders to inspire and ignite for-profit business solutions to urban challenges. Urban entrepreneurship isn't a social program, it's business innovation that produces needed products and services for urban communities, or makes a significant number of jobs available to urban residents.

Date: Friday, October 23 8:30am - 4:30pm

Place: College for Creative Studies, A. Alfred Taubman Center for Design Education, 6400 Cass, Detroit

Contact: David Tarver | (313) 457-2050 | info@urbanei.org

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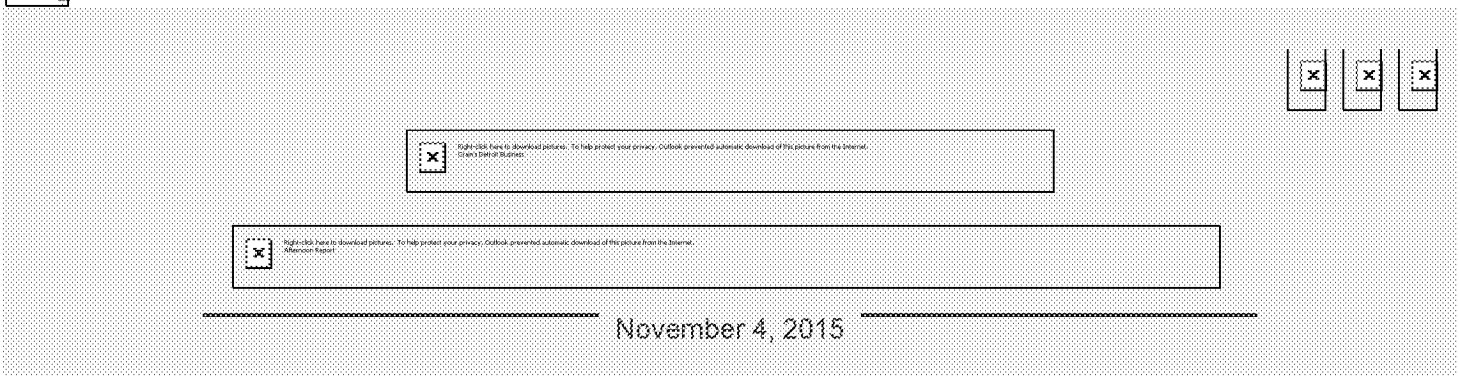
From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Detroit loses bid for college football title game | New details about $95M Red Wings arena features | Taubman art auction begins tonight

Having trouble viewing this email? See the online version.



Conflict with auto show kills Detroit's bid for 2019 college football championship game

Levi Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., was awarded the game today over Ford Field.

Olympia Entertainment President Tom Wilson unveils new details about Red Wings arena plan

Five clubs, including one through which players will pass to and from the ice, among new features available for fans at the $627 million arena.

SHERRI WELCH

First auction of pieces from Taubman's private art collection set for tonight

Absentee ballots doom Schoolcraft College 0.6-mill tax increase request

Christmas in July? Detroit's holiday tree arrives in summer-like temps

Four Tops will headline Nov. 20 lighting ceremony at Campus Martius

Advertisement

Ilitches add $95 million worth of features to new Red Wings arena

Owners of the Detroit Red Wings said today they will push the total project cost to $627 million — with additional money for enhancements that include unique seating, a practice rink and outside public spaces.

Will Leather Goods opens in Midtown today

Detroit native William Adler opened his high-end, handcrafted leather bags and accessories store in the former Tom Boy Super Market location.

KIRK PINHO

Detroit Seoul: Local broker to be part of South Korean documentary on American manufacturing

Records: FBI investigated ex-Detroit schools exec over contract

Court documents show the FBI was investigating whether ex-Chicago schools chief Barbara Byrd-Bennett fraudulently steered a $40 million contract to an educational publisher while she worked for Detroit schools.

Peter Karmanos sues Compuware over sale to Thoma Bravo

The founder of the Detroit-based IT company alleges fraud in the transaction and that the $2.4 billion sale price was too low.

Advertisement

Voters favor incumbents in prominent mayoral races; some bond issues pass

Contested mayoral races in some of metro Detroit's largest cities and school bond issues dominated local elections Tuesday.

Voters oust Flint mayor, elect newcomer amid city's water problems

Karen Weaver beat incumbent Dayne Walling in Tuesday's election.

Courser, Gamrat fail in bids to regain seats after sex scandal

MLIVE

Macomb roofing company pleads guilty in unemployment fraud case

UM extends basketball coach John Beilein's contract

The university said it has added two years to the contract of its men's basketball coach to extend to 2020-21. Beilein is entering his ninth season at the school.

Freemium travel app offers guide to authentic Detroit experience

Metro Detroit native's new niche Daytripper Detroit app aims to provide "a current cool look" at the city for visitors and locals.

Sam Valenti IV's Ghostly transcends record label roots

Sam Valenti IV founded Ghostly International LLC while a student at the University of Michigan in 1999. Sunday, the 35-year-old and his company were profiled in The New York Times.

Hayman Co. buys Chicago-area apartment complex from Michigan pension fund for more than $41 million

The deal marks the Southfield-based company's re-entry into the Chicago market. The pension fund had owned the property since 1997.

Groupon replaces Detroit native Eric Lefkofsky as CEO

The ailing e-commerce site, whose stock has fallen more than 50 percent since the start of the year, promoted COO Rich Williams to replace the co-founder, who will resume his role as chairman of the Chicago-based company.

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Produce store sets up shop inside Gratiot Central Market | Huron Room to open in Mexicantown | 10 things to do this weekend

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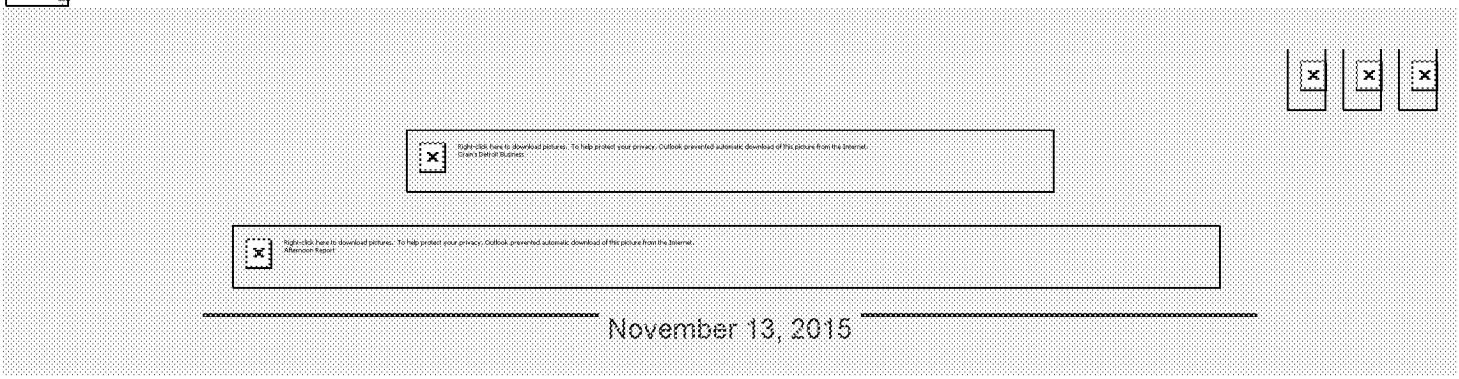
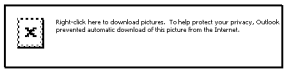


Red Truck Fresh Produce to open in Eastern Market, add training for vets

The new store inside Gratiot Central Meat Market has secured nearly $1.3 million in public and private grants for operations and a workforce development program.



Great Lakes-themed restaurant Huron Room to open in Mexicantown

In what was a nondescript corner of a building in Detroit's Mexicantown, the owners of Green Dot Stables and Johnny Noodle King are set to open a new bar and restaurant Monday with a menu featuring local fish dishes and Michigan-made beer, wine and spirits.

Mylan's $26 billion hostile bid for West Michigan drugmaker Perrigo fails

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

How plucky Hazel Park is rebuilding its housing market

Land banks were conceived to help counties stabilize property values in a changing economy. But Oakland County doesn't have a land bank. So tiny Hazel Park essentially created its own and is beginning to reap the benefits.

Coming this weekend: Detroit 2.0

Come back to CrainsDetroit.com this weekend for this year's edition of Crain's Detroit 2.0, featuring a look at downtown Detroit buildings that are primed for redevelopment, a whirlwind 36-hour tour of Detroit's burgeoning restaurant scene and a closer look at who owns downtown.

Advertisement

Thanksgiving turkeys cost more than ever after bird flu wipeout

Buyers like Ann Arbor-based Busch's and other retailers compete for supply after the worst U.S. outbreak of avian influenza destroyed almost 8 million turkeys earlier this year.

GUEST BLOG: SAULIUS MIKALONIS

Michigan, neighboring governments work to reduce Lake Erie pollution

The state is proposing a plan to combat harmful algal blooms in the lake, which many have described as the "Dead Sea of North America."

TABLE TALK

Salo Project brings Filipino cuisine | Speakeasy in Royal Oak | Beau's Grillery updates menu

The Salo Project, a culinary effort to bring Filipino cuisine to 50 states in 50 weeks, stops in Detroit this Sunday.

'Like' your favorite 40 in our Facebook contest by Sunday night

As part of our celebration of the 2015 40 under 40 class, *Crain's Detroit Business* has launched a contest with a $1,000 pledge to the charity of the winner's choice.

THE DETROIT NEWS

Petition to recall Snyder over Flint water troubles denied

Advertisement

Detroit Digits: Nov. 13, 2015

From the stalking horse bid for Olga's to the region's home sales increase, here's a number's driven look at this week's news.

Macomb economic development boss Stephen Cassin retires

4 building managers take home 8 local TOBY awards

World Watch: Michigan companies doing business in China

Business events in November: From networking to infographics

Lions vs. Green Bay Packers: By-the-numbers financial comparison of this week's opponent

10 things to do this weekend

Go to the circus, see a beard competition, experience salsa dancing and more this weekend.

Fall beauty is here: Share your photos

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 7:13 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Education the next priority in state, survey says | 10 Detroit buildings ready for investment | HAP to lose half its membership after losing Medicaid appeal

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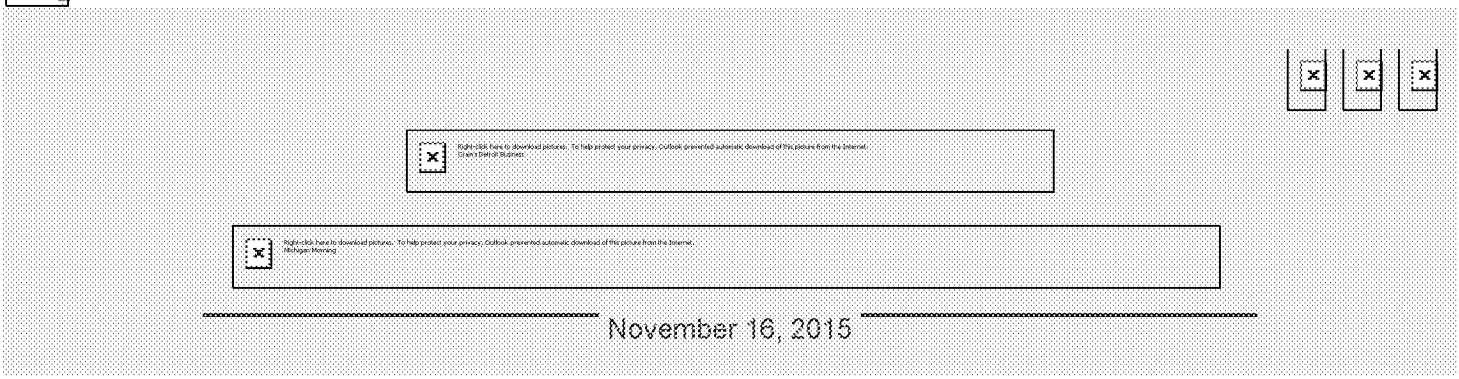

Business leaders: Education a top political priority in Michigan

A survey of the Southeast Michigan business community put smaller class size, revamped teacher evaluations ahead of other priorities in the state.

Generation next: These 10 buildings are waiting for new life in Detroit

Detroit's skyline is beginning to heal as real estate investors lay claim to central business district space, but some mostly empty buildings remain in need of redevelopment.

Snyder postpones efforts to welcome Syrian refugees to Michigan

In the wake of the deadly attacks in Paris, the governor said that Michigan is "proud of our rich history of immigration" but that Michigan's "first priority is protecting the safety of our residents."

JAY GREENE

State committee rejects 5 of 6 Medicaid health plan appeals

Molina Healthcare of Michigan is the only HMO to win its appeal of Michigan's Medicaid contract rebid decisions that were made last month; HAP is expected to lose half its membership after ruling.

Pure Michigan opens its books: For every dollar spent, state made $6.87

Advertisement

Focus: Hope secures $4.36 million in pledges, equipment from corporate funders

The new support comes in the wake of the suspension of the Detroit nonprofit's workforce training programs for lack of funding.

30 years later, Washtenaw County officials open to M-14 development

Marijuana dispensaries worry about future as Detroit ponders zoning changes

Allegiance, Henry Ford say merger right fit

Class-action suit filed against Gov. Snyder claims damages resulting from lead in Flint's water

Advertisement

CAPITOL BRIEFINGS

Schuette among targets of ads backing EPA's Clean Power Plan

FAQ: Michigan moves toward renewable power goal, not mandate

ITC Michigan to light transmission towers for holidays starting today

More patients, high tech, new payment models drive outpatient facilities growth

Red Truck Fresh Produce to open today n Eastern Market, add training for vets

Green Dot Stables and Johnny Noodle King owners to open Mexicantown restaurant today

The new bar and restaurant will have a menu featuring local fish dishes and Michigan-made beer, wine and spirits.

Food writer gets reacquainted with Detroit's burgeoning restaurant scene

GUEST ESSAY: RON FOURNIER

Purpose-driven millennials who don't remember 'Old Detroit' build anew

David Kirby was waiting tables in 2013 at Craft Work in Detroit's West Village when he spotted Mayor Mike Duggan across the room and asked to wait his table. "Mr. Mayor, I'm your waiter tonight, but I won't be a waiter forever. I'm going to open a local-foods market, and I need you to promise to come visit my store."

EVENTS CALENDAR

Engineering and Technology Job Fair

Known for being the premier recruitment event, The Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) Engineering and Technology Job Fair will feature more than 50 of Michigan's top engineering, technology and management companies hiring for more than 2,000 full or part-time positions, internships or co-op opportunities. Some of the companies include Daifuku/Jervis B. Webb, DENSO International America, DTE Energy, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, G-Tech Services Inc., Michigan Department of Transportation, Sony Electronics Inc., Visteon, and many others. Free admission to ESD members; $20 for non-members. Visit www.esd.org for more information or to register.

Date: Monday, November 16 2:00pm - 7:00pm

Place: Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Contact: Sue Ruffner | (248) 353-0735 | sruffner@esd.org

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 7:13 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Patterson yanks welcome mat for Syrian refugees in Pontiac | Alcohol-free sports bar in Dearborn | Henry Ford may sell Medicaid assets

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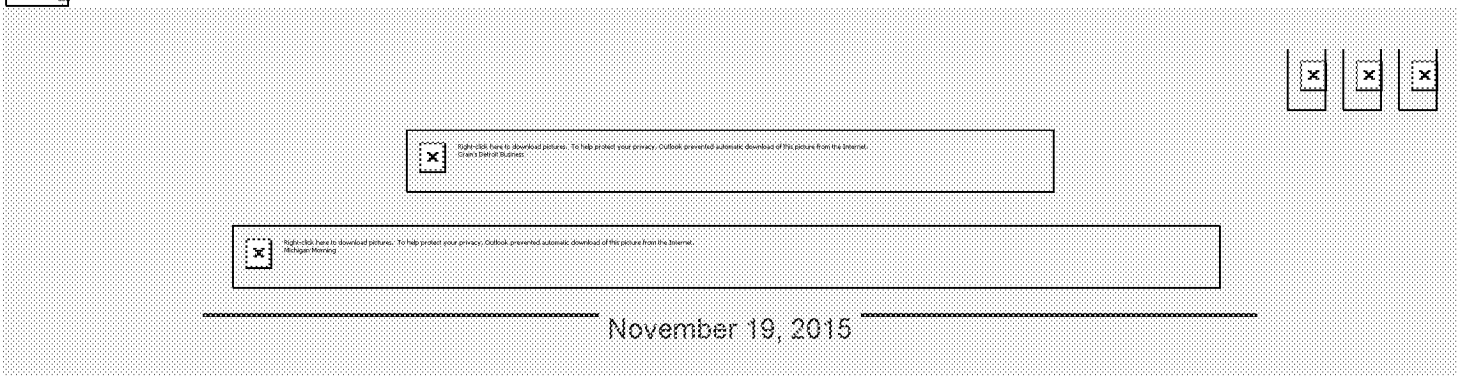

Patterson yanks welcome mat for Syrian refugees in Pontiac

The Oakland County executive said he fears a flood of Syrian refugees could include ISIS "infiltrators." Pontiac's mayor said she and city officials are concerned about citizen safety.

Downtown Nike store confirmed by Dan Gilbert

"Believe. Then see it," tweeted the founder and chairman of Quicken Loans and Rock Ventures about the 22,000-square-foot Community Store that is expected to open in the spring.

Henry Ford may sell Medicaid assets after state protest fails

HAP Midwest Health Plan may divest a large portion of its profitable Medicaid plan after Michigan health officials rejected the Detroit-based system's protest of newly awarded managed-care contracts. Meanwhile, Lansing-based Sparrow PHP could transfer its membership and lay off workers.

Alcohol-free Stadium gourmet hot dog restaurant in Dearborn a game-changer

Hadar Saad wanted to do something good for his hometown, so he opened a sports-themed restaurant serving only halal items and no alcohol, with gourmet hot dogs as MVP.

Effort to ban fracking in Michigan falls 150,000 short of signatures needed for ballot

Advertisement

Meeting today in Gaylord to look at job creation potential for Great Lakes commercial fish farming

Coffee shop, bakeries, farms among 70 businesses awarded $175,000

Citizens Bank and the Michigan Economic Development Corp. announced the latest round of micro-grants for equipment, supplies or land to Eastern Market Corp. and 70 small businesses in Southeast Michigan.

Crain launches email newsletters in 9 U.S. cities

Crain Communications Inc. launches a series of personalized, digital business publications across the country as part of a plan to expand the Crain brand nationwide as it approaches its 100th anniversary.

Auto dealers, trucking firms poised for victory in highway bill

It was supposed to be Congress's response to a historic string of auto safety lapses that rocked the industry. Instead, lawmakers are finalizing a highway bill that would permit teenagers to drive commercial trucks and buses across state lines, let dealers sell used cars with outstanding safety recalls and ease rules on how much rest truckers must get.

GUEST BLOG: RAJ J. PATEL

Biometrics can take some of the scary out of cybersecurity roller coaster

The technology will allow our identities to reside safely with us and not in the hands of multiple corporate and online sources.

Advertisement

MLIVE

Muskegon, Wayne, Monroe representatives to attend 'coal-reliant communities' workshop

Held by the National Association of Counties, the U.S. Economic Development Administration and the National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation the workshop will help communities grapple with changing economic conditions.

Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation announces another $13.4 million in legacy grants

The Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation announced Wednesday $13.4 million in legacy grants to 18 local nonprofits supported by its benefactor during his lifetime.

Free Press restaurant critic Sylvia Rector among latest to take buyout offer

More veteran newsroom talent continues to take buyout offers from the *Detroit Free Press*, including its longtime food writer and restaurant critic as well as reporters and photo department staff.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Great Lakes region's wolves no longer endangered, say scientists

Wildlife scientists urge federal government to remove gray wolves from the endangered species list.

CHAD HALCOM

Business leaders less optimistic about 2016 after deals hit 8-year high, Dykema M&A report finds

GM RenCen voted favorite landmark for new Legoland at Great Lakes Crossing Outlets

Anonymous donation to boost textbook loan program for Oakland University student veterans

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Flint lead woes raised before national water council

Congressman Dan Kildee testified Wednesday before the National Drinking Water Advisory Council on needed regulatory changes in light of Flint's lead problems.

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

Ford contract rejected at 2 more plants; UAW leaders scramble to win approval

Utica pro baseball league to unveil 3 team names Monday

New drone footage shows the progress of stadium construction.

10 things to do this weekend

Stevie Wonder is in town, celebrate the season at the Detroit tree lighting, check out future opera stars and more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Leader Dogs for the Blind – Lead in the Holidays

Join us as we celebrate the start of the holiday season with Lead in the Holidays featuring food, silent and live auctions, puppies, blindfold walks and more. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner and program begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $175 and include one drink ticket, champagne and a sit down dinner.

Date: Friday, November 20 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Place: Royal Park Hotel , 600 E University Dr, Rochester

Contact: Rachelle Kniffen | (248) 659-5013 | RKniffen@LeaderDog.Org

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 7:09 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Hackel details Lake St. Clair marina in Macomb address | Data center tax breaks to advance in Legislature today | Which Michigan colleges offer the best value?

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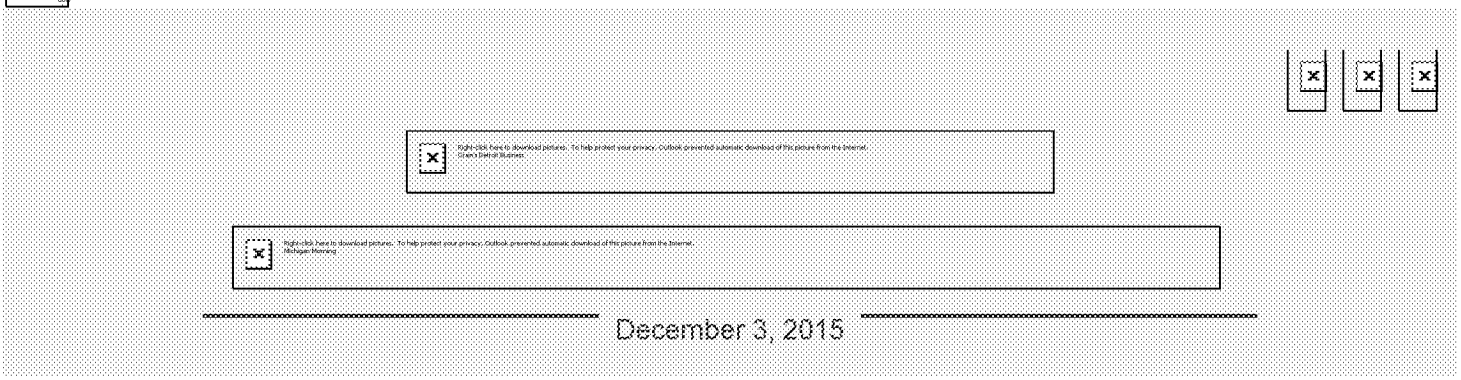

Hackel details planned Lake St. Clair marina in State of Macomb County address

The New Baltimore project could include a park, paddle boat rentals, boat ramps.

Brogan & Partners gets best of show at Adcraft's The D Show

In a year where technology is feeding the advertising industry like never before, the organization's top award went to a brochure.

Data center tax breaks poised to advance in Legislature

The legislation is needed to ensure Las Vegas-based data center developer Switch locates a mega-campus of computer servers near Grand Rapids.

4 Detroit businesses to get $325,000 from Entrepreneurs of Color Fund

Electrical and construction companies as well as a street-wear maker and wine retailer will be named the first recipients of the $6.5 million fund created by the J.P. Morgan Chase and W. K. Kellogg foundations.

Indie film producer donates papers to University of Michigan

Ira Deutchman's papers include materials from Orson Welles, Robert Altman and John Sayles.

Advertisement

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Michigan colleges offering best bang for the buck

This guide reports average net cost after grants and scholarships, and median salary 10 years after enrollment for grads and non-grads.

10 things to do this weekend

Check out a holiday glass show, see the Belle Isle Aquarium in lights, spend the evening downtown for Noel Night and more.

Detroit's Avenue of Fashion to get 160 LED lights

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

UAW reaches tentative contract deal with supplier Nexteer

Adamo Group CEO dies in Ohio construction site accident

Advertisement

Legendary music producer Don Was joins board of Detroit Institute of Music Education

The Detroit native and Grammy winner joins DIME founders Kevin Nixon and Sarah Clayman on the board, as well as Charlie Rothstein of Farmington Hills-based venture capital firm Beringea LLC.

MMI-es to invest $5.6 million, add 47 jobs to Saline facility

Detroit's Cultural Center to open its doors for 43rd Noel Night

Lions vs. Packers: A by-the-numbers financial comparison of tonight's opponent

Lawrence Tech expands campus with $3.6 million property deal

MLIVE

Utilities stress urgency of Michigan energy overhaul as it spills into 2016

Utilities point to new environmental regs, pending coal plant closures as reasons to act soon.

UM launches search for permanent athletic director

MICHIGAN RADIO

Flint tap water 'still not safe' says Virginia Tech researcher

Lead levels have gone down, but not enough to be safe.

Surprise! Detroit nonprofits getting nearly $500,000 in grants today

Restoration of Lake Michigan reef near Elk Rapids seeks to help native fish

The reef complex is the only known place where lake herring spawn in Lake Michigan.

OTHER VOICES: ANDREW MUNIZ

Why your business needs to understand — and retain — tacit knowledge

Michigan economy stalls in September after 5 months of growth

EVENTS CALENDAR

Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce: Wake Up & Connect

(formerly called "Coffee Connections.")Starting at 8 a. m., Members can network over a hot morning beverage. There is also a structured occasion to speak for 30 seconds to the group about your business or organization and what you have to offer (a.k.a your elevator pitch).To provide the host with an accurate estimation of the supplies they will need to provide, registration is required prior to the occasion.

Date: Thursday, December 3 8:00am - 9:00am

Place: Matthews Hargreaves Chevrolet, 2000 E Twelve Mile Road, Royal Oak

Contact: Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce | (248) 542-2160 | info@fermdalechamber.com

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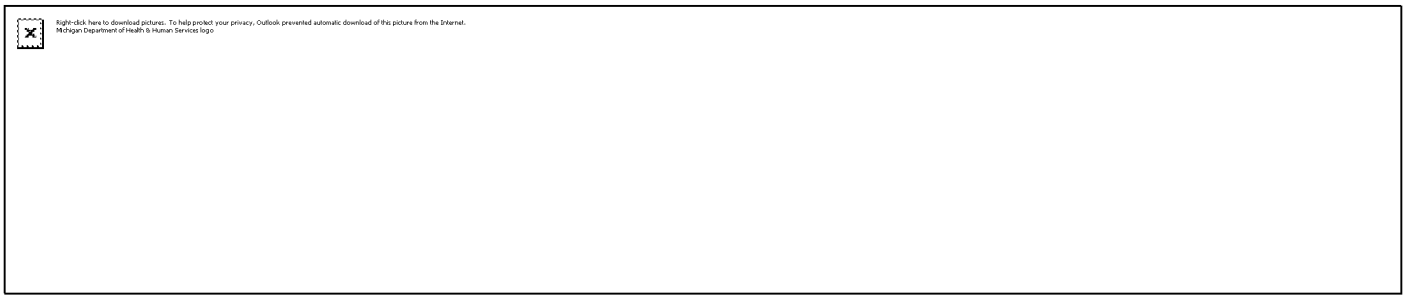
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 2:32 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS releases latest data outlining blood lead levels in Flint; Follow-up care, case management resources continue for families



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 3, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

MDHHS releases latest data outlining blood lead levels in Flint

Follow-up care, case management resources continue for families

LANSING, Mich. – Preliminary data indicates that 30 of 1,361 adults and children tested in Flint since October 1 had elevated blood lead levels, according to a report issued today by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

This marks the first summary report on lead testing called for in the state's action plan related to health concerns about Flint's water infrastructure.

"Our goal is to help families reduce their exposure to lead sources," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "We have made progress in testing and identifying those with elevated blood lead levels, and the department will continue to work closely with the Genesee County Health Department to reach these families. We will remain diligent in our ongoing outreach and education efforts."

Information comes from tests administered citywide to 1,361 children and adults since October 1. Tests showed that 21 of 969 children age 17 or younger and 9 of 392 adults over the age 18 were identified with elevated blood lead levels.

The report covers test results reported to MDHHS since the state action plan was put in place Oct.

2. It includes the number of tests and number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter, and captures both capillary and venous blood tests that have been reported to MDHHS since the beginning of October. People who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Five micrograms per deciliter is the level that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers elevated and triggers health care professional follow up with families.

The full report is posted online at www.michigan.gov/flintwater and will be updated as more data becomes available.

When reviewing historical trend data, the risk of lead exposure is highest during the third quarter of each year – July through September. Seasonal variation is the result of a number of factors including increased exposure to lead in dust and soil in the summer months.

In the third quarter of 2010, 8.3 percent of Flint children 6 and under showed elevated blood lead levels. The figure gradually decreased to 4.1 percent in the third quarter of 2013. During the same months in 2014, the figure increased to 7.5 percent and decreased to 6.4 percent in the third quarter of 2015.

Last month, MDHHS collaborated with the county health department and local partners to distribute educational resources and informational letters to Flint parents regarding lead testing. The state is providing funding for GCHD nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level has been detected. During these follow-up visits, nurses coordinate with environmental health investigators to meet with families in their homes to identify lead exposures, address questions and provide water filters. People can be exposed to lead from paint, soil, plumbing and other sources.

MDHHS continues to provide free water filters and replacement cartridges to Flint residents at four locations, including the MDHHS Flint offices and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

###

- Flint Blood Lead Level Summary Report December.pdf
- Flint EBL Data Press Release.pdf

Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
DHHS Poster

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

Questions? Contact Us

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 7:23 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Dow Chemical, DuPont announce $130B merger | Jiffy Mix plans $35 million expansion | Report: West Michigan to continue economic comeback

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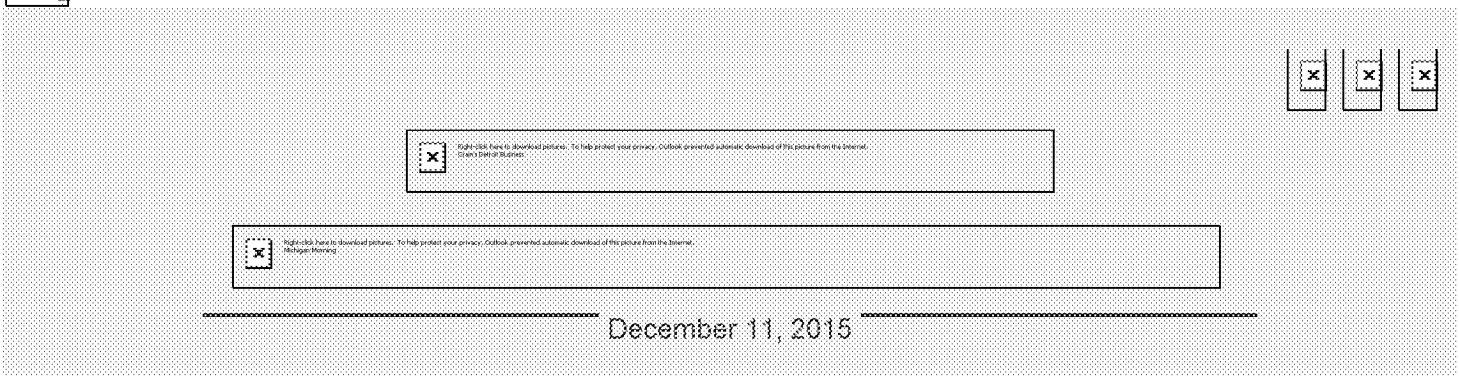

Dow Chemical, DuPont announce $130B merger

The new company would be named DowDuPont. The move represents a 'merger of equals,' representatives of both companies said in a morning news release.

Lawmakers remove property tax break from data center bills

Legislators are trying to ensure that Las Vegas-based data center developer Switch follows through on locating a mega-campus in Gaines Township near Grand Rapids.

Home sales drop in November while median prices continue to rise

In spite of the 4.2 percent sales decrease from a year ago, metro Detroit buyers are paying 5 percent more for homes, Realcomp

report shows.

Jiffy Mix maker plans $35 million expansion in Chelsea

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

West Michigan's economic comeback puts it in fast company, says forecaster

Advertisement

Interactive map: Places with higher lead rates than Flint

Ex-Mumford principal, 2 others indicted in Detroit reform school district corruption case

In the latest black eye for the struggling Education Achievement Authority, former principal Kenyetta Wilbourn Snapp and two contractors face charges including bribery, conspiracy, money laundering and tax evasion.

RAPID GROWTH

Hispanic business owners thrive, find partnerships in Grand Rapids

Since April of this year, the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has grown from 280 to 320 members. It serves approximately 800 Latino businesses in Grand Rapids

Kresge Foundation pledges $8 million in effort on climate change

TABLE TALK

Pop-up dinner benefits farm, Lockhart's BBQ opens new location, Buddy's donates $5,000

to museum

Advertisement

MIDWEST ENERGY NEWS

OU Inc director on how clean-energy policies drive economic development

Multiple reports have shown clean-energy investments nearing $3 billion and employing thousands in Michigan.

Icahn's bid for Pep Boys would boost aftermarket business, but not Federal-Mogul, experts say

Michigan ranks low on health performance indicators in 2 surveys

Performance Fabricating to build new HQ, plant in Fenton Township

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

Visteon to return $1.75 billion to shareholders, buy back $500 million in stock

$1 million gift to Michigan State University boosts business school

The gift from Al and Nancy Gambrel creates an endowed professorship in management at MSU'S Eli Broad College of Business.

Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix seeks volunteers

H&M to open today in Oakland Mall

The affordable fashion and accessories store is the second retailer to open inside the Troy shopping center this quarter.

Michigan Aids Coalition merges into Matrix Human Services

Tweddle Group opens connected car office in Detroit

Karmanos wants to sell Carolina Hurricanes, but ensure team remains in Raleigh

The hockey team has been the subject of relocation chatter because its poor attendance, finances and on-ice performance make it a theoretical candidate for markets seeking an NHL club, such as Quebec.

Business events in December: From galas and Michigan Supreme Court justices to networking

10 things to do this weekend

Enjoy the holiday spirit on Belle Isle or in Eastern Market, see an originally choreographed showcase, check out the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant open house and more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

4th Annual Cheers For Children

Leaders for Kids & Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation Present the 4th Annual Cheers for Children. Enjoy a premium open bar, strolling appetizers, live entertainment, and complimentary valet. Cocktail attire. 21+ event. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation's Project Challenge and Camp Hope.

Date: Saturday, December 12 8:00pm - 11:30pm

Place: The Garden Theater, 3929 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Contact: Kayla Varcoe | (248) 895-4701 | kayla.varcoe@gmail.com

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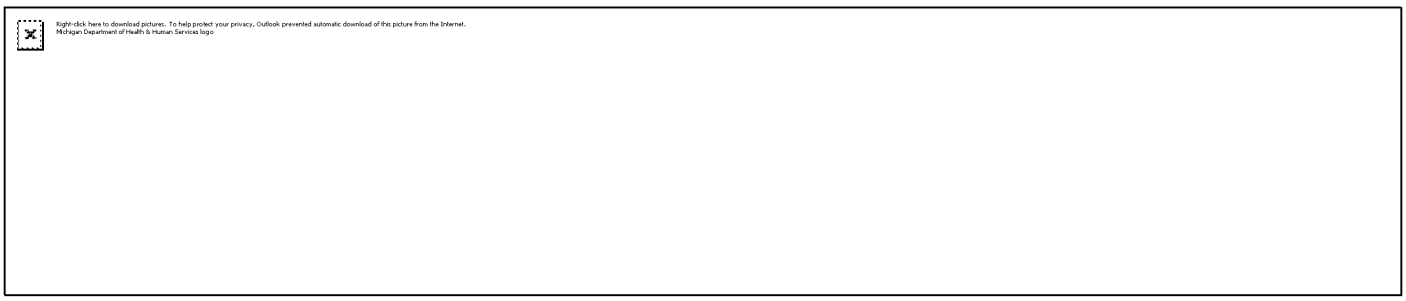
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 4:02 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 11, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its newest summary report on lead testing in Flint. According to preliminary data, 39 of 1,836 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1.

"As testing continues, our focus remains on helping families reduce all potential exposures to lead," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "We are working closely with the Genesee County Health Department to provide information and offer tools in the community, and encourage families to explore the resources that are available to them."

Both capillary and venous blood tests are included in the report, and people who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Tests and their results cover the time since the state action plan was put in place on Oct. 2, and capture the number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter.

MDHHS is working closely with local partners to offer resources and distribute important lead testing and prevention information. Additional state funding has allowed for Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level is detected. These families can also choose to have the nurse coordinate an environmental health investigation in their home to identify lead exposures, which could be lead from paint, soil, plumbing, and other sources.

To support these efforts, the state is coordinating with its Medicaid health plans and provider communities on enhanced screening and testing. In addition to mandated testing at ages one and two for the Medicaid population, MDHHS has recommended blood lead testing for any child younger than six years of age in Flint who has not previously been tested. The state, in coordination with GCHD, developed and issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) notification for local providers to help ensure consistent messaging and protocols among primary care providers.

Free water filters and replacement cartridges are still available to Flint residents. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, or to view the full blood lead level report, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater. The summary will be updated as more data becomes available.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For this and other updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

# # #

- Flint EBL Data Press Release Dec 11.pdf
- Flint Blood Testing Report December 11.pdf

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DHHS Footer

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 7:24 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Evans: Plan for Wayne County jail in sight | 5-hour Energy to move inventions from Mich. to Singapore | FEMA sends water to Flint

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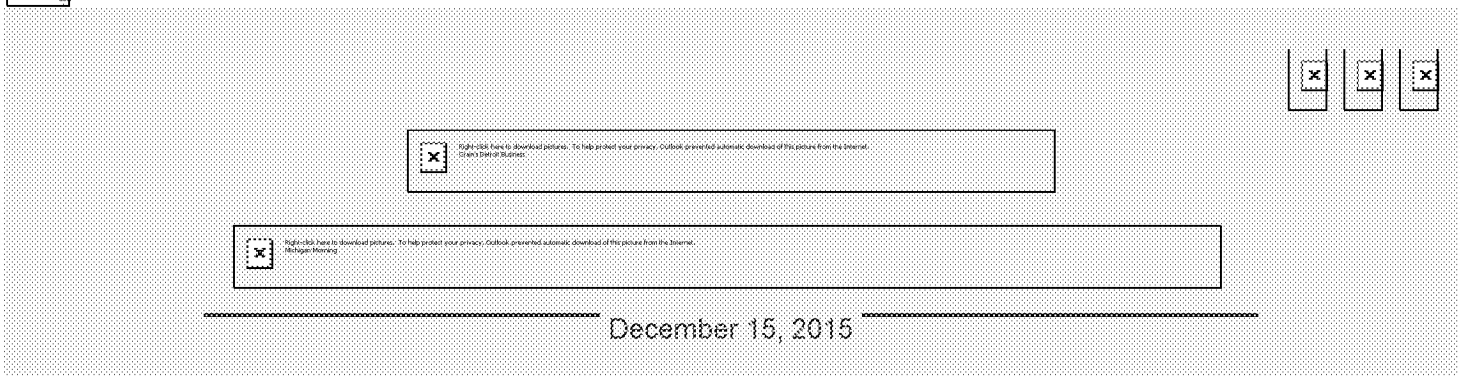

Plan for jail site in the offing, Wayne County executive says

A solution to the $200 million unfinished jail project could be announced in early 2016, Warren Evans told *Crain's.*

Detroit first U.S. city to win UNESCO's 'city of design' designation

The designation will help Detroit's design community exchange best practices with network cities around the world, fortifying its efforts to strengthen the city and region through design.

Flint mayor declares state of emergency, FEMA sends 28,000 liters of water

Officials have told Flint residents not to drink unfiltered tap water.

5-Hour Energy billionaire moves latest inventions from Farmington Hills to Singapore

The decision reflects the city-state's all-out efforts to attract global technology firms and build its own version of Silicon Valley.

DTE, Consumers to extend energy efficiency program at least 2 years

Michigan's 2008 energy legislative package expires this year, but DTE Energy and Consumers Energy plan to continue renewable energy production and development and energy efficiency programs at various levels into the future.

Advertisement

As rate hike nears, Fed's hints on future to be scrutinized

AAA: Nearly 3.2 million from Michigan to travel during holidays

MLIVE

Business group to sue over Consumers Energy rate increase

Less than a month after the MPSC approved a rate increase of $130 million per year, the Association of Businesses Advocating Tariff Equity says the case sets the utility's profit margin at 10.3 percent, the highest across the nation this year. The U.S. average is 9.55 percent.

$7.5 million donation to create jazz center at Wayne State

Gretchen Valade's gift will fund performance space, an endowed chair and a scholarship.

Detroit Zoo shifts to 100% renewable electricity power in latest green move

Advertisement

Union workers at Detroit's casinos ratify contract

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

GM quality chief Grace Lieblein to retire

General Motors' vice president of global quality and a key player in GM's bid to improve its supplier relations in recent years, is one of the automaker's highest-ranking women.

Robert Ficano to do weekly AM radio call-in show

The former Wayne County executive, who was ousted by voters in 2014 after his administration become embroiled in various scandals, will host a two-hour weekly Saturday show about Detroit issues on WFDF AM 910.

Ann Arbor traffic signal boxes to get artistic makeovers in 2016

Plans call for wrapping more traffic signal boxes in downtown with vinyl art prints designed by local artists and selected by a public vote.

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

New '2030 District' vows to slash downtown energy use by 50 percent

The goal was set by Grand Rapids 2030 District, a collaboration of private and public groups. It's part of an effort that includes 11 other North American cities.

E-filing system for Michigan courts scheduled for approval

Vote planned for today on bill to continue Michigan health insurance tax until 2025

Group says underwater pipelines unnecessary for oil supply

Advocacy group For Love of Water, or FLOW, contends the 62-year-old segment isn't worth the risk of catastrophic damage from a rupture and large spill.

BILL SHEA

MM3rdQB: Losing hurts the Lions financially, but not like it used to

What insulates Detroit from a worse attendance drop-off is that the roster has enough talent to keep them competitive.

GUEST BLOG: MICHELLE GILBERT

5 steps to building, managing your personal brand online

Things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

From dance parties to high-class dinners, ball drops to family activities, there's something for everyone to do in and around Detroit this New Year's Eve.

EVENTS CALENDAR

DEC presents The Bob & Bridget Show: Behind the Scenes at the Michigan Supreme Court

Featuring the Honorable Bridget Mary McCormack, Justice, Michigan Supreme Court and The Honorable Robert P. Young Jr., Chief Justice, Michigan Supreme Court.Reception at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon, program at 12:30 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, December 15 11:30am - 1:30pm

Place: MotorCity Casino Hotel, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit

Contact: | (313) 963-8547 | info@econclub.org

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2015 3:44 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Providence notifies CRNAs that jobs end Dec. 31 | Buyers line up for The Lark | 'Star Wars' impact on local theaters

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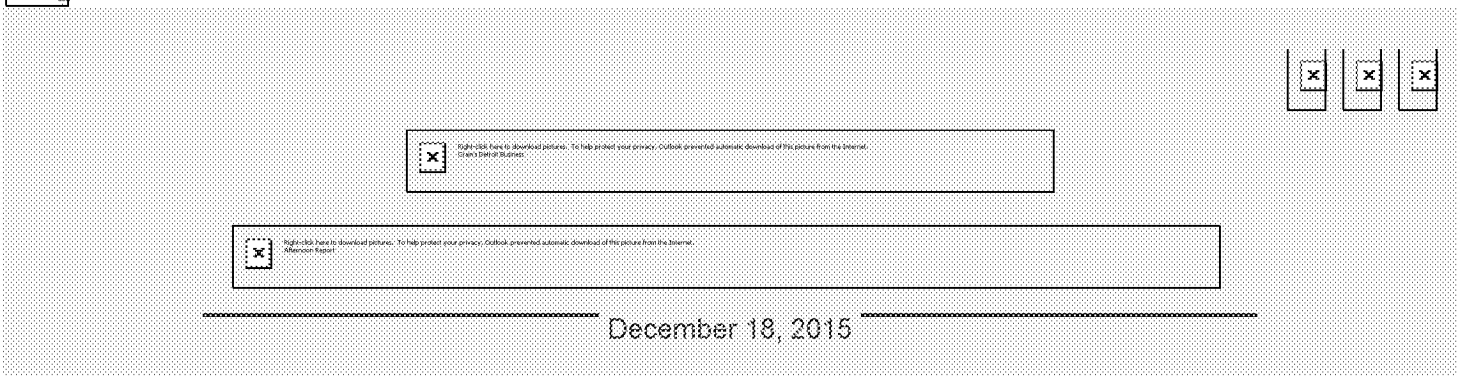
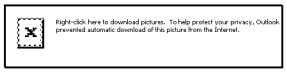


Providence hospitals notify holdout CRNAs jobs end Dec. 31

St. John Health System is making it official: Nurse anesthetists at two Providence hospitals who haven't signed a third-party employment agreement are out the door at month's end, presumably with no hospital severance benefits or unemployment.

As The Lark winds down toward Dec. 23 closing, potential buyers line up

The lauded West Bloomfield restaurant has been booked solid since it announced it would close after 35 years.



Delphi acquires UK electronic cable supplier HellermannTyton for $1.58 billion

Moran Chevrolet buys Summit Place Kia dealership building in Clinton Township

SHERRI WELCH

Fans clamor for 'Star Wars' tickets, but local theaters may not get as much bang for their buck

Advertisement

DTE Energy closes coke plant in Pittsburgh

Detroit City Council passes zoning ordinance to regulate medical marijuana dispensaries

The Detroit City Council on Thursday night approved a zoning ordinance that experts say could lead to the closure of half of the city's medical marijuana dispensaries.

Inforum offers classes to help women grow their businesses

Michigan Health Endowment Fund announces $15 million in grants to more than 30 organizations

McLaren Macomb Healthcare Foundation names director

Louise Rallis-Wibbelman had led the foundation in an interim capacity since the spring, succeeding Elsa Silverman, who left the organization after four years.

Advertisement

Crain Communications promotes 2 publishers to vice president

GUEST BLOG: RAJ J. PATEL

10 tips to avoid being a victim of cybercrime while shopping online

It's easy for consumers to fall victim to cybercrime during the holiday season, but with extra diligence, you can limit your exposure.

GUEST BLOG: MARK S. LEE

Heritage Vision Plans founder keeps doors open in Detroit for 40 years

Snyder names state urban initiatives director to lead Flint water crisis response

10 things to do this weekend

Spend an evening in a Winter Wonderland, enjoy some American roots music, see the Russian ballet and more.

Things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

From dance parties to high-class dinners, ball drops to family activities, there's something for everyone to do in and around Detroit this New Year's Eve.

Income-constrained workers must 'make it stretch'

Randy Baker earns $13.50 an hour on an assembly line in Detroit but struggles to make ends meet. Read his story and others in our special report on workers who fall under the description of ALICE — "asset-limited, income-constrained but employed."

SPECIAL REPORT: MICHIGAN BUSINESS

How Bronner's trims Michigan downtown streets,

malls for the holidays

STAGE 2 STRATEGIES

Losing primary client led Petkey to hit road, find new business

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 2:13 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Survey: Detroit apartment renters unhappy | Crowdrise joins auto show charity efforts | Reporter dissects high-tech heart health checkup

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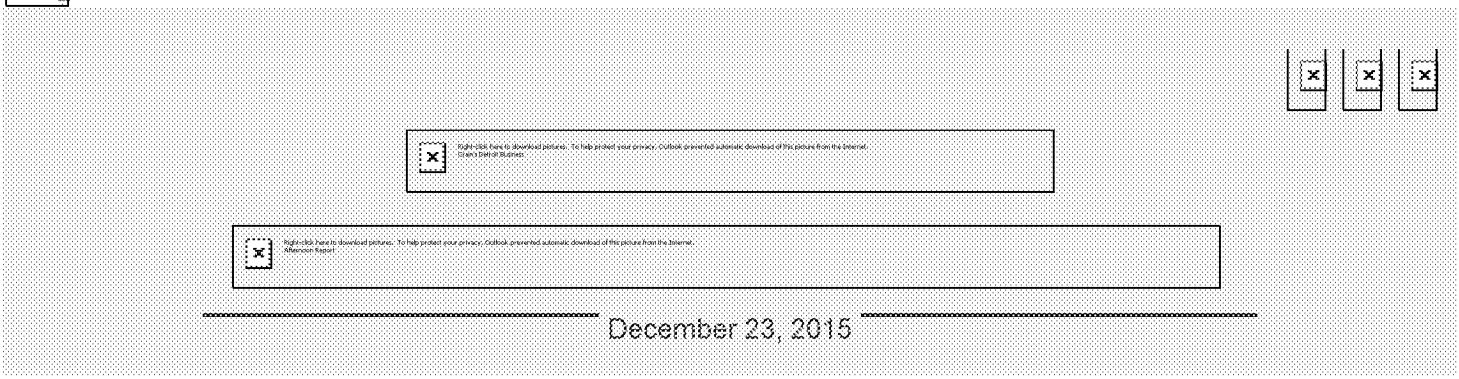

KIRK PINHO

Detroit apartment renters give city flunking grade, survey finds

Registered Apartment List users in Detroit who responded to the survey gave the city an F for overall renter satisfaction, the lowest grade possible.

SHERRI WELCH

Auto show charity preview adds Crowdrise campaign for 40th anniversary

JAY GREENE

Reporter goes through Ultimate Heart Check ... drum roll ... Merry Christmas or Scrooged?

Too many people die unexpectedly of heart attacks. My dad was one. A year away from the same age he died, 62, I decided to check in with Joel Kahn, M.D., to see if I am as heart-healthy as I thought.

Lions vs. San Francisco 49ers: A by-the-numbers financial comparison of this week's opponent

TOM HENDERSON

Happiness is having expanded to downtown Detroit, says Creative Breakthroughs founder Steve Barone

"I was so close to going to Southfield. I feel like I would have died a little bit every day if we had."

Advertisement

2015 IN REVIEW

How Buffalo Wild Wings franchise owner avoids indigestion when business is booming

As part of our review of 2015, we are revisiting stories that appeared in the monthly Second Stage section where we take deeper looks at the tough decisions business owners must make. In May, we studied how Michael Ansley went from 2,000 employees and $77 million in revenue to 3,500 employees and $128 million — in just three years.

Henry Ford Health, Ford offer $10,000 offer in contest to create health care apps for drivers

The prize money will go to employees who come up with smartphone apps that link health care with vehicles.

2015 IN REVIEW

Crain's 20 in Their 20s

This year, *Crain's* inducted its 10th class of 20 in Their 20s winners. See who made the cut among up-and-coming entrepreneurs, corporate executives and nonprofit visionaries.

Michigan civil rights act co-author Daisy Elliott dies

Applications sought for matchmaking event with major Detroit organizations

Wayne State University, Detroit Medical Center, Henry Ford Health System, Quicken Loans, Comerica Bank, Campbell Ewald and the Detroit Lions will be among the organizations represented on the buyer side.

Advertisement

Officials announce overhaul of I-75 bridge in Detroit

2015 IN REVIEW

A deeper look inside Garden Fresh's sale to Campbell Soup

As part of our review of 2015, we are revisiting stories that appeared in the monthly Second Stage section. In October, we got the inside view from Jack Aronson on the sale of the salsa enterprise he and his wife Annette built from scratch.

Federal-Mogul owner Carl Icahn sweetens Pep Boys offer

Icahn holds a dominant stake in Federal-Mogul, which owns about 20 major aftermarket auto parts brands such as Champion Spark Plugs, MOOG steering parts and Wagner brake parts. It's not yet clear how Icahn would position the supplier to benefit from a further expansion into parts retailing.

Federal judge recommends a rate cut for ITC Holdings

2015 IN REVIEW

Crain's M&A Awards

These four merger and acquisition deals, along with three dealmakers, highlighted the eighth annual M&A Awards back in March.

Share photos of your office holiday decorations, parties and ugly Christmas sweaters

The Lark set to close today

The lauded West Bloomfield Township restaurant has served patrons for 35 years. Potential buyers are said to be interested.

10 things to do this weekend

There are plenty of holiday-related happenings as well as performances and a whiskey tasting. What do you have planned?

Things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

From dance parties to high-class dinners, music to family activities, there's something for everyone to do in Detroit this New Year's Eve.

311,000 in Michigan enroll for coverage in 2016 under health care law

Agencies offer grants to support Michigan stream cleanups

Judge sides with city of Flint over water shutoffs

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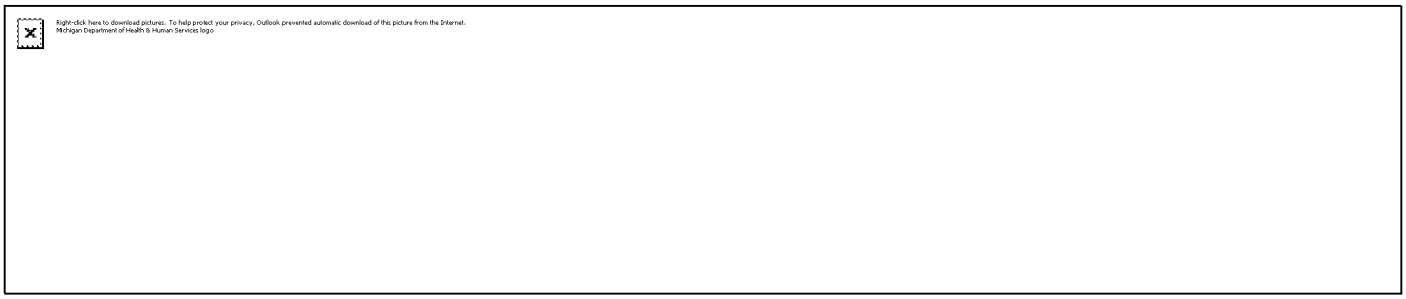
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 3:01 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available



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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 23, 2015

CONTACT: Angela Minicuci, 517-241-2112

Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its bi-weekly summary report on lead testing in Flint. Preliminary data indicate that 43 of 2,182 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1.

"In partnership with the Genesee County Health Department, we are working to engage and provide resources to residents to reduce all potential exposures to lead," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "Case management and home lead analysis are available for families in which an elevated blood lead level has been detected."

The first MDHHS summary report on blood lead levels in Flint was issued Dec. 3, 2015. Updated reports are posted on a bi-weekly basis on the www.michigan.gov/flintwater website. After refining our methods to identify age, some people are now counted in a different age group than on previous reports. The total counts for each year have not changed.

The report includes both capillary and venous blood tests, and people who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Tests and their results cover the time since the state action plan was put in place on Oct. 2, and capture the number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms

per deciliter.

MDHHS, together with the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD), is working with local partners to distribute educational information around lead testing and prevention. Supplemental state dollars are funding GCHD nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level is detected.

Families with an elevated blood lead level can also choose to have a nurse coordinate an environmental health investigation in their home to help identify lead exposures, which could be lead from paint, soil, plumbing, and other sources. Families with questions about their blood lead levels or test results are also encouraged to contact their primary care physician or local health department.

In addition to mandated testing at ages one and two for the Medicaid population, MDHHS is coordinating with its Medicaid health plans and provider communities to recommend blood lead testing for any child younger than six years of age in Flint who has not previously been tested. The state, in coordination with GCHD, developed and issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) notification for local providers to help ensure consistent messaging and protocols among primary care providers.

Free water filters and replacement cartridges are available to Flint residents. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, or to view the full blood lead level report, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater. The summary will be updated as more data becomes available.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For this and other updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

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- Flint Blood Testing Report 23Dec15 .pdf
- Flint EBL Data Press Release 122315.pdf

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 3:23 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: St. John Providence CRNAs reject latest offer | What's behind Bagger Dave's closings | Top real estate stories of 2015

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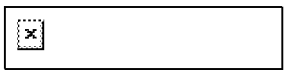
December 29, 2015

Another offer rejected in St. John Providence CRNA talks; third-party service starts Friday

With just more than 48 hours remaining, two St. John Health System hospitals appear no closer to a deal that would outsource most of their current staff of certified registered nurse-anesthetists.

Bagger Dave's closings pegged to competition, rapid expansion, analyst says as stock slides

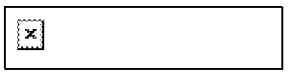
Move to close eight locations, including one in downtown Detroit, comes one month after Southfield-based Diversified Restaurant Holdings Inc. signaled a shift away from the burger chain.



Quick Lane Bowl at Ford Field sees attendance uptick despite icy travel conditions

Detroit's college bowl game on Monday saw an uptick of more than 10,000 fans over last year to watch the University of Minnesota beat Central Michigan University.

Michigan DEQ director resigns in wake of Flint water crisis



KIRK PINHO

Lots of money, lots of action: Top real estate stories of 2015

Dan Gilbert and Redico moves lead the way in downtown Detroit and suburban activity, plus what to watch in 2016.

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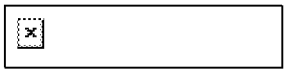
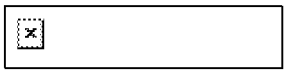


30 things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

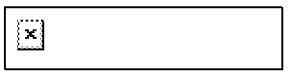
DuPont to cut 1,700 Delaware-based jobs ahead of Dow merger

Midland-based Dow Chemical has not announced any plans to cut jobs since the Dec. 11 merger announcement.



Obama signs bill banning microbeads co-sponsored by Michigan congressman

"We are going to fight any activity that puts our beloved Great Lakes in jeopardy," said U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph.



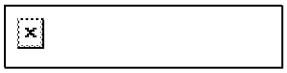
In 2016, what's next for housing prices?

Housing prices, which helped drive the plunge into the Great Recession but which have also fueled the engine of recovery, have climbed back to approach all-time highs in Detroit's suburbs.

10 things to remember about 2015: Kroger buys Hiller's grocery stores

The Kroger Co. of Michigan's acquisition of Hiller's Markets was meant to not only bring Kroger more market share locally, but provide entrée to the specialty and ethnic food products for which the smaller chain became known.

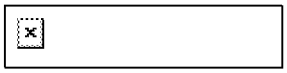
Advertisement



Icahn raises bid for Pep Boys to more than $1 billion

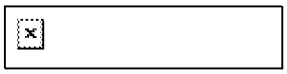
Billionaire investor Carl Icahn, who holds an 82 percent stake in Southfield-based Federal-Mogul Holdings Corp., escalates a bidding war with Bridgestone Corp.

Accused of misconduct, Oakland Judge Lisa Gorcyca withdraws from siblings case

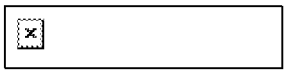


2015 saw 3 of Detroit's pro teams shuffle front office

The ownership groups of the Detroit Tigers, Lions and Pistons decided it was time to clean house or change strategy on key positions.



Lions vs. Chicago Bears: A by-the-numbers financial comparison of this week's opponent

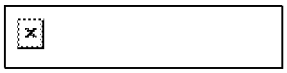


10 things to do this weekend

Ring in the New Year at Hands-On Holidays, check out an adult-oriented animation festival or enjoy a show.

10 things to watch in 2016: Detroit schools plan awaited

Gov. Rick Snyder is pushing a plan to remake the district, but it's likely to face a tough road in a divided Lansing.

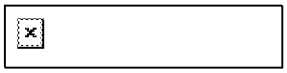


GUEST BLOG: DONALD LEVITT

How Barton Malow handles difficult issues in family business

When should a company give raises?

How three metro Detroit companies — including Gary Goerke, CEO of Clarity Communication Advisors — handled the challenge of a good economy.



Auburn Hills through the lens of Oakland Tech Park

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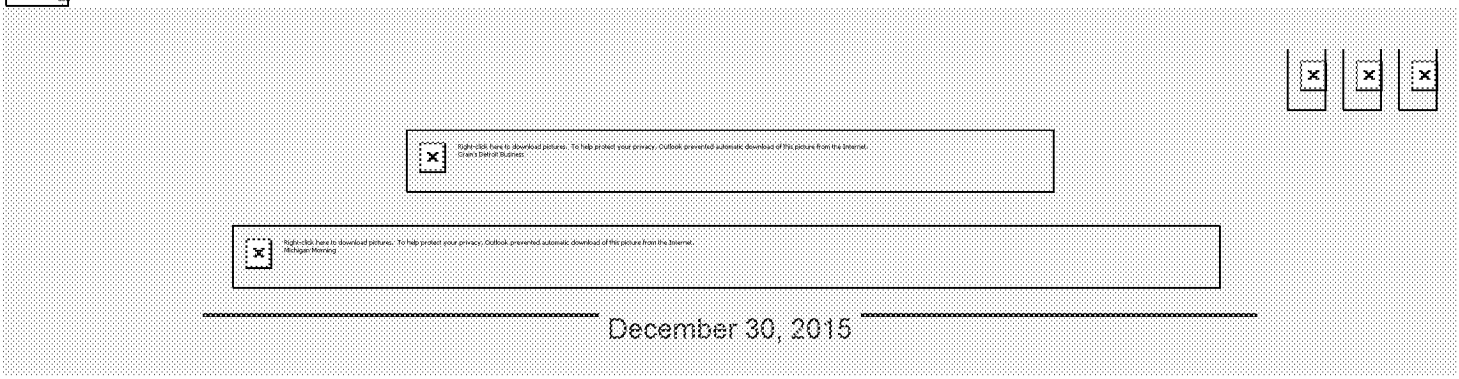
From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 7:50 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: St. John Providence CRNAs face deadline | MDEQ director resigns amid Flint water crisis | Shipping containers play into Detroit's farm-to-table trend

Having trouble viewing this email? See the online version.



Another offer rejected in St. John Providence CRNA talks; third-party service starts Friday

With less than 48 hours remaining, two St. John Health System hospitals appear no closer to a deal that would outsource most of their current staff of certified registered nurse-anesthetists.

Michigan environmental regulator resigns amid Flint's lead-in-water crisis

Gov. Rick Snyder vows more changes after a task force found the state DEQ was primarily responsible for the fiasco because it did not require the city to keep corrosive water from leaching lead from service pipes into homes and belittled concerns from the public.

Bagger Dave's closings pegged to competition, rapid expansion, analyst says as stock slides

Move to close eight locations, including one in downtown Detroit, comes one month after Southfield-based Diversified Restaurant Holdings Inc. signaled a shift away from the burger chain.

How repurposed shipping containers are playing into Detroit's farm-to-table trend

LaGrasso Bros. Inc. Produce, a Detroit-based produce distributor, has been growing lettuce in an upcycled freight container since September.

Reasons why MSU can beat Alabama in Cotton Bowl, advance to championship

The Big Ten champions are a double-digit underdog to the Crimson Tide in Thursday night's College Football Playoff game, but there are plenty of believers out there.

Advertisement

30 things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

From dance parties to high-class dinners, music to family activities, there's something for everyone to do in Detroit this New Year's Eve.

10 things to watch in 2016: Detroit schools plan awaited

Gov. Rick Snyder is pushing a plan to remake the district, but it's likely to face a tough road in a divided Lansing.

Jobless rates drop in 14 of 17 major Michigan labor markets

Fourteen markets report unemployment rates at or below the nationally seasonally

unadjusted rate of 4.8 percent.

Elections board approves formatting of gay rights petition

The Fair Michigan ballot committee must gather about 315,000 valid voter signatures by summer to put the initiative on the November ballot, but it must do so without the backing of major gay rights advocacy groups.

GRAND RAPIDS BUSINESS JOURNAL

Online marketplace touts Great Lakes products

Products made throughout the region can now be found in a digital marketplace for entrepreneurs and creatives.The Great Lakes Made site has 16 vendors and there are more than 30 registered since it was launched in Grandville a few weeks ago, said co-founder Andrew Russo.

Advertisement

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Steelcase, Herman Miller see drop in big project orders

"The thing that was most pronounced was the drop in the large customers, a decline in orders from large customers and a decline in large projects," Steelcase CEO Jim Keane told analysts.

KIRK PINHO

Lots of money, lots of action: Top real estate stories of 2015

Dan Gilbert and Redico moves lead the way in downtown Detroit and suburban activity, plus what to watch in 2016.

DuPont to cut 1,700 Delaware-based jobs ahead of Dow merger

Midland-based Dow Chemical has not announced any plans to cut jobs since the Dec. 11 merger announcement.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Remembering those the Michigan business community lost in 2015

Deaths this year include local executives and business owners to civic leaders and famous state natives.

Quick Lane Bowl at Ford Field sees attendance uptick despite icy travel conditions

Detroit's college bowl game on Monday saw an uptick of more than 10,000 fans over last year to watch the University of Minnesota beat Central Michigan University.

When should a company give raises?

How three metro Detroit companies — including Gary Goerke, CEO of Clarity Communication Advisors — handled the challenge of a good economy.

Icahn raises bid for Pep Boys to more than $1 billion

Billionaire investor Carl Icahn, who holds an 82 percent stake in Southfield-based Federal-Mogul Holdings Corp., escalates a bidding war with Bridgestone Corp.

10 things to do this weekend

Ring in the New Year at Hands-On Holidays, check out an adult-oriented animation festival or enjoy a show.

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From: Crain's Afternoon Report <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 3:33 PM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: 80 units planned in $13M East Jefferson redevelopment | Detroit's farm-to-table trend grows - in shipping box | Brothers team up on 3rd Mt. Clemens restaurant

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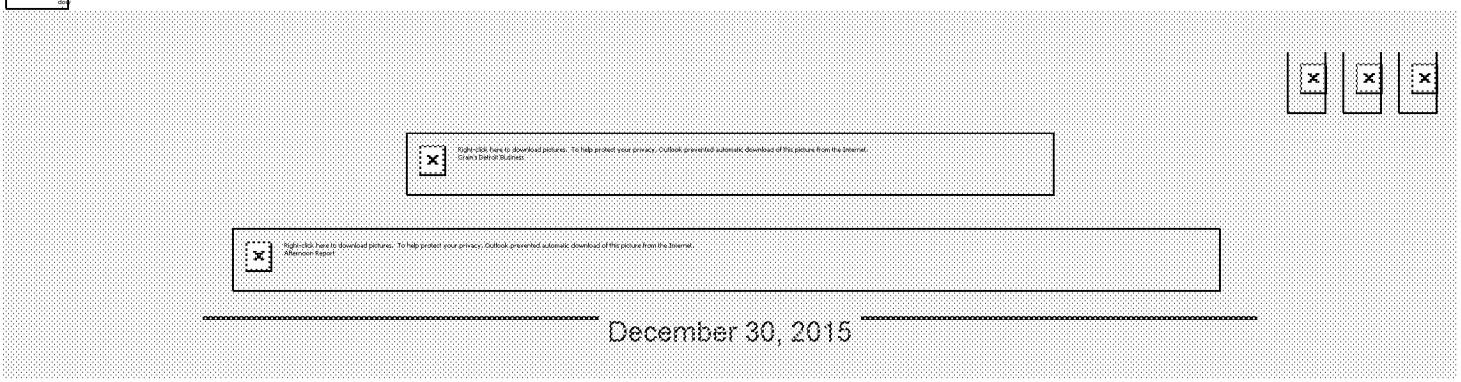
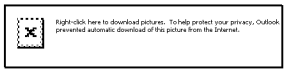


80 multifamily units planned in $13 million East Jefferson redevelopment

Roger Basmajian, whose greater downtown Detroit real estate portfolio is nearing 250,000 square feet, purchased the east riverfront building for $1.275 million.



How repurposed shipping containers are playing into Detroit's farm-to-table trend

Detroit-based produce distributor LaGrasso Bros. is the first Michigan company to implement technology from sustainable food company Freight Farms.

LINDSAY VANHULLE

Michigan to continue working on federal carbon plan despite resignation of DEQ director

Dan Wyant, the state's top environmental regulator who resigned Tuesday, had been involved in helping the state comply with the Clean Power Plan, which requires the state to reduce carbon emissions by 31 percent by 2030.

Boone brothers team up with partners on third Mt. Clemens restaurant

The owners and manager of Bath City Bistro and Orleans Sports Café buy the former John Barleycorn's Bar and Grill space for new O'Halloran's Public House.

Remembering those the business community lost in 2015

Deaths this year include local executives and business owners to civic leaders and famous state natives.

Advertisement

Reasons why MSU can beat Alabama in Cotton Bowl, advance to championship

30 things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

DNR chief to lead Michigan environmental agency on interim basis

Keith Creagh (left) will lead the DEQ on an interim basis after chief Dan Wyant quit Tuesday after a report on Flint's water crisis put the blame on the agency.

10 things to remember about 2015

M&A deals, the continuing rebound in the real estate market (including downtown Detroit's) and front-office shuffles for Detroit's

pro sports teams were among the big stories of the year.

Reinvestment highlights: Detroit works its way through bankruptcy, solidifies its identity as icon of gritty cool

Advertisement

Icahn prevails in $1 billion bidding war with Bridgestone for Pep Boys

Elections board approves formatting of gay rights petition

In Detroit's fiber wars, when it comes to super-fast Internet, 1-gigabit service is new standard

Things to watch in 2016: Push to legalize marijuana

The mushrooming growth of medical marijuana dispensaries at the city and state levels got a lot of attention in 2015, and efforts are intensifying at the city and state level to improve the regulatory framework for the drug.

10 things to do this weekend

Ring in the New Year at Hands-On Holidays, check out an adult-oriented animation festival or enjoy a show.

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 7:00 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Newsmakers of the Year | RiverWalk trademark claim | Defense industry shrinks in state | Flint water plan considered today

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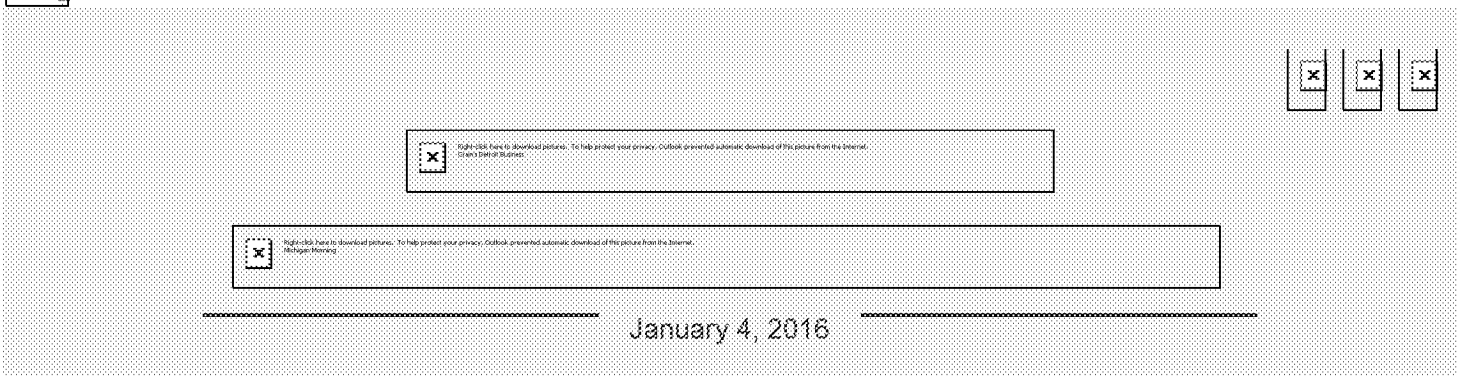

Crain's 2015 Newsmakers of the Year

The father-and-son duo of Mike Ilitch and Chris Ilitch top the list. Read why they were chosen — and see who the other nine newsmakers are — in our special report.

Judge files claim to trademark RiverWalk

The Detroit RiverFront Conservancy was taken aback when it learned Wayne County Probate Judge Terrance Keith had filed two trademark applications last month for the names "The Detroit RiverWalk" and "RiverWalk Detroit."

A data-driven look at Michigan's shrinking defense industry

Taking hits from the Great Recession and the end of major military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the defense industry has

shrunk and so has Michigan's defense business.

Saline firm takes bite out of mouth guard business

Akervall Technologies Inc. of Saline has built a lighter, thinner, stronger mouth guard, both for athletes and those who grind their teeth while sleeping. So far, the innovation is paying off.

Million dollar deals: Metro Detroit's high-end home market sees best year in a decade

Advertisement

Rochester-based Dessert Oasis plans grand opening of Detroit location in Capitol Park

Here's a look at what you'll see inside.

Supino Pizzeria owner sets Tuesday opening for Italian restaurant in Eastern Market

Ferndale firm builds mini 3-D cities for Gilbert, Ilitch

THE MACOMB DAILY

Downtown Mount Clemens leaders hope closed historic theater re-opens in 2016

MICHIGAN RADIO

Genesee County commissioners to consider Flint water plan this morning

Advertisement

Snyder pressed to veto bill affecting how ballot proposal information is spread

Michigan's minimum wage rises 35 cents to $8.50 an hour

The increase — the second in 16 months under a 2014 law — works out to $14 more a week, or $728 a year, for those working full time.

Auto insurance, energy top Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter's agenda

Snyder's retiring chief of staff to take position at Honigman

THE DAILY MINING GAZETTE

Upper Peninsula's Quincy Mine goes solar

The installation of a solar panel array is expected to reduce costs at a Hancock mine hoist.

EDITORIAL

Gun data could help form smarter policy

This is a business and economic issue as much as a societal issue.

CINDY GOODAKER

A life filled with business news ... and newsrooms

Retiring Crain's executive editor looks back at her 30-year career.

Business events in January: Auto events, industry outlooks, networking

TOM HENDERSON

It's worse than just rude to always be slouched over your smartphone

Tech gadgets and phones can ruin your posture and your mood, Harvard professor says.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Michigan Economic Outlook 2016

The Detroit Economic Club presents David Sowerby CFA, vice president, Loomis, Sayles & Co. and Steve Arwood, director, Michigan Talent and CEO, Economic Development Michigan Economic Development Corp.Network cafe and speakers reception at 11:30 a.m.Lunch at noonProgram at 12:30 p.m.

Date: Thursday, January 7 11:30am - 1:00pm

Place: MotorCity Casino Hotel, 2901 Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Contact: | (313) 963-8547 | info@econclub.org

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 7:39 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Varnum to fill Gilbert's Fed building | Detroit schools plan detailed | DeVos family buys stake in Cubs

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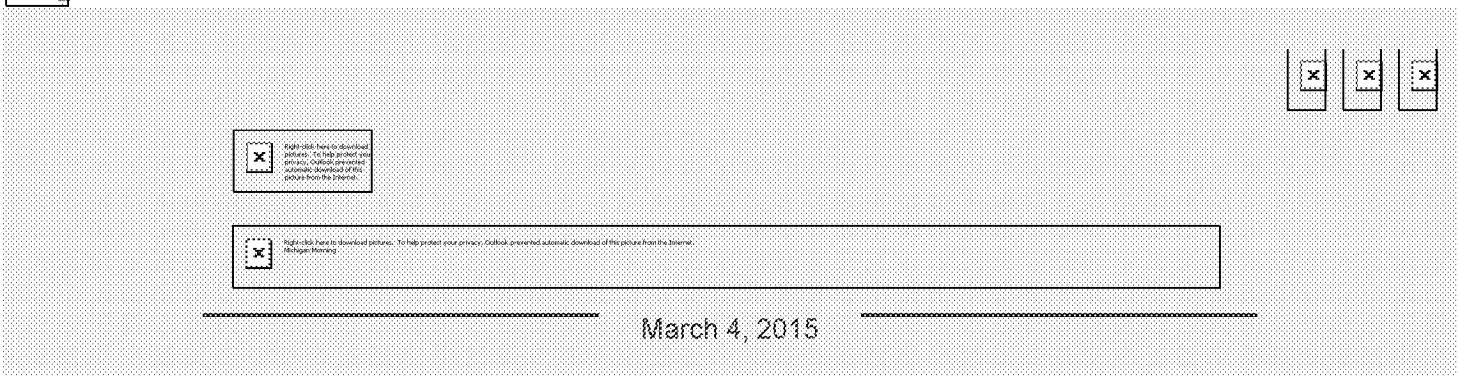

Gilbert's Fed building to be full as Varnum plans Detroit law office

Grand Rapids-based Varnum joins the *Detroit Free Press* and *The Detroit News*, which moved in last year along with their joint business operation, the Detroit Media Partnership, and the architectural firm Rossetti, which became the first Bedrock Real Estate Services tenant in 2013.

MLIVE

Detroit school emergency manager's plan could cut front office administrators

KIRK PINHO

Snyder hopes for quick legislative turnaround on coalition's Detroit education recommendations

BILL SHEA

WDET hires Free Press Pulitzer winner Stephen Henderson as 'Detroit Today' host

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Amway's DeVos family buys stake in Chicago Cubs

Advertisement

DETROIT FREE PRESS

DNR: Big projects slated for Belle Isle in 2015

Michigan plans to continue its multimillion-dollar investment in Belle Isle, which became a state park in late 2013.

KIRK PINHO

Alidade Capital buys mortgage note to former PWC building downtown

New judge to get update on loose ends in Detroit bankruptcy

Ann Arbor adding more property to ring of protected farmland

MLIVE

From Roger Penske to Hank Meijer, see Michigan's 10 richest and and how much they're worth

Advertisement

ANN ARBOR NEWS

Travel website names Blimpy Burger the best in Michigan

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Beer made with civet poop coffee on tap at West

Michigan brewery

Protests on Flint water taste, smell as city breaks tie to Detroit

West Michigan city may add sexual orientation to non-discrimination rules

MLIVE

Grand Rapids maker of automotive armrests acquired by Holland-based JCI spin-off

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Small house with 2,300-pipe organ sells, buyer moving to Grand Rapids from Seattle

LANSING STATE JOURNAL

Classic Arms to close after 50 years in Lansing area

EVENTS CALENDAR

Great Lakes Builders Show (March 4-6)

Excitement is building for the area's first homebuilding industry-only trade show—The Great Lakes Builders Show—debuting March 4 – 6, 2015 at Ford Field in Detroit. Builders, remodelers, design professionals and contractors are looking forward to connecting with regional suppliers of building products and services at this one-of-a-kind event. The show has everything you need to capitalize on the resurgence of the housing market, including 21+ education sessions, daily networking opportunities, exhibits and special pavilions. There's no better place to build great business relationships, discover great new products, and grow your business. Register today at www.greatlakesbuildersshow.com.

Date: Wednesday, March 4 9:00am - 6:30pm

Place: Ford Field, 2000 Brush St., Detroit

Contact: Great Lakes Builders Show Management | (703) 259-6118 | greatlakes@naylor.com

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 7:23 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Could Wayne County move HQ to New Center? | Leader Dogs launches $14.5M campaign | State to harvest 20M pounds of asparagus

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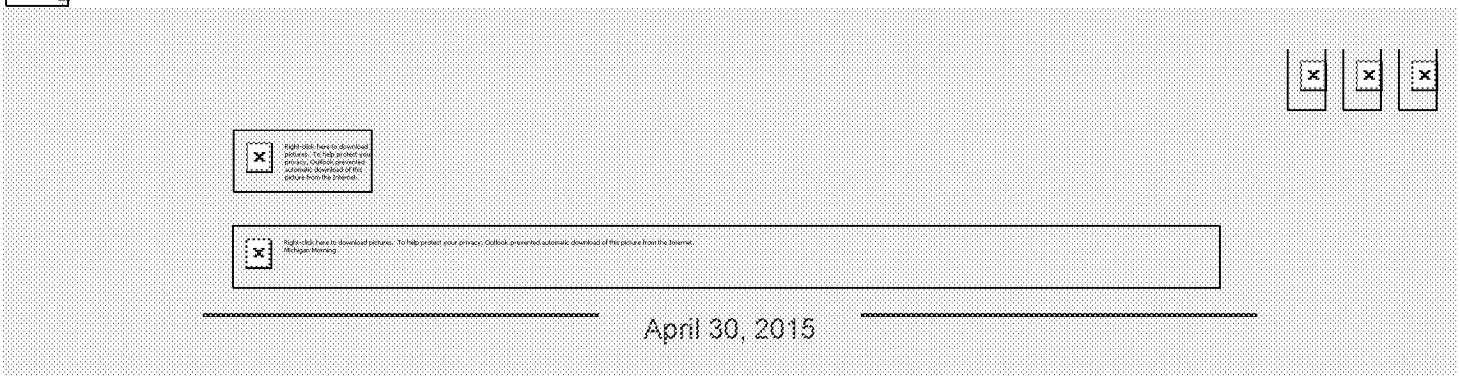

KIRK PINHO

Could Wayne County move HQ to New Center?

A report from the turnaround firm studying the county's finances raises the possibility of selling the Guardian Building and moving the county's headquarters to a self-contained county campus away from the Central Business District.

Moroun, city to swap parkland for Ambassador Bridge second span effort

Leader Dogs launches $14.5 million campaign to expand Rochester Hills kennel, canine center

State approves grant for *Michigan Chronicle* headquarters building project

GRAND RAPIDS BUSINESS JOURNAL

Atomic Object to invest $2.9 million, create 33 jobs in Grand Rapids

Advertisement

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Duggan lays out less costly insurance plan for Detroiters

OU President Hynd voices commitment to liberal arts degree during inauguration

Flint gets $7 million state loan, ends financial emergency

20 million pounds of asparagus to be harvested in Michigan

Hungary-based supplier of auto navigation software NNG opens Birmingham office

Advertisement

Michigan House OKs $15.8 billion spending plan for schools

Perrigo rejects Mylan's raised $32.7 billion takeover proposal

JAY GREENE

Top 25 Women in Healthcare includes 2 with Michigan connections

GUEST BLOG: MICHELLE PLUSKOTA

Building the new office environment for happy employees

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

Meijer works with Scotts-MiracleGro on pilot Garden Marketplace

Detroit's ravaged Packard plant looks to Europe for renaissance

Democrat lawmakers push for gay rights protections in Michigan

10 things to do this weekend

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo early, take a walk for heart health or spend a day at the newly renovated Shed 5 of Eastern Market.

EVENTS CALENDAR

BUILD Next: How to Tell Your Story to the Media (Beginner)

Join BUILD Institute and Amy Haimerl of *Crain's Detroit Business* for a workshop on gaining a better idea of how the media works and how to pitch your stories to the media. The beginner's workshop will cover the following topics:
- What is media & the different types of publications
- Why some brands get all the attention
- How to frame your story for the media
- What not to do when pitching the media
- Review a few pitch examples

Date: Monday, May 4 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Place: BUILD Institute, 2701 Bagley Avenue, Detroit

Contact: Jessica Meyer | (313) 265-3590 |

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From: Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crainalerts.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 8:02 AM
To: Brickner, Edward (DTMB)
Subject: Reporter goes through Ultimate Heart Check | The Lark set to close today | 311,000 in Michigan enroll for health coverage

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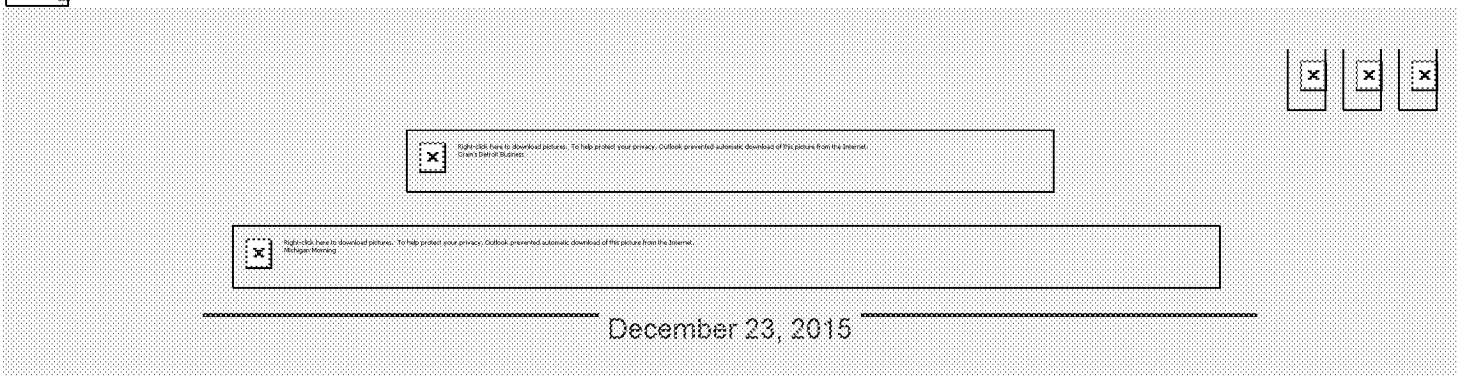


JAY GREENE

Reporter goes through Ultimate Heart Check ... drum roll ... Merry Christmas or Scrooged?

Too many people die unexpectedly of heart attacks. My dad was one. A year away from the same age he died, 62, I decided to go through a series of tests to see if I am as heart-healthy as I thought.

The Lark set to close today

The lauded West Bloomfield Township restaurant has served patrons for 35 years. Potential buyers are said to be interested.

311,000 in Michigan enroll for coverage under health care law

Health and Human Services officials say they are among 8.2 million people in the United States to do so since the start of the Nov. 1 open enrollment period.

GUEST BLOG: MARK S. LEE

Would you ever buy yourself? Why your personal brand matters

As a small business owner, you may have thought about your product or service in the context of branding, but not necessarily yourself.

Gilbert gets another 30 days for Hudson's site development agreement

An entity affiliated with Gilbert, Rosko Development Co. LLC, has development rights on the 2-acre former downtown site of the J.L. Hudson's department store, which was imploded in 1998.

Advertisement

TABLE TALK

Nino Salvaggio, Forgotten Harvest deliver 3,000 pounds of food ahead of Christmas event

Also making appearances in this week's roundup of local restaurant, food and drink news: Grey Ghost Detroit and Sister Pie.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

A mystery in the Lions' den: How Martha Ford quietly took over in Detroit as her son faded from spotlight.

Bill Ford Jr has said that his mother “is very much in charge,” of the team.

MLIVE

Personal income growth for Michiganders outpaces national average

Personal income for Michiganders grew by 1.4 percent in the third quarter of 2015, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Meridian Health Plan announces title sponsorship of Detroit's NYE drop event

Meridian Health Plan announced this afternoon in Campus Martius that it will be the title sponsor for the annual Motor City “The Drop” event on New Year's Eve.

2015 IN REVIEW

Crowdfunding young and complex: Here's a 4-step program to decide if it's right for your business

As part of our review of 2015, we are revisiting stories that appeared in the monthly Second Stage section where we take deeper looks at the tough decisions business owners must make. In January, Tarek and Rachel Kanaan of Ypsilanti-based Unity Vibration Living Kombucha Tea told us about their rocky experience with investment crowdfunding.

Advertisement

2015 IN REVIEW

Startup diaries: Three businesses reveal secrets of the early months

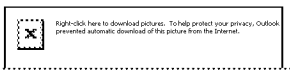
MICHIGAN RADIO

5 of 12 Michigan Boy Scout camps to be closed

BILL SHEA

MM3rdQB: Ex-Lions QB Joey Harrington's essay paints damning portrait of team's internal rot

The quarterback derisively nicknamed “Joey Blue-Skies” and “Joey Sunshine” by fans and media blasts Steve Mariucci and his teams while praising Matt Millen.



Communities get share of $1.3 million for

Michigan's state park recreation passes

2015 IN REVIEW

Crain's 2015 Best-Managed Nonprofits

Officials announce overhaul of I-75 bridge in Detroit

Michigan's Congress members: New federal budget will boost blight-fighting efforts

Iron ore shipments out of Marquette down nearly 37 percent

Agencies offer grants to support Michigan stream cleanups

Guided kayak tours planned along Sleeping Bear Dunes

Lincoln Park's financial emergency is officially over

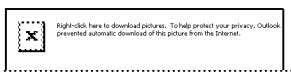
GM extends holiday shutdown of Lansing Delta Township plant

Judge sides with city of Flint over water shutoffs

10 things to do this weekend

There are plenty of holiday-related happenings as well as performances and a whiskey tasting. What do you have planned?

Share photos of your office holiday decorations, parties and ugly Christmas sweaters



Things to do in Detroit on New Year's Eve

From dance parties to high-class dinners, music to family activities, there's something for everyone to do in Detroit this New Year's Eve.

EVENTS CALENDAR

1000 Christmas Salutes

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial is proud to partner with Wins for Warriors Foundation, Justin Verlander's veterans support foundation, on a special holiday event, 1000 CHRISTMAS SALUTES, serving 1000 dinners to veterans and their families. "It is a privilege to team up with Wins for Warriors to celebrate the holidays with the veterans in our community and their families," said Charles Burke, War Memorial President and CEO. "We are honored to open our home, the historic Alger Estate, and serve those who have sacrificed and served this nation. Veterans and their families will be treated to a Michigan Christmas Dinner, prepared by the War Memorial's executive chef and featuring locally-sourced dishes including Michigan-marinated turkey with Traverse City cherry chutney and honey butter from the War Memorial's bee hive. Dinner will be served in the War Memorial's beautiful lakefront ballroom.Seatings for 1000 CHRISTMAS SALUTES will take place every half-hour from 11:30 a.m. through 7 p.m. Veterans are invited to bring up to three members of their families. (Veterans who have additional guests can call (313) 332-4015) Dinner is free of charge, but reservations are required. For information or to make reservations, call (313) 881-7511.

Date: Wednesday, December 23 11:30am - 7:00pm

Place: Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms

Contact: GPWM Community Engagement | (313) 881-7511 | gpwminfo@warmemorial.org

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From: Triplett, Tamara (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 9:35 AM
To: Brinks, Mary (CEPI)
Subject: RE: January Agenda for SBE?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Jan. 12, 2016	**Add items before December 9, 2015 please**				
	Report of Supt.	HR Report	HR	Joetta Parker	Grace Wirth 30794
Escorts - Accountability Services	Discussion/Action	State and Federal Legislative Report	Legis.	Marty A.	Marty Ackley 14395
	Presentation	Presentation: Final approval for the College for Creative Studies as an Educator Preparation Institution	OPPS	Leah Breen	Sarah-Kate laVan 5-0874
	Presentation	Presentation: Final approval for Baker College as an Educator Preparation Institution	OPPS	Leah Breen	Sarah-Kate laVan 5-0874
	Informational	MTTC 3-Year Report	OPPS	Leah Breen	Leah 11392
	Presentation	Flint Community Schools Contaminated Water Update	OSSS	Marla Moss	Marla 3-4013
	Presentation	Suspension and Expulsion Report	OSSS	Marla Moss	Marla 3-4013
	Report of Supt.	Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Midland ESA Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services			

From: Brinks, Mary (CEPI)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 9:04 AM
To: Triplett, Tamara (MDE) <TriplettT@michigan.gov>
Subject: January Agenda for SBE?

Happy Tuesday!!!

Sorry for bugging you. I tried to call Mertz but was told she's out until Thursday…really.

Might you have a copy of the January 2016 SBE agenda? I checked the website but 2016 isn't posted yet.

Please and thank you (even if you don't have it).

Thanks!

Full Name: Darnell Earley
Last Name: Earley
First Name: Darnell
Job Title: Emergency Manager
Company: DPS, Office of the Emergency Manager

Business Address: 14th Floor, Fisher Building
3011 West Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48202

Business: (313) 870-3772
Business Fax: (313) 870-3726

Web Page: http://detroitk12.org/admin/emergency_manager/

Earley, ICMA-CM, MPA
esident, ICMA (2009/2010)

Earley was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to serve as Emergency Manager of Detroit Public Schools on January 13, 2015.

hout his career, Earley has held numerous senior executive management positions in Michigan. Most recently, he served as ency Manager of the City of Flint, Michigan.

s extensive work in public administration began with his serving as Director of Community Development at the Urban League of gon, Michigan from 1978–1981. He also served as Administrative Assistant to the County Administrator/EEO Officer for gon County, Michigan until 1986. In 1986, Earley was appointed Township Manager of Buena Vista Charter Township in an. From 1988–1992, he was an appointee of the Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, responsible for supervising ecting a 45-member professional staff of policy analysts, attorneys and clerical support personnel, as Director of Research and Policy for the Democratic Caucus.

also held the positions of Budget Director and Deputy County Controller in Ingham County, Michigan from 1993–2001. He was ted City Administrator of Flint, Michigan in April of 2001. Due to a vacancy in the Office of the Mayor, Earley was sworn in as rary Mayor in March 2002, and was responsible for the full operation of the city's services. He served in that capacity until August and returned to City Administrator until July of 2004. Earley joined the City of Saginaw as the Deputy City Manager/Interim r of Fiscal Services in August of 2004. In September 2005, he was appointed Interim City Manager. In June of 2006 he was ted as City Manager where he served until his appointment as Flint's Emergency Manager in October, 2013.

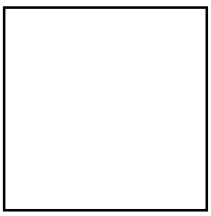
IA Credentialed Manager, Earley served as president of ICMA the International City/County Management Association from 010. His other affiliations include being a Life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., former Commissioner on the Michigan ment of Natural Resources, member of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators, and a former member of the National ation of County Administrators. While in Saginaw, he served as the Chairman of the Midland Bay Saginaw International Airport, airman of the Saginaw Midland Municipal Water Supply Corporation until October 2013. In October of 2011, Earley was selected Western Michigan University College of Arts and Sciences, School of Public Affairs and Administration as its Outstanding Alumni ement Award recipient for 2011.

received a Master of Public Administration degree from Western Michigan University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Valley State University. He later served as an Adjunct Professor for the School of Public Administration at Grand Valley where he graduate and undergraduate courses in public budgeting and financial administration, workplace diversity, human services, and zational development.

From: Brinks, Mary (CEPI)
Sent: Friday, June 07, 2013 11:57 AM
To: mzjb2007@gmail.com
Subject: READ - FW: SECOND RESEND -- Michigan Report, Wednesday, June 5, 2013
Attachments: Jun5.htm

Mary Brinks
Executive Assistant
Center for Educational Performance & Information
Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget
517.241.2374
brinksm@michigan.gov

From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 11:36 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: SECOND RESEND -- Michigan Report, Wednesday, June 5, 2013



Gongwer News Service apologizes for the inconvenience of a second resend of Wednesday's report, however, the new version contains a corrected story on mortgage foreclosure legislation taken up Wednesday in the House Financial Services Committee. The corrected version notes that it was Rep. Collene Lamonte (D-Montague) that discussed her personal experience with foreclosure, not Rep. Marilyn Lane (D-Fraser), who was incorrectly identified in the original story.

Michigan Report for Wednesday, June 5, 2013

So-Called Main Street Fairness Bills Stalled By Dems

Officials Announce $4M To Address Backlog Of Detroit Rape Kits

Peters Leads All Potential Republican U.S. Senate Candidates

Senate Passes Legislation Barring Mandatory Paid Sick Leave

DIA Protection Legislation Waits For Senate Vote, Faces Uncertain Fate In House

Anger Clear As House Panel Hears Foreclosure Bills

Approps Members Chastise DHS Over Adoption Spending

House Oks Bill Allowing Retired Corrections Officers To Work Indefinitely

House Panel Reports Veteran Property Tax Exemption

Disaster Fund Bill Clears Senate Appropriations

Medicaid Reform Set To See Changes Next Week

Senate Education Talks Anonymous Reporting Hotline 'Ok-2-Say'

Senate Democrats Announce Winners Of #mi2020 Scholarship

Bridge Card Fraud Bill Signed By The Governor

National Guard Director Bill Reported By House Committee

LARA Streamlines 2014 Accountancy License Renewals

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

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Volume #52, Report #110 -- Wednesday, June 5, 2013

So-Called Main Street Fairness Bills Stalled By Dems

Bills that would force the collection of the sales and use tax on purchases made through online entities that have affiliations in the state were on the House Tax Policy Committee agenda Wednesday, but were not voted on because House Democrats on the committee were going to abstain from voting.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), chair of the committee, said he thought the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB420201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB420301" }) had enough votes to be reported from committee. But Mr. Farrington said he found out before the meeting on Wednesday that the Democrats on the committee were planning on abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Farrington said he did not know why the Democratic committee members decided to pass, and he said it could possibly have been for "political reasons."

He also said plans for moving the bills are up in the air, since it does not have the votes to be reported from committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501&locid=1" } (D-Warren), a member of the committee, said it wasn't a last minute decision and the Democratic members simply feel the issue is a federal one.

Mr. Switalski said the U.S. Senate has passed bills requiring internet retailers to charge the sales and use tax, and he said the U.S. House is "poised" to do so as well.

However, those watching the issue said it seemed Democrats were leveraging their votes in hopes of winning Republican support on other issues.

Officials Announce $4M To Address Backlog Of Detroit Rape Kits

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } is making available $4 million from money his office has obtained through legal settlements to pay for processing many of the more than 9,000 remaining abandoned, untested rape kits found in a Detroit Police Department property room almost four years ago.

At a news conference that included { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and Wayne

County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, officials said they could not be sure exactly how many of the kits could be processed for $4 million, but at an average cost of $1,550 per kit, they were hopeful of making a significant dent in the backlog.

"There are people that have been victims that are in these kits that deserve justice," Mr. Snyder said.

Ms. Worthy undertook a private fundraising effort to process about 1,600 of the original 11,303 kits. Through those tests, and many of the kits were no longer testable, 32 serial rapists were identified, Ms. Worthy said.

She praised Mr. Snyder and Ms. Schuette for their efforts. She said more than 100 rapists could be identified as a result of the funding.

"It's bigger than huge," she said.

Ms. Worthy is in the middle of a well-publicized battle with Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and the County Commission about the size of her budget. She was asked whether her office had the prosecutors available to handle cases stemming from testing the kits and responded that she hoped county officials were listening to the commitment of Mr. Schuette and Mr. Snyder.

"At times when I don't hear very much good news of a financial nature in Wayne County, it was a great day, a fabulous day, when the attorney general called me and said that he was making available funds that will allow thousands more kits to be tested," she said. "That was better news than manna from heaven."

Ms. Worthy said her office already has obtained convictions, a guilty plea and another four with trial dates set from its work on the kits tested so far.

Mr. Schuette said the effort would hopefully provide some healing or closure for the thousands of women who feel abandoned by law enforcement.

"Rape, it's not just another crime. When a woman is violated, attacked, assaulted, brutalized, it cries out for justice," he said. "Twice, women were violated. Once by the rape and then second that justice was put in a box, put on a shelf. That's going to end now with this team effort."

Peters Leads All Potential Republican U.S. Senate Candidates

Democratic { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } leads all possible Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate race in 2014, according to a new poll released Wednesday, although the firm conducting the poll said it was more of a generic ballot test given the lack of familiarity those surveyed had with the candidates.

The only Republican who has announced a bid is former Secretary of State Terri Land, and she performs the best against Mr. Peters, who still led her 41 percent to 36 percent even though more voters recognized Ms. Land's name than Mr. Peters'.

Mr. Peters scores even better against the Republican many in the GOP are hoping will run, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3001&locid=1" } of Brighton. Mr. Peters held a 42 percent to 32 percent lead in that match-up.

Against { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Kentwood), Mr. Peters held a 42-30 lead.

Other Republicans considering a bid, like state { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } of Saginaw Township and physician Rob Steele, trail Mr. Peters by the same 44-26 margin. Former Republican Party Chair Saul Anuzis was further back at 44-24.

The poll was conducted by Public Policy Polling, a Democratic firm with a good track record for accurate polling in Michigan. Holland Mayor Kurt Dykstra, who says he is considering a bid, was not tested in the survey.

"Peters' strength in these early match-ups has less to do with him than it does the general Democratic lean of the state in national elections," Public Policy Polling said in a memo about the survey.

Eighteen percent of those polled had a favorable opinion of Mr. Peters compared to 16 percent unfavorable, leaving 66 percent with no opinion. Ms. Land, who won statewide office twice, in 2002 and 2006, registered a 29 percent favorable rating and 21 percent unfavorable.

Looking deeper into the poll, there were some encouraging numbers for Ms. Land if she faces competition for the Republican nomination. Forty-two percent of Republicans had a favorable opinion of her compared to 11 percent unfavorable - by far the best spread of any other potential candidate. Mr. Rogers had a split of 27-12 among Republicans, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Kentwood) had an anemic 15 percent favorable to 16 percent unfavorable rating among Republicans.

In a Land-Peters general election match-up, Mr. Peters' five-point edge comes from the greater number of Democrats voting. The two are statistically tied among independents with Ms. Land at 32 percent and Mr. Peters at 31 percent.

The survey was conducted via automated telephone interviews May 30 through June 2 among 697 Michigan voters. It has an error margin of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points. The poll conducted used an oversample of 334 Republicans for a question on whom the party would most like to see as its nominee with opinions varied.

And on that question, there was less enthusiasm for Ms. Land.

Twenty-one percent said they wanted { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=1401&locid=1" } of Midland to run, although he has said he is not running. Eighteen percent named Mr. Rogers, who is considering the contest, while 16 percent chose Mr. Amash, 15 percent Ms. Land, 7 percent Mr. Anuzis, 2 percent Circuit Judge Kimberly Small and Mr. Steele and Mr. Kahn at 1 percent each. The error margin for that question was plus or minus 5.4 percentage points.

Mike Murray, a Republican political consultant, said the poll is a positive for Ms. Land. Mr. Peters spent big money in his three congressional campaigns and has had the field to himself for some time, but she is barely outside the margin of error against him

Mr. Murray, who is not working for anyone in the race, said he was somewhat surprised that Ms. Land fared better against Mr. Peters than Mr. Rogers or Mr. Amash. He noted she will need to raise big money and avoid a bruising primary to position herself.

"I think she stacks up very well with Gary Peters," he said.

Democrats, however, were less than concerned, noting that 85 percent of Republicans suggested they preferred someone other than Ms. Land as their nominee.

Senate Passes Legislation Barring Mandatory Paid Sick Leave

The Senate on Wednesday passed, mostly along party lines, a bill prohibiting local governments from establishing their own laws on employee leave for employers in their jurisdiction, with Democrats calling the bill unnecessary and one of the worst bills they had ever seen.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) offered a substitute to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB17301" } that would essentially undo is the legislation by instead requiring employers to give employees paid sick leave time.

"Paid sick leave policies are good public policy and in fact good for business," Ms. Warren said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township), sponsor of the legislation, of course urged defeat of the substitute. He referenced his son, who had just started his own business and could barely stay afloat as it was, let alone if he were to be required to pay sick time for his employees.

"I believe leave time benefits, paid or unpaid, is an agreement between employer and employee," Mr. Jansen said.

Ms. Warren said the bill would override local control and that the legislation was "a solution in search of a problem," since to her knowledge only four places in the nation - none of which are in Michigan - have implemented such a policy. She also argued that having paid sick leave helped increase worker performance, boost morale and cut down on health care costs.

Mr. Jansen was joined in support by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), who said one thing that has been missing from the conversation as the bill relates to local control is the issue of private control. He said the government should not be able to make such a decision and force the burden of cost onto employers.

The substitute was defeated along party lines, and the bill was passed 25-13 with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights) voting in opposition to the bill alongside Democrats.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) called the bill "despicable."

"I come before you today with shame and with anger in my heart in the fact that we would take away sick leave from our workers. This is disgraceful. It's unnecessary. It's despicable," Mr. Young said. "This is the worst idea for a bill I've seen since they decided to make Garfield and the Tale of Two Kitties. This bill is so incredibly bad that I think it would make a tear in the space continuum if I blacked out, woke up in a hot tub time machine, and traveled through time so I could stop it and repeal it."

And some others expressed disgust at the passage of the bill as well.

"I suspect that from where most working people and restaurant patrons sit, these lobbyists look like little more than agents for Mr. Scrooge refusing to allow sick days or a decent wage for workers," Danielle Atkinson, director of Mothering Justice, said in a statement. "Sadly, that's hardly an accurate reflection of many local restaurant owners I know who care about their workers and public health."

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=270701&locid=1" } (D-Lathrup Village), who has introduced a bill that would allow workers to take earned paid time off to recover from illnesses, said business and employees both lose when someone comes to work sick.

"A healthy workforce leads to a healthy economy, and this Senate Bill is a step in the wrong direction for Michigan," Mr. Hobbs said in a statement. "As state lawmakers, we need to show we're serious about valuing workers and protecting public health by moving towards a statewide policy for all municipalities."

DIA Protection Legislation Waits For Senate Vote, Faces Uncertain Fate In House

The Senate on Wednesday did not take up a bill that would protect the Detroit Institute of Arts' artwork from liquidation should the city of Detroit file for bankruptcy, despite having placed the item on its calendar as intended for final passage.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said he expects his legislation, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB40101" }, will instead be taken up next week. He said there was a degree of complexity to the legislation since it dealt with a law that began in 1885 and had changes made to it.

"(It was the) first time we had talked about it as a caucus so I told them I'd give them a little extra time (and) we would talk again Tuesday," Mr. Richardville said after session. "There's no event there, it's just that it was moving pretty fast and I thought I had a few questions for clarifying. I don't think there will be a problem with the vote on Tuesday."

Indeed, the bill was just introduced last week and reported from the Senate Government Operations Committee on Tuesday. The bill would require an art institute to adhere to the code of ethics for museums as published by the American Alliance for Museums or a successor organization, and specifically a provision that the institute could not sell items from the museum collection unless doing so would to the direct benefit of the institute itself.

The potential caveat helping the case of saving that artwork is that while the city of Detroit owns the DIA and the art within the facility, technically substantial aid comes from people and groups all across the state. And some of that artwork comes from those private parties, too.

If and when the bill clears the Senate, it is unknown how well it will fare in the House. Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said the speaker currently does not have any plans to take the bill up before summer recess over a couple of concerns.

"One, we want to try to stay focused right now on keeping Detroit out of bankruptcy," Mr. Adler said. "And the second thing is the speaker is concerned that if you start talking about things that cannot be touched, before long that list starts to include everything."

"That has been a problem for cities like Detroit for many years now," he said. "People say that changes need to be made but don't change the thing that I really like. When you do that, you end up running out solutions."

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was noncommittal on Mr. Richardville's bill when pressed about it at a separate news conference on Wednesday.

"Looking at the legislation, it was just recently introduced," he said of the bill. "I'm happy to review it as part of the process."

Mr. Snyder also declined to say whether he thought a state statute could protect the art from a federal bankruptcy judge.

"My goal is not to see the art of the DIA disappear," he said. "This is a fabulous asset of the city of Detroit. It's very important."

Anger Clear As House Panel Hears Foreclosure Bills

As the House Financial Services Committee took testimony on a series of bills that would shorten the redemption period homeowners in foreclosure can use to get their house sold or work out a final arrangement to prevent losing their house, it was clear the overflowing crowd watching the meeting was opposed to the measures.

Critics said the bills will increase the number of foreclosures, while supporters said they would help neighborhoods by moving properties to new owners more quickly and help lenders from losing money on damaged homes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" } (R-Nashville), chair of the committee, had to repeatedly ask audience members not to applaud speakers they agreed with or to shout out criticisms of speakers with whom they disagreed.

The panel did not vote on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476401" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476501" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476601" } and HB 4766. The Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee did vote out similar legislation to the full Senate two weeks ago.

Mr. Callton also did not say when the committee would next meet on the package.

But when he adjourned the meeting for the beginning of the House session at 1:30 p.m., several audience members angrily demanded they be allowed to speak.

"What kind of audacity is this?" shouted Jerry Goldberg, a Detroit-based, anti-foreclosure attorney, saying people had come from a great distance to speak at the meeting.

The committee meeting lasted for some 90 minutes, and when the meeting had gone on for nearly 45 minutes, Mr. Callton said there were 35 people left to speak.

The meeting was also marked by the somewhat surprising acknowledgement of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325401&locid=1" } (D-Montague), who said she had been through a foreclosure and was critical of banks taking too long to work with them, in one case letting a short sale of her house slip away (editor's note: this story corrected from an earlier edition to reflect that it was Ms. Lamonte that made this comment, *not* { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1" } (D-Fraser) who was erroneously identified in the earlier edition).

The legislation is identical to the Senate bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38001" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38301" }). When the Senate panel met on the bills, that committee too was packed, but with more officials who work with legislation and foreclosures. The House meeting was marked in part because a number of home owners who had faced foreclosure were present.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart), chair of the Senate committee and sponsor of one of the bills, said the package, which would extend the current 90-day period that lenders and homeowners have to work on resolutions before beginning the foreclosure process, but cut the current six months redemption period to 60 days, was the "right policy" for the state.

Banking officials supported the measure, with several saying they have never seen a house issue resolved during redemption (a spokesperson with the Michigan Bankers Association said the average is about 1 percent of houses in foreclosure can work out a resolution in redemption).

Plus, supporters said homes are often abandoned, with fixtures stolen or destroyed, during the redemption period and there is nothing they can do about it.

But Lorray Brown with the Michigan Poverty Law Program said state law now allows a lender to seize property if it has been abandoned.

And Neeta Delaney of the Michigan Foreclosure Task Force said 60 days in redemption would not be enough time for most lenders and home owners to work out a short sale.

Sam Frangie of the Lansing-based LAFCU said short sales through his institution generally take 60 days. He also said he has never had a situation where a foreclosure was redeemed.

Baxter Jones of Detroit seemed to encapsulate the overall opposition when he said, "Everyone wants to protect the banks." Instead, he said, the Legislature should pass bills to help people stay in their homes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217401&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), minority vice chair of the committee, released a statement in opposition to the bills.

"In order for Michigan's economy to make a full recovery, we should be doing everything we can to help our citizens get back on their feet," Mr. Nathan said. "The reduction in redemption periods is unconscionable. It's wrong to dump residents on the street before allowing them a fair chance to make other living arrangements."

Approps Members Chastise DHS Over Adoption Spending

Some House Appropriations Committee members were a bit hot under the collar Wednesday for having to approve a $25.3 million supplemental to allow the Department of Human Services to pay an increase for adoption subsidies.

The issue was not providing the additional $3 per child per day, but that they were not told there was a problem until the supplemental legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB411201" }) was put on their desks.

Most of the outrage came from committee Democrats, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205901&locid=1" } (R-Holland), the committee chair, agreed that the department needed some process to notify the Legislature that it was having unexpected budget problems.

The conflict came as the result of the $3 increase that had been included in the current year budget. The intention had been to provide the increase only to certain new foster care and adoption cases, which would have cost about $1.5 million. But department officials discovered that law required them to provide the increase to all current adoption cases, about 27,000 of them, bringing the total needed to about $28 million.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said the department should have raised the issue earlier. "Instead of coming to the Legislature and saying we made a mistake ... you're coming to us and saying we need $28 million to cover up the mistake," she said.

Had officials raised the issue earlier, the statute could have been changed to allow the increases to be applied as intended, she said. And she said department officials, particularly Director Maura Corrigan, should have apologized for allowing the mistake.

Amanda Bright McClanahan, budget director for the department, said Ms. Corrigan had apologized in meetings with legislative leaders. "She has taken full responsibility for the fact that the rate increase was implemented without notification to the Legislature," Ms. Bright McClanahan said. "This was something that was missed by the department, the Legislature and the Executive Branch during the budget process last year."

She said the increase, to all cases, is included in the fiscal year 2013-14 budget. And she said the department had taken steps to prevent such situations in the future.

Ms. Bright McClanahan said the department would not necessarily have supported changing the law to allow increases only to new foster care cases. "If there's a disparity between foster care and adoption, there's a disincentive for foster families to move to adoption," she said, adding that the children involved in the cases were special needs and the incentives were needed to get them into permanent families.

The issue, Ms. Tlaib said, was this was the second time the department had changed its spending without notifying the Legislature. The first time, she said, was the department's decision not to implement the JET program despite it being included in the budget.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280501&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids) said the department had to be sure that, at a minimum, all Appropriations members were included in any communications about budget problems. "Private communication to the leadership is not communication to the entire Legislature," he said.

Members also chafed at the department saying it had a legal opinion finding the payments were required, but would not supply that opinion to the Legislature because it was informal and so covered by attorney-client privilege.

The committee rejected amendments from Ms. Tlaib that would have required the department to find the additional funds, as well as funds for a proposed departmental restructuring, from within its current budget rather than providing additional funds.

Ms. Tlaib also offered language, again rejected, that would have required the department to come up with the funds for some additional Family Independence Program cases generated by a court ruling that the department had improperly removed some families. Most of those families were on only a few months before they were again removed under the federal time limit for cash assistance, Ms. Bright McClanahan said.

Mr. Haveman ruled out of order a motion from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=31101&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) for Mr. Haveman to draft a letter to the department on behalf of the committee, but Mr. Haveman said he would work with Mr. Durhal on such a letter if one had not already been sent to the department.

The bill, as reported on an 18-0 vote with all Democrats abstaining, represented a $637.5 million gross reduction in the current year budget. General Fund was down $25 million.

The bulk of the bill was a $625.88 million gross reduction for DHS and a $157.24 gross reduction for the Department of Community Health to adjust for expected caseload reductions. Another $15.95 million, this all federal funds, came out of the Department of Education for child care subsidy caseload reductions.

Among some other provisions, the bill included $1 million General Fund for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, half to cover shortfalls in food inspection program fees and half to cover bovine tuberculosis testing.

The Department of Education would pass through $350,000 to Marshall Public Schools as it takes on high school students from Albion Public Schools next year. Officials said the funds would cover an expected lag in federal at-risk funds for the receiving district, noting that

Marshall could end up with less at-risk money than Albion depending on its final percentage of at-risk students once the transfer is completed.

Democrats on the committee questioned why similar funds could not have been made available for Buena Vista Public Schools when that district ran out of money last month.

The $1.8 million to the Unemployment Insurance Agency to hire additional fraud inspectors drew fire from both sides of the aisle, with members complaining about the agency's treatment of both businesses and employees.

Stephanie Comai, deputy director in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, which houses UIA, said the agency prides itself in customer service, but also always has room to improve. To allegations that the agency is allowing workers to collect thousands of dollars in benefits before filing fraud complaints and requiring repayment, with fees, she said UIA cannot withhold payments until a complaint has been resolved. She said the inspectors were intended to reduce the backlog in cases and reduce the period where improper benefits are being paid.

The bill also allowed the Department of Corrections to spend $2.48 million from Detroit for the Mound Correctional Facility, which is being converted to a detention center. The state is paying $450,000 for some upgrades, including security cameras, but the city is expected to reimburse those costs once it begins operating the facility, officials said.

DHS would also see another $26.19 million in federal funds for retirement costs. Officials said those costs increased faster than projected (the line had generated lapses in prior fiscal years).

Transit in Detroit would see two boosts: $5.4 million in Comprehensive Transportation Fund to make up for expected reductions in support from Detroit for local transit and $10 million in federal funds for a variety of transportation improvements, mostly around the Eastern Market.

The committee rejected an amendment to expand Medicaid as allowed under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. That provision had been pushed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } but was left out of the 2013-14 budget.

The committee also reported two bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB470801" }) that would extend the hazardous waste management fee through the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year and combine three restricted funds dealing with hazardous waste into a single fund.

It also reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB467001" } to allow the Department of State Police to use funds set aside under the Emergency Management Act and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB467101" } to eliminate the sunset on the e911 fee.

House Oks Bill Allowing Retired Corrections Officers To Work Indefinitely

The full House narrowly passed a bill on Wednesday that would remove the September 30 sunset date in legislation enacted last year that allows the Department of Corrections to hire retirees to work part time to reduce overtime costs.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466401" }) passed 58-51 on mostly party lines. Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" } of Clayton and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } of Utica joined the 49 Democrats in opposing the bill. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228901&locid=1" } (I-Detroit) voted yes.

The legislation is designed to help the department save money in its ever-growing budget. By removing the sunset, supporters said it would help get more retirees working while the department is in the process of training new workers.

HUNTING, ORV FEES: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466801" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466901" } passed 77-32 and 70-39, respectively. The latter would raise fees for off-road vehicles by $10 to $26.25 for a general license. For those who wish to ride on state trails, the license would be $36.25.

Hunters would see a price increase and a change in their licenses as well. They would have to get a base license and additional licenses for certain species. It would cost $10 for a resident base license and $150 for nonresidents. Junior hunters would pay $5 and seniors would pay $4 for a base license. A person would be allowed to hunt small game with a base license.

To hunt deer, the hunter must pay another $20 for the deer license. An elk license would be an additional $100.

The cost of 24-hour and 72-hour fishing licenses increase to $10 from $7 and to $28 from $21, respectively, under the bill. But fees for a resident all-species fishing licenses would decrease to $25 from $28. Nonresident, all-species fishing licenses increase to $75 from $42.

House Panel Reports Veteran Property Tax Exemption

The House Tax Policy Committee reported bills on Wednesday that would extend the property tax exemption so that it would also apply to the principal residence of veterans who have been permanently and totally disabled as the result of military service and are entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100 percent rate.

The bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB469801" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB411001" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB35201" }) are all very similar and were reported unanimously from committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) won an amendment for SB 352 that would include language from the other bills in the package ensuring that once a veteran's spouse remarried, he or she would no longer receive the exemption.

Samantha Harkins, representing the Michigan Municipal League, said the league is opposed to the bills simply because it is a piece-meal solution. Ms. Harkins said the Legislature could possibly develop a broader and more comprehensive statewide policy to address what veterans are lacking in services.

Ms. Harkins said property taxes are where local units of government get most of their revenue.

BUSINESS TAX LIABILITY: A bill that would make an officer, manager or partner of a business personally liable only for uncollected trust taxes, or taxes collected from the business for the government, such as sales tax, was also discussed in the House Tax Policy Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB6401" }) would limit liability to only situations where a business failed to pay a tax from another person and to a person who had been responsible for collecting the tax or filing returns during the time of default.

Dan Papineau, chief of staff for the bill's sponsor, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), said under current law a person could be held liable for certain corporate taxes and the Michigan Business Tax.

Mr. Papineau also said few states collect taxes other than trust taxes from individuals if a business hasn't paid.

The bill also would limit the liability of the person to their proportionate share of the tax assessed and require the Department of Treasury to assess the purchaser of a business that owes taxes before assessing a person involved with the company under previous ownership.

Howard Ryan, with the Department of Treasury, said the department is opposed to the bills. Mr. Ryan said the bill does not define trust taxes, and the department is under the impression sales and use taxes would not be considered a trust tax.

Mr. Ryan also said there are many businesses that owe back taxes, have the funds to pay them and just refuse to do so. He said holding a manager, officer or partner personally liable helps the department collect the taxes.

Mr. Ryan said the department is interested in working on different language for the bill that would define trust taxes and ensure if an individual was not liable, he or she would not have to pay the tax.

However, Mr. Papineau said the department's proposed language would make the situation worse.

The chair of the committee, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), said the committee will continue to work on the bill in upcoming weeks.

Disaster Fund Bill Clears Senate Appropriations

Legislation that would ensure a minimum level of $2 million in the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund and raise the maximum grant to a local government from it won approval Wednesday from the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The move in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB33001" } is part of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s 2013-14 budget recommendation and would represent a change from how the state has disbursed disaster aid. Historically, the state has not placed money in what is now called the Disaster Contingency Fund. Instead, the state has handled the disbursement of funds through a supplemental appropriations bill.

Backers of the legislation say it will better prepare the state and make the disbursement of funds much smoother.

Under the bill, a county or municipality could obtain a maximum grant from the fund of $100,000 or 10 percent of the local government's operating budget, whichever is less, up from the current $30,000/10 percent level.

The committee adopted an amendment that would mean a smaller ceiling for the fund than originally proposed. The bill initially called for an $8.5 million cap, but under the amendment the cap would be $4.5 million.

The bill won approval on a party-line 11-4 vote. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor) abstained.

Local governments would request funds through the Department of State Police, which would decide whether to grant the funds. The governor must have signed an emergency declaration for the situation as well for it to be eligible for funds.

Medicaid Reform Set To See Changes Next Week

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" }, chair of the House Michigan Competitiveness Committee, said on Wednesday the bill reforming Medicaid reform would see a substitute on Monday for members of the committee to look through, followed by meetings next Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Michigan Competitiveness Committee heard its fourth day of testimony on the bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB471401" }) designed to gain waivers from the federal government before the state expands Medicaid to 133 percent of the federal poverty level.

Mr. Shirkey (R-Clarklake) said if all goes well, the committee will be in a position to consider voting next on the legislation next week.

Mark Cook, vice president of governmental affairs for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, said currently, residents who are uninsured go to the emergency room to receive care, and that is the least cost-effective way to get people care.

He also said BCBSM currently has products in the private marketplace where consumers receive savings for going to the doctor and taking steps to improve their health. He said those products have proven to be successful. In the bill proposed in committee, there are incentives to reduce premiums for those who would newly be accepted into the Medicaid program to get healthier.

Mr. Cook also said the state should take advantage of the federal money given for the expansion because the state will otherwise be required to spend more of its own money.

Doug Paterson, with the Michigan Primary Care Association, said the 14 states that have chosen not to implement the Medicaid expansion have increased rates of uncompensated care and will lose $8.4 billion.

Mr. Paterson also expressed concerns with the 48-month limit on Medicaid coverage in the bill. He said he was worried about a situation where a woman would receive Medicaid benefits, then get pregnant after she reached the limit and no longer qualify. He also said various conditions treated do not go away in four years.

"They are able bodied (right now) because we can treat these issues," he said. "But if they were not treated, they would not be able bodied."

Representatives from Michigan Consumers for Health Care said the group was concerned individuals would be penalized if they lived in an area where transportation was an issue and could not comply with the wellness incentives.

The group also said one-third of health care costs come from fraud and abuse, and those issues should be looked at more.

Members of the small business community, including the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Association of Health Plans and the Small Business Association of Michigan said without the expansion, many of their members would have to pay fees under the Affordable Care Act. They also said the expansion could help bend the cost curve by removing the extra costs from those paying for uncompensated care within their insurance rates.

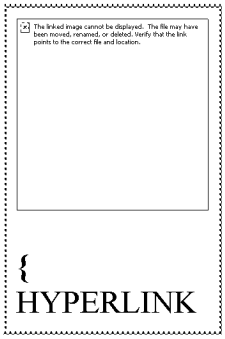
Senate Education Talks Anonymous Reporting Hotline 'Ok-2-Say'

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }, the Department of State Police and legislators are in agreement that an anonymous hotline for students and members of the community to report potential for dangerous or violent situations is a good thing, but how exactly that hotline will be organized is still anyone's guess.

The Senate Education Committee on Wednesday took testimony on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB37401" }, which would create the Michigan Student Safety Act to require the development and implementation of a program that would allow for confidential reports of dangerous, violent or criminal activities to a toll-free hotline.

The Department of Attorney General would develop the program, which Mr. Schuette said in testimony would use $3.5 million fund it has been able to amass from various settlements the state has received.

"What Ok-2-Say is, is really it's an early warning system," Mr. Schuette said. "We try to stop violence in schools before it occurs. Ok-2-Say would be a 24-7 command center of sorts that would receive concerns and threats and then transmit those to the closest responder.



"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said on Wednesday that he would like to move legislation on Ok-2-Say before the summer is up.

"The new feature on this which I think is the most fundamental one is the fact that it's confidential," he said. "You eliminate the risk or the fear or concern that this tip would then later be public. It really starts a new dialogue in Michigan."

Mr. Schuette and others continued to refer to a statistic that in the event of serious incidents, whether it was to harm oneself or others, 81 percent of the time there was at least one person other than the perpetrator who knew about it.

"This whole nonsense about don't be a snitch, don't be a nark, we have to stop," Mr. Schuette said. "If we can save the life of even one child, then Ok-2-Say would be of huge value."

But several of the senators on the panel, including { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of the committee, questioned why current hotlines that exist for such purposes were being under-used and how this one would be any different.

Dwayne Gill, legislative liaison for the State Police, responded, "I would imagine that the lack of marketing this hotline that we have could be the reason as to why we have limited calls of service right now."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) said he had hoped the legislation would somehow differentiate this upcoming hotline from others. He also said he wanted to identify how many people would need to staff the hotline, where they would be located and how much money that would cost; as none of that was set in the S-2 substitute of the bill (the committee did not adopt the substitute yet).

The other point of difference both Mr. Gill and Mr. Schuette are hoping to attain with Ok-2-Say is the type of communication available, especially for students. Current hotlines are promoted on the State Police website, Facebook and Twitter, but they do not have much of a presence in schools or on things such as mobile apps, Mr. Gill said.

"We're going to be able to communicate with these children on a level they're used to communicating on," Mr. Gill said, reiterating Mr. Schuette's plans for text message availability, mobile phone apps, and other ways to more effectively reach youth.

The $3.5 million is likely to be used to get the program up and running, Mr. Schuette said, but as long as the legislation keeps moving, he is convinced that his office and others he will be coordinating with will be able to develop the finer details of the program over the summer and before the next school year.

Mr. Pavlov, in speaking to Gongwer News Service after the meeting, said he was unsure whether the funding for the program through the settlements would need to be identified in the current-year budget or identified at all. Technically, the substitute removed language regarding a supplemental and the appropriations process, he said.

He also expects marketing the current hotline will be part of the final product.

"We've got to get the word out. I don't know how they're going to go about it," he said. "We didn't really talk a lot about the implementation of the plan, but clearly we have to be able to make people aware of it."

Mr. Pavlov said it's possible the committee could move the bill before summer recess but wanted to get more details about the development and organization of the program into the bill first.

EAA NOT BEFORE SUMMER RECESS: Mr. Pavlov said on Wednesday he does not expect to take up legislation on expanding the Educational Achievement Authority ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB436901" }) before the summer recess, anticipated to be on or around June 21.

There are reportedly significant disagreements between the House and Senate on the language of the bill, but Mr. Pavlov said only, "We just have some work to do on that EAA and it's going to require a little more time to get it right I think."

Asked what kind of work, Mr. Pavlov said, "We've got to work on getting votes." Asked if that was in the committee or in caucus, he said it was "in the Senate." Democrats have largely advocated against the legislation, and recently Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said his caucus isn't too thrilled about it either (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=521090104" }).

Senate Democrats Announce Winners Of #mi2020 Scholarship

Senate Democrats have announced three winners of their second annual #mi2020 scholarship, originally developed in conjunction with the caucus' plan to approve legislation that would give every Michigan high school senior free college tuition by using money from expiring tax credits.

Though the legislation once received a hearing last term and then died upon the end of session and has yet to be recognized this term, the caucus has kept its scholarship program, which asks current Michigan high school seniors to submit a short video explaining the importance of investing in higher education and how the Michigan 2020 plan is the right investment for the state.

Spencer Genrich of Wyandotte took first place in this year's competition, winning a $10,000 scholarship. Second place went to Sara-Jane Dakroub of Rochester Hills, who received $2,500, and third place went to Nathan Douglas of Bloomingdale, who will receive $1,000.

"I congratulate Spencer, Sara-Jane and Nathan on their winning entries and am excited that we can help them pursue a college education," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) said in a statement. "This video competition gave students across the state the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity and show us why investing in their futures is investing

in our own. Their entries made it clear that the challenges of paying for college are not unique geographically, politically or even economically and show the importance of passing the Michigan 2020 Plan to help all of our kids go to college for free."

The winners were determined by a combination of public vote that included more than 60,000 votes and the votes of a panel of judges that included an educator, a public relations practitioner and a recent college graduate, according to Senate Democrats.

The winning videos can be seen at the Michigan 2020 { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan2020.com/competition" \t "blank" }.

Bridge Card Fraud Bill Signed By The Governor

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } signed a bill Wednesday intended to reduce fraud involving Michigan's Food Assistance program.

"This is a common-sense bill that will continue efforts to save taxpayer dollars by helping keep the Bridge Cards that are intended to help people in need from reaching the hands of criminals," Mr. Snyder said in a statement.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB404201" } (PA 41, immediate effect) makes it mandatory for the Department of Human Services to conduct monthly death record and incarceration checks to ensure Bridge card holders who are deceased or in prison are not still receiving funds.

Department officials have said they were already conducting the checks.

National Guard Director Bill Reported By House Committee

A Senate bill amending the job of an adjutant general, director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, was unanimously reported in a House committee Wednesday.

The House Military and Veterans Affairs Committee reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB17501" }, which deals with the job description and retirement changes to the position of adjutant general and assistant adjutant general, as well as expanding some of the governor's authority to enter into agreements with other governors and ordering members of the militia into active service.

The committee also unanimously reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB460501" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB473101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475201" }

, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475601" }, with some technical changes to the legislation.

LARA Streamlines 2014 Accountancy License Renewals

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs on Wednesday said it has streamlined the reporting of continuing professional education and peer review for accountants, and their license renewal must be completed by July 31, 2013.

The license renewal fee paid by July 31, 2013, will be for the license taking effect January 1, 2014, the department said.

The two-year license period had not changed, though, and licenses will still expire December 31 of odd years. Once renewed, the new license registration will expire on December 31, 2015. Registrations are valid until expiration.

The renewal fees for a registered CPA are $50, or $200 for licensed CPAs and licensed firms, respectively.

License and registration renewals not received by the expiration date can be renewed with submission of the regular renewal fee plus an additional $20 late fee within 60 days following the license expiration date, the department said. Licensees who fail to renew online or by mail, or to meet all renewal requirements by the expiration date of the license, cannot legally practice as a certified public accountant or CPA firm and may be subject to disciplinary action if they continue to practice.

Capital Notebook

STATE CHRISTMAS TREE: The search for the Christmas tree that will stand in front of the Capitol began Wednesday. The Department of Technology, Management and Budget is now taking nominations for a 65-foot tree.

"I know it seems odd to start the search for a Christmas tree at the start of summer," said Phil Jeffery, DTMB chief deputy director, in a press release. "In order to have time to conduct the search and be ready for the lighting festivities in November, this is when we need to start the process."

There are certain requirements that need to be met for the tree, including the height minimum of 65 feet, the maximum trunk diameter of 30 inches, it must be a spruce or a fir tree and it must be given to the state at no cost.

Nominations for the tree will be taken until July 31.

PRE-PAID SALES TAX FOR JULY: Pre-paid gasoline and diesel fuel sales taxes will go up again for wholesalers in July, the Department of Treasury announced in a revenue administrative bulletin, 2013-8.

In July the prepaid sales tax will be 20.8 cents per gallon of gasoline, compared to the 20.5 cents rate set for June, and diesel fuel will go to 22.2 cents per gallon compared to 21.9 cents charged in June.

Appointments By The Governor

MICHIGAN FREEDOM TRAIL COMMISSION: Tamara Barnes of Ann Arbor succeeds Mary Ann Edmond to represent civil rights activists for a term expiring February 1, 2017. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, June 6

Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board, State Treasurer's Board Room, First Floor, Austin Building, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.

Monday, June 17

Crime Victims Services Commission, Third Floor Conference Room, Lewis Cass Building, 320 South Walnut Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/CVSC_Agenda_6-17-13.pdf" \t "_blank" })

Thursday, June 20

Unarmed Combat Commission, Conference Room 1, Second Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCC_Agenda_6-20-13.doc" \t "_blank" })

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From: Brinks, Mary (CEPI)
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To: 'mzjb2007@gmail.com'
Subject: READ - FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 8:47 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 22, 2013

News

Michigan car buyers could get a tax break for their trade-in under bills getting jumpstarted this week (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Napoleon revives criticism of Duggan over selection of Detroit's EM (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Detroit's bankruptcy should be blocked because of possible pension cuts, labor says (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2013)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's NERD Fund to close amidst ongoing calls for transparency (MLive, 10/22/2013)

State seeks to block disclosure in Detroit emergency manager case (Associated Press, 10/22/2013)

Duggan says he lobbied against Detroit emergency manager (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Auto no-fault: Michigan lawmakers resume talks on insurance changes (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Detroit bankruptcy: Michigan governor may testify (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder says he hopes Flint emergency manager's job done in 'matter of months' (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder recognizes Owosso-based Midwest Bus Co. for Michigan-minded business, $31.4 million contract (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder says controversial NERD Fund will be shut down (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2013)

Michigan vehicle buyers may get a tax break (Associated Press, 10/22/2013)

DDOT bus service expected to resume today after drivers rally for safer conditions (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2013)

Snyder's NERD Fund to be dissolved (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Key Obama aides coming to Detroit amid bankruptcy hearings (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Detroit police chief says cops will ride buses to deter violence (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Editorials

Susan J. Demas: Government shutdown probably won't cost GOP congressional seats in Michigan (MLive, 10/22/2013)

Water, water everywhere in Michigan -- but is it enough? (Bridge Magazine, 10/22/2013)

COO role of mayor win-win scenario (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Editorial: Good riddance, NERD Fund (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2013)

Editorial: Caution needed on auto insurance (Lansing State Journal, 10/22/2013)

Bridge Magazine: We must change redistricting rules to end political dysfunction (Bridge Magazine, 10/22/2013)

Nancy Kaffer: Nobody should be stabbed on the job - so make DDOT buses safer (Detroit Free Press, 10/22/2013)

Michigan's higher ed bubble (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Put the brakes on proposed tax hikes (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

Signing up for health care not heavenly, but it isn't hellish, either (Detroit News, 10/22/2013)

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From: Brinks, Mary (CEPI)
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 5:18 PM
To: 'mzjb2007@gmail.com'
Subject: FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

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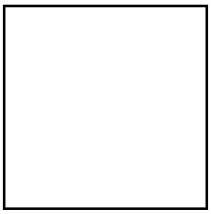
From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 9:43 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



Michigan News & Opinion For April 3, 2014

News

Royal Oak Township could be next Chapter 9 bankruptcy (Metro Times, 4/3/2014)

Political insider: Ex-police chief considers running for county exec (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Brown expected to run as lieutenant governor candidate with Schauer (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Police collect, swap data on Michigan residents (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Michigan losing ground to other states in education, new analysis says (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Poll: Snyder leads Schauer in Michigan governor's race; Land, Peters in tight race for U.S. Senate (MLive, 4/3/2014)

High court voids overall contribution limits (Associated Press, 4/3/2014)

County to again seek emergency declaration (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/3/2014)

Judge approves loan to boost Detroit services: 'The time to begin is now, if not before now' (MLive, 4/3/2014)

President Obama impresses University of Michigan students with message and humor (MLive, 4/3/2014)

Mark Schauer expected to announce Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown as running mate in governor's race (MLive, 4/3/2014)

Obama stops at Zingerman's for lunch and a chat with workers (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Oakland Clerk Lisa Brown to be Schauer's running mate for Michigan governor (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Detroit to seek approval today to settle disastrous Kilpatrick debt deal (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Oakland County seeks alternatives to 'monopolistic use' of Detroit water and sewer (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Camp: Congressional retirement caused by looming loss of influence (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Obama: No full-time worker should 'raise family in poverty' (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Feds probe vote for Detroit City Council leadership (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Editorials

County to again seek emergency declaration (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/3/2014)

Editorial: Camp won't seek re-election; Mich. losing more clout (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 4/3/2014)

Forum: Repealing ticket law could lead to fraud (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 4/3/2014)

Camp, Rogers break D.C.'s iron grip (Detroit News, 4/3/2014)

Nancy Kaffer: Third worst in the nation? Michigan must stop failing our kids (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Editorial: New tests for teachers only a beginning (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/3/2014)

Phil Power: Schools must work together in lean times (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/3/2014)

Ken Braun: Republicans won't blow the chance to hold the Rogers congressional seat (MLive, 4/3/2014)

Brian Dickerson: Supreme Court ruling good news for those who buy legislators in bulk (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2014)

Blogs

President, In Ann Arbor, Tries To Make Amends On Hoops Bracket (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 4/2/2014)

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Subject: FW: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Sent: Sunday, July 06, 2014 8:45 AM
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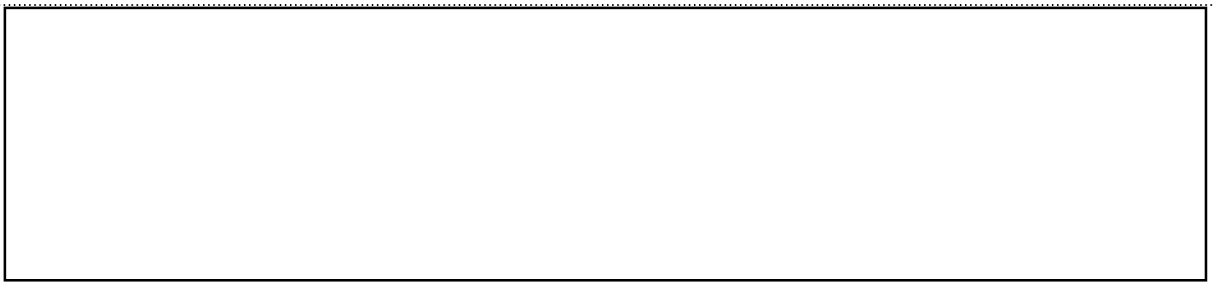

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Lt. gov. to discuss Proposal 1

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will visit Livingston County on Monday to discuss Proposal 1, a business tax proposal on the Aug. 5 primary ballot."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140706/NEWS01/307060010/Lt-gov-discuss-Proposal-1

Supreme Court ruling could mean $4M for subsidized day care workers

"Nearly 40,000 private Michigan day care providers are positioned to be refunded a portion of $4 million in dues collected in a controversial union arrangement with the state."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140706/NEWS01/307060011/Supreme-Court-ruling-could-mean-4M-subsidized-day-care-workers

Flint emergency manager says he plans to impose police contract with concessions

"FLINT, MI – The city's emergency manager says he plans to use the powers of his office to impose a new contract on Flint police officers."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/flint_emergency_manager_plans_1.html#incart_river_default*

Amid positive jobs numbers, politicians hedge bets, point fingers

"

WASHINGTON (AP) - The top jobs numbers for June would have seemed to be cause for some appreciation. After all, the unemployment rate dipped to 6.1 percent, the lowest in six years, and hiring showed five months of steady growth.
"

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/548940/Amid-positive-jobs-numbers--politicians-hedge-bets--point-fingers.html?nav=5003*

Michigan among states with the most student debt

"Average student debt levels have skyrocketed in recent years, reaching nearly $30,000 in 2012 from $18,650 in 2004. With debt levels swelling, President Obama has recently addressed the issue, proposing an option to reduce monthly payments to 10% of a person's income."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140705/FEATURES01/307050061/Michigan-student-loan-debt*

Leader of national charter schools group calls for stronger accountability in Michigan

"Michigan needs to strengthen state oversight of charter schools, the head of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers said in the wake of a recent Free Press special report."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140706/NEWS06/307060054/Michigan-charter-schools-authorizers*

Advocacy/Opinion

Editorial: TC schools right to reject idea of arming teachers

"Traverse City public schools officials are right — and almost certainly reflect the wishes of the great majority of district parents — to distance the district from a county sheriff deputy's proposal to get teachers, administrators and other employees to volunteer for 40 hours of concealed weapons training so they can carry firearms in schools."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.record-eagle.com/opinion/x1927841850/TC-schools-right-to-reject-idea-of-arming-teachers*

School districts that serve Michigan's poorest children should receive more state funding (Kalamazoo Gazette editorial)

"All school districts are not created equal, and the state in its school funding plan should recognize that."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/07/school_districts_that_serve_th.html#incart_river_default*

Tim Skubick: All governors are not created equal

"Many moons ago to tap into the institutional memory of the state legislature, you wandered around on the house or senate floor. The folks you talked to are long forgotten: Bill Ryan, Mo Hood, Mickey Griffin, Jimmy O'Neill, Bob Vanderlaan, Charlie Zollar, and Billy Huffman."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/07/tim_skubick_all_governors_are.html#incart_river_default*

Rick Haglund: As long as Michigan is being compared to Minnesota, let's look at Illinois

"What about Illinois?

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/07/rick_haglund_as_long_as_michig.html#incart_river_default*

Supreme Court rules in favor of freedom

"

Following a controversial season of oral arguments, the U.S. Supreme Court issued several rulings in its closing weeks that reinforce limited government and underscore the foundational principles of constitutional law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140706/OPINION01/307060006/Supreme-Court-rules-favor-freedom*

Education reform is dumb

"Over the past few years government officials, from the president down to local school boards, have been discussing ways to improve education."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/07/06/education-reform-dumb/*

Don't miss MEA opt-out month

"

Time passes swiftly in the summer. And July will quickly turn into August, which for many teachers is the only month their union will allow them to leave. And don't expect the Michigan Education Association to remind its members."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140706/OPINION01/307060005/Don-t-miss-MEA-opt-out-month*

Guest column: Charter schools misunderstood, have much to offer Michigan families

"The Free Press recently ran a series of articles on Michigan's charter schools, which were described as "unregulated" and "unaccountable.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140706/OPINION05/307060051/charter-schools-michigan-zeile*

How Duggan has tackled Detroit's 3 biggest problems in his first 6 months

"Lights, blight and buses — the Big Three when it comes to ways in which Detroiters have been disappointed over the years. When Mike Duggan became mayor in January, he vowed to demonstrate progress on each of these fronts in his first six months, part of an effort to keep more residents from leaving the beleaguered city. How has Detroit done?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140706/OPINION05/307060041/How-Duggan-has-tackled-Detroit-s-3-biggest-*

problems-his-first-6-months

State of charter schools: The feedback and the facts

"The Free Press' week-long series on Michigan's charter schoolsprompted debate on radio and television and elicited hundreds of comments in blogs, letters and e-mails."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/article/20140706/NEWS06/307060042/charter-schools-truth

Editorial: Weighing Ann Arbor Public School's opportunity to annex Whitmore Lake

"As schools across the state continue to struggle to make their revenues meet expenses, Ann Arbor Public Schools faces what could be a golden opportunity."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *07-06-2014* **Link:** http://www.mlive.com/opinion/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/07/editorial_weighing_ann_arbor_p.html#incart_river_default

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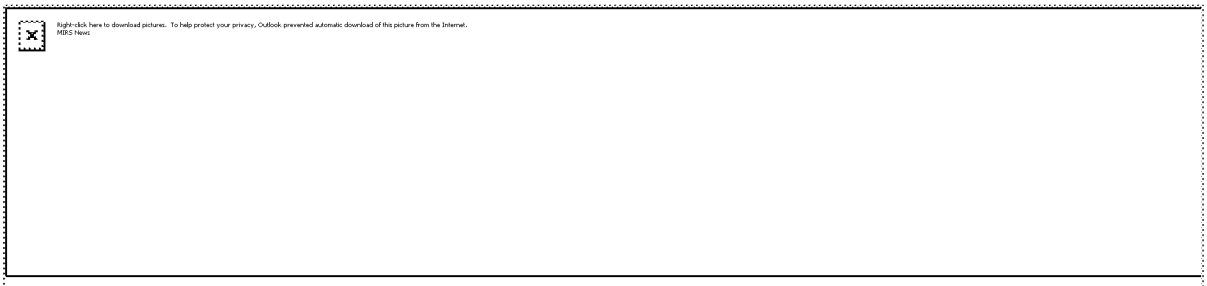

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Bankruptcy judge tells Detroit to present more options for residents who can't pay water bills

"DETROIT, MI -- U.S. District Judge Steven Rhodes on Tuesday told a water department official to return to court next week and present more options for residents who can't pay their water bills."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/07/bankruptcy_judge_tells_detroit.html#incart_river

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House candidates display range - Four Republican contenders present four approaches to leadership

"Michigan's term-limits law opened up a wide field of Republican candidates to fill the shoes of outgoing Rep. Cindy Denby, R-Handy Township."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140716/NEWS01/307160002/House-candidates-display-range-Four-Republican-contenders-present-four-approaches-leadership

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New poll gives Rep. Justin Amash largest lead against challenger Brian

Ellis ahead of primary

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — With three weeks to go before the August primary, challenger Brian Ellis faces an upward battle against U.S. Rep. Justin Amash, should new poll numbers verify."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/07/new_poll_gives_rep_justin_amas.html#incart_m-rpt-2*

Emergency manager to state: Flint 'still experiencing an ongoing financial emergency'

"FLINT, MI – Substantial progress has been made, but Flint is still in the midst of an on-going financial emergency, according to a new report from emergency manager Darnell Earley."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/flint_emergency_manager_tells_2.html#incart_river*

State Sen. Jim Ananich suggests a way for workers to find time to vote at the polls

"FLINT, MI – State Sen. Jim Ananich said he plans to introduce legislation that would ensure workers have time to make it to the polls on Election Day. "

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/state_sen_jim_ananich_suggests.html#incart_river*

Retired police lieutenant appointed special investigator for Flint emergency manager

"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Darnell Earley has appointed a retired, high-ranking Flint Police Department official as an investigator reporting directly to him."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/retired_flint_cop_hired_as_inv.html#incart_river*

Senators urge U.S. Labor chief to intervene in Delphi pension issue

"

Washington —A group of Congress members asked U.S. Secretary Thomas Perez to intervene and require the government's pension insurer to quickly make determinations on the value of pensions for

20,000 Delphi Corp. salaried retirees."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/AUTO01/307150089/Senators-urge-U-S-Labor-chief-intervene-Delphi-pension-issue*

Snyder leads Schauer by 8.6 percentage points in statewide poll

"

Gov. Rick Snyder continues to lead Democratic challenger Mark Schauer in a new statewide poll, but one political handicapping publication has deemed the race more competitive than expected."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/POLITICS02/307150081/Snyder-leads-Schauer-by-8-6-percentage-points-statewide-poll*

Visiting Dems to boost Peters

"

Detroit— U.S. Rep. Gary Peters' Senate campaign will get a national boost this week when 3,000 liberal and Democratic activists descend on Detroit for an annual forum designed to fire up the troops for the fall election."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/POLITICS01/307160035/Visiting-Dems-boost-Peters*

Detroit residents plead with judge to keep pensions, benefits intact

"

Detroit — Almost four dozen retirees and Detroit residents urged the city's bankruptcy judge Tuesday to spare pensions and health care benefits from being cut, as one accused Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr of "slitting our throats and letting us bleed out.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/METRO01/307150055/*

Bankruptcy judge urges help with Detroiters' water bills

"

A bankruptcy judge says thousands of Detroit water shut-offs are "bad publicity" for the city and told the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Tuesday to devise more ways to help residents pay their bills."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/METRO01/307150093/Bankruptcy-judge-urges-help-Detroiters-water-bills

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State official says report misstates Michigan's approach to Rainy Day Fund

*"**LANSING** — A national report released today by the Pew Charitable Trusts gives Michigan credit as one of only 12 states that use growth data to determine how much to add to its Rainy Day Fund."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150136/state-rainy-day-funds-pew

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Trott holds 22-point lead on Bentivolio, poll says

*"**WASHINGTON** — Having largely ceded the airwaves to his challenger, U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio's re-election campaign is showing signs of trouble as a new poll shows him trailing lawyer David Trott in the Aug. 5 primary by 22 percentage points."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150144/Trott-Bentivolio-Congress-election-primary-poll

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Poll: Hansen Clarke takes big lead in 14th District U.S. House race

"Former U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke has taken a substantial lead over rivals Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence and state Rep. Rudy Hobbs, D-Southfield, in the race to replace U.S. Rep. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150145/clarke-lawrence-hobbs-foster-primary-election-congress-poll

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Congress to grill top GM lawyer, Delphi CEO on faulty ignition switches

"General Motors' top lawyer and the CEO of the supplier that made the faulty ignition switch will absorb some of the political fire previously directed at CEO Mary Barra when a Senate subcommittee reopens hearings Thursday on the automaker's delayed recall."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/BUSINESS0101/307160030/GM-General-Motors-Mary-Barra-Michael-Millikin-testimony

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Michigan lawmaker's bill would douse purchases of bigger fireworks

"Saying he and his wife are fed up with high-powered fireworks in their neighborhood, the only state senator to vote in 2011 against expanding Michigan's range of legal fireworks said today he wants to rescind the law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/NEWS01/307160044/fireworks-skyrockets

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DIA expected to announce $26 million toward grand bargain today

"The Detroit Institute of Arts is expected to announce $26 million in additional gifts today toward its $100 million contribution to the grand bargain, according to a high-ranking executive at one of the companies making a donation."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/ENT05/307160042/detroit-institute-of-arts-grand-bargain-gilbert

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Advocacy/Opinion

Whitmer: Yes on Proposal 1

"

As with any major change in Michigan tax policy, I had questions about Proposal 1 when the legislation to put it on the Aug. 5 ballot came up for a vote in the Senate this spring."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/OPINION01/307160001/Whitmer-Yes-Proposal-1

Editorial: Retirees' vote hastens Detroit's return to normalcy

"

Detroit's path to more normal governance got quite a bit clearer this week with the apparent acceptance by the city's retirees of the proposed bankruptcy plan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/OPINION01/307160002/Editorial-Retirees-vote-hastens-

Detroit-s-return-normalcy

Peters, Schauer aid Obama's wasteful behavior

"Last week, the Government Accountability Office released a report estimating that in 2013 over $107 billion dollars were improperly paid out by federal agencies. To make matters worse, auditors say reporting errors by many federal agencies means that number will likely increase."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/07/15/peters-schauer-aid-obamas-wasteful-behavior/*

Michigan 8th Congressional District GOP Primary Getting Feisty

"When it comes to major federal issues such as health care, energy plans and the role the government should have in banking and housing, Republicans Tom McMillin and Mike Bishop have very similar views."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20277*

Press Releases

Macomb County Pilot Project to Better Serve Michigan Veterans Wins National Recognition

"Lansing, Mich. July 3, 2014 – A pilot project by the Michigan Department of Human Services and Macomb County Veterans Affairs Services was recently recognized by the National Association of Counties with a 2014 achievement award for a first-of-its-kind effort to better serve veterans by connecting them to all services and benefits for which they are eligible. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Human Services* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405460101_dhs2.pdf*

Michigan Department of Human Services, Partners Assisting Detroit Water Customers

"Lansing, Mich. July 15, 2014 – Qualifying low-income Detroit residents who need help paying late water bills can seek assistance from the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) and its community partners, DHS said today. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Human Services* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405460004_dhs.pdf*

Dr. Benishek's Statement on Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funding

"WASHINGTON, DC: Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) released the following statement in response to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) making up to $27.5 million available for the 2014 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI):"

Source: *U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459941_funding.pdf

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MUCC Announces Daniel Eichinger as New Executive Director

"LANSING- Michigan United Conservation Clubs announced that it has hired Daniel Eichinger as its new Executive Director. Eichinger returns to MUCC, where he began his career, with extensive legislative, agency, executive and nonprofit experience."

Source: *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459896_mucc.pdf

Peters Statement on Short-Term Extension for Highway Funding

"WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Representative Gary Peters (MI-14) released the following statement on the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014, which temporarily extends funding to highway and transit programs covered by the Highway and Transit Trust Fund through May 2015:"

Source: *U.S. Representative Gary Peters* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459846_peters.pdf

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Day 2: Snyder, Land Still Hiding from Michigan Voters

"LANSING - For the second time this week, a statewide nonpartisan voter guide was released for voters in Michigan, and for the second time, neither Republican Gov. Rick Snyder nor Republican Terri Land answered even a single question asked by the League of Women Voters."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459785_day2.pdf

McKenzie Releases Latest Round of Endorsements

*"Democrat Bobby McKenzie announced several new endorsements, including the **Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union**, **Michigan Postal Workers Union**,**Laborers Local 1191**, former*

*Livonia Mayor **Bob Bennett** and "**Friday Musings**," published by **Bill Joyner**. The **Northville Democratic Club** has also named McKenzie its preferred candidate in the 11th Congressional District. "*

Source: *Bobby McKenzie for U.S. Congress* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459626_mckenzie.pdf

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Wildlife Habitat Grant writing workshop offered July 21 via conference call

"The Department of Natural Resources will host a Wildlife Habitat Grant writing workshop via conference call Monday, July 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. The workshop will give potential applicants the information they need to help with the grant-writing process. "

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459574_grant.pdf

CANCELLED: "PDF Connections" and "Finding the Missing Magic in Microsoft Office" seminars

"The State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center has now cancelled two seminars that were to be held Monday, July 28 in Room 404 of the Cooley Center, located at 303 S. Capitol Ave. on the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Lansing campus."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405455152_sbm2.pdf

Michigan's driver education program praised by NHTSA

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan's driver education program received high praise from a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration-sponsored panel of national experts, Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today."

Source: *Secretary of State Ruth Johnson* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405447438_driver.pdf

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Governor Snyder to Tour Farms in Michigan's Thumb

*"**LANSING –** On Wednesday, Michigan Farm Bureau's political action committee, AgriPac, will host Governor Rick Snyder as he tours two farms in Michigan's thumb. AgriPac, the state's largest general farm organization endorsed the Governor in April. "*

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405447215_farms.pdf

Moolenaar Endorsed by Tea Party Express and Local Tea Party Leaders

"MIDLAND, MI - John Moolenaar was joined today in Midland by Tea Party Express' Executive Director Taylor Budowich, National Grassroots Director Kay Rivoli and local Tea Party activists. The group came together for the announcement that Tea Party Express has endorsed the Moolenaar for Congress campaign."

Source: *John Moolenaar for Congress* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405447168_Moolenaar.pdf

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Huizenga Endorses Daniela Garcia for State Representative

"Zeeland, Mich. - Today, U.S. Representative Bill Huizenga endorsed Daniela Garcia for State Representative for the open seat in the 90th District. Huizenga represented the 90th District from 2003-2008 and was succeeded by current State Representative Joe Haveman who is term-limited. "

Source: *Daniela Garcia for State Representative* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405446823_garcia.pdf

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Schauer Still Plan-less

*"**LANSING, Mich., July 15, 2014** – Once again, Mark Schauer took to the media spotlight Tuesday with only plan-less criticisms of Governor Snyder. Appearing on MSNBC with Chuck Todd, the architect of the Lost Decade continued to mislead families about Michigan's comeback, without providing a clear path forward."*

Source: *Michigan Republicans* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405446579_plan.pdf

US-127 BR signal removal scheduled on Wednesday, July 16, in Alma

"Crews are scheduled to remove the traffic signal on US-127 BR (Superior Street) at Woodworth Avenue to improve intersection operations. The change is the result of a nine-month study to determine if the signal was warranted. Stop signs will be installed on Woodworth Avenue. Additional intersection improvements will be made in spring 2015."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443681_127.pdf

Michigan Supreme Court Opinion Final for the Term

"Final opinion release for this term - RAMA MADUGULA V BENJAMIN A. TAUB (Washtenaw Circuit Court)."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443638_court.pdf

MDOT schedules US-23 bridge improvements over Rifle River

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will make improvements on the US-23 bridge over the Rifle River in Omer. This project will improve road quality and increase motorist safety."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443555_23.pdf

MI Career & Tech. Institute and Michigan Works! Deliver Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program

"Benton Harbor, Mich. July 8, 2014 – The Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI) will graduate 12 students in its certified nursing assistant program tomorrow Wednesday, July 9, in Benton Harbor. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Human Services* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443509_nursing.pdf

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Op/Ed: Serving Michigan's Veterans Better

"As we celebrate the Fourth of July holiday, many of us pause and think of the men and women who have bravely fought on our behalf to keep this the "land of the free and the home of the brave." "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Human Services* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443367_oped.pdf

M-15 signal removal scheduled this week in Davison

"Crews are scheduled to remove the traffic signal on M-15 (State Road) at Colonial Boulevard to improve intersection operations. The change is the result of a 10-month study to determine if the signal was warranted. Stop signs will be installed at Colonial Boulevard. Additional intersection improvements will be made in spring 2015."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443289_15.pdf

Antlerless deer license applications on sale now through Aug. 15

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the application period for antlerless deer licenses is now open through Aug. 15. Hunters may apply for one license in any open Deer Management Unit (DMU) statewide; a nonrefundable $5 fee is charged at the time of application. Drawing results and leftover license availability may be viewed at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawingsbeginning Sept. 4."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443246_deer.pdf

ABC Appeals Lansing Prevailing Wage Ruling To Supreme Court

"Lansing, Mich. – ABC of Michigan today announced that it has filed an appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court to overturn a lower court ruling upholding Lansing's Prevailing Wage ordinance."

Source: *Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443204_abc.pdf

"PDF Connections" and "Finding the Missing Magic in Microsoft Office" scheduled for July 28

"The State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center will host two seminars on Monday, July 28 in Room 404 of the Cooley Center, located at 303 S. Capitol Ave. on the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Lansing campus."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405438099_sbm.pdf

Terri Lynn Land Still Refuses to Clarify Net Neutrality Position

"LANSING - Former Republican National Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land hasn't developed a position on net neutrality, weeks after reporters criticized her "dreadful" response at Mackinac for being "unsure of the policy details." Land had a disastrous performance at the Detroit Regional Chamber's policy conference, where she was deemed "not ready for prime time" and couldn't answer simple questions about everything from net neutrality to opposing the auto rescue."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405438021_land.pdf

Senator Anderson to Introduce Legislation Regulating Fireworks

"LANSING--- After another July 4th resulting in countless complaints, injuries and outcry from local officials and citizens across the state, State Senator Glenn S. Anderson (D-Westland) will introduce legislation this week to restore Michigan's fireworks law back to its pre-2011 regulations, prohibiting the sale of Class C fireworks. This would reinstate the ban on aerial and explosive fireworks, which account for the vast majority of noise complaints and serious injuries."

Source: *Senator Glen S. Anderson* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437981_fireworks.pdf

ICYMI: Real Clear Politics Moves MI-GOV Race to Toss Up

"I wanted to make sure you saw that Real Clear Politics changed their rating on the race for governor from "Leans GOP" to "Toss Up" following the NBC/Marist poll that was released today:"

Source: *Mark Schaurer for Governor* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437909_schauer.pdf

Skinner Campaign goes up on TV in "Really Terri!" Land Spoof AD on War on Women

*"**Birmingham, MI – NANCY SKINNER**, the proven Democrat and true Progressive running in Michigan's 11th Congressional District Democratic Primary, took a jab at the Republican's U.S. Senate candidate, with a TV spot spoofing **Terri Lynn Land's** widely-panned first ad, "Really?" which begins airing today. At the time, Land was fending off blowback from women across America about her outrageous comments in 2010 that women have "different lifestyles" and are thus "more interested in flexibility in a job than pay.""*

Source: *Nancy Skinner for Congress* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437790_skinner.pdf

The Streak: Detroit Man Wins $183,826 Jackpot Playing Michigan Lottery's Fantasy 5 Game

*"**LANSING, July 15, 2014** – A 59-year-old Detroit man gave his bride of just one month quite a gift on Monday: a $183,826 Fantasy 5 jackpot."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437717_lottery.pdf

Ananich Bill Would Make Sure Workers Have Time to Vote

"

LANSING – With just three weeks left before Michiganders head to the polls for the August 5th primary, Senator Jim Ananich (D- Flint) is set to introduce another measure tomorrow to help make it easier to vote. This bill would help Michigan workers who want to vote but find it difficult or impossible because of their work schedule."

Source: *Senator Jim Ananich* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437670_vote.pdf

Michigan waterfowl hunters can buy Federal Duck Stamp online starting July 17

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Duck Stamp Office, will offer the federal migratory bird hunting stamp – also known as the Duck Stamp – for purchase online at www.mdnr-elicense.com starting Thursday, July 17."

Source: *Michigan DNR* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437588_duck.pdf

Ted Cruz endorses Amash in radio ad

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) endorsed Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) in a radio ad that will air across West Michigan starting on Tuesday."

Source: *justin Amash for Congress* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437531_amash.pdf

Michigan DEQ Holds Public Hearings on Proposed Fracking Rules

"ANN ARBOR --- The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will hold two public hearings to solicit feedback on a proposal released earlier this year to update Michigan's rules governing hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking." The hearings will be held today, July 15th in Gaylord and tomorrow, July 16th in Lansing, both at 6:30 PM EDT."

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437485_deq.pdf

Call It A Comeback: Facts Matter

"More than 250,000 new private sector jobs, the lowest unemployment rate in six years, the highest investment in education in state history, and Detroit's Grand Bargain? It's clear that Governor Snyder is focused on the reinvention of Michigan and the Comeback City, Detroit."

Source: *Rick for Michigan* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437432_comeback.pdf

Ingham County Judges Young and Nichols Honored at Oakland County Bar Association's Awards Ceremony

*"**Oakland County, MI** (July 15, 2014) – Recently the Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA) held its 80th Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield."*

Source: *Oakland County Circuit Court* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437377_judges.pdf

Consumers Energy Focusing on Forestry Projects Across Michigan to Deliver Electricity More Safely

"JACKSON, Mich., July 15, 2014 – As part of its commitment to delivering energy safely and reliably, Consumers Energy is increasing its work to keep trees away from electric lines in communities across Michigan."

Source: *Consumers Energy* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437253_consumers.pdf

At Hearings Citizens To Challenge Proposed Fracking Rules

"LANSING—As state environmental regulators hold two days of public hearings this week on new rules to regulate natural gas fracking, Sierra Club today said the proposals fall far short of what's needed and will put Michigan's waterways at continued risk unless the state halts the controversial practice. "

Source: *Michigan Sierra Club* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437130_sierra.pdf

Ottawa County Farm Recognized by MAEAP

"The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) is recognizing two farms for implementing appropriate pollution prevention practices. The program assists farmers to comply with state and federal environmental regulations and with Right to Farm practices. The local MAEAP program is coordinated by the Ottawa Conservation District and covers Ottawa County."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437078_maeap2.pdf*

Environmental Assurance Program Verifies Local Farms

"The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) is recognizing four farms in Ingham County for implementing appropriate pollution prevention practices. The program assists farmers to comply with state and federal environmental regulations and with Right to Farm practices. The local MAEAP program is coordinated by the Eaton Conservation District and covers Eaton and Ingham Counties."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436988_maeap.pdf*

Endorsed by Planned Parenthood!

"Curtis Hertel Jr. has received the endorsement of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, in his bid for the Michigan State Senate 23rd District."

Source: *Curtis Hertel Jr. for State Senate* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436852_hertel.pdf*

Michigan Realtors Primary Endorsements

"Michigan Realtors® announced their Primary Endorsed candidates running for positions on both the state and federal levels. "

Source: *Michigan Realtors PAC* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436780_mirpac.pdf*

US-31 resurfacing in Mason County starts July 21

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be resurfacing 12.2 miles of US-31 in Mason County, from south of Hansen Road to north of Hoague Road."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436688_31.pdf*

Schuette Announces Felony Charges in Southeast Michigan Unlicensed Doctor Scam

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General, Bill Schuette, today announced felony charges against two Southeast Michigan men alleged to have been involved in a health care fraud scheme. Schuette has charged Golden Higgwe, 62, of Dearborn Heights, with 20 felony charges related to the scheme, and physician, Dr. Timothy Whiteus, 60, of Oak Park, with 19 felony charges."*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436651_scam.pdf

Endorsement

"I have attached a press release from the Michigan Township Association. I was also notified today that I have received the endorsement from the Michigan Pork Producers Association."

Source: *James Wencel for State Rep* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436602_wencel.pdf

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House Adopts Huizenga Amendment Enacting Over $788 Million In Cuts To IRS Budget

*"**Washington, DC** – Tonight, the House adopted an amendment to H.R. 5016, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for 2015 by Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) cutting over $788 million from the IRS Enforcement Budget. The amendment was introduced as a response to the Internal Revenue Service's targeting of Americans based on their political beliefs, as well as, the targeting of adoptive families across the nation. When combined with the $341 million in cuts made by the underlying bill, the total reduction to the IRS budget would exceed $1 billion."*

Source: *U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436492_cut.pdf

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nyder, Land Still Hiding from Michigan Voters

"LANSING - Michigan voters hoping that Republicans Rick Snyder and Terri Land would finally publicly answer for their records were no doubt disappointed by MLive's voter guide, which was released today. Neither Snyder nor Land answered even a single question asked by MLive, skipping questions as basic as "Why are you running for office?" and "Why do you identify with your political affiliation?""

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436432_snyder.pdf

Stand up for clean water. Get Michigan's fracking rules right

"Mark your calendar for two key dates this week because it is your opportunity to ***tell the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that we need stronger safeguards against fracking*** *in the Great Lakes State. The DEQ is holding public hearings in Lansing and Gaylord, and we need as many Michigan LCV members in the room as possible to carry one message:* ***Michigan's lakes, rivers and streams deserve top notch protections, and right now our safeguards are not up to snuff.****"*

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436386_lcv.pdf

GLEP Files Complaint for Courser Campaign Finance Violation

*"**Lansing, MI** – Today, the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP) filed an official complaint with the Michigan Department of State alleging that Todd Courser's campaign for State Representative violated state law."*

Source: *Great Lakes Education Project* **Date:** *07-16-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436300_glep.pdf

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 8:13 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 2, 2011

News

- Experts: Manager may not solve Detroit's ailments (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Mayor Dayne Walling: Flint will be model of 'cooperative effort' under emergency manager (Flint Journal, 12/2/2011)
- Employers group pleased with Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to overhaul workforce development system (Grand Rapids Press, 12/2/2011)
- Gov. Snyder's Michigan-focused job bank sounds good to college students (Kalamazoo Gazette, 12/2/2011)
- Analysis: A123 Systems layoffs highlight challenges for Michigan's budding battery industry (AnnArbor.com, 12/2/2011)
- Proposed no-fault insurance reforms ignore patient needs, health professionals say (Grand Rapids Press, 12/2/2011)
- Defiant Detroit City Council calls for unity; unions say sacrifices must be shared (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)
- City to Snyder: We'll fix Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)
- Plan would change criteria for Michigan recalls (Associated Press, 12/1/2011)
- Conyers challenges Michigan emergency manager statute (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- House bill lifting charter school limit advances (Detroit News, 12/1/2011)
- Snyder targets developing Michigan workforce with Web-based tools (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Bing: Detroit needs to be run by Detroiters (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Gov. Rick Snyder Q and A: Emergency financial managers expanded powers needed in financially distressed cities (Saginaw News, 12/2/2011)
- Michigan appeals court bill renews debate over how many judges are needed (Associated Press, 12/2/2011)
- Steven Losey tapped as Democratic candidate for special election to replace recalled former Rep. Paul Scott (Flint Journal, 12/1/2011)
- Mayor Dave Bing stands with Council, labor leaders against emergency manager: 'We are Detroit. Detroit needs to be run by Detroiters.' (MLive, 12/1/2011)
- Why Gov. Rick Snyder's says farmers are role model for other Michigan industries (Grand Rapids Press, 12/2/2011)
- State review leaves Detroit stakeholders with no outs; fix budget or face an emergency manager (MLive, 12/1/2011)
- State: MEAP security was compromised (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 12/2/2011)
- Michigan Senate OKs jobless fund (Associated Press, 12/2/2011)
- Gov. Rick Snyder issues first veto on legislation (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)

- Snyder: Don't train students for unneeded jobs (Associated Press, 12/2/2011)

Editorials

- Frank Beckmann: Racism not to blame for Detroit's problems today (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Rep. Maureen Stapleton: Send solutions instead of financial managers to state's urban centers (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)
- Editorial: State residents are cutting back, but not on license plates for causes (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/1/2011)
- Recalls should be reserved for those not doing their jobs rather than political differences (Saginaw News, 12/2/2011)
- Neil Munro: Winning Combination for Taxpayers (Dome Magazine, 12/2/2011)
- Editorial: Us vs. them won't cut it in this fiscal crisis (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)
- Rochelle Riley: Now Detroit leaders all come to the table? (Detroit Free Press, 12/2/2011)
- Editorial: Start financial review (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Editorial: Snyder rightly seeks match of skills, jobs (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- Daniel Howes: Detroit leaders just cannot go it alone (Detroit News, 12/2/2011)
- ERIC BAERREN: Education 'reforms' aren't about making schools better (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 12/2/2011)
- John Lindstrom: Ugly Present for Detroit (Dome Magazine, 12/2/2011)
- Doug Rothwell: No Single Will Turn State Around (Dome Magazine, 12/2/2011)
- Jack Lessenberry: 'We Will Not Let You Fail' (Dome Magazine, 12/2/2011)
- Lansing on a positive economic path (Lansing State Journal, 12/1/2011)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 12, 2011

News

- Enbridge, DEQ continue to take Kalamazoo River oil samples (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/12/2011)
- Why state Rep. Dave Agema won't run against Congressman Huizenga (Polpourri) (Grand Rapids Press, 12/11/2011)
- Proposed legislation to add teeth to prohibition of jail cellphone use (Muskegon Chronicle, 12/11/2011)
- Corrections Director Dan Heyns drives to Indiana, finds corrections costs are lower because of lower labor costs (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/11/2011)
- Kalamazoo River oil spill health questions go unanswered without long-term study (Kalamazoo Gazette, 12/11/2011)
- Poli-Bites: The nerd is the word (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)
- Rogers: Anti-bully law redundant (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 12/12/2011)
- Declining buildings, neighborhoods fuel exodus from Detroit nursing homes (Detroit Free Press, 12/12/2011)
- Closing low-rated nursing homes is last resort for Michigan, families (Detroit Free Press, 12/12/2011)
- Michigan nursing homes: Lowest ranked, most fined, most cited in state (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)
- Jobless benefits bill sparks debate in Michigan (Associated Press, 12/11/2011)
- Wayne County fights to keep mental health settlement secret (MLive, 12/10/2011)
- Jobless benefits bill sparks debate in Michigan (Associated Press, 12/10/2011)
- Proposed legislation to add teeth to prohibition of jail cellphone use (Muskegon Chronicle, 12/10/2011)
- Will domestic-benefits ban avoid veto? (MLive, 12/12/2011)

Editorials

- COMMENTARY — Proposed election laws would unnecessarily make voting harder (Holland Sentinel, 12/12/2011)
- Commentary: Gov. Snyder's plan to address chronic disease smart for Michigan's health and budget (Oakland Press, 12/10/2011)
- EDITORIAL: Reject state plan to alter county commission (Oakland Press, 12/12/2011)
- Our Voice: Flint native Brown is a good man for the job of emergency financial manager (Flint Journal, 12/11/2011)
- Jeff Wattrick: Wayne County fights to keep mental health settlement secret (MLive, 12/10/2011)
- Guest commentary: Don't undermine voters' right to recall (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)
- Brian Dickerson: Snyder's talent search aims for immigrants (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)

- Stephen Henderson: Our ever positive governor must say 'no' sometimes (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)
- Rochelle Riley: Gov. Rick Snyder: 'My goal is to see Detroit successful' (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2011)
- Indigent defense system must change (Lansing State Journal, 12/11/2011)
- Editorial: Veto the ban on partner benefits (Detroit Free Press, 12/12/2011)
- Robert Ficano: Wayne County properly staffed (Detroit News, 12/12/2011)
- Unions should cooperate with Bing (Detroit News, 12/11/2011)
- Nolan Finley: Social meddling will trip Michigan GOP (Detroit News, 12/11/2011)
- GOP should free school charter bill (Detroit News, 12/12/2011)
- Editorial: Tasers can assist prison guards to do jobs (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/11/2011)
- Gov. Rick Snyder must sell his Michigan workforce ideas to Legislature (Rick Haglund column) (MLive, 12/11/2011)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2011 8:32 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 15, 2011

News

- Ottawa will be on hook for lagging bridge toll revenues, notes show (Toronto Globe and Mail, 12/15/2011)
- State Senate OKs plan to let GOP redraw Oakland County maps (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- House vote moves Michigan a step closer to unlimited charter schools (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Wealthy private investors hold out hope for light rail in Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Political Insider: Voting for Satan, health bill ... is there a difference? (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Republican-led House paves way to open more charters schools in Michigan (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan jobless rate slips to 9.8%, lowest level since '08 (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Sen. Carl Levin slams Bing for discarding light rail plan too quickly (Detroit Free Press, 12/14/2011)
- Michigan Supreme Court won't hear appeal on state employee pay deduction (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Cell phone crashes total more than 9,000 in past decade in Michigan, MLive.com analysis shows (MLive, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan Senate passes bill allowing Oakland County Republicans to redraw district lines (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Snyder OKs bill to end some Michigan drivers' fees (Detroit News, 12/14/2011)
- State of Michigan employees to get back 3% of pay withheld (Detroit News, 12/14/2011)
- Reps. Camp, Levin slam China over duties on U.S. auto imports (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Benton Harbor schools fire 14 (Herald Palladium, 12/15/2011)
- Republican-led House paves way to open more charters schools in Michigan (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan Companies Closer to Part in Iraq Projects (Associated Press, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan Education Trust enrollment period opens (Associated Press, 12/15/2011)
- Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero's chief of staff to join Flint emergency manager team (MLive, 12/14/2011)
- Snyder signs fireworks bill intended to spark state economy (Grand Rapids Press, 12/14/2011)
- Lawmaker proposes drug tests for Michigan welfare recipients (Associated Press, 12/14/2011)
- U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg votes to extend payroll tax holiday, unemployment benefits with reforms (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/14/2011)
- Ex-state Republican chief McLaughlin dead at 79 (Associated Press, 12/14/2011)
- House lifts cap on charters schools, with GOP members saying move empowers parents (Grand Rapids Press, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan House approves charter school expansion (Associated Press, 12/14/2011)
- Canada wants to protect bridge (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan law eliminates some extra fees on traffic tickets (Associated Press, 12/14/2011)

- Senate committee's changes may slow Ingham road board's dissolution (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan lawmakers OK Oakland County commission district bill (Associated Press, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan lawmakers OK jobless benefits changes (Associated Press, 12/15/2011)
- Michigan jobless rate down 0.8 points to 9.8 percent (Associated Press, 12/15/2011)
- Another GOP hopeful to challenge Sander Levin (Macomb Daily, 12/15/2011)

Editorials

- Robert Laurie: Boom! Snyder brings real fireworks to Michigan (North Star Writers Group, 12/15/2011)
- Guest commentary: Michigan bill threatens unemployment benefits (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Stephen Henderson: Rising from ashes? Detroit's motto might be 'Lowering our expectations' (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Tom Walsh: Detroit's do-or-die moment is at hand (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2011)
- Editorial: Shifting focus to rapid buses is right for region (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Daniel Howes: Rail line wouldn't solve transit needs (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- Turn debate over the unemployed into fight for job creation (Flint Journal, 12/15/2011)
- Bus Rapid Transit: A real alternative to light rail, or just a lovely parting gift? (MLive, 12/15/2011)
- Working for Michigan (Detroit News, 12/15/2011)
- OUR VIEW — Don't limit the people's power to recall officials (Holland Sentinel, 12/15/2011)
- Go forward on road board changes (Lansing State Journal, 12/14/2011)
- Penalty questionable for attempt to put fake candidate on ballot (Macomb Daily, 12/15/2011)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 8:36 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 20, 2011

News

- Universities: Veto bill banning partner benefits (Crain's Detroit Business, 12/18/2011)
- Vreeland: No plans to challenge Bolger (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/20/2011)
- Merger bills won't change names on fire trucks — yet (Bridge Magazine, 12/20/2011)
- Snyder recall effort on way, group says (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Simmons settles with state over firing (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/20/2011)
- Flint Mayor Dayne Walling: Emergency manager's committee choices show commitment to inclusion (Flint Journal, 12/20/2011)
- State parks, Hudsonville Ice Cream want help in mixing up new flavor (Grand Rapids Press, 12/20/2011)
- Health insurance providers told to repay Michigan consumers (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Transit center rejected by Troy City Council (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Snyder enacts changes to Michigan workers comp, unemployment insurance (Detroit Free Press, 12/19/2011)
- How Gov. Rick Snyder, UAW President Bob King broke impasse, led way to new union deal (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Tea party groups work to unseat Stabenow (Detroit News, 12/20/2011)
- House, Senate in payroll tax clash (Associated Press, 12/20/2011)
- Troy turns down plan for transit center, passes on $8.4M in fed funds (Detroit News, 12/20/2011)
- U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga blames Senate Democrats for gridlock, says he's getting tired of GOP debates (Grand Rapids Press, 12/19/2011)
- Rep. Bill Huizenga calls calls short-term payroll tax extension 'really dumb' (Grand Rapids Press, 12/20/2011)
- State bills seeking to void Kalamazoo's gay-rights ordinance, domestic partner benefits opposed by City Commission (Kalamazoo Gazette, 12/20/2011)
- Snyder signs bills lowering worker benefits, costs (Associated Press, 12/19/2011)

Editorials

- Column: Stop the madness, or the governor has to (Petoskey News-Review, 12/20/2011)
- COMMENTARY — Film industry subsidies still go too far (Holland Sentinel, 12/20/2011)
- Our View: Charter schools are fine, but not reckless expansion (Adrian Daily Telegram, 12/18/2011)
- Viewpoint: The argument for ending energy subsidies (Muskegon Chronicle, 12/20/2011)
- Guest column: Do not make it harder to vote (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/20/2011)
- Editorial: Mending fences (not) in Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)

- Commentary: New statute fights fraud (Detroit News, 12/20/2011)
- Editorial: Leaders fail again to face fiscal crisis (Detroit News, 12/20/2011)
- GM's 'neglected stepchild' never fully given a chance to thrive (Detroit News, 12/20/2011)
- EDITORIAL: Light rail should extend into Oakland County (Oakland Press, 12/20/2011)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 8:41 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 21, 2011

News

- Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette: I have no position on bridge, emergency manager law (Detroit Free Press, 12/21/2011)
- AG undecided what happens if emergency manager law suspended (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Michigan's November jobless rate decline is largest in U.S. (Detroit Free Press, 12/21/2011)
- In Pontiac, just about everything must go as city puts assets up for sale (Detroit Free Press, 12/21/2011)
- New rules to shutter some coal plants (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)
- Wind energy link: Tax ruling diminishes property taxes on wind turbines (Muskegon Chronicle, 12/21/2011)
- Flint city council president: Strong dialogue led to emergency manager's partial restoration of role for mayor, council (Flint Journal, 12/21/2011)
- Snyder signs bill that discredits Oakland County redistricting map (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs law lifting charter school limits (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Governor signs Oakland County redistricting bill (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)
- New law shrinks Oakland board (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Health insurance rebates approved (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Mitt Romney gains support of Midland's Dave Camp (Saginaw News, 12/20/2011)
- U.S. Rep. Fred Upton and U.S. Rep. Dave Camp named to conference panel on payroll tax cut extension (Grand Rapids Press, 12/20/2011)
- Rep. Gary Peters: Troy rejected transit center, but funds should stay in Metro Detroit (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)
- Everything must go? Pontiac EM wants option to sell city hall, police stations, cemeteries (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)
- Snyder signs bills offering home heating help (Associated Press, 12/20/2011)
- Camp appointed to conference committee (Midland Daily News, 12/20/2011)
- Law lifts cap on charter schools (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)
- Snag on unemployment benefits extension could affect 70,200 Michigan residents WITH AUDIO (Oakland Press, 12/21/2011)
- Dems offer chance to play 'Oakland County Jeopardy' on Twitter (Oakland Press, 12/21/2011)
- Snyder says next budget likely won't cut school budgets further (Associated Press, 12/21/2011)

Editorials

- Karla Swift: Workers, public schools attacked (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Phil Power: The stories to come in Michigan in 2012 (Holland Sentinel, 12/21/2011)

- Editorial: In Troy, backward thinking on transit (Detroit Free Press, 12/20/2011)
- Commentary: Right decision made on Troy transit center (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Editorial: Oakland County a map for budget discipline (Detroit News, 12/21/2011)
- Editorial: What should Pure Jackson feature? (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 12/20/2011)
- It's time for Michigan to OK stun guns (Lansing State Journal, 12/20/2011)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 8:59 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For January 18, 2012

News

- Deja vu: Biz tax cuts head agenda in Lansing (Bridge Magazine, 1/17/2012)
- Mich. governor to hold online town hall Thursday (Associated Press, 1/18/2012)
- Hackel, rest of 'Big Four' talk autos, emergency managers (Macomb Daily, 1/18/2012)
- Council reverses decision, approves revised Troy Transit Center (Oakland Press, 1/18/2012)
- Bing: State of relationship with Snyder is strong, but Detroit would welcome additional support (MLive, 1/18/2012)
- No wait at Secretary of State: Online renewals cruise with motorists (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Detroit's funds, Wayne Co.'s federal probe are main topics at Big Four discussion (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Detroit Public Schools emergency manager willing to stay longer, if asked (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Embattled transit center wins OK in Troy (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Debbie Stabenow reveals she raised $5 million in 2011 (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Emergency manager law: Opponents delay filing, will gather signatures for 6 more weeks (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Conservatives targeting Upton in 6th District battle (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- Snyder lobbied on eve of speech (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- County execs offer support to Detroit (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- Troy OKs smaller transit center (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- Detroit Mayor Dave Bing meets with state review team, expects union deal this month (MLive, 1/17/2012)
- State bills target collection of union dues, operations (Associated Press, 1/18/2012)
- Sen. Randy Richardville spokeswoman responds to recall talk, says he won't block right-to-work debate (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 1/17/2012)
- Flint union contracts under review, according to emergency manager's financial plan (Flint Journal, 1/18/2012)
- Groups not shy about offering Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder ideas (Associated Press, 1/18/2012)
- Troy City Council passes revised transit center plan by 4-3 vote (MLive, 1/18/2012)
- State of the State: Pomp, circumstance and a lot of moving desks for Gov. Rick Snyder's speech (Grand Rapids Press, 1/18/2012)
- State of the State address tonight (Associated Press, 1/18/2012)
- Proposed tax repeal stirs worry (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 1/18/2012)
- State of Michigan: Rick Snyder to call for ethics reform, improved customer service (Detroit Free Press, 1/17/2012)

- Michigan business group wants continued tax reform (Associated Press, 1/17/2012)
- Governor Snyder to hold online town hall Thursday (Associated Press, 1/17/2012)
- Sen. Debbie Stabenow raised $5M in 2011 (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Emergency managers, auto industry, re-elections topics of discussion at Detroit Economic Club's 'Big Four' panel (Oakland Press, 1/18/2012)
- Critics hope, but don't expect, policy changes from Gov. Snyder's second State of the State address VIDEO (Macomb Daily, 1/18/2012)

Editorials

- Peter Luke: Snyder will dance with social conservatives in 2012 (Bridge Magazine, 1/17/2012)
- Editorial: State marijuana laws need to be clarified (Macomb Daily, 1/16/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Smart meters another threat to our privacy (Oakland Press, 1/18/2012)
- Editorial: On Lake Michigan's shore, no room for lax nuclear safety (Detroit Free Press, 1/18/2012)
- Karla Swift: Michigan needs to do more for regular workers (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- Editorial: Use surplus for long-term stability (Detroit News, 1/18/2012)
- Welfare drug tests won't hold up in court (Port Huron Times Herald, 1/18/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder must get firm handle on spending (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 1/18/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2012 9:49 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For February 3, 2012

News

- Watch Pete Hoekstra's Super Bowl ad early - for a price (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Some Detroit unions agree to cuts as EM looms (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- State Rep. Howze says she'll make bid for Detroit mayor (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- DIA explores regional tax for museum operations (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Carp threat a concern to 93% of Michiganders (Detroit Free Press, 2/3/2012)
- Tentative deal with unions may not be enough to stop state takeover of Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 2/3/2012)
- Unemployment rate falls to 8.3% after hiring burst (Associated Press, 2/3/2012)
- New transmission lines for Gratiot wind farm now being built (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 2/3/2012)
- Hune leads in contributions (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 2/3/2012)
- Rise and fall: Legal muddle of local shops weakens market (Lansing State Journal, 2/3/2012)
- Pocketbook Predictions for Presidential Elections (Dome Magazine, 2/3/2012)
- Michigan Democrats, watchdog group seek more transparent state government (Detroit Free Press, 2/3/2012)
- Hoekstra takes page from Snyder playbook with Super Sunday ads (Detroit Free Press, 2/3/2012)
- Hoekstra buys Super Bowl ad time (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- House Dems propose ethics, campaign finance reforms (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- State officials: Closed EM meetings can go on, no ruling issued (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Romney's Michigan fundraising tops all rivals' (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Rep. John Conyers talks emergency manager law with Gov. Rick Snyder, questions constitutionality (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Detroit Mayor Dave Bing reaches tentative deal with most city unions, minus police and fire (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- State Rep. Kevin Cotter calls for House subcommittee hearing on mandated health insurance plan for students at MSU (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Michigan Democrats are taking 1st shot at corporate funding with proposed ethics, campaign finance reform (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Flint emergency manager Michael Brown talks public safety, taxes, water pipeline at first public meeting (Flint Journal, 2/3/2012)
- Is Michigan's text messaging ban too narrow to deter cellphone use and distracted driving? (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Funeral disruption bill aimed at preventing Westboro-style protests on its way to Governor Snyder (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Pete Hoekstra reportedly buys Super Bowl ad, state Democrats throw penalty flag (MLive, 2/3/2012)
- Pure Michigan Super Bowl ad puts Holland in spotlight (Holland Sentinel, 2/3/2012)

- Man who threatened Stupak gets house arrest (Associated Press, 2/3/2012)
- Detroit, unions reach a deal (Associated Press, 2/3/2012)
- State Dems propose campaign, ethics laws (Associated Press, 2/3/2012)
- Loss of Selfridge A-10 squadron pits Candice Miller vs. Carl Levin (Macomb Daily, 2/3/2012)
- Michigan lawmakers aim to clarify funeral protest law (Associated Press, 2/3/2012)

Editorials

- Knee-jerk opinion: Pete Hoekstra's invention of paywall politics is great strategy to keep voters away (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 2/3/2012)
- Reduced spending goals work for school districts (Macomb Daily, 2/3/2012)
- Will fear govern our neighborhoods? (Oakland Press, 2/3/2012)
- Frank Beckmann: Granholm show unlikely to dwell on failed policies (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Editorial: U.S. should act quickly to block Asian carp (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Rochelle Riley: College student candidates want to put returning veterans, small business on Michigan's agenda (Detroit Free Press, 2/3/2012)
- Our View: It's time Supreme Court clarified legality of state's emergency manager law (Adrian Daily Telegram, 2/3/2012)
- Jack Lessenberry: Bridge Blockade (Dome Magazine, 2/3/2012)
- Editorial: Union deal doesn't alter Detroit's course (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Daniel Howes: Union deal may not be enough for Detroit (Detroit News, 2/3/2012)
- Bridge Blockade (Dome Magazine, 2/3/2012)
- John Lindstrom: Right to Work Right for Michigan? (Dome Magazine, 2/3/2012)
- Reduced spending goals work for school districts (Macomb Daily, 2/3/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:07 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For March 21, 2012

News

- What city wants from state: $137M in aid, staying in control (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- Public can comment on dioxin cleanup plan for Midland through April 25 (Midland Daily News, 3/21/2012)
- Auto fee hike raises questions (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 3/21/2012)
- Mich. Air Guard cuts may change (Battle Creek Enquirer, 3/21/2012)
- Newaygo County officially opposes Gov. Snyder's budget proposal on revenue sharing (Muskegon Chronicle, 3/21/2012)
- Rep. Mike Shirkey says legislation opposed by Consumers Energy would improve business climate (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 3/21/2012)
- Governor Rick Snyder launches 'Detroit Can't Wait' webpage about consent agreement (MLive, 3/21/2012)
- Michigan Senate bill would prohibit using medical marijuana to treat glaucoma (MLive, 3/21/2012)
- State plans emergency appeal after judge removes Flint emergency manager, restores mayor and city council (Flint Journal, 3/21/2012)
- Lt. Gov Brian Calley details plan to eliminate industrial personal property tax (MLive, 3/21/2012)
- Judge removes Flint emergency manager, restores mayor and city council; State planning appeal (Flint Journal, 3/21/2012)
- New health law viewed as victory for Michigan women (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- State Senate bill would crack down on school worker-student sex (Associated Press, 3/21/2012)
- Sen. Carl Levin hopeful that Air Force cuts won't hurt Selfridge (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- L. Brooks Patterson, other Republicans behind push for law over redrawing district maps (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- Judge adds new hurdle for Detroit consent deal (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- Dillon considers state's financial plan a back-up to one by Detroit officials (Detroit News, 3/21/2012)
- Oakland Dems: Emails show GOP plot to gain redistricting control (Detroit News, 3/21/2012)
- State to appeal ruling blocking Detroit consent agreement (Detroit News, 3/21/2012)
- Bills to curb food relief abuse stalled in Michigan Legislature (Lansing State Journal, 3/21/2012)
- Pro-labor measures advance (Associated Press, 3/21/2012)
- Pontiac schools plan may avoid review, loss of state aid (Oakland Press, 3/21/2012)
- HE CAN'T BE STOPPED: Hackel needs road assistance again (Macomb Daily, 3/21/2012)
- Mich. emergency manager push suffers setbacks (Associated Press, 3/21/2012)

Editorials

- Law limiting pseudoephedrine access a good one (Marquette Mining Journal , 3/21/2012)

- Phil Power — Politicians focus on ideology, not excellence of U of M (Holland Sentinel, 3/21/2012)
- Jack Lessenberry: Detroit running out of time; $1 in assets for $33 in liabilities; push is coming to shove (Metro Times, 3/21/2012)
- Editorial: Does Gov. Snyder want to avoid right-to-work conflict? He should promise a veto (Detroit Free Press, 3/21/2012)
- Editorial: New Bing consent proposal is step in right direction (Detroit News, 3/21/2012)
- Editorial: Judge's heavy hand adds drama (Detroit News, 3/21/2012)
- EDITORIAL: State tourism campaign points toward success (Oakland Press, 3/21/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 8:34 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For March 27, 2012

News

- Big job, little money: State lags in tank cleanup (Bridge Magazine, 3/27/2012)
- Mich. gov.: Progress made on Detroit finances deal (Associated Press, 3/27/2012)
- State high court: Law cutting number of Oakland County commissioners will stand (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Lawsuit against Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac may give state millions (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Appeals court puts Flint emergency manager back in charge (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Smuggling of live Asian carp becomes Great Lakes threat (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Redistricting law upheld (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Detroit, state inching closer to financial deal (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Mayor should return to work soon (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Flint emergency manager says he's prepared to get back to work following court order (Flint Journal, 3/27/2012)
- Bill Huizenga's Dodd-Frank consumer privacy law clears U.S. House (Grand Rapids Press, 3/27/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder touts Pure Michigan travel campaign's latest tourism figures (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Still no consent agreement in Detroit, but Snyder hopes to have one in next 10 days (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan Supreme Court rules Oakland County GOP redistricting legal, state law is not local act (Associated Press, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan food stamp program under fire (Stateline, 3/27/2012)
- Lansing employees might face furloughs (Lansing State Journal, 3/27/2012)
- Sander Levin secures rare ticket to U.S. Supreme Court debate on health care (Oakland Press, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan Supreme Court decision paves way for GOP plan to trim Oakland County Commission to 21 seats (Oakland Press, 3/27/2012)
- U.S. court: Macomb County due $600,000 (Macomb Daily, 3/27/2012)
- Hackel wins round one in court case (Macomb Daily, 3/27/2012)

Editorials

- Rochelle Riley: Preachers' patience has worn thin (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Editorial: Maintain focus get financial agreement done (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Tom Walsh: Detroit financial crisis gets compared to the auto industry, too (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Daniel Howes: Detroit myopia clouds thinking (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Laura Berman: Snyder will keep demanding accountability (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)

- Gov. Rick Snyder, Republicans could destroy years of progress between labor, management (Rick Haglund column) (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Lansing schools are moving forward (Lansing State Journal, 3/27/2012)

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 9:28 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 3, 2012

News

- University of Michigan Regents show continued support of GSRA's right to unionize (AnnArbor.com, 4/3/2012)
- Emergency manager needed in Muskegon Heights schools, review team reports to governor (Muskegon Chronicle, 4/3/2012)
- Prospects brighten for Mich. heavyweights (Bridge Magazine, 4/3/2012)
- Housing, office furniture still under economic clouds (Bridge Magazine, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan's ban on unionizing research assistants won't go into effect immediately (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Hundreds protest 'theft' of Mumford High School by statewide district (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan may test teacher reviews (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Judge's ruling puts Detroit consent deal in limbo (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Damrow case sent to Genesee prosecutor (Livingston Community News, 3/30/2012)
- State appeals welfare ruling (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/3/2012)
- Schwarz considers run in 7th District as Democrat (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/3/2012)
- Detroit financial crisis re-energizes Snyder recall effort (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Detroit financial crisis: Bing, City Council close to deal but pitfalls loom (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Ruling halts unionizing ban for grad student lab aides (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- DNR program to resolve public land encroachments (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Proposal would add 8 casinos to Michigan lineup (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Another recall effort targets Michigan governor (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan launches program extending foster care time (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- DNR honors conservation officer killed in 1908 (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Embattled Michigan emergency manager law threatened (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Lansing City Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson to run for state Representative (MLive, 4/3/2012)
- State Rep. Jim Ananich says he won't give up on governor's program for teens (Flint Journal, 4/3/2012)
- Deputy mayor calls for council vote on consent agreement as vocal Detroiters just say 'no' (MLive, 4/3/2012)
- Judge sides with Michigan House Democrats in dispute (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Union contracts targeted by Flint emergency manager as deadline looms (Flint Journal, 4/3/2012)
- City attorney on marijuana dispensaries: 'They're not allowed to operate at all without a license' (AnnArbor.com, 4/3/2012)

Editorials

- Daniel Howes: Detroit's legacy: Failed leadership (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Lawmakers hit the jackpot (Huron Daily Tribune, 3/30/2012)

- Editorial: Live with Great Lakes water levels, at least for now (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Editorial: New contracts bad for city (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Snyder must veto helmet law repeal (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/3/2012)
- Consider a city contract with LEAP (Lansing State Journal, 4/3/2012)
- EDITORIAL: State not treating Detroit like Pontiac (Oakland Press, 4/3/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 8:04 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 9, 2012

News

- Consent agreement: How the state will help save Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- State court to decide if fiscal review meetings must be open to public (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan House Dems sue GOP rivals (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan health officials seek to create long-term care system for elderly (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Push begins for Nov. ballot petitions (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Michigan, Ohio officials to tackle Lake Erie algae threat to fish, tourism (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Gov. Snyder set to sign Michigan state fairgrounds bill (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Hot-and-cold temps threaten Michigan tart cherry orchards (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- DNR sets daily limit of 6 walleye for Lake Erie (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Macomb board plans to review salaries for elected officials (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Drivers laud ticket class; insurers not sold (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Gov. Snyder to clear hurdle for state fairgrounds sale (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Selfridge Air National Guard Base cuts could slice into region (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan casino campaigns facing hurdles (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Flint's financial crisis: Emergency manager backs off budget deadline to continue union talks (Flint Journal, 4/9/2012)
- Bills to eliminate personal property tax for Michigan industrial taxpayers set to be introduced this month (MLive, 4/7/2012)
- Fruitport casino project stalled amidst Michigan surge of gambling-venue proposals (Muskegon Chronicle, 4/8/2012)
- DNR: No fee, at start, for Detroit's Belle Isle (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Snyder set to sign Michigan state fairgrounds bill (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- State withholding funds to universities seems petty (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)
- Hackel and Marrocco at odds over pay raise again (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)

Editorials

- Tom Walsh: More candor what Detroit sorely needs (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Guest commentary: Draw a new line for Stand Your Ground law (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Guest commentary: Detroit's future depends on more than balancing the books (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Mental care shouldn't be police work (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Editorial: Focus on fixing city services (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)

- Michigan Sen. Gretchen Whitmer: Tuition grants are a good move for Michigan students, economy (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Paul Muxlow: Farm trucks endure unfair regulations (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/9/2012)
- Editorial: A plea to free up cash for dredging Michigan harbors (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Editorial: Fund recreational harbors to spur recovery (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- OUR VIEW: Voters need to know both sides of casino issue (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 4/9/2012)
- DENNIS LENNOX: Decision on Detroit might be Snyder's defining moment (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 4/9/2012)
- Telfer: Time to return local control to school districts (Midland Daily News, 4/8/2012)
- Pure Michigan program is good investment for state, taxpayers (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/9/2012)
- Action on retired teachers' benefits overdue in Michigan (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/9/2012)
- Across the state: Prison safety should be a concern (Lansing State Journal, 4/9/2012)
- Emergency financial managers provide help, not hurt for struggling Michigan cities (Paul Keep column) (MLive, 4/9/2012)
- State withholding funds to universities seems petty (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 7:41 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 24, 2012

News

- Woodward light-rail group to pay some operating costs, raises cost estimate (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Michigan lawmaker: Post university expenses online (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Michigan lawmakers set to tackle budget (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Petition goal: Make taxes tougher to hike (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Atlanta denied renewal of 4-day school week (Alpena News, 4/24/2012)
- Welcome center may come home (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/24/2012)
- Road commission under review (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/24/2012)
- Protecting votes ... or preventing them? (Herald Palladium, 4/24/2012)
- Snyder rescinds order on services for blind people (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Snyder: Detroit needs more sense of urgency in financial crisis (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Detroit financial crisis: Bing's budget slashes $250M spending, more than 2,500 jobs (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Time to 'step it up' for improving Detroit, gov says (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Proposed Detroit budget would cut 2,566 jobs (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- UAW weighing GE protest (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Michigan's feral swine criteria creating a stink (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Snyder on Detroit crisis: More urgency needed (MLive, 4/24/2012)
- Concealed gun survey 'bought and paid for by a radical gun-control group' (MLive, 4/24/2012)
- Emergency manager's Flint budget proposal 'rough,' council member says (Flint Journal, 4/24/2012)
- Governor rescinds order that would abolish Commission for the Blind (MLive, 4/24/2012)
- Train has left the station' on Michigan business tax reform, cities grapple with replacing lost money (Grand Rapids Press, 4/24/2012)
- Kalamazoo River oil spill trial may end in settlement (Kalamazoo Gazette, 4/24/2012)
- Group wants to make it harder to raise Michigan taxes (Associated Press, 4/24/2012)
- Detroit mayor's budget plan includes 2,500 layoffs (Associated Press, 4/24/2012)

Editorials

- Jeff Immelt: Why GE chose Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Editorial: Referendum is newest ploy to stall public bridge (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Tom Walsh: 2 sides of Michigan's economy on public view this week (Detroit Free Press, 4/24/2012)
- Editorial: Deep budget cuts can be eased by reforms (Detroit News, 4/24/2012)
- Carl Levin: Congress must continue defending the Great Lakes (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/24/2012)
- Opinion: School districts must move forward (Lansing State Journal, 4/24/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 8:12 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 26, 2012

News

- Michigan lawmakers study natural gas fracking oversight (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- U-M stem-cell line gets national registry go-ahead (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- City, county to further pursue cost savings (Alpena News, 4/26/2012)
- Fire merger talks simmer (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/26/2012)
- Lansing-area districts weigh options to trim busing budgets (Lansing State Journal, 4/26/2012)
- Emergency manager repeal issue appears headed for ballot (Associated Press, 4/26/2012)
- State Board of Canvassers could decide today whether repeal of emergency manager law will be put on November ballots (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- Second group rates schools average (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/26/2012)
- Legislators wary about recovery propose big cuts for state prison system (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- Rating agency skeptical of Detroit-state consent deal (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Board may put EM law on ballot (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Newt Gingrich ends campaign, Grand Rapids supporters will 'get behind' Mitt Romney (Grand Rapids Press, 4/26/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder calls for overhauling Michigan school funding system, but not this year (MLive, 4/26/2012)
- Michigan Senate Democrats: GOP school budget puts 'corporate greed over kids in need' (MLive, 4/26/2012)
- Flint emergency manager imposes contract changes, orders city budget ahead of Public Act 4 challenge (Flint Journal, 4/26/2012)
- Group wants stricter tax-hike rules (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/26/2012)
- Michigan Governor Rick Snyder talks state fair, transit during town hall (Associated Press, 4/26/2012)

Editorials

- Commentary: The final word on 'wild hog' legislation (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Editorial: State licenses shouldn't squelch entrepreneurs (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Brian Dickerson: Little Leo's lemonade ordeal yields legislative fix (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- Guest commentary: Communities, schools can't afford this business tax plan (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- Voter ID card attitudes often inconsistent (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/26/2012)
- DAVE LING: Personal property tax cuts will hurt you (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 4/26/2012)
- November ballot could be quagmire (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/26/2012)
- Column: Who do lawmakers represent? (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/25/2012)

- Editorial: House GOP's rush makes immediate insult to Michigan's Constitution (Detroit Free Press, 4/26/2012)
- Tom Watkins — Beyond autism: It's time for full mental health parity (Holland Sentinel, 4/26/2012)
- Editorial: Keep best practices in budget (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Preschool a 'no-brainer' for kids and taxpayers (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- OUR VIEW — Tax repeal must come with a real guarantee (Holland Sentinel, 4/26/2012)
- Nolan Finley: Want to save Detroit? Help tear it down (Detroit News, 4/26/2012)
- Phil Power: System produces best democracy money can buy (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/26/2012)
- Michigan needs new bridge project (Lansing State Journal, 4/26/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Is Pontiac ready to govern itself? (Oakland Press, 4/26/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 9:21 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 27, 2012

News

- Snyder builds tax plan on complicated tax credit math (Bridge Magazine, 4/27/2012)
- EM referendum off Nov. ballot, opponents vow appeal (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Flint emergency manager's upcoming public safety plan to include stronger Michigan State Police partnership (Flint Journal, 4/27/2012)
- DEQ no closer to decision on Bay City wind turbine (Bay City Times, 4/27/2012)
- GOP-backed cyber schools legislation passes 56-54 in Michigan House (AnnArbor.com, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan legislators consider raising emergency loan limit to $20 million (Detroit Free Press, 4/27/2012)
- Emergency manager ballot issue rejected, now it's headed for the courts (Detroit Free Press, 4/27/2012)
- Ford reports $1.4B profit, a 46% slide in wake of European slump (Detroit Free Press, 4/27/2012)
- Whistleblower suit filed against Pontiac (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Wayne Co. probe grows (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Bridge petition joins a crowded field (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan wildfire burns at least 1,500 acres (Associated Press, 4/27/2012)
- Ford earnings down 45% in Q1; Sales up 9fixpercent (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan bills fight "swatting," a prank of falsely reporting emergencies (MLive, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan House approves school aid budget with incentives. Democrats argue businesses gain more than kids (MLive, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson in Muskegon to push election reforms (video) (Muskegon Chronicle, 4/27/2012)
- Pete Hoekstra campaign: Democrats have 'no shame,' while trying to distract voters (Grand Rapids Press, 4/27/2012)
- GM CEO Dan Akerson paid $7.7M in 2011 (MLive, 4/27/2012)
- Proposed Michigan school funding plans differ greatly (Associated Press, 4/27/2012)
- Michigan businesses, consumers to get $19M from health insurers (Lansing State Journal, 4/27/2012)
- Board keeps emergency manager law off ballot (Associated Press, 4/27/2012)

Editorials

- Rochelle Riley: Dillon gives his verdict: Detroit must want more (Detroit Free Press, 4/27/2012)
- Great Lakes fishery needs our vigilance (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/27/2012)
- Editorial: Ballot initiative process needs reform (Detroit News, 4/27/2012)
- Real Court Reform Overdue (Dome Magazine, 4/27/2012)
- Unfunded mandates hurt local units of government (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/27/2012)

- Column: Keep union organizers out of Michigan's restaurant kitchens (Jackson Citizen Patriot, 4/27/2012)
- GILBERT: U.S. Rep. Sander Levin has words of wisdom on tax breaks (Oakland Press, 4/27/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 9:55 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For May 14, 2012

News

- Snyder urges Congress to let Michigan collect sales tax on online purchases (Detroit News, 5/12/2012)
- Stabenow, Hoekstra divided on student loan issues (Detroit News, 5/14/2012)
- Pete Hoekstra tries to clear up stance on Great Lakes drilling (Detroit Free Press, 5/14/2012)
- Poli-Bites: The Muppets take Congress, starring Carl Levin (Detroit Free Press, 5/13/2012)
- Court revives lawsuit by Michigan prison employee (Associated Press, 5/13/2012)
- Crushed by college debt: Massive loan bills hang over graduates, derail life plans (Detroit Free Press, 5/13/2012)
- State to seek No Child waiver (Detroit News, 5/14/2012)
- Virtual school provides new learning experience (Detroit News, 5/14/2012)
- Sen. Carl Levin: 'Extreme' GOP taking over (with video) (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 5/14/2012)
- Possible Michigan private prison contractor faced problems in other states (Associated Press, 5/11/2012)
- Fish and wildlife survey reveals no new invasive species (Alpena News, 5/14/2012)
- Report: Ohio casinos will hurt Detroit's budget (Associated Press, 5/14/2012)
- Michigan lieutenant governor praises Muskegon Township manufacturer's growth, tax-elimination proposal (Muskegon Chronicle, 5/14/2012)
- Michigan drug courts a win-win for users, taxpayers (Bridge Magazine, 5/14/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder tours prison in Jackson complex (Associated Press, 5/14/2012)
- Michigan film industry refocuses on big picture (Associated Press, 5/14/2012)
- Cost drops for Attorney General Bill Schuette's plan to penalize repeat felons, but millions for prisons still needed (Bridge Magazine, 5/13/2012)
- Union rally Monday for Rep. John Conyers election (Associated Press, 5/13/2012)
- Jesse Jackson, Reverend Reginald Flynn call on residents in Flint, statewide to rally against emergency manager act (Flint Journal, 5/14/2012)
- Michigan parole officers worry smaller staff could mean more public safety threats from ex-cons (MLive, 5/14/2012)

Editorials

- Editorial Quick Hits: Nip fraud in the bud (Detroit News, 5/12/2012)
- Keep graduation requirements strong (Detroit News, 5/13/2012)
- Guest commentary: Four ways to improve Michigan Supreme Court elections (Detroit Free Press, 5/13/2012)
- Stephen Henderson: Detroit has little to show for its casino revenue (Detroit Free Press, 5/14/2012)
- Editorial: In-home care grants help youths and budgets (Detroit Free Press, 5/14/2012)

- Forum: Smoke-free workplace law is working (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 5/13/2012)
- George Weeks: Light lacking in supreme court races (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 5/13/2012)
- Jack Lessenberry: Joe Schwarz and Congress (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 5/12/2012)
- Editorial: Flexible cap needed on state land buys (Detroit News, 5/14/2012)
- Revival demands investment in higher ed (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 5/12/2012)
- Use caution in selling mineral rights (Lansing State Journal, 5/14/2012)
- State needs to guarantee replacement funds (Midland Daily News, 5/11/2012)
- Our View: State tweaks laws on underage drinking, etc. to fix exceptions (Adrian Daily Telegram, 5/14/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder repeal of motorcycle helmet law is dubious (MLive, 5/11/2012)
- Our View: Adrian's experience shows privatization of services can work (Adrian Daily Telegram, 5/13/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Lump-sum payout good for Ford, but not for retirees (Oakland Press, 5/14/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2012 12:27 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For August 10, 2012

News

- Dems to fine-tune platform in Detroit (Detroit News, 8/10/2012)
- Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette sues to cut DPS board, its power (Detroit Free Press, 8/10/2012)
- Why wasn't former Congressman Thad McCotter charged with election fraud? (MLive, 8/10/2012)
- Fireworks law will face revisions (Macomb Daily, 8/10/2012)
- Asian carp not found in west Lake Erie search (Associated Press, 8/10/2012)
- Update: McCotter campaign staffers charged (Oakland Press, 8/10/2012)
- Kilpatrick diet courts controversy (Detroit News, 8/10/2012)
- Michigan legislators review new fireworks law (Detroit News, 8/10/2012)
- Work group to review Michigan fireworks law (Associated Press, 8/10/2012)
- Flint takes steps to fight new emergency manager (Associated Press, 8/10/2012)
- Attorney general: McCotter 'asleep at the switch' as petitions were faked (Detroit Free Press, 8/10/2012)
- Fireworks noise and safety complaints - 2,000 to Gov. Snyder - prompt Michigan lawmakers to form workgroup (MLive, 8/10/2012)
- Mixed news on synthetic drugs (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 8/10/2012)
- Secret Service visits Sterling Heights city councilman who made violent, derogatory comments about President Obama, Jennifer Granholm, Nancy Pelosi WITH VIDEO (Oakland Press, 8/10/2012)
- Health care law's tax hikes are coming: Who pays? (Associated Press, 8/10/2012)

Editorials

- Editorial: McCotter responsible for petition-fixing scandal (Detroit News, 8/10/2012)
- Rochelle Riley: Council should've let Detroiters decide on public safety millage (Detroit Free Press, 8/10/2012)
- Stephen Henderson: AG's school board suit misguided (Detroit Free Press, 8/10/2012)
- Suspending emergency manager lawgoes too far (Port Huron Times Herald, 8/10/2012)
- Voters ought to keep Mich. manager law (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 8/10/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Put the tax-return controversy to rest (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 8/10/2012)
- Election Day Confusion at the Polls (Dome Magazine, 8/10/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Peters' hard work pays off in defeat of 4 opponents (Oakland Press, 8/10/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2012 9:10 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For August 16, 2012

News

- Taxpayers on hook for 'captures' gone wrong (Bridge Magazine, 8/16/2012)
- Political insider: Flint gold medalist honored at Capitol (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Michigan's director of health to step down (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Appeals court voids order closing Bay Mills casino (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Bargaining rights proposal blocked as canvassers deadlock (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Union-backed Protect Our Jobs appeals decision to keep proposal off ballot, looks to Supreme Court (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- Pure Michigan partners with viral video guru Rob Bliss for 7-day, 50-city tour of state (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- Flint emergency financial manager Ed Kurtz not planning to stay long past November election (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- 1,000-foot coal freighter blocks St. Marys channel (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)
- Six more NRC eyes on Palisades (Herald Palladium, 8/16/2012)
- Bill OK'd asking more of school workers (Herald Palladium, 8/16/2012)
- Teacher pension benefits sliced by Lansing (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Collective bargaining ballot issue in limbo (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Overloaded EMS frustrated by cuts, lack of resources (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Retired teachers will get less as Legislature overhauls pensions, health care (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- More fake petitions for Thaddeus McCotter discovered (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Judge adds 4th attorney to Kilpatrick team (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Michigan House passes election bill in wake of Roy Schmidt-Jase Bolger scheme (MLive, 8/15/2012)
- Michigan Senate approves legislation aimed at fighting blight in Detroit, other cities (MLive, 8/15/2012)
- Sen. Carl Levin seeks solution to keep the S.S. Badger operating without discharging coal ash into Lake Michigan (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- Detroit Mayor Dave Bing pushes lighting issue, but Michigan Senate takes no action (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)
- Ad targets Michigan Congressman Dan Benishek for his views on Medicare (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)
- Officials: Swine flu confirmed in ill Mich. child (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)
- State checks petition signatures (Associated Press, 8/14/2012)
- Michigan Legislature OKs partial overhaul of school retiree plan (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Ex-McCotter staffer arraigned in election case (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)
- State Senate designates Michigan Patriot Week (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)

- Cassis, Bentivolio spar as special primary nears for McCotter's former seat (Oakland Press, 8/16/2012)
- Michigan Legislature approves teacher changes (Associated Press, 8/16/2012)

Editorials

- Jack Lessenberry: Secretary of State Johnson's citizenship quiz and other GOP baloney (Metro Times, 8/15/2012)
- Guest column: Leave consolidation decisions to locals (Bridge Magazine, 8/16/2012)
- Editorial: Lawmakers missed chance to reform pensions (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Editorial: 'Protect Our Jobs' shouldn't be on ballot (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Stephen Henderson: State plan for Belle Isle benefits other city parks (Detroit Free Press, 8/16/2012)
- Guest column: No-fault reform plan would shift insurance companies' costs onto others (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- Guest column: Less income, higher auto insurance premiums demonstrate need for no-fault reform (MLive, 8/16/2012)
- Hackel: Macomb benefits from bipartisan partnerships (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Commentary: The case for privatizing Michigan prisons (Detroit News, 8/16/2012)
- Question of the day: What will motivate your vote on marijuana decriminalization? (MLive, 8/15/2012)
- Cyber-bullying must be outlawed (Port Huron Times Herald, 8/16/2012)
- Our view: Medicare change is coming (Midland Daily News, 8/15/2012)
- Take Red Cedar site question to voters (Lansing State Journal, 8/16/2012)
- EDITORIAL: Patterson crash a reminder why we should wear seat belts (Oakland Press, 8/16/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 8:49 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For August 27, 2012

News

- Tampa tidbits: GOP worries about party switching scandal (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Romney's children stress his Mich. links at delegation fete (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Harsens Island bridge faces obstacles (Port Huron Times Herald, 8/27/2012)
- Michigan not alone on slow road to health exchange (Associated Press, 8/25/2012)
- Romney tied with Obama among Michigan voters, poll says (Detroit Free Press, 8/27/2012)
- GOP convention: How to follow it and track Michiganders in Tampa (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- Board reviews casino, bridge plan ballot status (Associated Press, 8/27/2012)
- Michigan court's collective bargaining rights decision will be sweeping (Lansing State Journal, 8/26/2012)
- Ex-fiscal leader:Tax plan is flawed (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 8/27/2012)
- Storm puts Republican convention on hold (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Romney and Obama camps focus on states other than Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 8/27/2012)
- New Detroit law pushes back on panhandlers (Detroit Free Press, 8/27/2012)
- Michigan delegate status unclear at GOP convention (Detroit News, 8/25/2012)
- Feds: Couple lived large on $5M from city pension fund (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Aging nuclear plant troubles regulators but not neighbors (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Could Todd Akin ripple effect influence Michigan's U.S. Senate race? (MLive, 8/25/2012)
- 16,000 trees, 6,300 labs and 7,300 professors: Just how big is the University of Michigan? (AnnArbor.com, 8/27/2012)
- DNR chief Creagh talks U.P. priorities (Marquette Mining Journal , 8/26/2012)
- Michigan voter registration drive kicking off (Associated Press, 8/27/2012)

Editorials

- Stephen Henderson: Romney's birth certificate joke lands with a splat (Detroit Free Press, 8/25/2012)
- Our view: Natural Resources Trust Fund: A clear positive (Midland Daily News, 8/25/2012)
- George Weeks: High national profile for 1st District race (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 8/26/2012)
- Secretary of State fails the citizenship test (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 8/26/2012)
- Speer: Snyder keeps positive, moving forward (Alpena News, 8/25/2012)
- OUR VIEWS: No swan song (Grand Haven Tribune, 8/25/2012)
- COLUMN — Michigan's ballot proposal mess (Holland Sentinel, 8/25/2012)
- Editorial: Gov. Snyder chooses next-best option on health insurance exchanges (Detroit Free Press, 8/26/2012)
- Gov. Snyder rightly embraces health exchange (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)

- Nolan Finley: Businessman Rakolta is Romney's biggest champion in Michigan (Detroit News, 8/27/2012)
- Editorial: Flint's emergency manager appointment raises unnecessary questions (MLive, 8/26/2012)
- Is it better for principals to be patrolling the playground or evaluating teachers? (Commentary) (MLive, 8/26/2012)
- Marquette County Road 595 sessions worth attending (Marquette Mining Journal , 8/27/2012)
- Recent election shows reduction in city-suburban divisions (Oakland Press, 8/26/2012)
- Michigan must prepare for cougars (Lansing State Journal, 8/25/2012)
- Editorial: Voters should reject energy amendment (Macomb Daily, 8/27/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 8:43 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For August 28, 2012

News

- Gov tells Romney: Michigan up for grabs (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Absent member of elections board is in Tampa for GOP convention (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- Recount requested in 83rd (Port Huron Times Herald, 8/28/2012)
- In Isaac's shadow, subdued start to GOP convention (Associated Press, 8/28/2012)
- Michigan, national GOP laud Gerald Ford at tribute in Tampa (Detroit Free Press, 8/28/2012)
- After day of controversial decisions, fate of 4 ballot initiatives likely rests with high court (Detroit Free Press, 8/28/2012)
- GOP weathers storm, but keeps wary eye as Isaac menaces gulf (Detroit Free Press, 8/28/2012)
- 'He had a gun to my head,' Womack testifies in exam (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Wayne retirees' payout shrinks (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Police detail crash that injured Patterson, 2 others (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Michigan ballot initiatives head back to courts (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Keith Allard election stump: Reform state spending, enact part-time legislature and stop unsustainable promises (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- David Davenport focuses on Flint as his campaign for the 5th District seat presses forward (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- 'Two thirds' tax proposal not approved for Michigan ballot, but the fight is expected to continue in court (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- Flint City Council to investigate, file lawsuit against emergency financial manager (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- Expensive, confusing upcoming special election to replace resigned U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter met with anger and apathy (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- Court is the next stop for several proposals seeking to make Michigan's November ballot (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- Union-backed Protect Our Jobs likely headed back to ballot after Appeals Court decision (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- Anti-bridge proposal kept off Michigan ballot, but Moroun-backed group expected to continue fight (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- Casino expansion proposal likely headed back to court after Board of Canvassers fails to put it on November ballot (MLive, 8/27/2012)
- Convention notebook: Mitt's icy adventure, Secchia's barbs and Rick's emphasis on Michigan (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- Canvassers reject casino, tax, bridge ballot plans (Associated Press, 8/28/2012)
- Sander Levin, 80, shows off basketball skills (Macomb Daily, 8/28/2012)

Editorials

- Guest commentary: Leave Michigan's electricity market alone (Detroit Free Press, 8/28/2012)
- Editorial: Leaders put residents last (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 8/28/2012)
- Editorial: A ballot issue mess worthy of a ballot issue (Detroit Free Press, 8/28/2012)
- Editorial: Bargaining issue should be off the ballot (Detroit News, 8/28/2012)
- Marijuana: Friend or foe? How can we evaluate medical potential without enabling addiction? (MLive, 8/28/2012)
- EDITORIAL: New teachers must pay more for health, pension (Oakland Press, 8/28/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 9:22 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For September 11, 2012

News

- Universities eye out-of-state budget help (Bridge Magazine, 9/11/2012)
- Belle Isle lease deal appears imminent (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)
- State Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons on Chicago strike: 'Michigan teachers are better than that' (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Under private management, bus system on track for recovery, Detroit board told (Detroit Free Press, 9/11/2012)
- Schuette sues to stop Lansing casino proposal (Lansing State Journal, 9/11/2012)
- Michigan attorney general sues over Lansing casino (Associated Press, 9/11/2012)
- Told no, Libertarian candidate's camp crying foul over candidate forum (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 9/11/2012)
- Unions split on renewable energy ballot proposal, political parties haven't taken an official stance (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Flint City Council members sue emergency financial manager Ed Kurtz (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Hoekstra online ad calling Stabenow 'worst senator' latest in Michigan's U.S. Senate race (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Renewable energy ballot proposal foes: No 'arbitrary' standard in Michigan constitution (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Report: Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette files suit in federal court to stop proposed Lansing casino (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Pete Hoekstra launches new attack calling Debbie Stabenow Michigan's worst senator ever (Detroit Free Press, 9/11/2012)
- Another day of jury selection in Kwame Kilpatrick trial ends with a secretive sidebar (Detroit Free Press, 9/11/2012)
- Romney, Obama campaigns eschew politics on 9/11 anniversary (Associated Press, 9/11/2012)
- Detroit's bus system improved, firm reports (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)
- 3 blacks clear 1st hurdle for Kilpatrick jury (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)
- Scientists tackle Lake Erie algae (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)
- Obama and Romney: Where they stand on the issues (Associated Press, 9/11/2012)
- Funding for Amtrak rolls up as issue in race for president (Associated Press, 9/11/2012)

Editorials

- David Kolb: Maybe Michigan Republicans were right about election fraud (Muskegon Chronicle, 9/11/2012)

- Editorial: Jobs crisis merits emergency response (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)
- Another View: 25 by 25 ballot initiative is reckless and could hurt Michigan (MLive, 9/11/2012)
- Editorial: Protecting jurors while informing the public (Detroit Free Press, 9/11/2012)
- EPA misused authority in coal permits flap (Marquette Mining Journal , 9/10/2012)
- Editorial: Let's brag more about agriculture (Lansing State Journal, 9/11/2012)
- Ron Dzwonkowski: Michigan's improving economy could be awkward for Snyder (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 9/11/2012)
- Commentary: Guns don't belong on campus (Detroit News, 9/11/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 8:53 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 31, 2012

News

- Michigan's Supreme Showdown, Unions try to depose conservative justices at the ballot box. (Wall Street Journal, 10/31/2012)
- Flint in spotlight as voters weigh Proposal 1, emergency manager law (Flint Journal, 10/31/2012)
- Michigan voters to decide bevy of ballot proposals (Associated Press, 10/31/2012)
- 63rd state House preview (WMUK, 10/31/2012)
- Poll: Romney closes gap on Obama in Michigan (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)
- GM, Chrysler tell Romney he's wrong about Chinese jobs claim (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- During Jackson stop, Gov. Rick Snyder still won't say whether he would sign right-to-work bill (MLive, 10/31/2012)
- Sandy rains on presidential campaign (Associated Press, 10/31/2012)
- Dems say Gov. Rick Snyder ballot tour, videos are 'taking the law right up to the edge' (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/31/2012)
- Obama to air ads in Michigan touting auto bailout (Associated Press, 10/31/2012)
- Ford posts $1.63 billion in quarterly earnings (Associated Press, 10/31/2012)
- Sen. Stabenow on campaign swing through Marquette (Marquette Mining Journal , 10/30/2012)
- Gov. blasts proposals (Marquette Mining Journal , 10/30/2012)
- Auditors applaud Howell Public Schools district (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/31/2012)
- TV ad criticizes Bridget McCormack for volunteering to represent suspected terrorists (MLive, 10/31/2012)
- Obama running 1st TV ad in Michigan since February as pro-Romney Super PAC airs more ads (MLive, 10/30/2012)
- Mitt Romney moves to reframe debate on abortion, autos (Associated Press, 10/31/2012)
- Race for Michigan Supreme Court is high-stakes, expensive (MLive, 10/31/2012)
- Michigan Supreme Court candidate defends against terrorism claim (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Sen. John McCain slams President Barack Obama at Bloomfield Hills event (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Money flows in from special interests in 11th District race (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson grateful to be back at work (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- FBI investigating Michigan Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley: Could Proposal 6 block access to Ambassador Bridge? (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Henry Ford, Beaumont health systems to announce merger talks in blockbuster deal (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)

- Calley says any bridge in jeopardy under Proposal 6 (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)
- Redrawn borders in 13th, 14th districts bring intrigue (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)
- Sen. Stabenow leads by 15% over Hoekstra in Michigan poll (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)
- FBI reportedly investigates Michigan Supreme Court justice (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)
- Patterson reveals how close he came to dying (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)

Editorials

- Jack Lessenberry: Say no to the Troll: The last word on Matty Moroun's Proposal 6 (Metro Times, 10/31/2012)
- Former Mayor John Logie: Proposal 5 'could cloud our state's future for more than a generation' (Guest column) (Grand Rapids Press, 10/31/2012)
- Our View: Proposal 5 invites gridlock; vote 'no' (Adrian Daily Telegram, 10/26/2012)
- Our View: Vote 'no' on Moroun's bridge bid, Proposal 6 (Adrian Daily Telegram, 10/28/2012)
- Proposal 2 is a threat to your right to know (Huron Daily Tribune, 10/26/2012)
- Proposal 2: Vote 'no' on this overreaching power grab by unions (Herald Palladium, 10/30/2012)
- Proposal 4: Vote 'no' on yet another special interest crusade (Herald Palladium, 10/31/2012)
- PRO AND CON — Proposal 2 would have devastating effects on schools, local governments (Holland Sentinel, 10/31/2012)
- PRO AND CON — Yes on 2: Support collective bargaining to support the middle class (Holland Sentinel, 10/31/2012)
- County best served by these picks (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/31/2012)
- Romney deserves support, vote in presidential bid (Marquette Mining Journal , 10/30/2012)
- Endorsement: Tim Kelly get Bay City Times nod for Bay County District Judge seat (Bay City Times, 10/31/2012)
- Editorial: Whose money will win the Michigan Supreme Court? (Detroit Free Press, 10/31/2012)
- Editorial: EM law requires muscle to work (Detroit News, 10/31/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012 11:10 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For November 13, 2012

News

- Detroit may run out of cash by December (Detroit News, 11/13/2012)
- Michigan House takes up Blue Cross Blue Shield change in status today (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2012)
- Gambling expansion may come to Michigan - at the horse racing track (MLive, 11/13/2012)
- Mining tax measures proposed (Marquette Mining Journal , 11/13/2012)
- 'Fiscal cliff' tops a big slate for the returning Congress (Associated Press, 11/13/2012)
- Reps push EPA on CR 595 (Marquette Mining Journal , 11/13/2012)
- New York Times: Rogers could be successor to Petraeus at CIA (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/13/2012)
- Critic bucks voting trend; candidates from outside major parties profit from protest vote (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/13/2012)
- Moroun likely to carry on Michigan bridge fight (Associated Press, 11/13/2012)
- Secession petitions filed for Michigan, other states on White House website (MLive, 11/13/2012)
- Report: U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers of Michigan possible replacement for disgraced CIA director David Petraeus (MLive, 11/13/2012)
- Expert: Detroit could run out of cash in December (Associated Press, 11/13/2012)
- Pressure for ballot reform growing in Michigan (Detroit News, 11/12/2012)
- Michigan's Rogers emerges as potential new CIA leader (Detroit News, 11/13/2012)
- Troy councilman named mayor until 2013 after Daniels recall (Detroit News, 11/13/2012)
- At trial, Kilpatrick makes big fashion statement (Detroit News, 11/13/2012)

Editorials

- Proposal politics (Battle Creek Enquirer, 11/13/2012)
- Editorial: Leaders must work around City Charter (Detroit News, 11/13/2012)
- Our view: What's needed in terms of tax reform (Midland Daily News, 11/12/2012)
- NRC the best agency to decide wolf hunt issue (Marquette Mining Journal , 11/11/2012)
- Michigan unions may have misplayed their hand (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/13/2012)
- Editorial: Follow Snyder on health exchange (Lansing State Journal, 11/12/2012)
- Editorial: Flint must fix problems that delayed election results (MLive, 11/12/2012)
- Once emergency manager leaves, the onus will be on Flint voters (Flint Journal, 11/12/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2012 10:15 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For November 15, 2012

News

- Northern Michigan aims for deer hunting comeback (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)
- Severance tax bills on fast track (Marquette Mining Journal , 11/15/2012)
- For now, DPS elected school board stays (Detroit Free Press, 11/15/2012)
- Obama presses labor, business on fiscal cliff (Associated Press, 11/15/2012)
- Dismissal upheld in defamation lawsuit against U.S. Rep. Gary Peters over campaign ad (MLive, 11/15/2012)
- DNR: Lakeshore area herds not affected as much as inland areas by virus (Holland Sentinel, 11/15/2012)
- Michigan veterans charity scammer gets prison time, restitution (Lansing State Journal, 11/15/2012)
- Local deer hunters not deterred by EHD outbreak (Lansing State Journal, 11/15/2012)
- Audit: Flint School District runs multi-million deficit for second year in a row; officials say $4 million hole more like $11 million (MLive, 11/15/2012)
- Farmington Hills Republican loses appeal tied to rival's 2010 TV campaign ad (Detroit Free Press, 11/15/2012)
- Chrysler to trumpet 1,250 new jobs for Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 11/15/2012)
- Democrat Curson starts short term in McCotter seat (Detroit News, 11/14/2012)
- Michigan lawmakers fret over insurance exchange delay (Detroit News, 11/14/2012)
- Bill limits rights of sex offender parents (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)
- Political insider: Local Chaldeans on right side, new state rep says (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)
- Metro Detroit marks 24 months of foreclosure declines (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)

Editorials

- State lays out plans for new EM law (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)
- FairTax: The answer to our national, critical financial crisis (Midland Daily News, 11/14/2012)
- Editorial: Stay out of right-to-work discussions (Lansing State Journal, 11/14/2012)
- UAW President Bob King: It is time to halt the bickering. A war against workers is not the answer (Guest column) (MLive, 11/15/2012)
- Come Heller high water: Did Petraeus really betray us or just himself? (Flint Journal, 11/15/2012)
- Finley: Again, Snyder should let Detroit go bankrupt (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)
- Editorial: Middle class must help avoid fiscal cliff (Detroit News, 11/15/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 8:48 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For December 28, 2012

News

- Gov. Snyder signs new EM law (Herald Palladium, 12/28/2012)
- Snyder signs new emergency manager law (Associated Press, 12/28/2012)
- Retail crime, school loan program bills among those signed by Gov. Rick Snyder (MLive, 12/28/2012)
- New emergency manager law signed, but opponents already talking about legal challenge (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2012)
- 5 Lansing-area development projects to watch in 2013 (Lansing State Journal, 12/28/2012)
- Obama to host last-ditch 'fiscal cliff' talks (USA Today, 12/28/2012)
- Year in review: Outside the city, growth comes mainly in small bites (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/28/2012)
- Tourist Park basin refilled, capping 2-year project (Marquette Mining Journal , 12/27/2012)
- EPA chief Jackson resigns (Associated Press, 12/28/2012)
- Slip-and-fall cases tough to make in Michigan courts (Detroit News, 12/28/2012)
- New EM law could be used to appoint a financial czar in Detroit (Detroit News, 12/28/2012)
- Unemployment benefits for fired assistant state attorney general stand, judge says (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2012)
- Bush aide says 'put the harps back in the closet,' ex-president in good hands (Associated Press, 12/28/2012)
- Congressman Fred Upton 'hopeful' Democrats and Republicans can reach agreement to avoid fiscal cliff (MLive, 12/28/2012)
- Flint won't have access to some options in new emergency financial manager law (MLive, 12/28/2012)
- Detroit's homicide rate nears highest in 2 decades (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2012)

Editorials

- George Weeks: Latest snapshots not flattering to Gov. Snyder (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 12/24/2012)
- Private safety nets are failing as GOP turns a blind eye (Herald Palladium, 12/24/2012)
- Lawmakers skirt due diligence (Grand Haven Tribune, 12/26/2012)
- OUR VIEW - What will RTW change? (Holland Sentinel, 12/24/2012)
- DeVos: Move past anger and keep rebuilding Michigan (Detroit News, 12/28/2012)
- ERIC BAERREN: The best mess democracy can give us (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 12/28/2012)
- Culture of Dark Money (Dome Magazine, 12/28/2012)
- Editorial: Repair Michigan's infrastructure (Detroit News, 12/28/2012)
- Editorial: Shared regional effort still welcome (Lansing State Journal, 12/27/2012)
- Caring about Detroit is a matter of self-interest (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 12/28/2012)

- GILBERT: What will 2013 bring for our state's school system? (Oakland Press, 12/28/2012)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:11 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For February 19, 2013

News

Detroit emergency manager may be hard to find (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

Financial review due, council fears Detroiters' voice will be lost under EM (Detroit Free Press, 2/19/2013)

Legislators and filmmakers to lobby to keep Michigan's movie credit at $50 million (Associated Press, 2/19/2013)

State of the City: Mayor wants Flint to be statewide model for transition out of emergency manager control (MLive, 2/19/2013)

New bill revives debate over 4-year nursing degrees (Lansing State Journal, 2/19/2013)

Controversy over teachers' union email continues in Lansing (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 2/19/2013)

Medical marijuana distribution bill would let communities decide (Detroit Free Press, 2/19/2013)

'DREAMers' to drive: Immigrants with deportation deferral can apply for Michigan licenses this week (MLive, 2/19/2013)

State of Michigan blocks 187,000 cyber attacks every day (Lansing State Journal, 2/19/2013)

Detroit emergency manager should be a local, state representative says (MLive, 2/19/2013)

Rep. Huizenga to snowmobile, hold meetings (Associated Press, 2/19/2013)

Domestic partners await ruling in benefits ban suit (Associated Press, 2/19/2013)

WSU faculty union nears contract to beat back right to work (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

Mortgage aid program stings homeowners (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

State legislators will hear from metro Detroiters at event in Sterling Heights (Detroit Free Press, 2/19/2013)

Kilpatrick evidence now in the hands of jury as deliberations begin (Detroit Free Press, 2/19/2013)

Editorials

Editorial: Grading universities will improve performance (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

Editorial: It's time for Gov. Snyder to appoint an emergency manager for Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 2/19/2013)

Guest column: How sustainable is higher education in Michigan? (MLive, 2/19/2013)

GUEST OPINION: Use common sense when considering armed personnel in schools (Oakland Press, 2/19/2013)

Sizing up two ballot drives for '14 Michigan election (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 2/19/2013)

Editorial: New revenue for roads is mandatory (Lansing State Journal, 2/18/2013)

Lawmakers using creative means to maintain harbors (Marquette Mining Journal , 2/18/2013)

Guest column: New Secretary of State initiatives aimed at connecting veterans with benefits they deserve (MLive, 2/19/2013)

Payne: Obama's non-union, right-to-work manufacturing model (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

Editorial: Communities should avoid breed-specific dog bans (Detroit News, 2/19/2013)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 8:17 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For March 13, 2013

News

Detroit council appeals fiscal emergency finding (Associated Press, 3/13/2013)

Flint police union leader says more officers still needed on city streets (Flint Journal, 3/13/2013)

Public safety, roads key issues for Ananich, Daunt heading into 27th Senate District general election (Flint Journal, 3/13/2013)

Mich. House committee approves bills for cheaper, faster dredging (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Michigan House Dems push 21-bill package to reform ethics, campaign finance rules (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Detroit makes last-ditch effort to avoid EM (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Top pick for Detroit emergency financial manager could have conflicts (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Ethics complaint filed against Wayne County judge (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Ex-Highland Park emergency financial manager Arthur Blackwell II pleads no contest to misdemeanor (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

WSU president backs labor contract, fights funding cuts (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Growing mounds of petroleum coke raise fears along Detroit River (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Experts: Kilpatrick's history may mean longer jail term (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Kwame Kilpatrick locked up but still on hook for restitution to Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

MSU contract extensions unlikely before right-to-work laws (Lansing State Journal, 3/13/2013)

Do more guns equal greater school safety? Backers of proposed laws say yes; critics making a stand (MLive, 3/13/2013)

Senate panel passes two gun-control measures (USA Today, 3/13/2013)

Snyder signs sex offender registry expansion (Associated Press, 3/13/2013)

Meningitis patients want more U.S. drug oversight (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 3/13/2013)

Employers post more jobs, cut fewer workers (Associated Press, 3/13/2013)

House Democrats push ethics reform measures (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Poll: U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, Scott Romney lead list of potential candidates for U.S. Senate seat (MLive, 3/13/2013)

Average Michigan wage earner is $5,000 behind other Americans (MLive, 3/13/2013)

State of Michigan tax revenues higher than expected, agency says (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Mitt Romney's brother G. Scott Romney won't run for Levin's seat (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Mitt Romney's niece latest to study run for Levin's seat after Scott Romney bows out (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Likely Detroit emergency manager has legal, financial skills (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Pollution problems continue as Michigan funds to clean up dry up (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Editorials

Jack Lessenberry: The Senator and Sugar Man (Metro Times, 3/13/2013)

MY TAKE — Proposed license plate would benefit Michigan veterans (Holland Sentinel, 3/13/2013)

Guest column: 'Failed' Educational Achievement Authority doesn't merit expansion (MLive, 3/13/2013)

Rep. Geiss and Sen. Hopgood: Teachers, school districts free to set contracts locally (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Nancy Kaffer: Council's case against an EFM doesn't add up to level of crisis (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Tom Walsh: City of Detroit makes its case -- but it's not a good one (Detroit Free Press, 3/13/2013)

Editorial: Snyder should deny council's appeal (Detroit News, 3/13/2013)

Kwame Kilpatrick's fall reminiscent of a textbook Greek tragedy (AnnArbor.com, 3/13/2013)

Phil Power: Michigan, nation will sorely miss Carl Levin's leadership, integrity (Bridge Magazine, 3/13/2013)

Dear Michigan officeholder: A letter from campaign finance expert during Sunshine Week (Bridge Magazine, 3/13/2013)

Blogs

Pondering Detroit With A Mayor Cockrel (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 3/13/2013)

One National Pundit Says Democrats Senate Seat Safe For Democrats (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 3/13/2013)

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2013 9:18 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For March 28, 2013

News

ID gap makes streets meaner for ex-cons (Bridge Magazine, 3/28/2013)

Federal suit challenges new EM law (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Kelsey's Law forces teen drivers to hang up before they hit the road (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Right-to-work begins: A new labor landscape (Lansing State Journal, 3/28/2013)

Kildee: 'History will be on the side' of same-sex marriage (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Governor signs emergency funding for harbor dredging (Holland Sentinel, 3/28/2013)

Snyder to approve money for new veterans agency (Associated Press, 3/28/2013)

Some teens not pleased with 'Kelsey's Law' (Battle Creek Enquirer, 3/28/2013)

State police ask residents to be on the lookout for meth lab waste (Midland Daily News, 3/28/2013)

Teachers pact is unsigned after seniority language status leads to union dispute (Marquette Mining Journal , 3/28/2013)

Stopping human trafficking could come down to a text message (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 3/28/2013)

Right-to-work change debated in states near Michigan, Canada (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association increases rates amid discussions on changing no-fault auto insurance (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Unions plan protests, vigils across Michigan as new right-to-work law takes effect (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Michigan is officially a right-to-work state, but critics vow to continue fight (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Kurtz expected to remain Flint's emergency manager (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Biden says gun control votes only the beginning (Associated Press, 3/28/2013)

Johnson makes claims about Florida voting fraud (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Political insider: 13th District Dems squabble over chairman vote (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Dozens of new Michigan laws, including right to work, EM, take effect (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Snyder signs $21M dredging bill to address Michigan's record-low waterways (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Detroit's Whitney Building to see new life, but developers worry over future preservations (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Michigan right-to-work law won't instantly end union memberships (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

As emergency manager law begins today, so will legal challenge (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Roy Roberts to fire DPS superintendent, undo board's decisions (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Editorials

Detroit cops edge closer to compliance (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Opposing viewpoints: Right-to-work is not about choice; it's about weakening unions and lowering wages (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Oppposing viewpoints: Right-to-work gives workers a choice and can force unions to be more democratic (Detroit Free Press, 3/28/2013)

Editorial: Closing of Jackson County Airport tower a sign of dysfunctional federal government (MLive, 3/28/2013)

Our view: Michigan voters fickle on issues (Midland Daily News, 3/28/2013)

Welcome veterans home with business loans (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

How to make Detroit a world-class city again (Detroit News, 3/28/2013)

Blogs

The Perils Of Interpreting Judicial Commentary (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 3/28/2013)

Agema Drawing Fire For His Anti-Gay Facebook Post (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 3/28/2013)

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Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2013 10:15 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 11, 2013

News

Workplace health care coverage dives in Michigan, report finds (Detroit Free Press, 4/11/2013)

Contrary to initial objections, easier-to-obtain weapons permits haven't led to more gun deaths (Bridge Magazine, 4/11/2013)

Severance scandal's legal tab: $1 million (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

State House, Senate at odds over right-to-work penalty that would affect U-M (AnnArbor.com, 4/11/2013)

Michigan DNR seeks wolf hunt in three areas of state's Upper Peninsula (MLive, 4/11/2013)

Reinstate Michigan's helmet law, say insurance, medical groups (Associated Press, 4/11/2013)

'Right-to-work' won't affect local teachers until summer (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/10/2013)

MGH, nurses reach 4-year deal (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/10/2013)

Senate and House bills split on penalties for schools that bypassed right-to-work (Detroit Free Press, 4/10/2013)

Judge in emergency manager lawsuits 'fed up' with both sides (Detroit Free Press, 4/11/2013)

Startups get Livingston County launch pad (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/11/2013)

Michigan fares well in $3.8-trillion federal budget proposal (Detroit Free Press, 4/11/2013)

Michigan House OKs amateur mixed martial arts rules (Associated Press, 4/11/2013)

State employee sequestration layoff announcement delayed (Lansing State Journal, 4/10/2013)

With election over, Dan Akerson ready to tell GM's story (Detroit Free Press, 4/11/2013)

Michigan groups join thousands at immigration reform rally in Washington, D.C (MLive, 4/11/2013)

Kildee backs 'Make it in America' plan aimed at manufacturing rebirth (MLive, 4/11/2013)

$300M would go toward Great Lakes restoration (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Brother of state GOP leader protected in loan dispute (Associated Press, 4/11/2013)

State House OKs bills regulating amateur mixed martial arts fighters, promoters (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Michigan schools face funding gains, losses in GOP budget plan (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Groups call for mandatory helmet law, citing rise in injuries (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Next frontier for Cheeks Kilpatrick: Panel exploring existence of alien life (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Editorials

Peter Luke: Legislative Republicans worry more about '14 primaries than in helping Snyder lead (Bridge Magazine, 4/11/2013)

Howes: GOP clouds Snyder's agenda (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Guest commentary: Sen. Carl Levin should close out career by helping to close Guantánamo (MLive, 4/11/2013)

Sequester cuts a worry as tourist season nears (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/10/2013)

Come Heller high water: Pay it all back, sheriff (Flint Journal, 4/10/2013)

Steven M. Gursten: Profits, not medical claims, drive up cost of auto insurance in Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 4/11/2013)

EAA gives impaired students a mainstream education in Detroit (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Editorial: Kerry should sign Detroit bridge permit (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Agema bigotry opens door to new GOP voices (Detroit News, 4/11/2013)

Blogs

Looking For An Honest Excuse To Have A Beer? Here You Go (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 4/11/2013)

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Sent: Friday, May 03, 2013 10:18 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For May 3, 2013

News

Michigan lawmakers aim to slow scrap metal theft (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

State Board of Ethics rules against MDOT employee (Detroit Free Press, 5/3/2013)

Michigan Senate OKs annual sex offender fee (Associated Press, 5/3/2013)

Michigan no-fault insurance reform bill faces 'uphill battle' after clearing House panel (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Fiscal audit touches off MSU clash with student government (Lansing State Journal, 5/3/2013)

Emergency manager, former mayor spar at Pontiac hearing (Oakland Press, 5/3/2013)

Judge dismisses lawsuit against Pontiac, prevents debt on tax bills (Oakland Press, 5/3/2013)

Lansing School District to lay off as many as 140 teachers (Lansing State Journal, 5/3/2013)

Michigan House: Jase Bolger, Tim Greimel say they are putting committee dispute behind them (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Michigan House vote leaves state a step closer to wolf hunt in Upper Peninsula (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Congressman Dan Kildee endorses fellow Democrat for Senate in U.S. Rep. Gary Peters' first 'Listening Tour' stop in Flint (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Same-sex benefits for state employees stand as Michigan Supreme Court rejects Schuette appeal request (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Michigan sex offenders would pay annual registry fee under Senate-approved bill (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Michigan Democratic Party calls for Buena Vista's Gloria Platko to resign over use of racial slur (with audio) (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Partner benefits stand for Michigan state workers (Associated Press, 5/3/2013)

U.P. wolf hunt could be on fast track for fall (Detroit Free Press, 5/3/2013)

State court won't hear appeal, workers' same-sex partners keep health care (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

Political battle over Medicaid expansion may cost Michigan hospitals (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

House OKs plan to start Michigan wolf hunt by fall (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

House panel OKs $1M cap on medical benefits for auto victims (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

Editorials

Editorial: Mullin ruling reveals cost of Ficano cronyism (Detroit News, 5/3/2013)

Rochelle Riley: Where are the female candidates? (Detroit Free Press, 5/3/2013)

Ken Braun: Tax gimmicks for college graduates won't retain talent (MLive, 5/3/2013)

Editorial: Court's unanimity is encouraging (Lansing State Journal, 5/3/2013)

Hedging His Bets (Dome Magazine, 5/3/2013)

Flint must drop water project (Port Huron Times Herald, 5/3/2013)

Without Medicaid reform, mentally disabled will suffer even more (Oakland Press, 5/3/2013)

Editorial: Speaker Jase Bolger is letting his House get out of order (Detroit Free Press, 5/3/2013)

Blogs

In U.S. Senate Race, Republicans Missing A Key Weapon From '94 Win (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 5/3/2013)

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Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 8:12 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For May 21, 2013

News

Stockton, Vallejo warn Detroit: You ain't seen nothin' yet (Bridge Magazine, 5/21/2013)

Panel to recommend pay for governor, top state officials (Detroit Free Press, 5/21/2013)

Former airport CEO Mullin alleges she's owed $90K more, lawyer due more in fees (Detroit News, 5/21/2013)

Detroit-area lawmakers announce new package of auto no-fault bills (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Michigan military members get free hunting, fishing licenses (Associated Press, 5/21/2013)

Michigan cancer survivors, patients to back Medicaid expansion at Capitol (Associated Press, 5/21/2013)

U.S. Senate Update: Gary Peters receives early endorsement; Republican group calls on Peters to return IRS Union contributions (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Rep. Gary Peters' team announces campaign manger (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Flint emergency manager wants to hike city income taxes (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Justin Amash sees 'momentum' behind privacy bill unveiled after feds seize AP phone records (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Sen. Levin: 'Apple sought the Holy Grail of tax avoidance' (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Michigan county will ask Supreme Court to force Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac to pay taxes (MLive, 5/21/2013)

GOP to open permanent regional offices across Michigan in effort to connect with voters (Detroit Free Press, 5/21/2013)

More poor people live in suburbs than in cities, study shows (Detroit Free Press, 5/21/2013)

Peters names campaign manager for Senate bid (Detroit News, 5/21/2013)

Obama aides knew of IRS audit, say he wasn't told (Associated Press, 5/21/2013)

Detroit state reps unveil no-fault auto insurance reform plan (Detroit News, 5/21/2013)

Hathaway lawyer pleads case to keep her out of prison; feds want her to serve 12-18 months (Detroit News, 5/21/2013)

Editorials

Ed Larkins: Michigan should expand Medicaid (Adrian Daily Telegram, 5/21/2013)

Phil Power: State leaders navigating a route to new dollars for roads (Bridge Magazine, 5/21/2013)

Like a bad neighbor, the Moroun family is there: Stephen Henderson (Detroit Free Press, 5/21/2013)

Micah Center: Restore the Earned Income Tax Credit to help struggling families (Guest column) (MLive, 5/21/2013)

Editorial: New ways to grow new businesses (Lansing State Journal, 5/20/2013)

Mascot bill embarrasses its sponsors (Port Huron Times Herald, 5/21/2013)

Editorial: Restoring K-12 funds should be a priority (Battle Creek Enquirer, 5/21/2013)

Changes in fireworks law are appropriate (Marquette Mining Journal , 5/21/2013)

Another teach-to-the-test situation (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 5/21/2013)

Use surplus to fix Michigan's crumbling roads (Detroit News, 5/20/2013)

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Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2013 8:16 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 24, 2013

News

Great Lakes state playing catch-up in effort to build water-based economy (Bridge Magazine, 10/24/2013)

Debate resumes on no-fault auto insurance reforms (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Michigan House votes to put EpiPens in schools (Associated Press, 10/24/2013)

Capitol walkway honoring former AG Kelley dedicated (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Could cash-strapped Detroit's other assets be sold? (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Restructuring consultant, Detroit police chief to take witness stand in bankruptcy trial today (Detroit Free Press, 10/24/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder praises innovation in Kalamazoo, says he continues to try to reinvent Michigan (MLive, 10/24/2013)

Officials: No-fault worth the cost (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/24/2013)

Lansing walkway named for former Michigan AG, 'eternal general,' Frank Kelley (Associated Press, 10/24/2013)

DNR promotes Harsens Island hunt (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/24/2013)

Bill would allow for less tax on trade-ins (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/24/2013)

We Energies told it can't shut down Presque Isle Power Plant (Marquette Mining Journal , 10/24/2013)

Same-sex couples sign up for new East Lansing registry (Lansing State Journal, 10/24/2013)

Mobile smoking ban? Michigan lawmaker wants to stop parents from lighting up in cars with kids (MLive, 10/24/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder hopes to find consensus on divisive auto no-fault issue (MLive, 10/24/2013)

Flint emergency manager OKs General Motors' tax abatement for $125 million paint facility (MLive, 10/24/2013)

County says decision on failed downtown Detroit jail expected within two weeks (MLive, 10/24/2013)

Michigan vehicle buyers may get a tax break (Detroit Free Press, 10/24/2013)

Political insider: Conyers goes Hollywood, warns about NSA (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Officials have high hopes for Detroit City Council election despite apathy over EM (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Editorials

John Austin and Casandra Ulbrich: Disinvestment, structural flaws driving school funding crisis (Bridge Magazine, 10/24/2013)

Our View: U.S. Supreme Court should uphold state Equal Rights law (Adrian Daily Telegram, 10/24/2013)

OUR VIEW — Supreme Court should uphold Michigan's affirmative action vote (Holland Sentinel, 10/24/2013)

Rep. Vicki Barnett: Legislature should protect women, not special interests (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Rep. Andrea LaFontaine: Michiganians can opt out of abortion insurance coverage (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

City going down wrong road on trucking ordinance (Marquette Mining Journal , 10/24/2013)

Editorial: Kathie Dunbar, Judi Brown Clarke best choices (Lansing State Journal, 10/24/2013)

Phil Power: Shutdown unlikely to spawn backlash (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/24/2013)

The Rapid is a model for transit systems across country (guest column) (Grand Rapids Press, 10/24/2013)

Editorial Board meeting: A conversation with U.S. Sen Debbie Stabenow (Detroit Free Press, 10/24/2013)

Michigan's major step toward seizure sanity (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Obama is always the victim (Detroit News, 10/24/2013)

Blogs

An Interesting Suggestion On Addressing Major Local Government Issues (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/23/2013)

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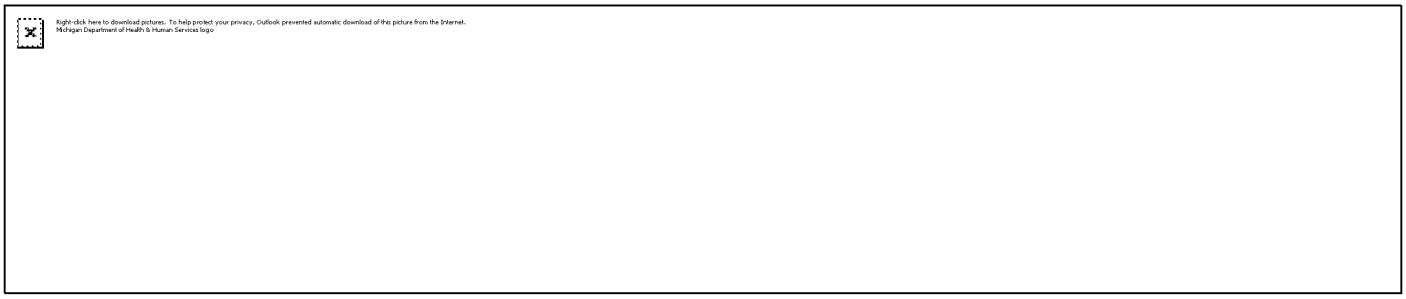
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:47 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services Twitter Update



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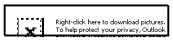

You are subscribed to Twitter for Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 08 Oct

What is Spina Bifida? http://fsb.wis #spinabifida #awarenessmonth

Details | Retweet

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 08 Oct

RT @onetoughnerd: In one hour, I will make an announcement regarding Flint water. You can watch live at http://t.co/8n2PKLnKG6 http://t.co/…

Details | Retweet

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

Questions? Contact Us

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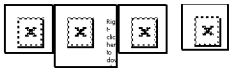

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From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 3:47 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services Twitter Update

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You are subscribed to Twitter for Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 10 Nov
Infections, like flu, can raise blood sugars. Stay healthier with a flu shot. https://t.co/IzDDALw0n0
Details | Retweet

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 10 Nov
RT @MichiganDNR: Help us determine the best beard in the Michigan DNR and promote men's health - https://t.co/SdHqi2x5eH https://t.co/3uBvE…
Details | Retweet

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 10 Nov
Winter is coming, be prepared! Here's how: https://t.co/hzY9aDdNd6
Details | Retweet

Michigan HHS Dept MichiganHHS 06 Nov
RT @MichiganDEQ: Testing at Freeman Elementary in Flint shows issues with lead in drinking water are specific to individual faucets https:/…
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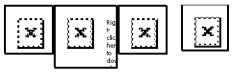

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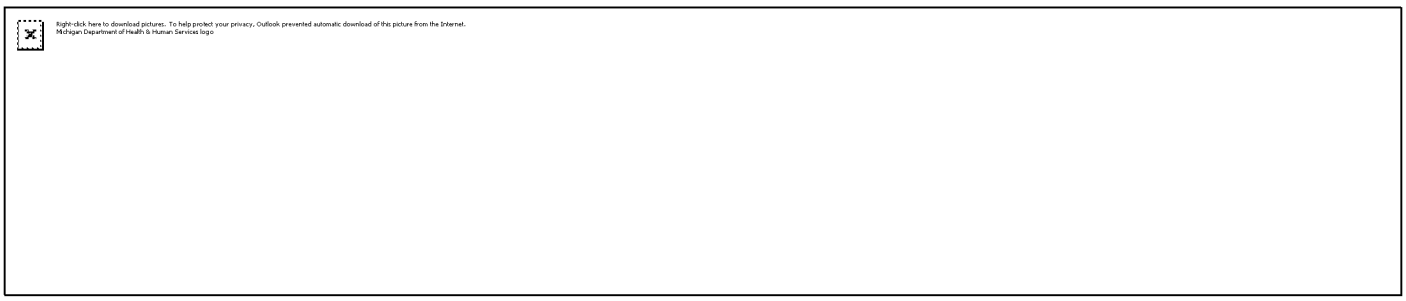
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2015 4:02 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 11, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its newest summary report on lead testing in Flint. According to preliminary data, 39 of 1,836 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1.

"As testing continues, our focus remains on helping families reduce all potential exposures to lead," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "We are working closely with the Genesee County Health Department to provide information and offer tools in the community, and encourage families to explore the resources that are available to them."

Both capillary and venous blood tests are included in the report, and people who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Tests and their results cover the time since the state action plan was put in place on Oct. 2, and capture the number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter.

MDHHS is working closely with local partners to offer resources and distribute important lead testing and prevention information. Additional state funding has allowed for Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level is detected. These families can also choose to have the nurse coordinate an environmental health investigation in their home to identify lead exposures, which could be lead from paint, soil, plumbing, and other

sources.

To support these efforts, the state is coordinating with its Medicaid health plans and provider communities on enhanced screening and testing. In addition to mandated testing at ages one and two for the Medicaid population, MDHHS has recommended blood lead testing for any child younger than six years of age in Flint who has not previously been tested. The state, in coordination with GCHD, developed and issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) notification for local providers to help ensure consistent messaging and protocols among primary care providers.

Free water filters and replacement cartridges are still available to Flint residents. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, or to view the full blood lead level report, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater. The summary will be updated as more data becomes available.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For this and other updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

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- Flint EBL Data Press Release Dec 11.pdf
- Flint Blood Testing Report December 11.pdf

Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
DHHS Foster

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 7:02 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, November 28, 2011
Attachments: 111128dayplan.htm; Nov28.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, November 28, 2011

Legislative Leftovers Fill Session Plate

U.A.W. Local 6000 Ratifies State Contract

Detroit Council Finalizing Proposed Budget Fixes

Zeile Links Bullying To School Choice

Scott's Legislation Lives On, Even After He's Gone

Flint Still Awaiting Emergency Manager

Flanagan Names Head Of Steelcase Foundation To Run Great Start Office

Schuette Says State Has Reciprocity With Others On Concealed Weapons

Gongwer Unveils Improved Legislator Contact Tool

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Volume #50, Report #231 -- Monday, November 28, 2011

Legislative Leftovers Fill Session Plate

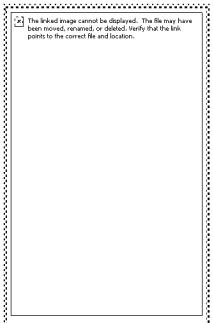
If lawmakers have had their fill of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing, they're in for a whole other type of leftover meal when they return for the final three weeks of session on Tuesday.

Major issues are on the table during the last nine session days of 2011 and expect some last minute items to pop up on the agenda of the House and Senate as well.

"People should be prepared for a busy three weeks," said House Republican spokesperson Ari Adler.

Mr. Adler said regulatory and government reform measures are at the top of their list, along with some election reform bills, but "literally anything out there right now is fair game before the end of the year."

In keeping with the fast-paced year, the Republican majorities in the Legislature have lined up more than half-dozen front burner issues and Gongwer News Service breaks down which bills will get done before the first day of winter and which ones are on hold.



Republican lawmakers seem eager to tackle workers' compensation and unemployment benefit reform, but are turning away from major portions of Governor Rick Snyder's agenda for health and transportation infrastructure.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION: Sen. Mark Jansen (R-Gaines Township), who is now steering the chamber through HB 5002, says he wants to work out some issues with stakeholders, but this bill will likely be finished in December.

Mr. Jansen held an extensive hearing over the Thanksgiving break in preparation for a committee vote and Republican leaders have said tackling workers' compensation reform is a high priority.

Police and fire unions have been pressuring lawmakers to exclude them from the major changes being sought - including setting new wage guidelines and requiring injured workers to visit their employer's doctor for 35 more days than current law. But proponents say the changes will codify a Supreme Court ruling that will provide stability to the system for employers and employees alike.

NO-FAULT: Possibly the biggest and most contentious issue on the list is reforming the auto no-fault legislation. Weeks of testimony this fall resulted in the bill (HB 4936) just barely making it out of committee, and it has remained on the floor.

Mr. Adler said the House would like to get it done this year, but it remains to be seen if Republicans can find the votes to pass it.

Even if the House musters the votes, the Senate does not anticipate taking the legislation up this year, said Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann.

STATE EMPLOYEE RETIREE BENEFITS: While a subcommittee got to work on these bills over the break (thanks again to Mr. Jansen), the full Senate Appropriations Committee hasn't touched HB 4701 and HB 4702. And Sen. Roger Kahn (R-Saginaw Township) has said he wants a thorough review of the changes to state employee health care benefits, as well as a 4 percent contribution to the pension system.

But the Snyder administration wants these changes badly and the timetable of getting them done in three weeks may just provide enough time to do that vetting.

UNEMPLOYMENT BONDS: The Senate Finance Committee has scheduled a meeting for an unemployment benefit reform bill (SB 806) for Wednesday that is a companion to measures allowing the state to issue $3.1 billion in bonds to pay off its federal unemployment loan debt. The Senate is likely to wrap up these bills (SB 483 and SB 484) so the House can start its assessment.

The House may work some of its unemployment insurance reform bills into the package, but is optimistic overall the issue can be resolved in December.

CHARTER SCHOOLS: SB 618, the charter school reform bill that passed a divided Senate in October, will continue the hearing process in the House this week, with two meetings scheduled.

But this time, there will be a new chairman, following the successful recall of former Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc), chair of the House Education Committee.

Rep. Tom McMillin now has the gavel on an interim basis. Mr. Bolger assigned him to that post because he is committed to moving that bill and others through the process that Mr. Scott had started. In 2009, Mr. McMillin introduced a bill to lift the cap on charter schools in the state.

ANTI-BULLYING: Seems like it will be rather straightforward for the Senate to sign off on HB 4163 after its anti-bullying bill (SB 137) imploded prior to the break.

The House bill requires all school districts to have an anti-bullying policy, but does not require that policy to enumerate characteristics that could be the impetus for bullying. It also does not provide a "license to bully" as Democrats charged by allowing statements based on religious or moral convictions to exempt a person from discipline.

The House bill will likely skip the committee process and just move forward in a floor vote.

ROAD COMMISSIONS: The first piece of legislation to arise out of Governor Rick Snyder's special message on infrastructure could see final passage in the House before the end of the year. The bills were reported out of the House Transportation Committee shortly before the two-week hunting break. They would allow county boards of commissioners to take over the powers, duties and functions of their road commissions.

HB 5125 and HB 5126, introduced by Rep. Jon Switalski (D-Warren) and Rep. Dale Zorn (R-Ida), respectively, have bipartisan support as House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) and House Minority Leader Richard Hammel (D-Mount Morris Township) both came out in support early on.

HEALTH EXCHANGE: While the Senate passed SB 693 creating the MIHealth Marketplace, which would act as a clearinghouse for insurance plans, the House is not as anxious as the governor to get that into law, as Gongwer has previously reported.

This is the one issue that the House is definitely planning to wait to act on until next year, Mr. Adler said. The House Health Policy Committee has taken weeks of testimony on the issue and another hearing is scheduled for Thursday. But they are not debating the Senate bill, rather continuing discussion on the issue.

The House may wait until after the U.S. Supreme Court rules in June on the constitutionality of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

On the Senate side, Sen. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion), Health Policy Committee chair said Monday they will take up legislation this week to make sure health insurance policies sold in the state do not include abortion coverage, including those offered through the exchange.

Bill Tracking Tool

Interested in tracking legislative action and Gongwer coverage on a specific bill? Just click on the green block - ▫ - next to the bill number and to request an email alerting you to any activity or articles on the legislation. Subscribers will need a username and password for the Gongwer website for this feature.

FILM INCENTIVE: Mr. Adler said Mr. Bolger has had discussions with Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe), the bill sponsor, and Mr. Bolger is interested in the bill, seeing it as an improvement over the previous law.

SB 569 will have another hearing in the House Commerce Committee on Thursday. The bill would make sure that that if the state puts money into a film project, it has to be directed in a more responsible way that will benefit workers in the state.

M.E.D.C. INCENTIVES: After sailing through the Senate, the House has taken its time and made changes to a package of bills outlining the proposed structure of a $100 million business development fund for the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Adler said the bills could get done by the end of the year. However, the MEDC is pushing to fix or remove several changes made to the package in the House Commerce Committee before the bills are approved on the floor, as they would most likely be met with rejection in the Senate as written now.

SUPPLEMENTALS: Two supplemental bills are back before the House after seeing approval and changes in the Senate. They should be approved before the end of the year.

HB 4445 would spend $12.5 million from the School Aid Fund to study kindergarten readiness and the quality of nearly 14,000 preschools across Michigan. It should also set up the state for $70 million in federal grants for early childhood education. HB 5014 appropriates $366 million gross ($180 million general fund) over several state departments, the Executive Office and the Legislature.

HELMET REPEAL: Motorcycle riders will have to wait a bit longer before they can cruise without a helmet.

While SB 291 won House approval before break, the Senate is unlikely to concur in the changes in December, leaving this issue for 2012.

As it stands, the bill allows those riders 21 and up to ride without a helmet, but requires them to carry an additional $20,000 in medical insurance if they do.

Ms. McCann said the number of high-priority issues is pushing the helmet law repeal back on the calendar.

BAD DRIVERS FEES: Some of the smaller fees motorists with a poor driving record have to pay will likely remain in place through the end of the year.

SB 166, which eliminates some of those fees, is not one of the major items the Senate has decided to finish this year. The measure won unanimous passage in the House earlier this month.

U.A.W. Local 6000 Ratifies State Contract

Members of the largest state employee union, United Auto Workers Local 6000, have overwhelmingly ratified the new contract with the state beginning with the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Ballots from the UAW local were collected over a three-week period and counted Monday. While a UAW official did not have an exact count of how many of the some 17,000 members voted, and what the vote was, the final result "overwhelmingly" in favor of the contract.

According to a spokesperson for the Office of the State Employer, all of the affected unions covered the by the contract are expected to complete voting and counted on the document by Monday, December 5. The Civil Service Commission is now expected to act on the contract and approve it from the state end on Wednesday, December 7.

State officials had hoped the agreement that was negotiated and announced in late October would be approved with no problem.

The contract calls for a 1 percent pay raise for state workers in October 2012. Workers will also get lump-sum payments in 2012 and 2013 that equal 1 percent increases, though the lump-sum payments will not be part of the workers' base pay.

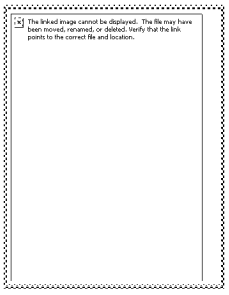
However, the workers will have to begin paying at least 20 percent of the cost of their health insurance coverage beginning in 2012.

Detroit Council Finalizing Proposed Budget Fixes

The Detroit City Council began coalescing Monday behind a plan to resolve the city's short-term cash crisis largely through 2,300 layoffs as the possibility of state intervention continues to loom.

Council members are expected to vote formally Tuesday on the plan, which would save $68 million, said Irvin Corley Jr., the council's fiscal analyst.

But the council lacks the power under the city charter to issue layoffs. Only the mayor, Dave Bing, can do so, and Mr. Bing has stridently resisted the council's proposed 2,300-layoff figure, saying it would cause the city to implode. He has instead proposed 1,000 layoffs.



Detroit Councilmember Gary Brown suggested a consent agreement with the state was inevitable.

Under the council's plan, 1,800 civilian and 500 uniform workers would be laid off, saving $42.6 million. Additionally, the council would cut its $13 million budget, large when compared to cities of similar size around the nation, by 10 percent.

People Mover fares, which just rose from 50 to 75 cents, would rise another 25 cents to $1. And all workers with salaries of more than $100,000 would see a cut in their pay to $100,000. The council also will ask the state to reimburse the city $1 million for the cost of the outside financial report done for Mr. Bing by Ernst and Young.

The Detroit Public Schools also has agreed to pay $15 million in long overdue electric bills to the city.

Council members say adopting these measures will ensure the city makes it through the end of the fiscal year and will not run out of cash in April as would otherwise happen. In the meantime, then Mr. Bing and the council could work on long-term reforms to better align city spending with available revenue.

While the possibility of Governor Rick Snyder naming an emergency manager to run the state's largest city is the most discussed scenario, another possibility is a consent agreement between the city and the state that keeps elected officials in control with enhanced powers. Detroit City Councilmember Gary Brown said that was the likely route, the Detroit Free Press reported.

"A consent agreement gives the city some tools to restructure and keep a democratic structure in place," Mr. Brown said. "We are going to have a consent agreement. The only question is whether we will have a seat at the table to shape the agreement. We need to do whatever possible to make sure we have a representative at the table."

Councilmember Ken Cockrel Jr. also appeared interested in a consent agreement, The Detroit News reported.

"That would actually buy the mayor and the city some time to restructure the city's finances," he said. "And it would give the mayor some leverage it could hold over the unions in terms of negotiating. It's something we have to have some serious discussion on, depending on how this is received by the mayor."

Zeile Links Bullying To School Choice

If the state truly wants to free children from bullying, it should allow greater options for students in where they attend school, State Board of Education member Richard Zeile says.

In an open editorial distributed to a variety of conservatives and news media outlets, Mr. Zeile (R-Detroit) said enabling the bullied to escape their tormentors is a far more effective move than requiring school districts to implement anti-bullying policies.

"Anti-bullying programs rightly address the social world and peer pressure of the school, equipping students to deal with these issues. But the child who is overwhelmed and thinking of killing him/herself because there is no escape needs a more immediate and drastic escape. Such a child (and family) need school choice," Mr. Zeile wrote. "School choice, as a state policy, affords students and families an escape from what may be for them, a toxic social environment to make a new start elsewhere. To be sure, one cannot just flee one's problems: but any school worthy of support will take note of why students leave, and why they enter, especially in mid-year. As such, a school choice policy makes schools as institutions more attentive to the needs and well-being of the students they serve."

Mr. Zeile's comments come as the Senate prepares for what is expected to be final action on HB 4163, which would require school districts to have anti-bullying policies. He dismissed the legislation as merely requiring "more paperwork from overworked administrators."

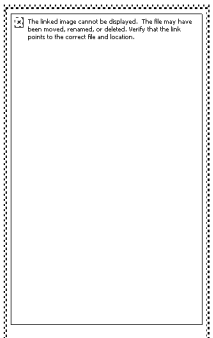
He recalled attending a middle school in suburban Detroit that he called out of control.

"A friend of mine was more than once put upside down in the trash can by rowdy bullies who saw themselves as 'just playing,' he wrote. "I begged my parents at one point to move to where there were safer schools. Fortunately, we belonged to a protestant church that had a tradition of parochial schools which underwrote enough of the tuition so that I could attend a parochial school in Detroit. I made a new start in a school where we students were more afraid of the teachers than we were of the would-be bullies. Had I not had this alternative school I may have indeed dropped out of school, if only for my own perceived safety."

Scott's Legislation Lives On, Even After He's Gone

While recalled Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc) may be gone, the bills he introduced remain. But what will be done with them, if anything, is uncertain.

At least one bill, HB 4920, which was approved unanimously in the House in October, is on the agenda for Tuesday's Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill was part of a package that would allow municipalities to enact ordinances on "super drunk" driving violations.



A bill sponsored by recalled Rep.

Paul Scott will be taken up by the Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday.

Mr. Scott said Monday he was unaware the Senate was taking up his bill, but found humor at the thought of it.

"The ghost of Paul Scott lives on," he said laughing.

There are others as well that could see action. In April, another one of his bills, HB 4466, was reported out of Mr. Scott's Education Committee and referred to second reading.

No further action was taken on the bill, which specifies penalties for public school employees and unions who engage in or encourage strikes. It also included penalties for employers and school board members that engage in lockouts.

Ari Adler, spokesperson for House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall), said he has not heard anything specific on what will happen to Mr. Scott's bills, but said it's possible some may continue along the process.

For the most part, the bills Mr. Scott introduced were not pet projects and were issues that were part of the House Republicans education reform agenda, Mr. Adler said.

In total, Mr. Scott sponsored 14 bills this year before voters in his district removed him from office. Of those, three became law, but many never made it to a committee agenda as is often the case.

Mr. Scott said he hopes that someone would take up his bills dealing with the sales tax on the difference when purchasing a new vehicle. HB 4138 and HB 4652 were referred to the Tax Policy Committee earlier this year.

A majority of states already have such a law that would allow someone purchasing a new vehicle - after trading in their old one - to only pay the sales tax on the difference, rather than the full price of the new vehicle.

A similar bill was approved overwhelmingly in the Senate in 2009. The argument against the idea is it could hurt the School Aid Fund. In 2009, it was estimated such a change would decrease School Aid revenue by $106 million and general fund/general purpose revenue by $7.8 million. Mr. Scott said he had been working on a way to address the issue.

But of his bills that remain in the pipeline, of most importance to him are HB 5077 and HB 5078, commonly referred to as "Dominick's Law."

Dominick Calhoun was a 4-year-old boy that was beaten for days, allegedly at the hands of his mother's boyfriend, before he died. The boy and his family lived in Mr. Scott's district and he worked on legislation to enhance penalties for child abusers and for those who do so in front of other children.

The bills would establish minimum prison sentences and increase the maximum sentences for first-and second-degree offenses. Sentences would also be increased for repeat offenders and an additional sentence would be tacked on if the crime took place where another child witnessed it.

The bills received a brief hearing in the House Judiciary Committee several days before the recall election.

Mr. Scott said he while he has not done so yet, he plans to reach out to Democrats in Genesee County to see if they will continue pushing for the bills.

"I hope someone will take up the flag on that," he said. "That's a very important piece of legislation."

SCOTT'S COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: The day after the recall election, Mr. Bolger moved quickly to name Rep. Tom McMillin as interim chair of the House Education Committee.

But naming replacements to the other three committees Mr. Scott served on has been slow going.

Mr. Adler said discussions are continuing on who will fill Mr. Scott's seats in the other three committees on which he served: Health Policy, Judiciary and Redistricting and Elections

Flint Still Awaiting Emergency Manager

It has been 20 days since Governor Rick Snyder declared a financial emergency in Flint, but he has not yet named an emergency manager to take over city operations.

Terry Stanton, spokesperson for the Department of Treasury, said the new emergency manager law enacted this year does not set a timetable for the governor to name a manager once he has proclaimed a financial emergency.

There has been some question as to whether Mr. Snyder has had trouble finding someone for the job.

Eric Scorsone, of the State and Local Government Program at Michigan State University's Greening Michigan Institute, sent an email to 35 people November 13 informing them if any were interested in the Flint emergency manager job that they should send him an updated resume.

Mr. Stanton said Mr. Scorsone had offered to put out feelers to potential candidates since he had organized some of the emergency manager training sessions, and the department was happy to listen to any possibilities.

One administration source said an appointment to the post is very close.

Flanagan Names Head Of Steelcase Foundation To Run Great Start Office

Longtime Steelcase Foundation President Susan Broman has been named director of the Office of Great Start, Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan announced Monday.

Governor Rick Snyder created the office earlier this year to consolidate and coordinate a variety of early childhood development and learning programs and funding streams that his administration said were fragmented across state government

Ms. Broman also will have the title of deputy director in the Department of Education and will report directly to Mr. Flanagan.

Ms. Broman has been involved in a variety of early childhood education efforts, including serving as chair of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation Board of Directors.

Schuette Says State Has Reciprocity With Others On Concealed Weapons

Michigan residents with concealed weapons permits will be permitted to carry their weapons in 39 other states without getting separate permits in each, Attorney General Bill Schuette said Monday.

The attorney general's office said it had negotiated agreements with the other states to allow Michigan residents that privilege.

To date, Michigan is the only state to have full reciprocity with the other 39 states that have "shall issue" concealed weapons laws.

Under the agreement, for example, a Michigan snowbird resident with a concealed weapon permit would be able to travel to Florida, through Ohio. Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia, with their weapon and not get a separate permit in those states because, including Florida.

As other states adopt "shall issue" laws, Mr. Schuette said his office would negotiate with those states to ensure Michigan residents could carry their weapons in those states as well.

The agreement also means that residents of other states with "shall issue" concealed weapons permits will be able to carry their weapons in Michigan.

Gongwer Unveils Improved Legislator Contact Tool

As part of Gongwer News Service's upgraded website, Gongwer has upgraded the feature enabling subscribers to easily email a variety of different groups of legislators.

Previously dispersed throughout the Directories area, subscribers can now access the function in one consolidated location in the footer of the website. Subscribers also can still generate emails as they did previously by going to the Directories area and then clicking on House, Senate, the committees or other options.

Capital Notebook

MICHIGAN LEAGUE SPONSORING POLICY FORUM: The Michigan League for Human Services is sponsoring "Connecting the Dots Between State Policy and Our Kids," a policy forum aimed at examining the impact of policy decisions on the state's children.

At the event, there will be a screening of the Sesame Street special, "Growing Hope Against Hunger." The forum will also features a panel discussion with Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. (D-Detroit), Rep. Gail Haines (R-Lake Angelus), Rep. Lisa Howze, (D-Detroit), Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan President DeWayne Wells and Kids Count in Michigan Director Jane Zehnder-Merrell.

It will take place from 10 a.m. to noon December 5 at the Atheneum Suite Hotel in Detroit, 1000 Brush Street.

KASICH OWES SNYDER A 'BUCKEYE PIE': With the University of Michigan defeating The Ohio State University on Saturday in football, Governor Rick Snyder won his bet with Ohio Governor John Kasich and will receive a chocolate and peanut butter "Buckeye Pie." Had OSU won, Mr. Snyder had promised to send Mr. Kasich a cherry pie. This year's annual match-up between the longtime rivals was the first time since 1942 that the governor of Michigan was a U-M alumnus and the governor of Ohio was an OSU alumnus.

PATENT REINVENTION: As part of an effort to improve the service of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, the Unemployment Insurance Agency's Paperless Task Force has been awarded the first ever Patent Reinvention Award.

"There are 282 UIA paper forms that employers use and 62 have already been recreated in electronic format, thanks to the efforts of our Paperless Task Force," said UIA Director Steve Arwood. "By this time next year, more than 80 percent of the forms will be electronic. We're reducing the cost of paper and postage as well as making it more efficient for our employers to communicate with UIA."

LARA employees are asked to submit suggestions individually or as a group and innovative ideas are awarded through the patent reinvention initiative.

ENERGY GRANT: A $2.1 million federal grant aimed at fostering advanced energy storage systems, providing training and creating opportunities for minority suppliers was announced Monday. The Michigan Economic Development Corporation will provide $500,000 to support the Southeast Michigan Advanced Energy Storage Systems Initiative.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, November 29

House Redistricting and Elections, (Chr. Lund, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m., Webcast

HB **POLLING PLACES** (Forlini) Prohibits displaying name of any elected official on

4653 materials at public polling places. (Testimony only)
HB **ELECTION MATERIALS** (Forlini) Prohibits display of certain officials' names on
4656 certain elections materials. (Testimony only)
HB **BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS** (Kowall) Revise to require placement of ballot
4992 instructions in voting booth and include with absentee ballots. (Voting)
HB 5160 **COURT OF APPEALS** (Lund) Provide for redistricting of court of appeals.
(Testimony and voting)

House Commerce, (Chr. Schmidt, W., 373-7256), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m., Webcast

Unemployment Insurance Reforms

House Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security, (Chr. Damrow, 373-2002), Room 308, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

Veterans issues

Senate Energy and Technology, (Chr. Nofs, 373-5307), Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower, 1 p.m., Webcast

HB 4683 **911 CALL LOCATION** (Opsommer) Modifies requirement to install equipment to
provide location of 911 calls.
SB **TRAIL TELECOMMUNICATIONS** (Casperson) Authorizes installation of
499 telecommunication facilities on rail trails.

Senate Judiciary, (Chr. Jones, 373-5323), Room 110, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

HB **HOME RULE** (Scott, P.) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal
4920 penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.
HB **TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES** (Heise) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with
4921 criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.
HB **TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES** (Walsh) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with
4922 criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.
HB **VILLAGE ORDINANCES** (Constan) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with
4923 criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.
HB **VILLAGE HOME RULE** (Muxlow) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with
4924 criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.
SB **CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMITS** (Green) Eliminates concealed weapons licensing
59 boards and transfers their powers to the Department of State.
SB **ALTERING FIREARM** (Hopgood) Prohibits altering of firearm or an imitation firearm
779 and provides penalties. (Testimony only)
SB **IMITATION FIREARMS** (Jones) Prohibits brandishing imitation firearms and
780 increases the penalties. (Testimony only)
SB **IMITATION FIREARM** (Bieda) Enacts sentencing guidelines for crime of altering a
781 firearm or imitation firearm and increases certain penalties. (Testimony only)

Wednesday, November 30

House Education, (Chr. McMillin, 373-2002), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m., Webcast

SB 618 **CHARTER SCHOOLS** (Pavlov) Provides revisions to provisions concerning formation, operation and termination of public school academies, urban high school academies and schools of excellence and allows school districts to contract with outside entity for provision of teachers.

House Banking and Financial Services, (Chr. Knollenberg, 373-7256), Room 326, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

HB 4542 **MORTGAGE MODIFICATION** (Farrington) Modifies mortgage modification negotiation procedures.
HB 4543 **MORTGAGE MODIFICATIONS** (Pettalia) Modifies mortgage modification negotiation program procedures.
HB 4544 **FORECLOSURE REDEMPTION** (Lyons) Modifies foreclosure redemption period for certain residential and nonfarm property.
HB 5176 **FORECLOSURE** (Olson) Revise redemption periods for mortgages foreclosed by advertisement.

House Tax Policy, (Chr. Gilbert, 373-2013), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

HB 4346 **USE TAX PREPAYMENT** (Walsh) Revises prepayment collection process for the use tax.
HB 4658 **PRISON SALES TAX** (Forlini) Eliminates sales tax exemption for prison store purchases.
HB 4804 **SALES TAX COLLECTIONS** (Schmidt, R.) Revises prepayment collection process for sales tax.
HB 4959 **INCOME TAX CHANGES** (Walsh) Clarify deductions and withholdings by persons that distribute pension or annuity payments and flow-through entities.
HB 5122 **RENAISSANCE ZONE DEDUCTIONS** (Hughes) Allow deductions of income earned or received by certain taxpayers located within a renaissance zone
HB 5146 **USE TAX** (MacGregor) Clarify tax for use or consumption for a manufacturer that affixes a product to real estate.
HB 5157 **INCOME TAX CREDIT** (Hughes) Include reference to new income tax credit.

House Transportation, (Chr. Opsommer, 373-1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

SB 561 **LIMOUSINES** (Brandenburg) Limits authority to license limousines to Department of Transportation and Department of State and repeals provision allowing safety inspection by local units of government.
SCR 19 **TRANSPORTATION** (Colbeck) Memorializes Congress and the U.S. Department of Transportation to approve a grant for a project at the I-275 and Ford Road interchange under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Discretionary Grant

program.

Senate Education, (Chr. Pavlov, 373-5314), Senate Hearing Room, Boji Tower, 12 p.m.

HB 4496 **DEGREES** (Walsh) Allows community colleges to grant baccalaureate degrees in certain fields.

Senate Finance, (Chr. Brandenburg, 373-5307), Room 210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

SB 806 **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS** (Brandenburg) Provides improved solvency of unemployment system through general amendments.

Senate Local Government and Elections, (Chr. Robertson, 373-5323), Room 100, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 750 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE** (Robertson) Modifies penalties for failure to file certain campaign finance statements.

SB 751 **VOTER FILE** (Robertson) Creates active and inactive qualified voter files and requires ballot tracker program to be used by local governments and requires secretary of state to send notice to an elector when receiving a surrendered driver license of that elector.

SB 752 **COUNTING BOARD** (Hansen) Revises procedure for absent voting counting board and requires minor political parties to provide notice of county caucus or state convention to nominate candidates.

SB 753 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE VIOLATIONS** (Brandenburg) Creates sentencing guidelines for certain campaign finance crimes.

SB 754 **PHOTO ID** (Jansen) Requires photograph identification for in-person voter registration applicants and provides registration and training of third-party voter registration organizations.

SB 803 **CITIZENSHIP** (Booher) Requires declaration of U.S. citizenship when voting or applying for an absent voter ballot.

Thursday, December 1

Senate Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes, (Chr. Casperson, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

Presentation by Covanta Energy on Energy-from-Waste, a technology that converts municipal solid waste into steam and/or electricity

SB 528 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Casperson) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

SB 529 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Booher) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

SB 530 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Pavlov) Modifies underground storage tank liability and cleanup procedures.

SB 531 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Meekhof) Modifies underground storage tank liability and cleanup procedures.

SB 532 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Kowall) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.
SB 533 **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (Green) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

House Health Policy, (Chr. Haines, 373-7256), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

Presentations on a Michigan Health Insurance Exchange: Deloitte and Maximus, Inc.

House Local, Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs, (Chr. Ouimet, 373-1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

HB 5046 **UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY** (Haveman) Revise date that undeveloped property becomes ownership of condominium association.
HB 5142 **CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT** (Ouimet) Provide for certain joint authorities.

Senate Health Policy, (Chr. Marleau, 373-5314), Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower, 2:30 p.m.

SB 612 **ABORTION COVERAGE** (Jansen) Prohibits abortion coverage in policies offered through the state exchange except through the purchase of optional rider.
SB 613 **ABORTION COVERAGE** (Jansen) Prohibits abortion coverage in policies offered through the qualified health plans under the state exchange except through the purchase of optional rider.
SB 614 **ABORTION** (Jansen) Prohibits health professional or facility seeking reimbursement from qualified health plan for elective abortion.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
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Michigan Report for Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Committee Shakeup As Charter School Vote Looms

Anti-Bullying Bill Completed With Senate Vote

Damrow Steps Down As Veterans Committee Chair

Snyder Names Former Acting Mayor As Flint's Emergency Manager

House Republicans Have Heating Assistance Fund Solution

Court Of Appeals Redistricting Plan Headed To House Floor

Road Commissions Takeover Bills On Tap For Final Vote

N.G.A.: States Boost Budgets, But Still Being Squeezed

M.E.D.C. Incentive Bills Headed For Final Passage Wednesday

Fee For Telecom Access Along Rail Trails Divides Industry, D.N.R.

Unemployment Drops In All Mich. Labor Markets

House Panel Reports Aquatic Nuisance Package

Few Changes Expected To Film Incentive

Snyder Signs School Election Consolidation

Snyder Appoints Acting Fire Marshal

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook: U.A.W. Ratification Was Overwhelming

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Activity Reports

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, November 29, 2011

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

SB 427 (PA 232) **SCHOOL ELECTIONS** (Colbeck) Provides for technical amendments to revised school code concerning school board elections. Am. Secs. 4, 5 and 614, 1976 PA 451 (MCL 380.4, 380.5 and 380.614), Sec. 4 as amended by 2008 PA 1, Sec. 5 as amended by 2009 PA 205 and Sec. 614 as amended by 2004 PA 419.

Signed: November 28, 2011; Effective: November 29, 2011

Gongwer Coverage

ENROLLED

SB 273 **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES** (Robertson) Updates reference to Administrative Procedures Act.

Immediate Effect Granted

SB 274 **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES** (Pappageorge) Clarifies authority of Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Immediate Effect Granted

SB 277 **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS** (Hildenbrand) Requires peer review of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act programs.

Immediate Effect Granted

SB 502 **ALCOHOL LICENSE** (Nofs) Allows license to serve alcohol at certain community colleges and universities.

SB 759 **JUROR COMPENSATION** (Kahn) Provides transfer of certain revenue from the juror compensation fund into the court equity fund.

Immediate Effect Granted

SENATE REQUESTS HOUSE RETURN BILL

HB 4309 **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES** (Kowall) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of municipal emergency service employees.

HB 4311 **INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS** (Opsommer) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of functions and responsibilities.

HB 4312 **INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS** (Hooker) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of employees and responsibilities.

PASSED

HB 4163 **BULLYING** (Potvin) Requires policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school.

35-2, Immediate Effect; Earlier Received and Advanced to Third Reading

Gongwer Coverage

SB 516 **AGRICULTURE VEHICLE WEIGHTS** (Proos) Provides exception from certain weight requirements from definition of modified agriculture vehicle.

35-3

SB 539 **GUARDIANS/CONSERVATORS** (Schuitmaker) Allows appointment of guardians and conservators appointed in other jurisdictions.

38-0

SB 748 **RENAISSANCE INCOME** (Hildenbrand) Allows income earned or received by certain taxpayers located within a renaissance zone.

36-2

Gongwer Coverage

SB 790 **INCOME TAX CREDIT** (Hildenbrand) Includes reference to new income tax credit.

36-2

Gongwer Coverage

SR 101 **MEIJER TRIBUTE** (Hildenbrand) A resolution offered as a memorial to the life and accomplishments of Frederik Gerhard Hendrik Meijer.

On Voice Vote; Earlier Introduced

RETURNED FROM HOUSE

SB 166 **DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY FEES** (Caswell) Eliminates driver responsibility fees.

With Substitute H-8 and Laid Over one day

SB 271 **REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENTS** (Brandenburg) Requires certain information to be included in regulatory impact statements.

With Substitute H-1 and Laid Over one day

SB 272 **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES LIMITS** (Kowall) Establishes limits on use of certain orders, bulletins and guidelines to provide regulatory flexibility for small businesses.

With Substitute H-3 and Laid Over one day

SB 275 **ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS** (Casperson) Establishes consequences of missed deadlines for review of certain environmental permits.

With Substitute S-2 and Laid Over one day

SB 276 **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES** (Robertson) Requires posting of legal and policy bases and assessment of impact on the rules in the private sector.

With Substitute H-1 and Laid Over one day

ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

SB 298 **AUTO INSURANCE** (Smith) Prohibits practitioners who employ, use or act as a runner, capper or steerer to falsely or fraudulently obtain benefits.

With Substitute S-1 and Amendment Adopted

SB 453 **DELINQUENT TAXES** (Johnson) Revises delinquent tax collection process.

SB **FOREIGN ENTITY** (Brandenburg) Cleans up definition of foreign operating entity and

SB 653 member.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

SB 666 **CORPORATION** (Pappageorge) Clarifies definition of corporation.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

SB 673 **TAX BASE** (Robertson) Eliminates references to each tax base to reflect single tax base.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

SB 678 **DISREGARDED ENTITIES** (Proos) Clarifies treatment of disregarded entities.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

SB 807 **FLOW-THROUGH ENTITY** (Hildenbrand) Clarifies apportionment of the tax base for a flow-through entity and certain unitary business groups.

REPORTED

Energy and Technology:

HB 4683 **911 CALL LOCATION** (Opsommer) Modifies requirement to install equipment to provide location of 911 calls.

Gongwer Coverage

Judiciary:

HB 4920 **HOME RULE** (Scott, P.) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.

HB 4921 **TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES** (Heise) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.

HB 4922 **TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES** (Walsh) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.

HB 4923 **VILLAGE ORDINANCES** (Constan) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.

HB 4924 **VILLAGE HOME RULE** (Muxlow) Provide authority to enact local ordinances with criminal penalties of not more than 180 days in jail.

RECEIVED

HB 4820 **TAX ABATEMENT** (Schmidt, W.) Allows issuance of an amended certificate for tax abatement on certain projects.

To Economic Development

RE-REFERRED

SB 829 **DISTRICT COURT** (Jones) Reduces certain district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 830 **DISTRICT COURT** (Jones) Reduces certain district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 831 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces number of certain circuit court and district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 832 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces number of certain probate and district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 833 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces number of certain district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 834 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces circuit court judgeships and reorganizes certain circuits.

To Judiciary

SB 835 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces district court judgeships and reorganizes certain district court districts.

To Judiciary

SB 836 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces certain circuit court and district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 837 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces certain district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 838 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces number of certain circuit court and district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 839 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces number of certain circuit and district court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 840 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces certain trial court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 841 **JUDGES** (Jones) Reduces certain circuit court and district court judgeships

To Judiciary

SB 842 **JUDGES** (Hildenbrand) Reduces number of certain probate court judgeships.

To Judiciary

SB 843 **JUDGES** (Hildenbrand) Reduces certain district court judgeships

To Judiciary

SB 844 **JUDGES** (Emmons) Reduces number of certain circuit court and district court

judgeships.

To Judiciary

INTRODUCED

SB 826 **DOGS** (Colbeck) Requires transport of unlicensed dogs to animal control shelter or animal protection shelter. Amends 1919 PA 339 by amending section 17 (MCL 287.277) as amended by 1998 PA 390.

To Local Government and Elections

SB 827 **DEFICIT PAYMENTS** (Johnson) Requires payment of deficit or obligations to be paid to the Michigan finance authority. Amends 1979 PA 94 by amending section 17a (MCL 388.1617a) as amended by 2006 PA 342.

To Appropriations

SB 828 **DEFICIT PAYMENT** (Johnson) Modifies procedure for payment of deficit or obligations for certain school districts. Amends 1976 PA 451 by amending section 1225 (MCL 380.1225) as amended by 2006 PA 285.

To Appropriations

SB 850 **AT-RISK FUNDS** (Bieda) Allows certain school districts to receive at-risk funds. Amends 1979 PA 94 by amending section 31a (MCL 388.1631a) as amended by 2011 PA 62.

To Appropriations

SB 851 **CORPORATE TAX AUDIT** (Young) Creates audit against corporate income tax for certain employers that provide employment to unemployed individuals. Amends 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.1 to 206.713) by adding section 872.

To Finance

SB 852 **CORPORATE TAX CREDIT** (Young) Creates an income tax credit against corporate income tax for certain employers that provide employment to unemployed individuals. Amends 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.1 to 206.713) by adding section 672.

To Finance

SB **DRIVER TRAINING** (Emmons) Revises fingerprint and criminal history record

SB 853 information requirements under driver education provider and instructor act. Amends 2006 PA 384 by amending sections 29, 35 and 59 (MCL 256.649, 256.655 and 256.679).

To Transportation

SB 854 **CHILD SURRENDER** (Hunter) Eliminates provision relating to parent who voluntarily surrendered a child to an emergency service provider. Amends 1939 PA 288 by amending section 19b of chapter XIIA (MCL 712A.19b) as amended by 2010 PA 7.

To Judiciary

SB 855 **ENERGY CREDITS** (Kowall) Modifies certain credit for high-powered energy batteries under the Michigan Business Tax. Amends 2007 PA 36 by amending sections 107 and 434 (MCL 208.1107 and 208.1434), section 107 as amended by 2011 PA 209 and section 434 as amended by 2010 PA 114.

To Economic Development

Gongwer Coverage

THE SENATE ADJOURNED UNTIL 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

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Volume #50, Report #232 -- Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Committee Shakeup As Charter School Vote Looms

As the House Education committee nears a vote on the charter school expansion bill, a major reshuffling of the committee membership has improved its chances of approval.

Tuesday afternoon, House Speaker Jase Bolger's office announced that Rep. Holly Hughes (R White River Township) had been replaced by Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto). Ms. Hughes has been noncommittal on the bill, which would end the charter school cap. Ms. Hughes did not respond to a message seeking comment.

"People can believe whatever they want, but we needed to make a multitude of changes for a multitude of reasons," Mr. Bolger's spokesperson Ari Adler said. "Once you start making changes to committee assignments, you end up with a domino effect."

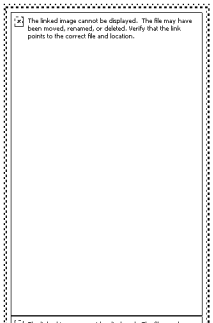
Rep. Jon Bumstead (R-Newaygo) was added to the committee to replace recalled Rep. Paul Scott.

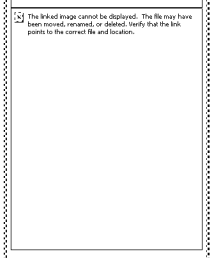
One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the move was not a punitive one against Ms. Hughes, but rather designed to protect her politically. Had Ms. Hughes, who represents a politically competitive district that previously was held by a Democrat, voted for the bill, the Michigan Education Association might have heavily targeted her for defeat in 2012. If Ms. Hughes had voted no, she might have lost support from key Republican constituencies and drawn a Republican primary challenge.

Several sources noted that had Mr. Bolger wanted to stack the deck to overwhelmingly report the bill, he could have replaced other members on the committee like Rep. Thomas Hooker (R-Byron Center) and Rep. Ken Yonker (R-Caledonia), who have wavered on charter school expansion, with sure yes votes.

Mr. Adler said many members were willing to work with Mr. Bolger to take on different assignments, either temporarily or permanently as needed, to help with the committee workload. Mr. Bolger announced several committee assignment changes Tuesday to replace the spots Mr. Scott had held, one of which went to Ms. Hughes on Health Policy.

"It's that kind of caucus cohesion that makes the House Republicans such a powerful force for reform," he said.





Word is House Speaker Jase Bolger replaced Rep. Holly Hughes on the Education Committee to protect her from the politically difficult vote.

Gongwer News Service first reported that some House Republicans were having doubts on ending the cap on how many university-authorized charter schools can exist (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 26, 2011). At the time, the Michigan Association of Public School Academies sent out an alert to its supporters asking them to urge a handful of House Republicans, including Ms. Hughes, to back the bill. Ms. Hughes declined to say where she stood on the issue, but several sources following the issue said she was a solid no.

During three hours of testimony Tuesday, the two sides of the charter school debate made many of their same arguments, but this time in front of Rep. Tom McMillin (R-Rochester Hills), the new interim chair of the House Education Committee, following the recall of Mr. Scott.

Several in the packed crowd bristled at Mr. McMillin's way of questioning those testifying, and he also had words with Rep. Lisa Brown (D-West Bloomfield Township) who didn't appreciate his answering the question she was asking a charter school advocate.

Following testimony from staff members at the Holly Academy, Ms. Brown asked if they still supported the bill, knowing that SB 618 caps the number of Schools of Excellence, of which Holly Academy is one.

Mr. McMillin interjected and said there will still be excellent schools, because competition and choice will make sure of that, and those that not doing well won't succeed.

"Mr. Chairman, I'm asking them the question if you don't mind," Ms. Brown said.

Mr. McMillin shot back, saying he was the chair, and asked her if this is how she was going to ask questions.

At the start of the hearing, the panel heard from Fern Katz, vice president of the Southfield Public Schools Board of Education. She opposed the bill for several reasons, including, she said, because it hurts public schools when students leave charters following the Friday count day that determines their annual funding. When those students come in, the school is not given the necessary funding from the state, she said.

Later, Melanie Laber, principal at FlexTech.High school in Brighton, testified about the success of their new charter school. She said they face the same funding issues as public schools when new students arrive later in the year.

Mr. McMillin said if students arrived later this school year, she would receive 10 percent of the foundation allowance for those students. She said they were fine with that.

"And you're not whining about the idea that you're only going to get 10 percent, I mean it's the kids we're focused on, right?" McMillin said, drawing several jeers from the audience.

Under the bill, the 150-school threshold would be eliminated, it would allow two or more authorizers to issue a charter school contract and it requires demonstrated academic achievement in educational goals for all student grade levels.

It also removes a requirement that labor agreements of a resident school district carry into the new charter school and requires 5 percent, instead of 15 percent, of school district electors to initiate a ballot petition to issue a new charter school.

The bill passed a divided Senate in October.

Two of Ms. Laber's students testified about how much they enjoyed their charter school experience. One was freshman Amelia Moorehouse, who is a competitive gymnast and spends most of her day practicing and attending meets around the Midwest. She attends the school two days a week, and communicates with her teachers daily, and takes online classes.

"We do high school differently," Ms. Laber said.

She said when they opened this year they began with about 25 students and now have about 160, with more coming every week.

Ms. Brown said it was great the school opened this year. It was one of 19 charter schools that to open this year.

"So there's a not a problem, because you opened a charter school," she said.

Ms. Laber said they have about 25 students to interview before the end of the year who would like to attend, prompting Ms. Brown to ask if they turn students away.

"If we don't think they are going to be successful, we talk to them about other options," Ms. Laber said.

Rep. Deb Shaughnessy (R-Charlotte) said if charters are rejecting students because they are full, then lifting the cap would eliminate that problem, she said.

Eugene Cain, chief school administrator at the El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz Public School Academy in Lansing talked about the success they have had. He noted they take all students, have their own buses and have a special education program.

He said he supports the bill because he believes in choice.

"People of means have always had choice, I would rather see that extended," he said.

Rep. Rudy Hobbs (D-Lathrup Village) asked how this bill to allow more charter schools would do anything to replicate the success Mr. Cain has had at his school.

Mr. Cain said he hadn't read the entirety of the bill and Mr. Hobbs urged him to do so.

A group of parents from the Grand Rapids area spoke in opposition to the bill, saying they feared it would take away the students with the means, and would leave the most vulnerable in the public schools.

They said they were not opposed to choice, but that this bill would allow for any charters to open, not just good charter schools.

The Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Townships Association also testified in opposition to a portion of the bill that allows for a property tax exemption to for-profit entities that lease their buildings to charter schools. The precedent that would set, as well as the financial loss due to this subsidy, concerned them, officials from the MML and MTA said.

The Department of Education indicated that if the bill became law and there was no limit on the number of charter schools, that the department would need additional staff member to handle all the new applications.

Several opponents of the bill pointed out that several charter schools have been shut down due to poor performance.

Mr. McMillin said there are quality issues with traditional public schools as well and none have ever been shut down.

"We are going to make sure that is dealt with," he said.

He said he plans to form a subcommittee to look into quality issues of both types of schools.

"I think it would be unfair just to address charters," Mr. McMillin said.

Another hearing on the bill is set for Wednesday morning when a vote is expected.

FOR-PROFIT CHARTERS: As the House committee mulled that measure, Senate Democrats said Tuesday they are introducing a constitutional amendment banning for-profit companies from operating charter schools.

Four out of five Michigan charter schools are run as for-profit, and Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor), the lead sponsor of the amendment, said they could simply change their business model to continue operating in the state.

"A quality education is a service, not a commodity," said Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor), lead Democrat on the Senate Education Committee.

Ms. Warren said it's troubling the Legislature would expand charter schools when most of those in existence perform at the same level or worse than traditional public schools and the state already has the largest student population participating in charters in the nation. The focus of charter schools should be on providing amazing results for students, not on strengthening the corporate bottom line.

"With the tightening School Aid Fund budget we need to make sure we are as effective and efficient with the public dollar," she said.

Democrats said they were hopeful the Republican-led Legislature will take up the constitutional amendment, but also want to raise awareness about the issue. They shied away from saying a citizen-led petition drive would be the only way for the measure to be put before voters.

Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) said, "For-profit charter schools are offering another choice for people to educate their children."

He said he doesn't have a problem with charter schools that make a profit if they provide a superior product and he questioned Ms. Warren's suggestion that most charter schools perform at or worse than traditional public schools. Regardless, he said the marketplace should decide which charter schools operate.

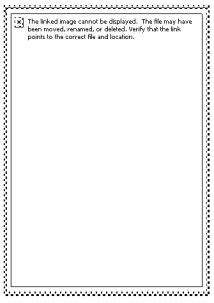
Anti-Bullying Bill Completed With Senate Vote

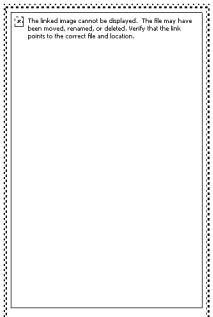
All Michigan school districts will be required to have an anti-bullying policy on the books in six months under legislation sent to Governor Rick Snyder for his signature Tuesday.

The Senate vote on HB 4163 - which skipped a committee hearing and went straight to final passage - ended a troubled chapter for majority Republicans on the issue.

The drama began earlier this month when the Senate passed SB 137, which included exemptions from the anti-bullying policy for statements made based on religious or moral convictions.

Senate Republicans defended the language by saying it protected free speech, but Democrats successfully got the issue on the national stage and ridiculed the bill as a "license to bully."





Sen. Rick Jones (top) got the ball rolling on the mandate that all schools institute anti-bullying policies, but Rep. Phil Potvin's bill is the one headed to the governor's desk.

Republicans in the House declared the bill "toxic" and that chamber quickly moved its anti-bullying bill comprised in HB 4163. The issue lingered over the two-week legislative recess and when the Senate gaveled into session Tuesday, it was the first bill to come up for a vote.

"I know there is a rush to recover from that and move on," said Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland). "(But) passing this bill is taking the easy way out."

Mr. Anderson, who became one of two "no" votes, said the bill was incomplete without his amendments requiring schools to report on instances of bullying and enumerating the personal characteristics of a person that would have to be considered in schools' anti-bullying policies.

Majority Republicans rejected those amendments, along with one including more protections from cyber-bullying.

Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), who sponsored the Senate's anti-bullying bill, spoke briefly on the floor to oppose the cyber-bullying amendment, saying it could render the legislation unconstitutional.

In a statement, Mr. Jones said, "As a parent and as a friend of a family that lost a child, I feel very strongly that every school should have a bullying policy. In the end we accomplished our goal, and I am happy to see years of hard work pay off."

Sen. John Gleason (D-Flushing), who camped out in the Capitol after the Senate's initial anti-bullying vote, said, "This bill as passed today finally honors the memory of Matt Epling and the other Michigan students who took their lives due to bullying and harassment, and hopefully ensures that Michigan students will no longer find themselves in such dire situations. Implementing a statewide anti-bullying policy in Michigan finally puts us on par with the rest of the country and hopefully diffuses the national embarrassment and outrage Senate Republicans evoked with their previous 'anti-bullying legislation' that actually did more harm than good."

But Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) said the Senate's first anti-bullying bill protected free speech and was "politicized and twisted around."

Mr. Richardville told reporters that was one step in the process and voting on the House bill finalizes that process.

"This is a very good (anti) bullying bill," he said.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan, who had mocked the Senate's anti-bullying bill as a "joke," released a statement saying, "This has been an emotional issue and I appreciate the Senate showing the leadership to reconsider its position today and completing this cooperative process with respect to every side of this debate for the protection of all schoolchildren."

But Emily Dievendorf, director of policy for Equality Michigan, said the legislation is still "weak" without enumeration.

"Both Oregon and Washington passed weak bills like this one and had to go back and revise them years later when data showed the initial bills had failed. This kind of delay is not an acceptable response to Michigan's bullying crisis," she said.

The final vote was 35-2, with Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) joining Mr. Anderson in dissent. Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) was absent for the vote.

RENAISSANCE ZONES: Redeveloped facilities located in a renaissance zone, such as condos, would continue to be eligible for a state income tax credit under SB 748 and SB 790, which the Senate passed on 36-2 votes apiece.

Proponents say residents living in these domiciles should continue to receive the tax credit they expected to get.

Earlier this year, the Legislature and governor eliminated many personal income tax credits. Sen. Bruce Caswell (R-Hillsdale) and Senate Majority Floor Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) provided the opposing votes.

Damrow Steps Down As Veterans Committee Chair

Rep. Kurt Damrow (R-Austin) resigned Tuesday as chair of the Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committee. According to Ari Adler, spokesperson for House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall), Mr. Damrow said he wanted to focus more on projects he is working on within his district.

Mr. Damrow did not return messages seeking comment.

For months, he has been traveling around the state talking to veterans groups about issues in his committee and urging veterans to take advantage of benefits available to them.

It was at one of these veterans forums where Mr. Damrow ended up having to later refute allegations that he falsely claimed he served in the Iraq war. He never served in the war, because he sustained injuries when his car hit a cow.

He claims the newspaper in Coldwater covering the event got it wrong; the newspaper stands by its story.

The freshman lawmaker has been under fire recently in his district for that and other issues and is facing a potential primary fight next August.

Rep. Kenneth Kurtz (R-Coldwater) will replace Mr. Damrow as chair. Rep. Holly Hughes (R-White River Township) will replace Mr. Damrow on the committee. Rep. Dale Zorn (R-Ida), will be the majority vice chair.

Snyder Names Former Acting Mayor As Flint's Emergency Manager

Michael Brown, who was Flint's acting mayor in 2009, will oversee its financial recovery as the city's emergency manager. Mr. Brown was named the emergency manager Tuesday by Governor Rick Snyder, the second such emergency manager for Flint in less than a decade.

Mr. Brown was named after the city did not use any of its legal options, under PA 4, to appeal the finding Mr. Snyder made on November 8 that the city was in a financial emergency.

In a statement, Mr. Snyder said Mr. Brown has "a strong track record of serving the Flint-area community."

The appointment also comes as attention on the issue of an emergency financial manager is now focused on whether a manager will eventually be named for Detroit. Mr. Snyder and Treasurer Andy Dillon are trying to convince city officials to request a review of their finances. Such a review would be the first step toward appointing an emergency manager, depending on what it found. But city officials are so far resisting that effort, though Mayor Dave Bing has warned the city could run out of cash by April if drastic steps are not taken to bring the city's finances under control.

Along with Flint, emergency managers also oversee Detroit Public Schools, Benton Harbor, Pontiac and Ecorse. A financial review is also now underway for Benton Harbor and Highland Park schools.

Mr. Brown is now president of the East Lansing-based Prima Civitas Foundation, and also director of the Flint Area Reinvestment Office.

Mr. Brown was born and raised in Flint, and earned degrees from both Western Michigan University and the University of Stockholm. He served as acting mayor of the city for six months after Mayor Don Williamson resigned ahead of a recall election.

In his statement, Mr. Snyder said Mr. Brown would work collaboratively with Flint elected officials to address the financial emergency and "return the city to local control, as quickly and efficiently as possible."

Saying resolving the emergency was a personal matter for him, Mr. Brown also said he was optimistic city officials would work cooperatively to resolve the situation.

Mr. Snyder announced the emergency on Election Day, and Mayor Dayne Walling was re-elected that day. Since his re-election, Mr. Walling has also taken some major steps to resolve the city's financial situation, replacing several top officials.

Even as Mr. Brown was named, opponents of PA 4 are continuing efforts to collect petition signatures to hold a referendum on the measure.

A few weeks ago, officials for the effort said they had gathered about half the signatures needed.

House Republicans Have Heating Assistance Fund Solution

House Republicans say they have found a way to avert a potential major crisis this winter for low-income residents facing utility shutoff notices.

Rep. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) chair of the House Energy and Technology Committee, said two bills will be introduced Wednesday that should ensure people have access to those emergency funds.

The Low-Income and Energy Efficiency Fund was put in doubt following a surprising Court of Appeals ruling this summer that found that legislation passed in 2009 indicated a desire by the Legislature that the fund continue to exist, but the massive 2008 energy reform law was stripped of any language regarding the fund.

It ruled that utilities can contribute to the fund, but the MPSC no longer has authority to add that contribution to a utility's rates.

The funds are blended at the state level and distributed to help those facing shut off notices. Despite a widely held belief that state law does not allow utilities to shut people off in the winter, that is not the case. About 130,000 residents from every county receive annual assistance from the funding.

Mr. Horn said a bill by Rep. Amanda Price (R-Holland) will be a supplemental appropriations bills to take $62 million in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funding that had been carried over and transfer into the state's Emergency Relief Fund.

This is a one-time fix to get them through the winter, Mr. Horn said. In January, he said they will begin in earnest to find a long-term funding solution.

"We don't know what that's going to be yet," he said.

Since the ruling, the Public Service Commission has been directing the utilities to continue collecting funds in rates but to escrow them and wait for further instructions from the commission.

Mr. Horn said the second bill is his and it will seek to have utility ratepayers refunded the money that has been collected and put into that escrow account. It totals about $40 million, he said.

"(The commission) should not have asked for that to be collected," he said.

The commission is responsible for ordering refunds, but Mr. Horn said his bill will make sure the commission is clear on the Legislature's intent.

In a statement, House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) said, "Our plan is a comprehensive solution to protect low-income residents this winter and provide Michigan ratepayers with some

much-needed relief on their utility bills. It's a budgetary and statutory fix that protects families, prioritizes spending and keeps costs down for Michigan's ratepayers."

Court Of Appeals Redistricting Plan Headed To House Floor

A plan to reconfigure the counties in the four districts of the Court of Appeals to make the populations more equal made it through committee with ease Tuesday.

The redistricting plan contained in HB 5160 was approved at the House Redistricting and Elections Committee with all Republicans in support, while all three Democrats chose to abstain.

There was only a brief discussion on where the cases would be tried since so many counties were being shifted around.

"Redistricting is not supposed to be this easy," said Rep. Pete Lund (R-Shelby Township), the bill sponsor and committee chair.

Under the new plan, there is a difference of 5,622 citizens between the highest and lowest populated districts. Without redistricting, the currents districts have a difference of 385,000 people.

To achieve that parity, the bill shifts around a number of counties in the four judicial districts in the state.

The redistricting appears to set up the court to achieve the proposed reduction of one judge in each district as Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. has urged.

The First District already has a vacancy and no judges would be added or dropped from it.

The changes would move Judge E. Thomas Fitzgerald out of the Second District and into the Fourth District, dropping the Second District from seven to six judges.

Judge Douglas Shapiro would be drawn out of the Third District and into the Fourth while Judge Peter O'Connell would move from the Fourth to the Third. That would keep the Third at its current six judges.

The Fourth District would grow from seven to eight judges, but two of those eight are ineligible to seek another term under the ban on those 70 or older from seeking re-election, so when those judges' terms expire, the district could drop to six judges like the other districts.

District one adds Barry and Jackson counties along with Calhoun, Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe, and Wayne.

District two drops Shiawassee County, but keeps Genesee, Macomb, and Oakland.

The big swings come in districts three and four. District three will go from 16 counties to 29, while district four will drop from 58 counties to 44.

The proposed district three includes Allegan, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Cass, Clare, Crawford, Eaton, Gladwin, Ionia, Isabella, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Ottawa, Roscommon, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties.

There are presently supposed to be seven judges in each district, but Governor Rick Snyder has already declined to fill two vacancies.

The Judicial Resources Recommendations report released in August calls for the elimination of four judges of the Court of Appeals. Under the new plan there would be six judges in each district.

Road Commissions Takeover Bills On Tap For Final Vote

After several attempts by Democrats to make changes on the floor were rejected, the first piece of Governor Rick Snyder's special message on infrastructure is set for final passage. But the bills are not on the agenda for Wednesday's session.

The bills would allow county boards of commissioners to take over the powers, duties and functions of their road commissions.

HB 5125 and HB 5126, introduced by Rep. Jon Switalski (D-Warren) and Rep. Dale Zorn (R-Ida), respectively, have bipartisan support as House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) and House Minority Leader Richard Hammel (D-Mount Morris Township) both came out in support early on.

Members of road commissions from around the state came to the Capitol on Tuesday to speak with their lawmakers about the bill.

"A governmental body that was created by a vote of the electorate in each county should not be eliminated by resolution of another elected governmental entity," John Niemela, director of the County Road Association of Michigan, said in a statement. "Road commissions were created by a vote of the people and should only be eliminated, regionalized or consolidated by a vote of the electorate."

He said commissions should not be merged just for the sake of consolidation. In Genesee County, he noted, the road commission has a better bond rating with Standard & Poor's than the county government does, and a recent storm water culvert replacement program would have cost more than $53,000 more annually if the county had to seek the bond.

N.G.A.: States Boost Budgets, But Still Being Squeezed

States increased their fiscal year 2012 general fund budgets an average of 2.9 percent over their fiscal 2011 budgets, though Michigan actually bucked that trend, the National Governors Association said in a report released Tuesday.

But in the report, the NGA said state governments still face significant economic pressure on their upcoming budgets.

Revenues could be off because of a sudden economic slowdown during the summer (most state fiscal years begin on July 1, Michigan's begins on October 1) when officials worried the nation could slip back into recession. States also face pressure because of cutbacks in federal spending to the states (as spending through the 2009 stimulus bill comes to a final end) and from local governments pleading for help to maintain local services.

While the budgets overall increased by 2.9 percent for FY 2012, the NGA said, general fund revenues in total were estimated at $659.4 billion, an increase of 1.6 percent.

Given its population size, Michigan has a somewhat smaller general fund budget than most states, because its school funding is segregated in the School Aid Fund. Most states finance education out of their general fund. For example, Indiana, which is about half Michigan's population, has a general fund budget for FY 2012 of $13.9 billion compared to Michigan's general fund budget of about $8.3 billion.

Michigan's FY 2012 budget is 4.2 percent smaller than its FY 2011 budget of $8.6 billion.

Just six states actually cut their general fund budgets for FY 2012, according to the NGA. The largest percentage increase was in Alaska where the budget was raised by 21.3 percent. North Dakota also saw its budget increased by 20.7 percent.

Nevada, which has had the nation's worst unemployment rate for more than a year, saw the largest cut in its overall budget of 6.9 percent.

The NGA report also showed that Michigan would have some of the largest overall percentage drops in the number of state employees. At the end of FY 2010, the NGA said Michigan had 47,687 workers and by FY 2012 it was at 42,200, an 11.5 percent drop.

Nationwide, the states and Puerto Rico had a total of 3.019 million workers in FY 2012, down 1.1 percent from a total of 3.054 million workers in FY 2010.

M.E.D.C. Incentive Bills Headed For Final Passage Wednesday

A number of changes were made on the floor to a package of bills outlining the proposed structure of a $100 million business development fund for the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and are expected to be approved by the full House Wednesday.

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation had been pushing to fix or remove several changes made to the package in the House Commerce Committee, as they would most likely be met with rejection in the Senate as written then.

SB 556, SB 566, SB 567, SB 568 and SB 644 were moved to Third Reading on Tuesday.

The changes are largely included in substitutes to SB 567and SB 568 that address concerns over transparency and restrictions on which type of projects could receive help from the new community revitalization program, which replaces the state's brownfield tax credit program.

Fee For Telecom Access Along Rail Trails Divides Industry, D.N.R.

How much telecommunication companies should pay to run fiber optics under state-owned rail trails is a point of contention on a bill the Senate Energy and Technology Committee took up Tuesday.

A substitute for SB 499 would require an application fee up to $350 and companies to pay 5 cents per linear foot for lines installed in the rail trail, but an official from the Department of Natural Resources said the fee should represent the property's value, which is different across the state.

If the bill were to reflect that, than the price would be about $6 per linear foot in the Upper Peninsula and $15 in parts of southeastern Michigan, said DNR Legislative Liaison Gary Owen.

As proposed, the department would spend more to collect a fee than what it would be worth since it takes between $500 and $2,000 to maintain every mile of rail trail each year. Mr. Owen said the department supports the bill in concept, particularly because it does create a fund for trail maintenance.

But the president of the Telecommunications Association of Michigan said it's excessive fees that have slowed down installation of broadband across the state and the bill is intended to remedy that, particularly in rural communities.

Scott Stevenson said the department does not need as much money to maintain the trails as officials say they do, and besides, the fee is all new money to the DNR anyway.

The committee did not vote on the bill, which also received support from the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, Michigan Cable Telecommunications Association, Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

The panel did vote on HB 4683, which extends the deadline for owners and operators of multiple-line telephone systems to upgrade their phones so emergency dispatchers can pinpoint where a call is originating. The upgrades were required in the 2007 Emergency 911 Service Enabling Act, but the Public Service Commission didn't begin the official rule-making process until earlier this year and telephone operators say they need more time to implement the changes.

The bill extends the deadline by five years.

Unemployment Drops In All Mich. Labor Markets

All 17 Michigan labor markets experienced jobless rate declines in October, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget said Tuesday.

Jobless Rates Drop From September to October

Ann Arbor: 6.6% to 5.7%

Battle Creek: 8.6% to 7.5%

Bay City: 8.8% to 7.9%

Detroit-Warren-Livonia: 11.7% to 10.8%

Flint: 10.6% to 9.4%

Grand Rapids-Wyoming: 7.9% to 7.1%

Holland-Grand Haven: 7.8% to 7%

Jackson: 9.5% to 8.4%

Kalamazoo-Portage: 8.3% to 7.3%

Lansing-East Lansing: 7.7% to 6.7%

Monroe: 9.2% to 8.1%

Muskegon-Norton Shores: 10% to 9%

Niles-Benton Harbor: 9.5% to 8.4%

Saginaw-Saginaw Township North: 9.1% to 8.1%

Upper Peninsula: 8.8 to 7.9%

Northeast Lower Michigan: 10.7% to 10.1%

Northwest Lower Michigan: 9.9% to 9.1%

The over-the-month drop ranged from 0.6 to 1.2 percentage points, and 15 markets now stand at an unemployment rate below 10 percent.

Total employment was up over the month in 13 markets with the biggest gains reported in Ann Arbor and East Lansing. Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan reported employment declines, which are in tune with the summer tourism season drawing to a close.

Labor force levels were down in 14 markets, although Ann Arbor, East Lansing and Kalamazoo-Portage reported seasonal gains in that category.

"The underlying trend in 2011 among Michigan's local labor markets has been reduced work force levels," said Rick Waclawek, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. However, employment levels have been more varied, with some regions recording employment gains over the year while others reported reductions."

For the year, jobless rates are down in all 17 markets, with the drop ranging from 1.4 to 2.6 percentage points. The most pronounced drops have occurred in Muskegon-Norton Shores, Flint and Jackson. Labor force levels have also fallen over the year in all state markets.

Eighty of the state's 83 counties saw their unemployment rates decrease over the month. Mackinac County reported the lowest jobless rate for the month at 5 percent, while Baraga County had the highest jobless rate at 15.1 percent.

The state's monthly survey of employers shows unadjusted payroll jobs increased by 29,000 in October, with 13,000 jobs added in professional and business services with another 8,000 added in education and health services.

Leisure and hospitality services were down 11,000 jobs over the month, while government jobs saw a statewide increase in October.

Overall, payroll jobs were up in 12 of 14 major state markets during the month.

House Panel Reports Aquatic Nuisance Package

The House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee reported legislation Tuesday to create the Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Council.

The bills (SB 508, SB 509, SB 510, HB 4826, HB 4827, HB 4828) create the commission and charge it with recommending legislation that would help to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

The bills were all reported unanimously and move to the House floor for action.

The committee also discussed SB 248, which caps the amount of property the state can own.

Rep. Frank Foster (R-Pellston), chair of the committee, said there were some amendments being drafted to the bill, but he some did not yet have sponsors and he did not go into detail on what the proposed changes would do.

Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba), sponsor of the legislation, also did not go into detail on the amendments he had been presented, but said some he would support while others would gut the bill.

Though Mr. Casperson said the bill as passed by the Senate resolved many of the concerns raised by environmental and conservation groups, many of those groups, including the Michigan Environmental Council and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, continue to oppose the legislation.

Kent Wood with MUCC said the measure would potentially pit communities against each other for state land purchases and ownership, particularly given the extensive state holdings in the Upper Peninsula and the dearth of state lands in the southern portions of the state.

James Clift with MEC said the cap could force the state to sell lands at below market value, depressing values for surrounding owners.

Few Changes Expected To Film Incentive

The House Commerce Committee will begin work on the new film incentive program on Thursday, but at this point is not expecting major changes to the proposal.

Aides to Rep. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City), chair of the committee, said he is satisfied with the plan, which would provide tax incentives starting at between 25 percent and 32 percent for costs of activities and personnel in Michigan.

The committee could report the bill (SB 596) as early as next Tuesday.

Snyder Signs School Election Consolidation

School districts will have to conduct elections for their boards of education in November of even-numbered years under bills signed into law by Governor Rick Snyder.

Supporters say they hope the new laws will ensure greater voter turnout while sparing districts the cost of running an election at other times. Districts often hold their board elections in May or November of odd-numbered years.

"Utilizing a standard election cycle will cut administrative costs and help schools maintain focus on educating students," Mr. Snyder said, estimating the savings over a two-year period at $8 million for districts. "This change also allows for more consolidated elections so voters have the best opportunity to make their voices heard."

Mr. Snyder signed the bills (SB 427, PA 232; HB 4005, PA 233) Monday. They were filed Tuesday.

Snyder Appoints Acting Fire Marshal

Governor Rick Snyder appointed Karen Towne of Haslett as acting fire marshal following the resignation earlier this month of Ronald Farr, who is leaving for a new job.

"He did a great job, and we really thank him for his service," Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said.

Ms. Wurfel said a search is underway for a full-time successor and she expected that appointment to come soon.

Committee Roundup

CONCEALED WEAPONS: The chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee held off voting on legislation (SB 59) that would allow people to apply for a concealed weapons permit in any

county in Michigan, saying the sponsor needs to work out remaining concerns about the bill with stakeholders.

The bill now includes up to a $20 fee for counties to issue non-resident CCW permits, with the money splitting 50-50 between the county clerks and sheriffs.

But Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) said he's concerned the new substitute is too limiting when it comes to gun boards being able to bring an applicant in for questioning. He said the process of interviewing a first-time applicant is important to ensure the person answers the same way in person as they did on the form.

Bill Anderson with the Michigan Townships Association also said the substitute is confusing in terms of which law enforcement agency a county would call to obtain more information on an applicant who lives in a township.

The Michigan Association of County Clerks and Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police oppose the bill and Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), the committee chair, urged Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) to work with Mr. Rocca, Mr. Anderson and those groups on their concerns.

Mr. Jones said he expected a vote on the bill would come next week.

Capital Notebook: U.A.W. Ratification Was Overwhelming

As was first reported in Gongwer News Service on Monday, members of the union representing the largest number of state employees, United Auto Workers Local 6000, easily approved the new contract that will begin with the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The vote was 3,384 in favor and 405 against.

SNYDER SETS SPECIAL MESSAGE ON TALENT FOR THURSDAY: Governor Rick Snyder will deliver his latest special message, this one on how to recruit and retain talent in the state, at 10 a.m. Thursday at Delta College in University Center.

"This is an area he is incredibly passionate about. He believes the No. 1 resource our state has is talent," Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said.

Ms. Wurfel said a focus of the speech would be on how to better match the skills of those seeking jobs with the jobs available.

INSURANCE LICENSE SUSPENDED: Erickson & Associates in Iron Mountain has had their license suspended by the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation for not remitting payments to the right insurance companies from December 2010 through March. Bruce Erickson had his license revoked by OFIR in 2010, but also had continued to operate his business through the company.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: House Speaker Jase Bolger announced the rest of the changes in committee assignments following the recall of Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc).

As previously announced, Rep. Tom McMillin was named as interim chair of the House Education Committee.

Rep. Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was added to take Mr. Scott's seat on the Judiciary Committee. Rep. Holly Hughes (R-White River Township) was added to the Health Policy Committee and Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) was added to the Redistricting and Elections Committee.

WATER RESOURCES COMPACT: The Office of the Great Lakes is seeking comment on its report on its activities under the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.

The report includes descriptions of the state's water withdrawal permitting process as well as targets for water conservation.

In addition to comment on the contents of the report itself, the agency is also seeking input on its goals and targets under the compact.

Comments can be submitted to Frank Ruswick at the Department of Environmental Quality.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: The Department of Community Health has developed an emergency preparedness curriculum for schools in the state. The curriculum was added to the Michigan Model for Health for the current school year.

"The Emergency Preparedness Curriculum is designed to build resiliency within our communities by empowering children with the knowledge and skills to make smart decisions before, during and after an emergency," said DCH Director Olga Dazzo said in a statement. "As our children and families become better prepared, Michigan will be better able to recover from a tornado, big snow storm or disease epidemic."

The curriculum was developed under a federal grant and is designed to meet both the National Health Education Standards and the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Wednesday, November 30

Senate Reforms, Restructuring and Reinventing, (Chr. Jansen, 373-5324), Rooms 402/403, Capitol Building, 8:30 a.m.

HB 4003 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE** (Opsommer) Clarifies definition of public employee regarding recognition of union based on receipt of government subsidy or interlocal agreement.

House Agriculture, (Chr. Daley, 373-8538), Room 307, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

HB 5130 **FOOD SERVICES LAWS** (Denby) Modify food services laws and regulations.
HR 145 **YOUTH EMPLOYMENT** (Cotter) Urges the U.S. Congress and the United States Department of Labor to amend proposed work regulations that would limit youth employment on farms.

House Transportation, (Chr. Opsommer, 373-1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

Presentation by the National Motorist Association
SCR 19 **TRANSPORTATION** (Colbeck) Memorializes Congress and the U.S. Department of Transportation to approve a grant for a project at the I-275 and Ford Road interchange under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Discretionary Grant program.

Senate Finance, (Chr. Brandenburg, 373-5307), Room 210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

SJR N **SALES TAX INCREASE** (Walker) Provides for a 1 percentage point sales tax increase and revises distribution of that increase to the Michigan Transportation Fund.
SB 714 **FUEL TAX ELIMINATION** (Walker) Repeals the motor carrier fuel tax act.
SB 715 **GAS TAX ELIMINATION** (Walker) Repeals the motor fuel tax act.
SB 806 **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS** (Brandenburg) Provides improved solvency of unemployment system through general amendments.

Senate Economic Development, (Chr. Kowall, 373-5312), Room 110, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.

SB 855 **ENERGY CREDITS** (Kowall) Modifies certain credit for high-powered energy batteries under the Michigan Business Tax.

Senate Families, Seniors and Human Services, (Chr. Emmons, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 711 **LOTTERY WINNERS** (Moolenaar) Requires Lottery Bureau to share names with certain other state agencies.
SB 712 **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE** (Green) Prohibits eligibility for public assistance for certain lottery winners.

Thursday, December 1

Senate Health Policy, (Chr. Marleau, 373-5314), Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower, 2:30 p.m., Webcast

SB 612 **ABORTION COVERAGE** (Jansen) Prohibits abortion coverage in policies offered through the state exchange except through the purchase of optional rider.
SB **ABORTION COVERAGE** (Jansen) Prohibits abortion coverage in policies offered

SB 613 through the qualified health plans under the state exchange except through the purchase of optional rider.

SB 614 **ABORTION** (Jansen) Prohibits health professional or facility seeking reimbursement from qualified health plan for elective abortion.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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House Activity for Tuesday, November 29, 2011

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

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SCHOOL ELECTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Requires school elections to be in November of even numbered years. Amends 1954 PA 116 by amending sections 302 and 644g (MCL 168.302 and 168.644g) section 302 as amended by 2005 PA 71 and section 644g as amended by 2004 PA 293 and by adding section 642c.

Signed: November 28, 2011; Effective: November 29, 2011

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011HB400501&date=11/29/2011" }

(PA 233)

ENROLLMENT VACATED

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MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" }) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of municipal emergency service employees.

Rule 63 suspended to reconsider the vote. Vote reconsidered.

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{ HYPE RLIN K "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB430901" } **INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=158101" }) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of functions and responsibilities.

Rule 63 suspended to reconsider the vote. Vote reconsidered.

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{ HYPE RLIN K "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB431201" } **INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701" }) Revises content of contracts for intergovernmental transfers of employees and responsibilities.

Rule 63 suspended to reconsider the vote. Vote reconsidered.

ENROLLED

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289901" } **BULLYING** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289901" }) Requires policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school.

Earlier returned

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PASSED

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501" } **BOATING SAFETY** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501" }) Defines boating safety certificate and watercraft endorsement; provides for operation of watercraft by children less than age 12 under certain circumstances.

93-12; Immediate effect

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" } **WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" }) Allows citation to watercraft owner or operator for operating without required safety equipment; requires observer when towing person; revises definition of passenger.

94-11; Immediate effect

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{ BARGE REQUIREMENTS ({ HYPERLINK **HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209401" **}**) Requires certain **RLIN** identification and lighting for barge.
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{ FLEEING WATERCRAFT ({ HYPERLINK **HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" **}**) Prohibits **RLIN** fleeing and eluding law enforcement officer in watercraft.
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WATERCRAFT ({ Allows children younger than age 12 to use type III personal floatation devices while in or towed behind watercraft.

78-27; Immediate effect

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WATERCRAFT ({ Clarify criteria for investigatory stops of moving vessels.

98-7; Immediate effect

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PALLISTER-KILLIAN SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701" }) Declares December 4th, 2011, as Pallister-Killian Syndrome Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

Voice vote

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ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" }) Creates Michigan Business Development Program.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

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COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001" **}**) Provides for community revitalization program.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB56601&date=11/29/2011" }

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COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801" **}**) Provides for community revitalization program.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted, Floor substitute (H-3) adopted

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB56701&date=11/29/2011" }

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=201SB56801" } COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Provides for community revitalization program.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted, Floor substitute (H-3) adopted

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB56801&date=11/29/2011" **}**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=201SB56801" } BROWNFIELDS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Allows use of 21st century jobs trust fund for new brownfield replacement program.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB64401&date=11/29/2011" **}**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=201SB64401" } ROAD COMMISSIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" }) Permits county apportionment commission establishing single-member county road commission

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{ ROAD COMMISSIONS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" **})** Provides
RLIN option to elect county road commissioners by geographic districts of equal population
K within Michigan election law.
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{ ROAD COMMISSION ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" **})** Provides
RLIN option for electing county road commissioners by geographic districts of equal
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LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210001" }) Modify filing deadline for local ballot question.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

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LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210001" }) Modify filing deadline for local ballot questions.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

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{ LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=215101" **}**) Modify filing deadline for local ballot question involving community swimming pool authority.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB4910901"

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

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{ LOCAL BALLOT QUESTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" **}**) Modifies filing deadline for local ballot question involving building authority.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB4911101"

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB4901201" } **LOCAL BALLOT QUESTION** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001" }) Modifies filing deadline for local ballot question involving a metropolitan council.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted.

}

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501" } **COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501" }) Provide for powers and duties of county road commissioners to be exercised by the county board of commissioners.

Floor subsutite (H-7) adopted, amendment 3 adopted

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011HB512501&date=11/29/2011" }

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201" } **COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201" }) Provide for

RLIN transfer of functions of a county road commission to the county board of commissioners.
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"http:/ Floor substitute (H-6) adopted, amendment 3 adopted
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{ BALLAST WATER ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Requires
RLINK advisory council to recommend federal ballast water standard.
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{ AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES ({ HYPERLINK

HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=73001" **}**) Establishes
RLINK Multistate Aquatic Nuisance Species Compact.
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{ **AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" **}**) Requires
RLINK advisory council to recommend laws to prevent aquatic invasive species introduction
"http://through trade pathways.
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{ **INVASIVE SPECIES** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501" **}**) Requires
RLINK advisory council to recommend laws to prevent aquatic invasive species introduction
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{ BALLAST WATER ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001" **})** Requires
RLINKadvisory council to recommend federal ballast water standard.
"http://
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.com/in { HYPERLINK
dex.cf "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011HB482701&dat
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{ NUISANCE SPECIES ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" **})** Establishes a
RLINKmultistate aquatic nuisance species compact.
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{ BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" **}**) Revise to require placement of ballot instructions in voting booth and include with absentee ballots.

{ COURT OF APPEALS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801" **}**) Provide for redistricting of court of appeals.

RECEIVED

{ AGRICULTURE VEHICLE WEIGHTS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" **}**) Provides exception from certain weight requirements from definition of modified agriculture

NK vehicle.
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{ GUARDIANS/CONSERVATORS (**{** HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" **}**) Allows
ERLI appointment of guardians and conservators appointed in other jurisdictions.
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{ RENAISSANCE INCOME (**{** HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" **}**) Allows income

ERLI earned or received by certain taxpayers located within a renaissance zone.
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{ **INCOME TAX CREDIT** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" }) Includes
ERLI reference to new income tax credit.
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REFERRED

{ **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT** ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701" }) Urges the United **ERL** States Congress to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and provide **INK** the full amount authorized for special education funding to the state of Michigan. **"htt p://w** To { HYPERLINK **ww.g** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69201" } **ongw er.co m/in dex.c fm?li nk=l egisl ation _bill detai l.cfm &bill id=2 011H R161 01" }**

INTRODUCED

{ **YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY** ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205901" }) Provide for use **ERLI** of a certain youth correctional facility to house adult inmates. Amends 1953 PA 232, by **NK** amending sections 29, 63, 63a, 69a, and 70 (MCL 791.229, 791.263, 791.263a, 791.269a, **"http** and 791.270), section 29 as amended by 2010 PA 248 and sections 63, 63a, 69a, and 70 as **://ww** amended by 1998 PA 512. **w.gon gwer.** To { HYPERLINK **com/i** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68901" } **ndex. cfm?l ink=l egisla tion_ billde tail.cf m&bi llid=2 011H B517**

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{ **POVERTY EXEMPTION** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601" }) Revise filing
ERLI requirements for property tax poverty exemption. Amends 1893 PA 206, by amending
NK section 7u (MCL 211.7u), as amended by 2003 PA 140.
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{ **REPEAL CRIME PREVENTION** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=191501" }) Repeal provision
ERLI relating to proceedings to prevent crime. Amends 1927 PA 175, by repealing chapter XII.
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{ ADVERTISING GAS PRICES ({ HYPERLINK **HYP ERLI NK "http ://ww w.gon gwer. com/i ndex. cfm?l ink=l egisla tion_ billde tail.cf m&bi llid=2 011H B518 001"** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217401" **}**) Regulate advertising and pricing of gasoline by retail sellers for credit card sales. Amends 1976 PA 331, by amending section 3 (MCL 445.903), as amended by 2010 PA 195.

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{ COERCION OF AN ABORTION ({ HYPERLINK **HYP ERLI NK "http ://ww w.gon gwer. com/i ndex. cfm?l ink=l egisla tion_ billde tail.cf m&bi llid=2** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701" **}**) Provide for civil action for coercion of an abortion. Amends 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.101 to 600.9947) by adding section 2977.

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COERCIVE ABORTION PREVENTION MATERIALS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701" }) Requires health department to create coercive abortion prevention materials and provide other general amendments. Amends 1978 PA 368, by amending section 17015 (MCL 333.17015), as amended by 2006 PA 77.

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COERCIVE ABORTION PREVENTION MATERIALS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701" }) Requires health department to create coercive abortion prevention materials and provide other general amendments. Amends 1978 PA 368, by amending section 17015 (MCL 333.17015), as amended by 2006 PA 77.

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{ **VENTURE INVESTMENT CREDIT** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211601" }) Eliminate sunset
ERLI on venture investment credit. Amends 1967 PA 281, by amending section 278 (MCL
NK 206.278), as amended by 2011 PA 38.
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{ **ELECTORAL VOTES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801" }) Require electoral
ERLI votes to be chosen from each congressional district. Amends 1954 PA 116, by amending
NK section 42 (MCL 168.42), as amended by 1999 PA 216.
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{ EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205901" **}**) Provide for
ERLI improved solvency of unemployment system. Amends 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1, by amending
NK sections 6a, 10, 11, 13, 13m, 15, 17, 19, 19a, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32a, 32b, 33, 34, 37, 38,
"http 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 54, 62, and 64 (MCL 421.6a, 421.10, 421.11, 421.13, 421.13m, 421.15,
://ww 421.17, 421.19, 421.19a, 421.20, 421.21, 421.27, 421.28, 421.29, 421.32a, 421.32b,
w.gon421.33, 421.34, 421.37, 421.38, 421.42, 421.44, 421.46, 421.48, 421.50, 421.54, 421.62,
gwer. and 421.64), section 6a as amended by 1992 PA 204, sections 10, 15, 27, 54, 62, and 64 as
com/i amended by 2011 PA 14, sections 11 and 19a as amended by 2009 PA 1, section 13 as
ndex. amended by 1985 PA 197, section 13m as added by 2010 PA 383, section 17 as amended
cfm?l by 2009 PA 18, section 19 as amended by 2007 PA 188, section 20 as amended by 2009
ink=l PA 20, sections 21, 33, and 34 as amended by 1983 PA 164, section 28 as 2 04476'11 CJC
egisla amended by 1994 PA 422, section 29 as amended by 2008 PA 480, sections 32a and 38 as
tion_ amended by 1996 PA 503, sections 44 and 48 as amended and section 32b as added by
billde 2002 PA 192, and sections 46 and 50 as amended by 1995 PA 25, and by adding sections
tail.cf 15a, 42a, and 48a; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.
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{ BRANCH COUNTY PROPERTY ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=218701" **}**) Replace reverter
ERLI clause for certain property in Branch County if not used for educational purposes with
NK right of entry if land not used for public purposes.
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{ COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501" **})** Modify
ERLI membership on the county apportionment commission under certain circumstances and
NK modify number of county commissioners based on population. Amends 1966 PA 261, by
"http amending sections 1, 2, and 3 (MCL 46.401, 46.402, and 46.403), section 2 as amended by
://ww 2004 PA 369.
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THE HOUSE ADJOURNED UNTIL 1:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200
Lansing Michigan 48933
Phone: 517−482−3500 | **Fax:** 517−482−4367 | **Email:** { HYPERLINK
"mailto:gongwer@gongwer.com" }

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Click the ⊡after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2011 10:31 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 29, 2011

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www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716

PDA Friendly Web Version:
www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Damrow Resigns As Panel Chair, May Face Criminal Charge
Rep. Kurt DAMROW (R-Port Austin) resigned today as chair of the House Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committee, an unusual occurrence for a legislator, just weeks after he said a newspaper misquoted him as saying he served in the Iraq War.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29197

Moore Said Dems Compromising Too Soon
Filmmaker, author and Flint native Michael MOORE told an audience of several hundred people at the Michigan State University (MSU) Auditorium tonight that Democrats have started compromising before they had to compromise.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29201

Former Acting Mayor Back On Top As Flint EM
Gov. Rick SNYDER today confirmed that Flint was in a state of financial emergency and appointed former acting mayor Michael BROWN as its Emergency Manager (EM).
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29183

Senate Moves Quickly To Clean Up Bullying Mess
As reported first in MIRS, the Michigan Senate had the goal of disposing of the anti-bullying issue before noon today (See "Top 10 Legislative Agenda Items For '11," 11/17/11) a goal they accomplished by passing the HB 4163, 35-2, at 10:32 this morning.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29187

Republicans Find Holed-Up Heating Money
House Republicans today unveiled a plan to protect low-income residents from utility shut-offs this winter by siphoning $62 million from a $75 million Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) pot carried over from previous years.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29190

Isabella County Poverty Rate Highest In 7-State Region
An estimated 32.5 percent of Isabella County residents are living in poverty, marking the highest such rate in Michigan and a seven-state region surrounding the Great Lakes State, according to information supplied today by the U.S. Census Bureau.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29184

COA Redistricting Shoots To House Floor
Democrats cried partisanship and threatened legal action when new legislative and congressional maps were debated this spring (See "Brewer: Congressional Map 'Unconstitutional, Racial Gerrymander,'" 6/28/11). But the Court of Appeals (COA) redistricting process this fall hasn't exactly been a barn-burner.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29189

Schuette Decries Romney Attack As Politics
Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE backed up his favored presidential candidate, Mitt ROMNEY, as "the strongest, best-equipped candidate to face (President) Barack OBAMA next fall" in the face of a coordinated anti-Romney media campaign launched by Democrats.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29182

Barnett: UI Reforms Create Underemployment Cycle
If the Legislature passes big changes to the state's unemployment insurance (UI) system, many workers will be trapped in a cycle of underemployment that won't help the economy, Rep. Vicki BARNETT (D-Farmington Hills) warned today.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29196

Charter Cap Debate Continues Along Old Lines
The debate over lifting the cap on the number of charter schools in Michigan continued along the same lines as usual today, with both sides arguing about funding, transportation, quality and the overarching issue of "choice."
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29186

GME Advocates Make Case To House
Members of the medical community spoke out today to a House panel in support of more state aid for Graduate Medical Education (GME), an investment that they argue could help solve a looming physician shortage in the state.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29191

For Profit Charter Ban Proffered And Poo-Pooed
Two Democratic senators today announced their wish to amend the state's Constitution and ban for-profit charter schools, but it appears it will wind up being little more than a wish.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29192

R's Change County Road Commission Bills
Two bills that would allow for eliminating county road commissions saw some changes during second reading today, but it remains unclear whether members of the Northern Michigan delegation will support the language.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29188

Richardville Recalls End, Leader Wants Reform This Session
Senate Majority Leader Randy RICHARDVILLE (R-Monroe) won't be facing a recall any time soon as backers of the Committee to Recall Randy Richardville (CRRR) tossed up the white flag today.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29195

Idling Vehicles Banned Under Bills
A vehicle idling for more than five minutes during any 60-minute period would be a $600 civil infraction, under a pair of bills (SB 819, SB 820) taken up in the Senate Transportation Committee this afternoon.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29193

Kahn Fires Back Over Whitmer's Questioning The Break
Kahn Fires Back Over Whitmer's Questioning The Break
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29194

Bits And Tidbits
Cain Tells Hillsdale 'I Will Never, Ever, Ever' Let You Down
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29198

Attention MIRS Subscribers
In the Nov. 18, 2011 edition, in the story "Bill Changes Deer Farm Oversight," it should be made clear that there are 411 licensed facilities in Michigan and that Bob NORTHRUP is the rancher with friends who had paperwork troubles with the state.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29199

On This Day In Michigan History
On Nov. 29, 1907, the Michigan Military Board voted to adopt war department orders that provided for the reorganization of the state's National Guard. It announced all infantry and cavalry companies must be recruited at once to the minimum of 58 enlisted men and the artillery company to 133 men.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3716#29200

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Volume #50, Report #239 -- Thursday, December 8, 2011

Confusion Reigns On Live-In Partner Benefit Ban

Employees at public universities would not be able to offer medical benefits to an unrelated adult living with them, House Republicans said Thursday, contrary to a Wednesday move by the Senate removing a reference to higher education institutions in the bill.

There was confusion on the issue as the House concurred with the Senate changes by a vote of 63-45. The Senate changes were said to bring the bill package into compliance with the Constitution, where the autonomy of universities is enshrined.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Snyder%20(2).jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/GretchenWhitmer.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/DavidAgema.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } (top) and Rep. Dave Agema (bottom) have different interpretations of the bill,

much to the disgust of Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" }.

The previous House-passed version was directed at public employers, so the Senate changed the language to focus on public employees.

Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said it uses the same definition for a public employee as is found in the Public Employment Relations Act. It defines a public employee as "a person holding a position by appointment or employment in the government of this state." Essentially, by putting the ban on the employee, not the university, the bill works around the constitutional autonomy provided to universities, so goes the argument.

But Sara Wurfel, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s press secretary, said the administration's analysis is that the bill exempts university employees.

"While Gov. Snyder has been focused on efforts that will most help turn around Michigan's economy and this hadn't been on his agenda, his intent will be to sign the bill pending a final review - like every piece of legislation that comes to his desk - that ensures constitutionality and university autonomy," she said.

To that last point, Ms. Wurfel declined to speculate on what Mr. Snyder might do if his administration concludes university employees are affected.

Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann said the Senate GOP believes the bill exempts university employees.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D- East Lansing) said in a statement that Republicans should get their stories straight.

"I don't know if Sen. (Mark) Jansen misled the public yesterday, whether he was misled himself, or whether one of their caucuses simply doesn't understand the bill they are passing, but any one of those explanations should raise a red flag," Ms. Whitmer said. "After springing these bills on us yesterday and ramming them through, it's clear Senate Republicans didn't do their due diligence and fully understand these bills. This kind of 'gotcha' and haphazard legislating is deplorable, especially when these bills have real and immediate consequences for Michigan citizens. I think this legislation is discriminatory and don't support it in any iteration, but it is unsettling to say the least that my Senate Republican colleagues are blindly passing bills without a good grasp on their effects."

A 2004 constitutional amendment barred governments, including universities, from allowing their gay and lesbian employees to include their partner on their medical coverage. Some governments have worked around that ban by creating a live-in partner benefit as opposed to the more commonly known domestic partner benefit. Under such plans, an employee can designate an unrelated adult to be covered under their insurance. That has infuriated conservatives like {

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=175101&locid=1" } (R-Grandville), the sponsor of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB477001" } .

Supporters charge health and fringe benefits offered to the same-sex partners of public employees are banned under the marriage definition amendment voters passed in 2004, which the courts have ruled extend to benefits.

Aside from universities, the ban also applies to employees of local governments, schools and the state.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=191501&locid=1" } (R-Rochester Hills) urged members to support the bill as it came back from the Senate.

"This is good policy," he said. "It's a good use of taxpayers dollars."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155801&locid=1" } (D-Lansing) called the bill terrible public policy.

Many major companies allow domestic partner benefits to their employees, so that they can attract the best and the brightest, and the state of Michigan should want to do the same, she said.

Republicans Could Block Suspension Of E.M. Law

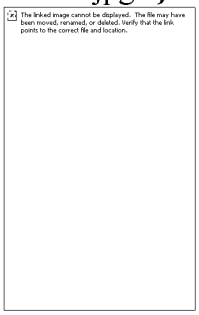
The Snyder administration and majority Republicans in the Legislature are considering legislation putting in place a temporary law governing state intervention in financially troubled local governments and schools, a move that would avoid the suspension of the existing law should activists collect enough signatures to put it up for a voter referendum.

Activists say they have collected sufficient signatures to subject PA 4, the Local Government And School District Fiscal Accountability Act, to referendum in November 2012. A poll commissioned by Gongwer News Service in July showed that just 34 percent of voters supported keeping the law while 53 percent said they would vote to reject it.

With several governments under emergency managers operating with the enhanced powers provided by the law, namely the ability to void contracts with that government's employees, there is growing worry in the administration about the possibility of the law's suspension once activists turn in their signatures and the Department of State certifies them. The suspension of the law would lead to the return of PA 72 of 1990, which provided for emergency financial managers with more limited powers than they have now, according to the Department of Treasury.

But if Mr. Snyder signs a new law into place, activists would then have to collect signatures again to put the new law up for referendum and suspension. And they were furious.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/dillon-andy.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/richardville.jpg" }



{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=105001&locid=1" }, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } and House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } are preparing to prevent

suspension of the emergency manager law.

"We expect the people who hold high office to respect the democratic process, respect people's ability to redress and petition the government, and we would expect for them to honor the process," said Greg Bowens, spokesperson for Stand Up for Democracy. "Maybe that's too much of an expectation when you put it on the shoulders of people who created a law that undermines democracy."

Benton Harbor, Flint, Pontiac and the Detroit Public Schools are under emergency managers. Detroit and Inkster are undergoing preliminary financial reviews that could lead to the appointment of an emergency manager. And the Inkster Public Schools has been found to have probable financial stress and is undergoing a full review.

Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said talks are underway on what to do.

"We cannot and certainly will not predetermine the answer of what needs to happen in response to a hypothetical event (signatures being submitted and certified). Working with our partners in the Legislature, we will continue to discuss this issue and potential, appropriate actions if and when necessary," she said in an emailed statement. "The Governor feels strongly that he has a responsibility to the citizens and taxpayers of struggling communities and our overall state, and that we simply can't ignore these fiscal crises of communities or school districts and allow them go into bankruptcy. He doesn't believe that's an acceptable option."

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said there have been some discussions on implementing a stop-gap emergency manager measure, but will work out whether it's possible to substitute something into an existing bill so the Legislature could do that before the holiday break.

"I'm a little nervous about waiting until January to address it," he said.

Lawmakers and the governor have shown their seriousness for tackling financial liabilities, Mr. Richardville said, and the emergency manager law is a key part of that effort. The Legislature needs "every option available to us" to address "a crumbling structure that's existed for years."

"I don't think everyone in Michigan fully understands the crisis some of these communities are in," Mr. Richardville said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair) has introduced { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" }, which would set up a transition emergency manager law should the referendum get on the ballot.

Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said they have not decided when they would start the process of moving forward with a temporary measure.

"We have some time," he said. "They haven't turned in all those signatures."

Any bill that does move forward would not include an appropriation in it, so it would not be referendum-proof, and it would also contain a sunset provision. So if voters rejected the existing law, the new one would die once it sunsets.

"We're not subverting the will of the people to have a referendum," he said.

The problem is the limbo that arises if the law is suspended until November, Mr. Adler said. Although Treasury has said the old emergency financial manager law would come back into effect if PA 4 is suspended, some have suggested it might not.

"Cities facing an emergency financial situation don't have eight or nine months to wait until the election solves this question," Mr. Adler said.

They would still have their elected officials though.

"If the democratically elected representatives could solve the financial problem, there wouldn't be an emergency financial manager even there," Mr. Adler said.

Mr. Bolger said in a statement that the state cannot stand by if the law is suspended.

"If needed, the House will pursue a solution that protects citizens, prevents chaos and shields taxpayers from being unfairly saddled with massive debt. That potential solution would not include an appropriation to prevent a referendum," Mr. Bolger said. "It is an important part of responsible leadership that you are willing to have discussions about all possible solutions to a problem, but it is a larger responsibility that you take action only on those solutions that are appropriate. We will continue to discuss this issue with the governor and our partners in the Senate and take appropriate action if and when necessary."

Mr. Bowens said his organization would keep fighting on the issue, no matter what happens.

"They must be pretty scared," he said. "Hopefully, cooler heads will prevail."

Obesity Tracking Rules Move To J.C.A.R.

Rules that would allow the state to track obesity trends among children have been submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules for final review.

The rules ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=rules_detail.cfm&ruleid=71401" }) would allow height and weight measurements to be entered into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry.

The registry currently tracks immunization rates for children in the state.

The height and weight information would be converted to a body mass index. Health care providers would have access to the aggregate information, as well as other studies and information on the issue finds will help to improve health care for children.

Individual data would be available to researchers, but only in ways that would not allow identification of individual children.

The rules allow parents to request that their child's height, weight and BMI not be included in the registry, and information on a specific person, including the fact that person is listed in the registry, can only be released to the person or a parent or guardian.

The rules are part of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s push to improve health statistics in the state. Michigan has long been among the top states for obesity.

Some conservatives have criticized the plan as intrusive, but the administration has noted that physicians' and parents' participation in the program is purely voluntary.

The Legislature can only stop the rules through the passage of a bill that Mr. Snyder would have to sign, and since Mr. Snyder proposed the idea, he would surely oppose such a bill.

Legislative Black Caucus Files Suit Over House Redistricting Map

The redistricting map signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } will force out half of the minority lawmakers from the city of Detroit in the House, says the Legislative Black Caucus, which is why it filed a federal lawsuit Thursday halt its implementation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Durhal-Fred.jpg" }

The LBC, the Detroit Branch of the NAACP, United Auto Workers and Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development filed the long-anticipated { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/redistrictinglawsuit11.pdf" } Thursday at the U.S. District Court in Detroit.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=31101&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), chair of the black caucus, said a number of minority Democrats would be pitted against one another in primary elections next year because of the new maps. He said they drew up maps that did not have any primary elections in the Detroit area and Republicans ignored them.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801&locid=1" } (R-Shelby Township), chair of the House Redistricting Committee, said the lawsuit was expected and has become the norm following a redistricting effort. While litigation has accompanied past redistricting plans, no lawsuit was filed on the most recent one in 2001.

The suit was filed against Mr. Snyder and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1" }. It was assigned to Judge Bernard Friedman, an appointee of former President Ronald Reagan.

"The Republican caucus has used gerrymandering and a manipulation of the process to advance their own agenda at the expense of voters," Rep. Thomas Stallworth (D-Detroit) said in a statement. "Michigan voters deserve equal representation and protection under the law, and this process is a direct violation of both voter rights and civil rights."

Another point in the suit is that it splits the Hispanic community in southwest Detroit. The district with 47 percent Hispanic voters was split in two.

He said this map is meant to reduce the number of Democrats who sit on the House floor following the next election.

"I think this was very political," Mr. Durhal said.

C.O.A. Redistricting Showdown Set Between House, Senate, Snyder

The Senate passed a shell redistricting bill for the Court of Appeals on Thursday without acting on a House measure that would have retained the number of judges at 28 - four more than { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has supported - setting up final negotiations on the issue between Republicans.

The House court redistricting plan comprised in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB516001" } kept the number of judges at the current 28, which runs counter to a Judicial Resources Recommendations report issued in August calling for elimination of 45 trial court judges and four members of the appellate court.

Mr. Snyder has indicated his support for those changes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/joehune.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } said the Senate

wanted to move the process along by passing a shell redistricting bill.

But the Senate surprisingly took neutral ground when it discharged { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB84901" } from the Redistricting Committee and passed it 26-9 without amendment.

The legislation strikes out all of the counties listed in Court of Appeals districts under current law, which means the Senate took no position on whether 28 or 24 is the magic number.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) sponsored an amendment tie-barring the Senate bill to another measure reducing the number of judges.

"We have a golden opportunity to make government smaller," she said, adding the reduction would save $800,000.

Noting she isn't often a proponent of shrinking the government, Ms. Whitmer then joked she wished there were 26 fewer senators than there are currently.

Twenty-five of the 26 Republicans in the chamber rejected her amendment. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights joined the nine Democrats present to vote in favor of the tie-bar.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } (R-Hamburg), the Redistricting Committee chair, said while he admired Ms. Whitmer's call for less government, "this (is) strictly a political tie-bar amendment."

Mr. Hune said he hopes to see the court's redistricted map complete before lawmakers leave town for the holidays and the Senate's action was one step in moving that process along.

"I prefer probably the 28 plan, but there are still ongoing discussions with leadership and the governor's office," he told Gongwer News Service.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) were absent from session.

WIXOM BATTERY PLANT REINSTATED: The Senate also passed legislation extending tax credits for a battery plant at the site of the old Ford Assembly Plant in Wixom. Townsend Energy Solutions has stepped forward as a potential investor for the site after Xtreme Power and Clairvoyant Energy ended talks with the U.S. Department of Energy over grant money.

The original Michigan Business Tax credits totaled $100 million over four years, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB85501" } pares that down to $50 million over the same period of time. Townsend is being asked to create 750 new jobs at the battery production facility, with the state taking back its credits if fewer than 500 jobs are created.

Earlier this year, the Legislature eliminated the MBT except for those companies wishing to still pay it in exchange for continuing state tax breaks.

Five Republicans opposed the bill: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } of Mayville, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } of Escanaba, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=56201&locid=1" } of Hillsdale, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } of Saginaw Township and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } of Harrison Township.

Democrats Cry Foul Over 'Power Grab' In Oakland County

Saying it was unconstitutional, and a blatant power grab, Democrats objected strongly to passage of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB518701" }, which changes who gets to draw the political boundaries for the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

The reapportionment commission is made up of the county clerk, treasurer and prosecutor and the chairs of the two county parties. That has been the makeup for years, but this time the Democrats hold the majority of those seats.

"That was and is the law," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) said.

The bill would give the power of reapportionment to the county commission, where Republicans hold a majority and could draw new boundaries.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak) said this was nothing but an outrage and called it a "highly unusually power grab."

He said the reapportionment plan has been done, and has been upheld by the Court of Appeals, and now the Republicans want to change the game after the game is over.

A unanimous Court of Appeals panel ruled earlier this year that Oakland County's apportionment plan is valid.

The court ruled in *In Re Apportionment of Oakland County (COA docket No. 304696),* rejecting arguments the apportionment plan violated the Constitution by failing to meet requirements for compactness, as well as being drawn to take partisan advantage and possibly violating the federal voting rights act.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501&locid=1" } (R-Oxford), the bill sponsor, said he introduced this as a cost savings measure because it reduces the number of commissioners.

He also said he objected to calling his bill a political move.

Mr. Jacobsen said his plan would remove the leaders of the two county parties from the process, as the voters in the county do not elect them.

The bill was ruled to have passed by a vote of 58-50, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } (D-Battle Creek) immediately called for a point of order, saying because the bill only affects one county, it needed to pass by a two-thirds vote as a local act. Republicans then went at ease for about a half hour.

Ms. Barnett said the bill is a special and local act, because it requires Oakland County to have a vote in the county to change the charter to mirror state law, making it not like other bills that simply define an area by population.

Ms. Barnett said the Republicans' only option is to appeal to the Supreme Court.

After huddling for about a half-hour, Republicans emerged and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206701&locid=1" } (R-Livonia) ruled the request was not timely and therefore out of order.

Four Republicans, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401&locid=1" } (R-Jackson) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210001&locid=1" } (R-Niles), joined Democrats in opposing the bill.

Agency Catching Up On Medical Marijuana Applications

The Bureau of Health Professions, now in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, received three times the applications it anticipated for medical marijuana certificates, but the

agency is now catching up, Director Rae Ramsdell told the House Appropriations Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee on Thursday.

Members of the subcommittee had several questions on the effects of the voter-initiated law on local governments and law enforcement, but Ms. Ramsdell said she had no answers to most of those.

"The only thing our office deals with are the licenses," Ms. Ramsdell said in response to a number of questions. "I only operate the registry and do what the law tells me to do."

For instance, committee members wanted to know how employers with zero-tolerance policies for drugs should address employees with medical marijuana certificates. Ms. Ramsdell said that was not under her bureau's purview, but she noted the law does not require employers to provide accommodations.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), chair of the subcommittee, acknowledged that his body's sole responsibility was ensuring the agency is functioning. "Our job is to make sure you have the resources," he said. "If you don't have resources, we need to make adjustments."

Ms. Ramsdell said the current fee schedule for medical marijuana certificates is covering the costs. And she said the fees are in administrative rules, so the department could seek changes to those fees if they are not.

There is still a backlog for issuing certificates (Ms. Ramsdell said the program is currently processing applications from early November) because of the combination of errant projections, lack of printing capacity and an as-yet undersized staff, she said.

Supporters of the legislation had projected as many as 50,000 applicants for a medical marijuana certificate. But the office so far has seen 150,000, Ms. Ramsdell said. And some 47,000 of those included a caregiver who receives a separate certificate.

The certificates have to be addressed within 15 days, but Ms. Ramsdell said there are few reasons to reject an application. Most that are rejected are because they are missing documents or signatures, she said.

The agency does not track diagnoses for medical marijuana applicants, only ensures they have a proper prescription, Ms. Ramsdell said, though the application does include the list of diagnoses for which the drug is allowed.

For caregivers, the primary reason for rejection is a criminal history involving controlled substances.

One of the key things holding the agency back on issuing certificates right now is printer capacity, Ms. Ramsdell said. The agency has two printers with a combined capacity of 800

certificates per day, and then three people are required to stuff the certificate and accompanying letter into an envelope.

And some days the output is cut by equipment failures. "When you're using your printer that much, they do break down," she said.

The bureau is in the process of purchasing a new printer that would increase output to 4,000 per day, and would also stuff the envelopes, she said.

Ms. Ramsdell also wants additional staff to process the applications, but she said right now she is limited by space, not funds. She is looking for larger quarters for the agency.

The agency has been helped in addressing the backlog by a reduction in applications. Ms. Ramsdell said the flow had dropped to about 400 per day from about 800 per day when { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } ordered that dispensaries had to close.

She acknowledged that change had created difficulties for patients to obtain the drug, but she said providing access was not within her agency's duties.

Once they have obtained seeds, each patient is allowed five plants, and each caregiver is allowed five plants per patient. The only restriction is that they be kept in a locked area, she said.

She said there have also been some people return their certificates after a federal ruling that those using medical marijuana cannot qualify for concealed weapons permits.

Richardville: January Docket Will Be Full

January will not be a month for lawmakers to casually make their way through light session days, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said Thursday.

Gongwer News Service asked whether the remaining education reform bills dealing with schools of choice ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB62401" }) and conversion schools ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB62001" }) are dead considering the Senate did not pass them in time for the House to take them up yet this year.

Under the Constitution, bills must lie over in each chamber for five days. Thursday would have been the last day for the Senate to pass a Senate-originating bill for the House to vote on it next week before the holiday break.

Mr. Richardville said he does not believe those education bills are dead and said those are measures that would be taken up in January.

The first day of session in 2012 is January 11. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has scheduled his State of the State address one week afterward.

But Mr. Richardville told reporters Republican leaders are already working with the administration on Mr. Snyder's 2012-13 fiscal year budget and discussions on that would continue into January.

While the Legislature should wrap up some supplemental appropriations this year ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB501401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB444501" }), Mr. Richardville said he also anticipated a supplemental bill would come up in January as well.

January typically is not a robust time for the legislative agenda, but Mr. Richardville said leadership plans to break that tradition next month.

Plan To Cut 44 Judgeships Receives House Approval

The state's judiciary would shrink under a package of bills approved by the House on Thursday that over a period of years through attrition would see the elimination of 44 trial judges.

"Today is one of those days we get to make history," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" } (R-Plymouth Township).

Mr. Heise said this package allowed members to live up a campaign promise to downsize government and make it more efficient.

The bills were debated for more than a month in the Judiciary Committee. Only a few changes were made in committee to the package based on the Judicial Resources Recommendations report. That report received the unanimous support of Supreme Court and the Michigan Judges Association, the Michigan Probate Judges Association, the Michigan District Court Judges Association.

Changes to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB509301" } angered House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } (D-Battle Creek), the bill sponsor, because she said they were made without her consultation, claiming it was done with political motives. She moved to have her name removed from the bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206701&locid=1" } (R-Livonia), chair of the Judiciary Committee, said he had already apologized for what had happened.

"It was not political, it was a mistake," he said.

Ms. Segal said while it did not change the number of judges eliminated in her community, it did change which judgeship would be eliminated. She said there had been numerous meetings and hearings on the bill and this was added at the last minute.

While the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB507101" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB507301" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB507401" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB507501" } , HB 5093, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB509401" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510101" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510201" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510301" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510401" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510501" } , and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB510701" }) largely passed overwhelmingly, House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=172301&locid=1" } (D-Mount Morris Township) said the Legislature should follow the recommendations of the judicial report for all the courts.

"If we are truly looking for savings... we should have started last week," he said.

Democrats objected strongly last week, when a Court of Appeals redistricting plan was approved that did not follow the recommendation report that called for the elimination of four judges from that court. They alleged Republicans want to exact an additional partisan advantage to the court by appointing fresh Republican judges to fill the vacancies.

The package, which now heads to the Senate, could save the state millions of dollars in terms of less money spent on salaries, benefits and staff to support the judges.

Those savings would come over time, however, as the judicial reductions will occur as terms expire and judges leave office.

House Commerce Continues Unemployment Reform Debate

Opponents of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB80601" } and the major changes it makes to the state's unemployment system, said the legislation is based on the premise that jobless benefits are a disincentive to work.

The House Commerce Committee continued debate Thursday and is expected to vote on it next week.

Peter Ruark, senior policy analyst for the Michigan League for Human Services, said that finding the right balance for reform is a challenge, but said the Senate's unemployment bill is the wrong approach.

"We ask this committee to reject or improve changes that cause undue hardship on unemployed workers who are playing by the rules and who are making a good faith effort to find and keep employment when it becomes available," he said.

He said having a strong unemployment insurance system helps the economy.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } asked why money that a business owner has would have not have a multiplier effect if he had it to spend, but if it is taken from him through an unemployment tax and given to someone with out a job, it now has a high multiplier effect when they spend it.

"It really is fascinating economics," Mr. Shirkey (R-Clarklake) said.

The legislation makes several changes for businesses, including increasing the wage base employers pay unemployment taxes on and shortening their experience window from five years to three years, permitting companies to get rid of bad jobless claim years more quickly. Small businesses also can spread their unemployment tax payments out over the year.

For jobless workers, the legislation requires that after 10 weeks of state assistance they take a job if it pays at least their area's prevailing wage or is 120 percent more than their assistance check, even if it's outside of their field of training. They would also have to conduct a "systematic and sustained search for work," with various reports on their progress due to the state.

Workers who fail to keep their training up to date, steal from the business or are let go after missing three consecutive days of work without informing their boss would also not be eligible for jobless benefits under the bill.

Tim Hughes, with the United Auto Workers, said people gain their pride and identity from having a job, and dismissed the notion that people would rather sit on a couch and collect benefits.

"People want to work," he said.

Charlie Owens, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan, said it supports the bill.

"The answer to closing this gap is jobs," Mr. Owens said. "Higher payroll taxes will equal less jobs."

House OKs Barring Automatic Public Employee P.A.C. Donations

Public employees could no longer have money automatically deducted from their payroll for the purpose of making donations to a political action committee, under a package of bills approved Thursday by the House on party-line votes.

It would prohibit the action by employees of local governments, school districts and any other public body.

The bills were approved along party lines on the floor as well as in committee earlier this week.

The legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB508501" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB508601" }) would essentially put into statute a Supreme Court ruling from earlier this year barring the practice. In that case, the court ruled that Gull Lake Community Schools and its local affiliate of the Michigan Education Association could not enter into an agreement to have the school district deduct payroll from its employees for the purpose of making contributions to the MEA PAC. The MEA was to reimburse the district for all costs associated with the plan.

But the legislation goes further in allowing any resident or business owner in the public body's jurisdiction to bring an action in court against the public body for violating the prohibition.

Fiscal Agencies Report November Revenues Up

Michigan's total revenues for November totaled more than $1.6 billion, according to both the House and Senate Fiscal agencies, though collections for both the income and sales taxes were down.

The difference for the state seems to come mostly from Michigan Business Tax collections. The MBT ends this month.

And though up from November 2010 when total revenues were closer to $1.5 billion, the revenues actually fell short of projections for the month from May's Revenue Estimating Conference. The Senate Fiscal Agency said that was due mainly to reduced collections in the education property tax.

November's collections also represent the first revenue collection for the 2011-12 fiscal year. While the fiscal year began in October, October's revenues are accrued to the 2010-11 fiscal year.

The SFA said revenues for the month totaled $1.611 billion. The HFA counted $1.629 billion. The HFA counted the lottery transfer funds in its total, which was $61.6 million. The SFA counted taxes like those on beer, wine and industrial facilities that totaled $41.4 million.

Both reported net income taxes of $559.8 million, down 4.8 percent compared to a year ago. Gross collections were $573.6 million, down 6 percent, but refunds totaled $13.7 million, down 37 percent.

Sales tax collections totaled $568.5 million, down 0.2 percent. Sales taxes on motor vehicle sales were up by 2.7 percent.

Use tax collections totaled $92.5 million, down 6.6 percent.

And tobacco taxes were down by 0.1 percent to $78.4 million.

State education property tax collections totaled $176.7 million, down 25.7 percent. But the SFA said collections in the tax ran above forecasts through October, so total collections will run roughly on target with projections.

Helping the state out was $83.7 million in MBT collections, even though that was a significant drop in total collections from the year before.

And the real estate transfer tax totaled $10.2 million, up by 0.7 percent from a year ago.

Task Force: Unlimited Numbers, Close Quarters For Mentored Hunts

Mentors would be able to take as many youth hunting with them as they would like, but only two in the group would actually be able to hunt and youth with weapons would have to be in reach of the mentor under recommendations issued Thursday by the Mentored Youth Hunt Workgroup to the Natural Resources Commission.

The commission is expected to back the recommendations, which would be converted to a conservation order up for information and comment at the commission's January meeting and approved by the director after the February meeting. The new rules would then be in place for the 2012 hunting seasons starting in March.

The regulations are part of a new law eliminating the age restriction on hunters, but requiring hunters younger than age 10 to have a mentor who is licensed and experienced.

The workgroup had recommended simply no limit on the number of youth a mentor can take hunting, but accepted recommendations from the audience that they recommend no more than one, but not place a cap on the number of youth.

"I've been in a field with youth," said Jim De Clerck with the Saginaw Field and Stream Conservation Club. "One at a time is all I could handle."

But workgroup members had been particularly concerned about hindering families with only one parent wanting to take the children hunting.

The proposal would allow no more than two weapons per mentor, and any youth carrying a weapon would have to be within arm's length of the mentor.

The mentor would also be responsible for ensuring the weapon was appropriate to the child and would be legally responsible for any of the child's actions while hunting.

The new law would allow any age to hunt deer, and the workgroup recommended that the youth license allow taking of any deer without the usual sex restrictions or the antler point restrictions in place in some areas. Youth under age 13 would still be limited to hunting on private land.

Once the program is in place, the department would be charged with tracking its success, both through counting license sales and tracking some of those hunters over time to see if they remain in the sport.

"Hopefully, somebody 20 years from now will say I'm still hunting because I went out with a mentor in 2012," said Commissioner John Matonich (D-Davison), who chaired the workgroup.

Officials are also hoping to see safety improve as people get involved in the sport younger.

The workgroup recommendation charged the department with creating marketing materials as well as a guide for mentors. While the long-term goal is to get children involved in hunting, the shorter-term effort is to attract adults to the idea of being mentors in the field, said Dennis Fox with the DNR and a member of the workgroup.

Vic Ouellette with the Michigan Hunter Education Instructors Association and a member of the workgroup said members of his group were also interested in creating a free workshop for those considering being mentors.

DNR public information officer Mary Dettloff, also a member of the workgroup, said the department planned to work through organizations that already mentor youth to find adults willing to take children hunting.

Mr. De Clerck recommended the department also work with schools to get children interested in hunting. "The kids are going to take this home and say, 'I want to do this,'" he said.

The NRC Policy Committee on Technology, Information, Marketing and Education, which received the workgroup's presentation on Thursday, is also recommending that the workgroup be continued. Commissioner Mary Brown (D-Kalamazoo), chair of the committee, said the group should meet at least twice a year to review the program and, if needed, make further recommendations.

Snyder Signs Regulatory Tweaks

The Department of Environmental Quality will have at least two of its programs evaluated each year for efficiency and effectiveness under legislation signed Thursday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Besides signing { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27701" } (PA 248), Mr. Snyder signed a package of bills affecting the state's regulatory processes.

He signed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27101" } (PA 242) that requires the Office of Regulatory Reinvention to publish a small-business impact statement when promulgating rules and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27201" } (PA 243), which requires agencies to consider exempting small businesses from rules and regulations.

Also signed were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27301" } (PA 244), excluding legislators from being considered a party to a contested case or any other administrative hearing and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27401" } (PA 245), allowing the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules to hold a hearing on rules filed with the Department of State.

And Mr. Snyder signed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27501" } (PA 246), which requires the DEQ, upon request, to provide a list specifying the information required to complete a permit application. He also signed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB27601" } (PA 247) that requires the ORR to post information regarding proposed rules on its website.

All bills were filed with immediate effect.

ALSO SIGNED: Mr. Snyder also signed the following bill:

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB50201" }, PA 249 ALCOHOL LICENSE ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" }) Allows license to serve alcohol at certain community colleges and universities.

Signed: December 8, 2011; Effective: December 8, 2011

Trust Fund Recommends $103.4M For Land, Recreation

The Natural Resources Trust Fund Board of Trustees approved 145 applications for land purchases, totaling $63.7 million, and 99 applications for recreation projects, totaling $39.7 million.

Of the grants, 63 percent of the acquisition funds and 93 percent of the recreation funds went to local governments.

The Department of Natural Resources received $4.37 million to purchase private in-holdings within the boundaries of state parks, recreation areas and other project areas around the state. And $1 million was set aside to connect, extend or improve state trailways.

A $3 million grant to the DNR would purchase 2,000 acres in Jackson and Washtenaw counties to create the River Raisin Recreation Area.

The largest grant to a local government was $3.76 million to the Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom Trailway Management Council for 32.91 acres of railway corridor to be converted to a trail.

Clay Township (St. Clair County) was recommended for $3 million to purchase 440 acres on Harsens Island as a buffer to the St. Clair Flats State Game Area as well as to protect habitat and create recreational areas. Leland Township (Leelanau County) received $2.93 million for 104.5 acres to develop a township natural area.

Among the recreation grants, the board capped awards at $300,000, but it issued 30 such grants around the state. Among those top-funded projects was an effort by the DNR to improve equestrian trails across state lands.

Other projects included making Gallup Park in Ann Arbor largely barrier-free, adding two miles to the Lansing River Trail in Delhi Township (Ingham County), adding parking and trails to Silver Creek Russom Park in Dowagiac, adding a bridge to the M-6 trail in Kent County,

repairing the amphitheater and building a canoe launch and boat dock at Flat River Amphitheater Park in Lowell, building a concrete path in Petoskey's Downtown Greenway, and building a synthetic hockey rink at the Tahquamenon Outdoor Recreation Complex in Newberry.

The grants now have to be approved by the Legislature in an appropriations bill.

Committee Roundup

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS: A bill package changing some of the procedures for addressing leaking underground storage tanks was reported by the Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes Committee on Thursday.

All bills passed on party-line votes after { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) failed to get three amendments adopted she said would give the Department of Environmental Quality more time to review audits, place a stronger liability on owners and operators of the tanks and allow more public scrutiny of private industry standards referenced throughout the bills.

Kendra Everett, aide to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), said his legislation will provide certainty for the clean-up process and create a causation-based liability for the tanks.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB53301" }, the DEQ would be banned from promulgating rules to implement the changes, which the department supports.

The main bill is { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB52801" }. The rest of the package is { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB52901" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB53001" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB53101" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB53201" }. The petroleum industry supports the legislation.

Campaign Notes

CRAWFORD ENDORSES NICK KENNEDY FOR NEW 39TH DISTRICT: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207401&locid=1" } (R-Novi) is putting his support behind Nick Kennedy for the new 39th District.

"Nick has served southeast Michigan in numerous capacities from schools to the military. His leadership and job providing skills will enhance the legislature and serve the 39th District admirably," Mr. Crawford wrote in a statement.

Wixom Mayor Kevin Hinkley also endorsed him.

Capital Notebook

FLAGS ORDERED AT HALF-STAFF: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } ordered all state and federal flags in the state flown at half-staff on Friday in memory of U.S. Army Private First Class Jackie Diener II, 20, of Boyne City, and on Monday in memory of U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Vincent Bell, 28, of Detroit.

Mr. Diener was killed November 21 in the Khandahar Province of Afghanistan, while Mr. Bell was killed November 30 in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Appointments By The Governor

PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE: Victoria Tutag Lehr of Birmingham succeeds Giovannino Perri to represent pharmacists, Steven Hadesman of Bingham Farms succeeds James Forsh to represent physicians, Anthony Ognjan of Shelby Township succeeds Daniel Ryan to represent physicians, Susan DeVuyst-Miller of Grand Rapids succeeds Jonathan Arend to represent pharmacists, Marguerite Saith of Portage succeeds James Dillon to represent physicians and Jeffrey VanWormer of Roscommon succeeds Paul Thill to represent pharmacists, all for terms expiring October 1, 2013. Ms. Tutag Lehr is also appointed chair. The appointments are not subject to Senate action.

Appointments By The Senate Majority Leader

MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL: Linden Nelson of Bloomfield Hills, Steve Lamberg of Bloomfield Hills and Jeff Spillman of Bloomfield Hills are appointed.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, December 15

Certificate of Need Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9 a.m.

Subscribers Please Note

A story in Wednesday's Michigan Report misspelled the name of Wendy Zdeb-Roper.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, December 9

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=skeds_subscribers.cfm&locid=1&date=12/9/2011" }

No legislative committees scheduled.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=skeds_subscribers.cfm&locid=1&date=12/9/2011" }

Board of Marriage and Family Therapy, Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara_mft_120911agd_369888_7.pdf" \t "_blank" }; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara_mft_120911dagd_369890_7.pdf" \t "_blank" }))

Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, Michigan State University, 55 South Harrison Avenue, East Lansing, 2:30 p.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=skeds_subscribers.cfm&locid=1&date=12/9/2011" }

Michigan Public Television's "Off the Record" with guest Brandon Jessup of the emergency manager referendum petition drive, ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.wkar.org/offtherecord/" \t "blank" } available at noon; { HYPERLINK "http://podcast.wkar.msu.edu/otr/rss.xml" \t "blank" } available at 1 p.m.)

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Senate Activity for Thursday, December 8, 2011

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

{ **REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENTS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701" }) Requires certain information to be included in regulatory impact statements. Am. Sec. 45, 1969 PA 306 (MCL 24.245).

Signed: December 8, 2011; Effective: December 8, 2011

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB27101&date=12/8/2011" }

(PA 242)

{ **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES LIMITS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801" }) Establishes limits on use of certain orders, bulletins and guidelines to provide regulatory flexibility for small businesses. Am. Secs. 32, 40, 43, 61 and 64, 1969 PA 306 (MCL 24.232 et seq.).

Signed: December 8, 2011; Effective: December 8, 2011

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{ ADMINISTRATIVE RULES ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001" **})** Updates reference
ERLIto Administrative Procedures Act. Am. Sec. 2 of 1984 PA 27 (MCL 4.552).
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{ ADMINISTRATIVE RULES ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001" **})** Clarifies authority
ERLIof Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Am. Secs. 35 and 45a, 1969 PA 306 (MCL
NK

"http 24.235 & 24.245a).
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{ **ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Establishes
ERLI consequences of missed deadlines for review of certain environmental permits. Am. Secs.
NK 1305, 1307 & 1311 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.1305 et seq.).
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{ ADMINISTRATIVE RULES ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001" **}) ERLI** Requires posting of legal and policy bases and assessment of impact on the rules in the private sector. Am. **NK** Secs. 3, 39 & 122 of 1969 PA 306 (MCL 24.203 et seq.) & adds sec. 45b.

"http Signed: December 8, 2011; Effective: December 8, 2011

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{ ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" **}) ERLI** Requires peer review of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act programs. Amends 1994 **NK** PA 451 (MCL 324.101 - 324.90106) by adding pt. 27.

"http Signed: December 8, 2011; Effective: December 8, 2011

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{ ALCOHOL LICENSE ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701" **}**) Allows license to
ERLI serve alcohol at certain community colleges and universities. Adds Sec. 513a, 1998 PA 58
NK (MCL 436.1101 to 436.2303).
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IMMEDIATE EFFECT APPROVED
{ EASEMENTS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPERL "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=156601" **}**) Revises
INK policy for granting easements across state owned land.
"http://w
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wer.com/i
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ation_bill

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011HB42
9801" }

PASSED
{ CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" **}**) Exempts
ERLI equipment to install or implement soil and water conservation techniques on qualified
NK agricultural property from property tax.
"http
://ww 34-1; Earlier Advanced to Third Reading with Substitute S-1 Adopted
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{ PRISONER ITEMS ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601" **}**) Prohibits
ERLI prisoners receiving or possessing certain items.
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{ **HEALTH DIRECTIVES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80201" }) Creates a peace of
ERLI mind registry and provides for registration and access of peace of mind directives.
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{ **COURT OF APPEALS** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901" }) Provides
ERLI redistricting of Court of Appeals.
NK
"http 26-9; Earlier Discharged from Redistricting and Advanced to Third Reading
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{ ENERGY CREDITS ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801" **})** Modifies certain
ERLI credit for high-powered energy batteries under the Michigan Business Tax.
NK
"http 30-5
://ww
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gwer. "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB85501&date=1
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ADVANCED TO THIRD READING
{ AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT INCENTIVE ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210101" **})** Provides for
RLINK personal property tax incentive for use of certain agricultural equipment.
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ongwer
.com/in
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egislati
on_bill
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id=2011
HB458
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{ PROPERTY TAX CREDIT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=22401" **})** Revise
RLINK application of taxable value eligibility cap on certain agricultural property.
"http://
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}:

{ TAX ABATEMENT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" **})** Allows
LINK issuance of an amended certificate for tax abatement on certain projects.
"http://
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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" } **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" **}**) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

With Substitute S-1

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB52801&date=12/8/2011" **}**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101" } **UNDERGROUND TANKS** (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101" **}**) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

With Substitute S-1

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB52901&date=12/8/2011" **}**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" } **UNDERGROUND TANKS ({** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" **}**) Modifies underground storage tank liability and cleanup procedures.

With Substitute S-1

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB53001&date=12/8/2011" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101" } **UNDERGROUND TANKS ({** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101" **}**) Modifies underground storage tank liability and cleanup procedures.

With Substitute S-1

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2011SB53101&date=12/8/2011" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801" } **UNDERGROUND TANKS ({** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801" **}**) Modifies underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.

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{ UNDERGROUND TANKS ({ HYPERLINK
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RLIN underground storage tank liability and clean-up procedures.
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{ HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=71001" }) Modifies certain
ERLI eligibility requirements for licensure and registration of health professional.
NK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB70201" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" } **BULK CONTAINERS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Regulates dealers and transactions for sale of plastic bulk merchandise containers. Creates new act.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB72101" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80201" } **BULK CONTAINERS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80201" }) Provides sentencing guidelines for crime of knowingly buying or selling stolen plastic bulk merchandise containers.

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{ BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" **}**) Revise to
RLINKrequire placement of ballot instructions in voting booth and include with absentee
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.com/in "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=66301" }
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{ STATE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" **}**) Provide for
RLINKfunding for state emergency relief services.
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11HB5
18901"
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{ LOW INCOME ENERGY FUND REBATE ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" **}**) Eliminate
RLINKcollection for low-income and energy efficiency fund.
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11HB5
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{ RETIREMENT BOARDS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=31101" **}**) Clarify
RLINKmembership of board of trustees of certain police and fire retirement systems as a
"http://prohibited subject of bargaining.
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INTRODUCED

{ **SELLING TO MINORS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201" }) Bases revocation ERL of license for multiple sales to minors on consecutive 12-month period. Amends sec. 501 INK of 1998 PA 58 (MCL 436.1501).

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67001" }

{ **NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=35001" }) Establishes ERL neighborhood improvement districts. Creates new act.

INK

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{ PHYSICIAN LIABILITY ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401" **}**) Requires
ERL professional liability insurance for certain physicians. Amends secs. 16221 & 16226 of
INK 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.16221 & 333.16226) & adds secs. 17017 & 17517.
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The Senate adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday, December 13, 2011.

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Click the ⊡after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Volume #50, Report #252 -- Thursday, December 29, 2011

Newsmaker 2011: Calley Redefines Lt. Governor's Office

When Rick Snyder discussed with then-Rep. Brian Calley the possibility of becoming his running mate during the 2010 gubernatorial campaign, Mr. Calley had one request.

"The one thing I asked for when I joined the ticket was that we talk every day, whether that be in person or on the phone, I felt it was important if I was to represent him and to also help him develop and achieve the initiatives of his upcoming administration, I surely needed to know him and so out of that grew a very close and trusting relationship," Mr. Calley said in a recent interview.

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Calley said from the time Mr. Calley joined the ticket that he would play a much different role than the one traditionally reserved for the lieutenant governor. In the past, the lieutenant governor, besides presiding over the Senate, would be assigned a particular issue by the governor. Instead, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Calley said Mr. Calley would instead serve as a senior adviser on the spectrum of issues facing the administration, and that has occurred.

In a year that saw sweeping change to state policy unlike any in modern times, Mr. Calley is Gongwer News Service's choice as Newsmaker 2011, the year's top newsmaker in Michigan government and politics.

To be sure, Mr. Snyder is the ultimate driver of policy direction from the Executive Office. And none of the major changes to state law this year - tax reform, charter school expansion, public employee benefit changes, the teacher tenure overhaul, to name a few - could have happened without legislators' votes and the leadership of House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) and Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) to help produce those votes.

Lt. Governor Brian Calley is Gongwer's choice as Newsmaker

2011. Governor Rick Snyder got the designation in 2010, and then-House Speaker Andy Dillon was the choice in 2009.

But Gongwer selected Mr. Calley because it was the collaborative effort between the legislative and executive branches that produced such fundamental changes, and he was at the nexus of that effort through his key role in shaping administration policy and in winning legislative votes for it.

Mr. Calley, 34, led development of key administration initiatives in private meetings and then made the case for them at public hearings. He redefined the lieutenant governor's post into one of sweeping influence in most major aspects of the administration. He was in the trenches of the Legislature trying to win passage of major issues, succeeding at some and failing at others. So significant is Mr. Calley's place in the Snyder administration that lobbyists say they now must develop a strategy for the lieutenant governor for the first time.

In the past, it would have been useful to speak with the lieutenant governor to get a sense of the governor's thinking on an issue. Now, it's critical to speak with the lieutenant governor because he will have a major role in developing the administration's policies.

Mr. Calley did endure some difficulties this year. He led Mr. Snyder's effort to win legislative approval for authorization of a new bridge connecting Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, that resulted in the one major defeat for the governor.

His daughter, Kara, who has battled a heart condition since her birth in early 2010, nearly died after suffering a series of heart attacks during the summer, but has since recovered and now appears to be "out of the woods," Mr. Calley said, although she will still need to be monitored.

Mr. Calley's major role continues. He is overseeing the development of a plan to eliminate the personal property tax and replace most of the revenue for local governments.

"He's been a very important part of our team. Brian's done a great job, and I really appreciate our partnership," Mr. Snyder said in an interview. "I believe we've done better than traditionally you'd see with lieutenant governors in terms of making them an integral, critical part of our team. It's interesting. I don't know how people could historically not look at involving the lieutenant governor that way because you have finite resources and to take one of the best and brightest people in state government and not put them to work or ask them to do a lot didn't make any sense to me."

Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) said while it's easy to pick a lieutenant who isn't relevant, Mr. Calley is the opposite of that and Mr. Snyder should be credited for the pick.

"In this case Brian adds a lot of value," Mr. Richardville said. "He and the governor don't look at the world the same way, so I give Rick Snyder credit for bringing someone in who does look at things differently, does have more empathy for what it takes to get elected to the Legislature."

But Democrats have bristled occasionally at Mr. Calley. Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer (D-East Lansing) ripped him for a lack of professionalism after he delivered a highly

unusual statement from his spot on the Senate rostrum praising the tax legislation before announcing his tie-breaking vote.

"Shall we not pretend that the status quo has been some resounding success for us? Or shall we take a chance on the future," he said then.

And Ms. Whitmer disagrees on his level of influence.

"The lieutenant governor was more than willing to cast the tie-breaking vote that raised taxes on middle class families and seniors, but since that time he seems content to simply be a spectator when it comes to getting the Republican majority to go along with the governor's agenda," she said. "Where was he when Republicans couldn't even get the NITC legislation out of committee? Where was he when the Republicans didn't even give his boss' infrastructure plan a passing thought? For someone that came out of the legislature, Lt. Governor Calley doesn't seem to be able to have the level of influence into the legislative process that many people probably expected him to."

One of Mr. Calley's long-sought priorities, legislation that would mandate insurance companies cover treatment for autism, remains in the mix and is expected to come up in the Senate for action early next year, as was first reported in Gongwer.

House Minority Leader Richard Hammel (D-Mount Morris Township) said Mr. Calley has worked personally with several of his caucus members on specific issues important to him such as autism coverage.

Mr. Hammel said he doesn't mind that, and in fact welcomes it.

"I'm very comfortable with him meeting folks that are champions of a particular issue, or a vice chair of a committee, as long as we sit down together and start discussing strategy when it comes to moving forward," he said.

Republicans have had control of the governor's office and both houses of the Legislature several times in recent history, notably the 1995-96, 1999-2000 and 2001-02 legislative terms. And considerable new laws were enacted in all three of those terms, especially in 1999-2000. But never have Republicans been quite as in sync as they are now. In 1995-96, the GOP had a tenuous 56-54 House majority (with one of the votes belonging to the mercurial then-Rep. David Jaye and a large group of moderates in the caucus) Both the 1999-2000 and 2001-02 terms saw bad blood between top House and Senate Republicans, as well as a remaining contingent of moderates on labor issues, that prevented the type of fundamental overhaul seen in 2011.

Mr. Calley said he could not opine on why this term saw more sweeping changes than previous eras of Republican control because he was not in Lansing then. But he said communication has been a key to this year's success.

"Even today, we put a very high premium on communication between the principles, and I think that makes all the difference," he said. "The majority leader, the speaker and the governor and I

are all in communication on a very regular basis. But we also have members of our team that are in communication on a very regular basis on a staff-to-staff level. As long as everybody remains dedicated to working things out, working out differences and being focused on results in the end, you'll continue to see a highly productive system."

And Mr. Calley credits the overall Snyder team for the success it has enjoyed so far.

"There are very few issues or instances that are handled by a (single) person here on this team," he said. "So what happens, while any one of us might take the lead on a particular issue, there's fingerprints of everybody in this office involved in almost every initiative that moves through."

CALLEY'S YEAR STARTS WITH A BANG: If there was any doubt that Mr. Snyder's plans to make Mr. Calley an integral part of his administration were campaign rhetoric, the governor quickly put them to rest.

Mr. Calley would play a critical role in developing the most significant policy the administration would put forth - the replacement of the Michigan Business Tax with a 6 percent corporate income tax and a massive restructuring of the personal income tax that would eliminate most credits, most notably the long-time major exemptions for retirement income.

Usually, the budget director presents the governor's budget recommendation to the House and Senate Appropriations committees, but the gravity of Mr. Snyder's proposals was such that the governor himself would give an overview. Budget Director John Nixon would go into greater detail on the budget aspects. And Mr. Calley would give the detailed presentation on the tax plan. From then on, Mr. Calley was ubiquitous on the tax legislation: answering questions at the House Tax Policy Committee, which met for weeks on the legislation; meeting privately with legislators on the issue; and then asking - and receiving - the ability to cast the decisive tie-breaking vote in the Senate.

"That was a very practical decision early on because of the relationship I had with people in the Legislature and then the experience I had with the system particularly as it pertained to tax policy," Mr. Calley said of the role he played. "When it comes to proposing something as substantial as the tax reforms of 2011, to engage and initiate the type of dialogue required at the legislative level I think did require some pretty strong relationships."

Indeed, Mr. Calley had been the ranking Republican on the House Tax Policy Committee and was involved in the development of the MBT. During the campaign, Democrats tried to hit Mr. Snyder for the seeming disconnect between naming one of the players in developing the tax he compared to the movie "Dumb and Dumber" as his running mate, but like virtually everything else the Democrats tried, it did not stick.

Mr. Calley found himself under the microscope a bit in the opening days of the administration. In early February, about a week before the Snyder team would unveil its tax and budget recommendations, Mr. Calley told the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce that Mr. Snyder's proposals would hit Lansing like an atomic bomb. The Holland Sentinel was covering Mr.

Calley's speech and word of the lieutenant governor's comments spread quickly to the point that Mr. Snyder's press office called his choice of words "extremely unfortunate."

The flap faded and Mr. Calley made light of his comments at the tax and budget presentation.

One key to victory, Mr. Calley said, was making the debate about the basic principles of the tax code as opposed to any one particular change.

"The questions we always came back to was does this make this tax more simple or less simple, does it make it more fair or less fair or does it make it more efficient or less efficient," he said.

But that philosophy would be put to the test when considering whether to end the state's generous exemptions for retirement income. The state had never taxed pensions from public sector jobs, and retirement income from the private sector was subject to a huge exemption of $45,120 for singles ($90,240 for married couples). Mr. Snyder proposed ending those exemptions.

"I would say that was the biggest gut-check test of how dedicated we were to the principles that were laid out," Mr. Calley said. "Did we really believe that taxation should be fair and across the board to stand for everybody or not as one of our principles? I'm very proud that the team came to the conclusion that we needed to be consistent, we needed to take ownership of our current responsibilities, all of us here in Michigan and do so for the good of the next generation."

Negotiations with the Legislature produced a compromise. Persons born before 1946 would continue receiving their current exemptions while those born afterward would get a reduced exemption.

The other area where the administration had to budge from its original proposal was on the Earned Income Tax Credit, which Mr. Snyder initially had proposed eliminating. State residents have been able to claim a credit on their state income taxes equal to 20 percent of the credit they received on their federal taxes, providing help to the working poor.

Liberal organizations mounted a furious push to save the EITC. Mr. Calley said it had been discussed extensively prior to the unveiling of the tax plan.

"It was one of those areas that could have gone either way," he said. "We debated it internally substantially before it went live with the Legislature, and when it became clear that there was a critical mass in the Legislature that wanted to preserve a portion of it, it wasn't a very tough sell to the administration."

The credit was cut back to 6 percent instead of 20 percent.

BRIDGE: If the tax plan's passage was the high point of the year for Mr. Calley, then the low point was the Legislature's rebuffing of the administration's efforts to win authorization for the Detroit River International Crossing, which the administration renamed the New International Trade Crossing.

The Senate Economic Development Committee, after weeks of hearings on SB 410, rejected the legislation, which appears all but dead. The legislation seemed to fall apart October 19 when the committee was expected to vote, but the chair, Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township), abruptly and surprisingly adjourned the meeting moments after gaveling it to order, complaining no one had showed him the revised version of the bill.

"I was surprised. When you have a member that offers a substitute, you can't really control for all the different factors, who they talk to and so forth," Mr. Calley said of Mr. Kowall's adjourning of the meeting without a vote. "I don't think I really fully understood it at the time, and I guess I don't know today what the real problem was there, but as soon as it was clear that there was some sort of a breakdown in communication, that everyone was committed to talking and doing so in expedited fashion. And that did occur after that point."

That's at odds with what legislators in both parties said occurred. They described at the time that the Snyder administration then essentially discontinued its involvement in the legislation, which the committee defeated the next day.

Now the focus is largely on what most expect will be the administration's back-up plan to authorize the bridge, perhaps some type of interlocal agreement that avoids the need for legislative approval.

The speculation on that subject was unleashed August 4 as Mr. Snyder and Mr. Calley began a tour of the farmer's market on the Capitol lawn. Mr. Snyder had answered a few questions from reporters on the pleasant, sunny day on the sidewalk along Capitol Avenue not far from the statue memorializing former Governor Austin Blair.

Once Mr. Snyder wrapped up his comments to reporters and began visiting some of the tents at the market, reporters descended on Mr. Calley.

It was during this exchange that Mr. Calley would reveal publicly that there were several other ways to authorize the bridge besides legislation. The comments, reported in Gongwer News Service (See Gongwer Michigan Report, August 4, 2011), began to gain traction and seemed to raise the question of why legislators should cast a vote for the bridge, incurring the wrath of the Moroun family, owners of the rival Ambassador Bridge and willing to spend a fortune perhaps to make their re-elections difficult.

When Gongwer asked Mr. Calley recently about the exchange, he appeared to recall it well, remembering which reporter asked him about other options for the bridge and it seemed to burn him that his remarks were perceived as significant.

"I just acknowledged that the Granholm administration had considered other ways, but we were still very committed to our proposal," he said. "It wasn't really new information. It had been extensively reported in the past. I'm not really sure why me stating something of that nature would be a decision point for anybody else simply because it's not like it was new information."

But to most bridge-watchers, Mr. Calley's comments were significant. No one from the Snyder administration had spoken publicly in such detail about the possibility. During the Granholm administration, there was a general thought that perhaps then-Governor Jennifer Granholm might ask the federal government to retake control of the bridge project and build the bridge without having to have Michigan's approval, but there was never any serious movement in that direction.

What is striking about the August 4 exchange is that Mr. Calley volunteered the information and was not initially directly asked about other options. One reporter was pressing Mr. Calley on whether the votes would materialize in the Senate to pass the legislation.

"What I'm telling you is that this bridge will happen," he said that day. "There's a lot of ways the bridge can happen, the bridge will happen. My favorite way is the way that we proposed it the first time. And so we're going to continue on that path."

Several other questions on the bridge not involving other options were asked before Mr. Calley was asked to expand on what other ways the bridge could happen. "There's a half a dozen different ways," he said. "I'm not going to get into describing all the different ways that it could happen because I'm still very committed to the way that we proposed, which I think is the best way, but it certainly is not the only way."

In an interview with Michigan Public Television this month, Mr. Snyder acknowledged making mistakes on the bridge, but refused to call Mr. Calley's comments one of them and defended his lieutenant governor.

Of not being able to win approval of the bridge this year, something the Snyder administration had wanted, Mr. Calley was sanguine.

"It's a four-year term, and so while it's convenient to consider time periods such as a year-end, that's really an artificial block of time, and I'm still very confident that the bridge project will get done, and it's just a matter of working through the process," he said. "Relentless positive action applies to this issue more than any other."

ANTICIPATION BUILDS ON PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX: Mr. Calley said when the administration unveils its proposal on how to eliminate the personal property tax, which applies local property taxes to business equipment and earmarks most of the money to local governments with the rest going to the School Aid Fund, it will be notable for how little objection it raises.

Mr. Calley said he expects major stakeholders to support it. He said he has solicited and received input from everyone from local government associations to individuals with experience or reliance on the tax and the business community.

"I believe that when we do release the personal property tax plan that it's going to be one that has wider-spread support than you might think based on past efforts to make substantial changes there," he said.

Mr. Calley said he has spent a considerable amount of time researching court decisions on the issue.

"So much of property tax law these days is filled in (by) the courts that I've spent a lot of time on court decisions this year as well to try and get ahead of some of the ambiguous questions that have tripped us up in the past and created a lot of litigation," he said. "It's important that when we do make a change that it be well-defined and that we fill in as many blanks as we can possibly anticipate so that there can be some consistency and reliance on what it looks like going forward."

Mr. Calley had planned that the administration would unveil its personal property tax plan sooner. But everything changed in late July when his young daughter Kara, not even 2 years old, nearly died.

"I had intended to spend a great deal of time last summer on development of that plan," Mr. Calley said of the personal property tax. "I ended up spending a lot of that time in the hospital with my daughter."

DAUGHTER'S HEALTH SCARE 'THE SORT OF THING YOU TAKE MINUTE BY MINUTE': Mr. Calley and his wife, Julie, were taking Kara to the University of Michigan hospital for a heart catheterization so physicians could figure out how to repair a leaking valve in her heart.

As was the norm for Mr. Calley, he was posting regular updates about the situation on his Facebook page, including a heartbreaking picture of Kara crying in Ms. Calley's arms about being back at the hospital. But Mr. Calley's posts suddenly turned alarming with a post at 6:15 p.m. July 26.

"Urgent Prayer Request: My heart is breaking as I write this. Kara has crashed twice. What was thought to be routine is at a very life threatening stage. Kara is fighting for her life right now. They may put her on the heart and lungs machine soon," Mr. Calley posted.

Mr. Calley continued with several posts throughout the coming days with a stream of dispatches explaining she had suffered a series of heart attacks that riveted the Capitol community and beyond.

Mr. Calley had decided to start using his Facebook account as a way to keep friends and family abreast of Kara's health after she was born and her heart condition came to light.

"I spent so much time out in the hallway calling people, friends and family, letting them know how Kara was doing, that it seemed like I was never with her," he said. "And so I told them all I wasn't making any more phone calls. I was going to do updates on Facebook. 'If you want to know what was happening, then look at Facebook.' So I kept that up throughout the whole process. The main difference was when Kara had the issues in the summer, there were just more Facebook friends, so there was a lot more interest."

Indeed, by last summer, Mr. Calley had gone from a relatively unknown state representative from Portland in early 2010 to the lieutenant governor with thousands of people following his Facebook posts.

"The word I usually use to describe that time period is brutal," he said of the time from July 26 until Kara stabilized. "It's kind of a helpless situation where you have to totally rely on other people to really know what they're doing and to get it right. ... It was just the sort of thing you take minute by minute, and while before it was difficult for me to imagine like how could I ever handle that because nobody can ever just handle it, but somehow you do because you have to."

The Calleys traded off with one staying at the hospital with Kara and the other home with their other two children, Collin and Reagan.

Kara is "doing great now," Mr. Calley said, with her physician saying in November he thought she was "out of the woods" and probably no longer would need surgery.

"I didn't realize until days later how many people around the state and really around the whole country were pulling for her, praying for her," he said. "It was a pretty amazing experience. I'm glad that my family opened up as much as we did during that time because now anywhere I go in the state - I really do mean anywhere, including in Calumet when I was up there last summer - that people are asking about her and how's she doing and are concerned and just seem to have a real interest. It's pretty special."

Top 10 Laws Of The Year

The year 2011 saw a rush of major legislation becoming law not seen since the 1960s. With this story, Gongwer News Service ranks the top 10 most significant new laws enacted this year.

In some cases, because a particular issue involved a series of bills and thus technically more than one law, they are grouped together.

10. ANTI-BULLYING BILL FINALLY PASSES: While passage of a measure requiring schools to establish anti-bullying policies escaped previous Legislatures, the impetus for getting a bill passed this time came in early October during a lengthy debate in the Senate about eliminating the cap on charter schools. Governor Rick Snyder had called for the legislation in his special education message in April, but it had not seemed to get real legislative traction.

Democrats put a tie-bar amendment up and the heat was on since Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) already had his anti-bullying measure, SB 137, waiting on the floor. The Senate finally took that bill up in early November, but Republicans at the last minute substituted the legislation exempting statements based on religious or moral convictions, which they later defended as protecting free speech. But Democrats leaped at that and declared it a "license to bully." Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer's (D-East Lansing) floor speech became a YouTube sensation.

While the bill won Senate passage, the House Republican spokesperson declared it toxic after national media ridicule ensued.

The House took up its own anti-bullying bill, HB 4163, sponsored by another Republican, Rep. Phil Potvin of Cadillac. That bill didn't contain the religious exemption. The Senate took that legislation up after the Thanksgiving break and Mr. Snyder signed it during an emotional ceremony earlier this month (PA 241).

9. ITEM PRICING REQUIREMENT ELIMINATED: In the 35 years Michigan had required retailers to place a price sticker or tag on every item of merchandise for sale, the law was hailed a handy tool for consumers and reviled by businesses as a burdensome regulation leading to having to hire staff simply to tag items. Business groups tried for years to repeal the requirement and failed every time, not coming even close to getting a bill signed into law.

But Mr. Snyder made ending the requirement part of his State of the State message in January, and the Legislature passed it (HB 4158, PA 15) with a remarkable lack of drama just two months later. The requirement officially ceased September 1.

8. CHARTER SCHOOL CAP PHASED OUT: In his April special message on education, Mr. Snyder said he wanted to eliminate the cap on charter schools in districts where at least one school was failing academically, but Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair) decided to go for it all when he introduced SB 618 abolishing the entire limit on university-authorized charters.

The Senate passed the legislation in early October, but it clearly faced a more difficult road in the House and during the ensuing weeks it was unclear what it would take to actually get the bill done.

In the meantime, Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc), the House Education Committee chair, got recalled and was replaced by Rep. Tom McMillin (R-Rochester Hills). Speaker Jase Bolger also made some last-minute changes to the committee's line-up that sparked comments he was stacking the deck in favor of getting the bill through.

But the real drama unfolded on the House floor on one of the last days of session in December. The chamber went through nearly 30 amendments before passing the bill, which was altered to phase out the cap by 2015. Starting next year, the charter school cap doubles from 150 to 300 (PA 277). Now the question will be just how many schools universities will seek to authorize.

7. WORKERS' COMPENSATION ALTERED: Business groups won a major victory when the Republican-controlled Legislature backed changes to how workers' compensation is determined by streamlining statute to current case law.

HB 5002 (PA 266) says injured workers are capped at 80 percent of their after-tax wage and their wage-earning capacity is determined by reasonably available, suitable jobs, regardless of whether an injured worker earns those wages or not.

Democrats labeled this "phantom wages," but after police and fire fighters won an exemption for themselves in the Senate, the bill was greased for passage.

While passage was narrow in the Legislature, it wrapped up a major issue for businesses, which pay the entire cost of workers' compensation insurance. Mr. Snyder signed the bill last week.

6. MICHIGAN ISSUES BONDS TO PAY UNEMPLOYMENT DEBT: After years of racking up a heavy debt to cover unemployment benefits, the Legislature decided to enter the bond market and to pay back the federal government, becoming the second state behind Texas to take such an action.

But along with the bonding measures, SB 483 (PA 267) and SB 484 (PA 268), lawmakers also approved several changes to how unemployment benefits are awarded through SB 806 (PA 269).

Business groups gave into a slightly higher taxable wage base for jobless benefits, which would remain in place until the trust fund reaches $2.5 billion. But unemployed workers will now have 10 weeks before they are forced to take a job if it pays at least the prevailing wage in their area or is 120 percent more than their benefits check from the state.

The legislation was another major issue wrapped into the fast-paced last three weeks of session, and most observers will recall that Democrats in the Senate successfully got the 205-page bill read out loud, which took four hours and 18 minutes.

These moves came on top of action earlier in the year to reduce the number of state unemployment benefits from 26 weeks to 20 (HB 4408, PA 14).

5. REDISTRICTING: Republicans controlled all aspects of the decennial redrawing of boundaries for the state's U.S. House districts as well as lines for state House and Senate seats (HB 4780, PA 128, and SB 498, PA 129) and the Court of Appeals, the last of which is still not done. The decisions for the U.S. House have had enormous implications with two young Democratic incumbents, U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke of Detroit and U.S. Rep. Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township, squaring off in a Democratic primary next year to see whose career in Washington continues. The lines also softened up the political base of U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Detroit), causing a long line of aspirants to declare they would challenge him in the Democratic primary.

And Republicans appeared to set up some trouble for U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia), making his seat based more in Oakland, instead of Wayne, County, prompting Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake Township) to challenge him in next year's Republican primary.

Meanwhile, decisions made for the state House lines put the careers of several legislators in jeopardy. Several Detroit representatives were lumped into the same districts. Rep. Rick Olson (R-York Township) was drawn into a heavily Democratic seat while Rep. Lisa Brown (D-West Bloomfield) was drawn into a heavily Republican one.

4. TEACHER TENURE TOUGHENED: Republicans had long loathed teacher tenure, the process by which teachers of a certain level of seniority gained statutory protections making it extremely difficult to fire them. Mr. Snyder proposed huge changes, but not outright elimination, and succeeded in getting the legislation into law.

The legislation makes it easier for school districts to fire teachers considered ineffective with three consecutive ineffective ratings for a tenured teacher being cause for dismissal. The legislation would allow the dismissal of probationary teachers at any time and the dismissal or demotion of teachers on continuing tenure for a reason that was not arbitrary and capricious instead of the current mandate that firings must be for reasonable and just cause. The probationary period would grow from four years to five years.

The package HB 4625 (PA 101), HB 4626 (PA 100), HB 4627 (PA 102) and HB 4628 (PA 103) also spells out explicitly that when schools have to reduce workforce for financial reasons, they will put an emphasis on ensuring that effective teachers remain on the job as opposed to laying off teachers based on seniority.

The ripple effect of the issue was enormous. Less than a week after the Legislature gave the legislation final approval, a furious Michigan Education Association declared the tenure law the "tipping point" for it to get involved in efforts to recall members of the House and immediately poured in the resources necessary to put Mr. Scott up for recall. In November, in large part because of the MEA's efforts, voters ousted Mr. Scott, making him the first legislator in 28 years to be recalled.

3. NEW EMERGENCY MANAGER LAW: The first big proposal the Snyder administration sought from the Legislature led to some of the largest protests in years at the Capitol and even some arrests when people refused to leave the Rotunda after the building had closed. The legislation, sponsored by Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), substantially increased the powers of what were then called emergency financial managers, empowered under PA 72 of 1990 to run cities and school districts deemed to be in financial emergency by the state.

But under the new law (HB 4214, PA 4), the renamed emergency managers would have the one major power their predecessors lacked - the ability to modify or void contracts with the community's employees. That's what prompted unions to mobilize and dominate the Capitol lawn for most of the spring. They also would have the power, though needing gubernatorial approval, to dissolve the community. The law is the subject of an effort to put it up for referendum next year and a federal lawsuit.

The four entities under emergency financial managers - Benton Harbor, Detroit Public Schools, Ecorse and Pontiac - are now operating under emergency managers. Flint became the first city to undergo an emergency manager after the law took effect, and other communities - most notably Detroit - are undergoing reviews that could lead to emergency managers there.

2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ON THE FRONTBURNER: Michigan was no Wisconsin when it came to focusing on labor unions, but lawmakers here came at that group from various angles throughout the year.

First up was the benefits for unrelated adults living with state employees. The Civil Service Commission approved it, but the Senate sought to overturn the new benefit by adopting SCR 9. However, the House failed to muster the two-thirds vote needed to concur in the spring.

But Republicans prevailed in a second round on that issue when they decided to prohibit public entities from giving employees those benefits. A change in the Senate led to confusion over whether HB 4770 and HB 4771 extended to employees at universities, which are given autonomy in the Constitution, but Mr. Snyder ultimately signed one of the bills (PA 297) with a lengthy explanation of why universities are exempt. The other bill was vetoed over a technical issue, but does not alter the result. State employees were not affected because the Civil Service Commission controls their compensation under the Constitution.

Public employees were also in the spotlight as the Legislature debated how to control local health care costs, which ultimately led to enactment of a hard dollar cap on how much they could spend on those benefits or split the cost 80/20 with their employees in SB 7 (PA 152). But extending that to state civil service employees and university employees through a constitutional amendment in SJR C ultimately failed in the House because a two-thirds vote is required.

Over the year, the Snyder administration also sought $145 million in concessions from state employee unions that were calculated into the 2011-12 budget, but that effort fizzled out. Unions did negotiate a new contract that calls for some pay increases in 2012 and 2013, as well as employees paying more for their health care.

1. TAX AND BUDGET REFORMS: That Mr. Snyder prevailed in receiving approval essentially of his exact proposal to replace the Michigan Business Tax with the 6 percent Corporate Income Tax was big enough. It marks a sea change in how Michigan taxes businesses, going from a value-added system to one based purely on profits. But Mr. Snyder took the reform to an even more dramatic level when he wiped out the state's entire tax incentive program for businesses, replacing it with a grant-based system.

And for added measure, he and the Legislature negotiated massive changes to the state's 44-year-old personal income tax. For the first time, pensions from public sector jobs will be subject to the tax. The generous exemption for retirement income from private sector jobs ($45,120 for singles, $90,240 for married couples) drops to $20,000 for singles and $40,000 for married couples. The Earned Income Tax Credit falls from equaling 20 percent of a filer's federal EITC to 6 percent. An array of tax credits for filers making donations to a variety of institutions ceases. The income tax rate, scheduled to drop to 3.9 percent, instead only declines from 4.35 to 4.25 percent. The $600 per child credit for child care expenses ends. And the Homestead Property Tax Credit is drastically scaled back.

Overall, HB 4361 (PA 38) means a fundamental reshaping of how the state raises revenue, sharply reducing how much businesses contribute and increasing how much individuals pay.

That plan was married to wholesale changes in the budget that was finalized for the 2011-12 fiscal year on May 26, the earliest conclusion to a budget in 30 years. Among the major moves in the budget was a $300 per pupil cut to K-12 schools (although that cut drops to as low as $100

for schools meeting certain requirements), a 15 percent cut to aid to public universities, a huge change to revenue sharing that made less money available to those communities and only if they met a series of mandates, and cutting off cash assistance to those on welfare beyond the five-year federal limit. Mr. Snyder surprised many with his decision not to cut Medicaid and won approval of a new 1 percent tax on health insurance claims to ensure he could fulfill that goal.

Jeffries Reflects On Career Made At S.F.A.

Improvement in the U.S. economy is expected to be a marathon, not a sprint, which is the outlook 34-year Senate Fiscal Agency veteran Ellen Jeffries takes to the Revenue Estimating Conference in two weeks.

Ms. Jeffries, who became director nearly a year ago, has made her career at the fiscal agency, first starting out on the budgets for commerce, labor and licensing and regulation and then moving on to higher education appropriations.

In a recent interview, she joked about being the best person to head up the higher education budget - because she's a graduate of Hillsdale College, which as a private school receives no state government aid.

But Ms. Jeffries said she's always been intrigued by public policy, and that is why she pursued her bachelor's degree in political economy at Hillsdale and a master's degree in political science from the University of Chicago.

She came back to Michigan to be closer to her family in the southeast part of the state and the fiscal agency was a perfect fit. For 20 of her 34 years, she served as deputy director under then-director Gary Olson.

"I just was always interested in that...not to be a politician," Ms. Jeffries quickly notes.

But Ms. Jeffries is fiercely loyal to the Legislature and its inhabitants both old and new. Most members are dedicated to public policy but don't get much appreciation from the public, she said.

While the role of the fiscal agency hasn't changed, Ms. Jeffries said its staff is doing more with fewer people and serves a greater purpose because of term limits.

"When Senator (Harry) Gast was the chair of Appropriations for 20 years ... he had so much he already knew. In the Senate, we're a little luckier because we get House members (for the most part)," she said.

Ms. Jeffries described the fiscal agency's role as giving members the best information so they can make informed decisions.

"The Legislature needs more non-partisan staff, not fewer," she said when asked about whether there should be one fiscal agency serving both chambers.

Ms. Jeffries said besides consolidating to one director, there probably wouldn't be much savings because the Legislature would need just as much staff as there are now, which are a lot less than 20 years ago. The SFA has 20 employees after just hiring two new people, which is down from the mid-30s they had in the 1990s.

As the state's economy tanked over the past 10 years, the SFA was noticeably more conservative with its revenue estimates than the House Fiscal Agency or state treasurer, but Ms. Jeffries noted its May estimate was higher than the others'. So far, revenues have hit a bit closer to the SFA estimates, but Ms. Jeffries said, "Believe me, we can wrong the next time too.

"Everybody tries to be right when they make the estimates, and it's a hard thing to do," she said.

While it does appear the country and state economies are improving, Michigan's revenues are still nowhere near where they have been. Still, Ms. Jeffries said providing a more positive outlook for the state budget is better than constantly having to revise estimates downward.

"Economics is a dismal science," she jokes. "It is much nicer to go into the consensus and say we are going to have a little more revenue."

Having been around, Ms. Jeffries remembers when the state didn't have a Revenue Estimating Conference before 1991. Caseloads were estimated unofficially in May or June as lawmakers finished up the budget, but they weren't always accurate.

"The year would start and you would have a problem," she said.

Having a Revenue Estimating Conference "really added discipline to the process."

There has never been a year since the conferences began that a consensus wasn't reached and Ms. Jeffries said she can't imagine that would ever happen.

Like the Legislature, the three main participants of the conference have to compromise.

Audit Criticizes D.M.V.A. Financial Practices

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs committed several significant deficiencies in its financial practices, according to an audit released Thursday.

The audit is actually a revised version of one issued in 2008 looking at activity from October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2007. The auditor general decided to revisit the audit after becoming aware of a material misstatement in department records that affected the previous audit.

Auditors cited about $7 million in questioned costs in the department.

The audit found that the department did not ensure it prepared its schedule of expenditures of federal awards in compliance with federal rules and state policies, leading to a material

misstatement in a previous audit report and the risk for potential future misstatements, the audit said.

The department lacked a formal process to ensure a complete and accurate reporting of federal awards expended on its schedule of expenditures of federal awards, notably by not identifying and separately reporting $44.4 million in federal awards expended from the Military Construction, National Guard Program for the two-year period ending September 30, 2007. It also omitted $993,899 in federal awards expended from the Grants to States for Construction of State Home Facilities on its federal awards schedule for the two-year period ending September 30, 2007.

Another omission from the federal awards schedule was $2.27 million spent on behalf of the National Guard Military Operations and Maintenance Projects for the two-year period ending September 30, 2007.

The audit criticized the department for lacking a process to reconcile the federal awards schedule to its accounting records to ensure the schedule was accurate and complete, leading to overstatements and an understatement. Additionally, the department did not prepare its federal awards schedule in the way required by the state's Financial Management Guide, resulting in the department overstating how much it spent.

The department also needs to improve its process for requesting federal reimbursement to help ensure timely collection of federal funds, the audit said. The lag in federal transmission of reimbursements led to the department having a negative quarterly cash position of $8.325 million and deprived the state of interest-earning opportunities.

Lack of documentation verifying food purchases at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans also caught the eye of auditors.

"During the two-year period ended September 30, 2007, GRHV purchased $3.1 million of food related items from its food vendor. Without sufficient policies and procedures regulating the purchase, receipt, and use of food items at GRHV, the department lacks control over its food inventory. This situation could result in the state's limited resources being used inappropriately," the audit states.

The audit also found the veterans' home did not maintain and safeguard its hard copy accounting records. Management told auditors records were "inadvertently" sent to a document destruction firm in July of 2007 although state law says records should be kept a minimum of five years.

"We could not validate that the accounting records were destroyed," auditors said.

The audit found that the department's internal control over one program did not ensure compliance with federal laws regarding activities allowed or unallowed, allowable costs/cost principles, period of availability and procurement and suspension and debarment. It disclosed material weaknesses in internal controls. The audit totaled up known questioned costs and pegged that at $780,908, and known and likely questioned costs at more than $3.1 million.

For example, the department's internal control did not stop the department from incurring expenses totaling more than $622,000 and requesting reimbursements in excess of the maximum funding limitations. It also did not make sure costs were charged to the correct federal program, nor did it ensure that vendors were not on the federal excluded parties list system.

The audit recommended the department strengthen its internal control over the O&M projects program.

When reviewing the internal control over the National Guard Civilian Youth Opportunities Program, the audit found it also did not ensure compliance with federal laws.

It identified known questioned costs of $14,016 and known and likely questioned costs of more than $1 million.

It also found that 17 of the 19 time sheets of staff members it reviewed signed and submitted their sheets prior to the last day they worked in the pay period. It also found the department did not request reimbursement of available funds related to the ChalleNGe Program.

Group Says It Will Start Effort To Legalize Marijuana

An Ann Arbor-based organization has said it will start an effort to put a marijuana legalization effort on the ballot in 2012.

The group Repeal Today for a Safer Michigan said it will attempt to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot to make possession and use of marijuana legal for persons 21 and older.

Officials with the group said they will begin efforts to collect signatures starting in mid-January.

While voters approved the use of medical marijuana in 2008, recent court rulings and legislation have sharply limited its availability in the state.

Fed Says Midwest Economy Growing, Though Manufacturing Down

Economic growth improved in the Midwest in November, though the manufacturing sector was down slightly during the month, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago said in two separate reports.

The overall economy for Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa grew at a faster pace in November than it did in October, the Fed report said. However, the pace of growth for the month was still behind the historic average for the region.

However, the region grew at a faster rate than did the entire U.S. economy during November, the report said.

In Michigan, the economy grew by 1.5 percent during the month. Only Illinois at 1.4 percent saw a slightly slower growth. In Indiana the growth was 1.8 percent, in Wisconsin 2.1 percent and in Iowa at 2.4 percent.

However, the Chicago Fed's Midwest Manufacturing Index showed overall activity dropped in November compared to October.

Automotive and steel production both increased during the month, the index said, but machinery and resource production fell.

However, even after falling, the report said Midwest manufacturing still ran ahead of national manufacturing.

Officials Praise Michigan Chronicle Publisher Sam Logan

State and local officials called Michigan Chronicle Publisher Sam Logan a fair and courageous man who transcended both politics and race. Mr. Logan, 78, died Wednesday at his Detroit home.

Mr. Logan served twice as publisher of the weekly newspaper that serves mainly the black community in Detroit and the state. He succeeded Longworth Quinn as publisher in the 1980s - after having worked for the paper since the early 1960s - and then, after leaving in 2000 over editorial differences, taking over again in 2003.

As publisher, Mr. Logan startled many by endorsing former Governor John Engler for re-election in 1994 over Democrat Howard Wolpe, and by later endorsing Republican L. Brooks Patterson for re-election as Oakland County Executive over Democrat Brenda Lawrence.

Governor Rick Snyder called Mr. Logan a pioneer in journalism and a "courageous advocate for the African-American community" whose work transcended both race and politics.

Attorney General Bill Schuette said Mr. Logan's influence was as "large as the city he championed."

Oakland County Sheriff and former Sen. Mike Bouchard said on his Twitter feed that Mr. Logan always played fair with him.

Mr. Logan was born in Louisiana and moved to Detroit as a teenager with his family. After graduating high school and service in the U.S. Army, he worked in Detroit radio before joining the Chronicle in 1961. He graduated from the University of Detroit in the 1970s.

Appointments By The Governor

GRAPE AND WINE INDUSTRY COUNCIL: Walter Brys of Traverse City succeeds Marie Chantal Dalese to represent winemakers, Mark Esterman of Grand Rapids succeeds Timothy Harding to represent operations of a retail food establishment that holds specially designated

merchant license and sells Michigan wines, Claes Fornell of Ann Arbor succeeds M. David Anthony to represent grape growers, Martin Lagina of Traverse City succeeds Danny Matthies to represent winemakers, Jeffrey Lemon of Berrien Springs succeeds Heather Moffa Price to represent winemakers, and Gregory O'Neil of South Haven succeeds Richard Lopus to represent beer and wine wholesalers. Michael Marsh of Ann Arbor is appointed as an additional member allowed by statute. The appointments are for terms expiring October 9, 2013, and are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Naif "Nick" Khouri of Plymouth succeeds Roger Robinson, who resigned, for a term expiring December 15, 2012, and Erik Lundberg of Ann Arbor succeeds David Sowerby for a term expiring December 15, 2014. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

TASK FORCE ON PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANTS: April Adado of Holt succeeds Rene Hernandez to represent physician assistants, Sara Basso of Iron River succeeds Sherry Lepird to represent the general public, Joel Kutz of Clinton Township succeeds Bernard O'Brien to represent physician assistants, John Lopes of Mount Pleasant succeeds Karl Wagner to represent physician assistants, and William Palazzolo of Dexter succeeds Michael Davis, who resigned, to represent physician assistants. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2015, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Subscribers Please Note

Gongwer News Service/Michigan Report will not publish Friday, December 30, or Monday, January 2. State offices are closed for the New Year's holiday.

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Click the ▣ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Snyder Revising Road Funding Plan

Unions See Bill Package As Unnecessary Attack

Performance Contracts May Lead To End Of Energy Efficiency Mandates

Hoogendyk Announces Against Upton; Club For Growth Launches New Ad

Judiciary Panel Reports Domestic Violence Package

Stabenow Tops Among Senate Candidates In Fundraising

Durhal, Coalition Urge Job Interviews For Former Felons

House Panel Exploring Rights For Fathers

R.T.L., Sports, Trails Fundraising Plates Considered

Film Office Sees 53 Fewer Applicants In Last Part Of '11

Ending P.P.T., Rules, Transportation Top Chamber Priorities

Inland Lake, Deer Hunting Bills Advance In Senate

Optimism Increasing Among Business Leaders

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook: Corrections Officer Slain Outside Home

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Activity Reports

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Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, January 17, 2012

ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

HB 4403 **JURY DUTY** (Jackson) Ensures continued eligibility for individuals who fail to return jury questionnaires.

HB 4893 **OPTOMETRY VOLUNTEER LICENSE** (Callton) Expand special volunteer license and immunity from liability to include optometrists.

SB 685 **DEER SHOOTING** (Proos) Limits number of authorized shooters for deer damage shooting permits.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

Gongwer Coverage

SB 717 **HUNTERS AND FARMERS** (Proos) Creates the Hunters Helping Farmers Program.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

Gongwer Coverage

SB 778 **INLAND LAKES** (Kowall) Specifies authorized uses for public road access to inland lakes or streams.

With Substitute S-1 Adopted

Gongwer Coverage

SB 853 **DRIVER TRAINING** (Emmons) Revises fingerprint and criminal history record information requirements under driver education provider and instructor act.

REPORTED

Judiciary:

SB 387 **FLEEING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** (Gleason) Provides mandatory minimum sentence of two years for fleeing and eluding an officer while in a vehicle.

With Substitute S-3

SB 845 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** (Jones) Allows penalties for domestic violence with prior conviction to be enhanced with a deferred or dismissed conviction.

With Substitute S-2

Gongwer Coverage

SB 846 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** (Rocca) Enacts sentencing guidelines for crime of domestic violence with prior conviction.

With Substitute S-2

Gongwer Coverage

SB 847 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** (Schuitmaker) Enhances penalties for domestic violence with prior offenses.

With Substitute S-2

Gongwer Coverage

SB 848 **ASSAULT** (Bieda) Specifies assault by strangulation or suffocation as assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder.

With Substitute S-2

Gongwer Coverage

RE-REFERRED

HB 4938 **INCOME TAX CHANGES** (Gilbert) Replace definition of gross receipts with definition under former single business tax act.

To Finance

HB 5122 **RENAISSANCE ZONE DEDUCTIONS** (Hughes) Allow deductions of income earned or received by certain taxpayers located within a renaissance zone

To Finance

HB 5189 **STATE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING** (Price) Provide for funding for state emergency relief services.

To Appropriations

SB 307 **SPORTING SWINE** (Hune) Enacts sentencing guidelines for Sporting Swine Marketing Act violations.

To Agriculture

INTRODUCED

SB 893 **TOXIC TOYS** (Warren) Requires manufacturers and distributors to make reports concerning toxic substances in children's products. Amends 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211) by adding sections 5495, 5496, 5497 and 5498.

To Government Operations

SB 894 **TOXIC SUBSTANCES** (Warren) Requires Department of Community Health to provide list of toxic substances or products. Amends 1978 PA 368 by amending section 5491 (MCL 333.5491) as added by 2007 PA 159 and by adding section 5494.

To Government Operations

SR 107 **SUPREME COURT PROCEEDINGS** (Schuitmaker) Memorializes Congress to enact legislation to permit the televising of U.S. Supreme Court proceedings.

To Judiciary

THE SENATE ADJOURNED UNTIL 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Michigan Report for Tuesday, January 31, 2012

House G.O.P. Has Money Edge; Some Key Incumbents Lag

Peters Continues Big Fundraising Haul; Anderson Off To Decent Start

Bill Package Targeting Public Union Dues, Strikes Heads To Floor

Some G.O.P. Skepticism On Bill Forcing Local Revenue Requests To Even-Year Nov. Ballots

Snyder Raises Much Less Than Granholm Did In First Year As Gov.

Senate Dems Have More Cash On Hand As G.O.P. Pays Back Loan

Study Charges Low Income Will Pay More Than Wealthy Under Tax Plan

Report Outlines Plans To Separate Mississippi, Great Lakes

Financial Review Team Ordered For Muskegon Heights Schools

Unpaid Parking Ticket Bill Headed To Governor

Supreme Court Rejects Request To Review Consumers Plan

Mortgage Criminal Actions Will Not Be Let Off, Schuette's Office Says

Rail Bill Clears Committee, But Discussion Remains

Concealed Weapons Changes Sent To New Committee

Senate Session Cancelled For Thursday

Capitol Job Marketplace Updated

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

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Volume #51, Report #20 -- Tuesday, January 31, 2012

House G.O.P. Has Money Edge; Some Key Incumbents Lagging

The House Republican caucus has a sizeable money advantage over House Democrats as it begins this election year, caucus campaign reports filed Tuesday show.

House Republicans have $608,000 cash on hand, compared to the $375,767 the Democrats have in the bank.

Neither caucus has any debt on its books.

"House Republicans have been forging a new path in Lansing to help Michigan redefine what makes us great by putting taxpayers first," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801&locid=1" } (R-Shelby Township), the HRCC chair said in a statement. "We have reduced government spending, put the state's fiscal house in order and moved ahead swiftly with reforms that make Michigan a better place to provide a job."

The G.O.P. also outshone their counterparts when it came to fundraising. From October 21 to the end of the year, the caucus raised $157,857 from 104 donors.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/MarkOuimetnew.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/JimTownsendnew.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=273801&locid=1" }

(top) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" }.

Democrats, who filed their report after the Department of State's deadline, received more donations, but in far smaller amounts. The caucus raised $97,127 from 783 different contributors in the period and spent $69,240.

The biggest donors to the House GOP caucus was the Michigan Republican Party, Joshua Katke, a physician from St. Charles, and David Van Andel, CEO of the Van Andel Institute. They each gave the maximum $20,000 donation.

During that time period it spent $77,783, with much of that going toward the failed defense of former Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc) who lost his seat in a recall election last November.

The largest contribution to the Democratic caucus came from the House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" }'s political action committee, which contributed $12,500. The Justice PAC contributed $9,000.

"People from across Michigan are fed up with the way out-of-touch Republicans have run our state since they took over all branches of state government last year," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=224601&locid=1" } (D-Flint), fundraising chair for the House Democratic Caucus said in a statement. "This increase in contributions to House Democrats shows that Democrats have clear momentum heading into the 2012 elections."

The House Republican caucus has raised more than $1 million in 2011. In 2009, it raised $546,179 and had $450,000 in debt.

HOUSE INCUMBENTS: Annual reports were also due Tuesday for the various campaigns of House members seeking re-election in competitive seats.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=273801&locid=1" } (R-Scio Township) is in the best cash position of all seats expected to be contested in the general election or a primary, after reporting he has $111,630 cash on hand. He raised $125,411 last year, though about half of that came from a loan he made to himself. He spent $43,824. Democrats are expected to fight to reclaim the 52nd District that Mr. Ouimet picked off in 2010.

Behind Mr. Ouimet was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205201&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids) with $102,023 on hand. Last year, he raised $64,684 and spent $25,145. During the redistricting process he lost a piece of his base, making a shot at a third term much tougher in the 76th District.

The worst fundraising performance came from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=259701&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), who reported having just $292 on hand. She raised $8,250 last year and spent $8,948.

Due to redistricting, she would be forced into a primary in the 2nd District with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=159701&locid=1" } (D-Grosse Pointe). She could not be reached for comment late Tuesday.

Mr. Bledsoe has $12,896 cash on hand. Last year, he raised $17,215 and spent $8,692. He also has $19,500 in debt from his 2008 campaign.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283301&locid=1" } (R-Austin), who has been plagued by a number of controversies in his first term and will face a primary in August in the 84th District, also had a poor showing.

He reported having just $554 cash on hand. During the year he raised $11,950, of which almost $4,000 was a loan to himself, and he spent $12,911.

He said he plans to run for re-election, but has been focused on his legislative work thus far rather than seeking campaign donations.

Another poor fundraising effort came from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=275701&locid=1" } (R-York Township), whose 55th District seat was made heavily Democratic to the point he is toying with the idea of changing his party affiliation. He reported having $3,828 in cash on hand. During the year he raised $14,944 and spent $11,656. He also has more than $94,000 in debt from the 2010 campaign.

3rd: In this three-way primary race in Detroit, between { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=259001&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213101&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228901&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), Ms. Howze appears to have a small advantage,

She has $16,582 cash on hand. She raised $25,446 last year and spent $9,167. Mr. Womack has $12,688 cash on hand. He raised $10,193 last year and spent $3,731. Mr. Olumba's report was not available as of press time.

6th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) has a big cash advantage right now over { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=154001&locid=1" } (D-Detroit). They were drawn into the same district last year in the redistricting process. Ms. Tlaib has $71,538 cash on hand. She raised $80,735 last year and spent $25,679. Ms. Stapleton has $12,750 cash on hand. She raised $27,890 last year and spent $14,797. She also has $15,393 in debt from her 2010 campaign.

21st: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217801&locid=1" } (D-Canton

Township) has $29,302 cash on hand. She raised $21,890 and spent $5,648. Republicans have long coveted this seat although Ms. Slavens survived the 2010 Democratic bloodbath.

23rd: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=294301&locid=1" } (R-New Boston) who will likely face one of the toughest re-election fights, reported raising $45,525 and spent $10,712 last year. He has $34,814 cash on hand.

24th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township) has $13,523 cash on hand. He raised $24,534 last year and spent $13,851. Mr. Forlini won a previously Democratic seat, but Republicans made his seat much more GOP friendly in redistricting.

26th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak) reported numbers that had Democrats buzzing with $77,756 cash on hand after raising $96,242 last year and spending $33,826. Republicans have eyed this seat for years, but have never been able to break through, and Mr. Townsend appears to be taking all steps to keep the seat secure.

28th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209201&locid=1" } (D-Warren), who was forced into a primary with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501&locid=1" } (D-Warren), has the fundraising advantage so far.

Ms. Liss reported raising $40,405 last year and spent $12,329. She has $40,923 cash on hand. Mr. Switalski raised $23,356 and spent $12,916. He has $10,594 cash on hand.

32nd: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201&locid=1" } (R-Richmond) has moved into the open 32nd House District and has $31,278 on hand. She raised $43,455 last year and spent $13,226. She also has $20,600 in debt, which includes a $20,000 loan she made to herself last month. It's not yet clear whether Democrats will try to recapture the seat.

40th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=171401&locid=1" } (D-West Bloomfield Township), who was drawn into a heavily Republican district, raised $57,730 last year and spent $20,863. She has $56,702 on hand. She also has $27,945 in debt, including a $25,000 loan she made to herself last month. Mr. Brown's plans for the ballot this year are not yet known. She has indicated she has no interest in moving so she can run in the 39th, which holds most of her existing district, and some Democrats are encouraging her to run for county office instead of what is probably a no-win re-election try.

56th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" } (R-Ida) raised $31,420 during the year, and has $25,995 left on hand after spending $12,309. Democrats are expected to try to reclaim the seat.

57th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" } (R-Clayton) has $14,374 on hand. Last year, she raised $18,460 during the year and spent $16,227. Democrats are eager to retake this seat, and former Sen. Jim Berryman is running.

64th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401&locid=1" } (R-Jackson) raised $48,787 last year and spent $10,173. He has $41,358 cash on hand. He has $29,909 in debt, mostly from his 2010 campaign. This would be a tough seat for Democrats to regain, but its past means it could be in play.

65th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } (R-Clarklake) has $84,443 cash on hand. Last year, he raised $75,175 and spent $58,257. He has $11,179 in debt from his 2010 campaign. Like the 64th, this also is an uphill fight for Democrats, but it was in Democratic hands from 2007-10.

70th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204701&locid=1" } (R-Six Lakes) has $6,715 cash on hand. Last year he raised $19,714 and spent $15,352. He has $17,399 in debt from the 2010 campaign. Former Rep. Mike Huckleberry is planning a rematch, and it will be a bit of a longshot in this Republican-leaning seat, but Mr. Outman's fundraising so far might give Democrats reason to at least think about it.

91st: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601&locid=1" } (R-White River Township) has $53,641 cash on hand as she prepare for a likely vigorous Democratic challenge. Last year she raised $60,257 and spent $12,510. She has $251,639 in debt from her 2008 and 2010 contests.

97th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101&locid=1" } (R-Clare) raised $49,279 last year and spent $20,562. He has $33,696 cash on hand. This seat has Democratic tendencies although Republicans made it more GOP in redistricting.

99th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant) raised $42,650 last year and spent $21,612. He has $24,278 cash on hand. Democrats have pined about winning the Isabella County-based seat, but have never broken through.

103rd: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701&locid=1" } (R-Lake City) raised $19,151 last year and spent $5,813. He has $13,572 cash on hand. This seat became fairly solidly Republican in redistricting and is probably out of reach for Democrats now.

106th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001&locid=1" } (R-Presque Isle) has $30,500 on hand. He raised $38,848 last year and spent $28,538. There's a strong Democratic base in the Alpena portion of the seat that will likely mean Mr. Pettalia faces a challenge.

108th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan) raised $17,314 and spent $5,966 during the year. He has $12,222 cash on hand. He has $18,000 in debt from the 2010 campaign. Democrats rue losing this seat, and Mr. McBroom's lackluster fundraising so far will likely have them encouraged.

110th: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292401&locid=1" } (R-Atlantic Mine) has $17,222 cash on hand. He raised $19,523 last year and spent $5,443. Like the 108th, this is one the Democrats want back, and Mr. Huuki's fundraising is not exactly intimidating.

Peters Continues Big Fundraising Haul; Anderson Off To Decent Start

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } of Bloomfield Township is on his way to an overwhelming money advantage over { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=12001&locid=1" } of Detroit and other competitors for the Democratic nomination in the 14th U.S. House District, according to campaign finance reports filed Tuesday.

Mr. Peters raised $1.17 million so far for the election cycle, including $283,237 for the quarter. After spending $69,552 for the quarter, Mr. Peters had $1.05 million cash on hand.

Mr. Clarke raised $123,794 for the quarter and spent $42,587, leaving him with $500,213 on hand as Mr. Peters continues to extend his cash advantage.

Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence, who will officially announce her campaign and open her first campaign office Wednesday, had not yet filed a report.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/GaryPeters.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } has a big money advantage in the 14th District.

In the other closely watched primary in a Detroit-based seat, U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Detroit) has the lead in cash on hand, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=39501&locid=1" } (D-Westland) is off to a good start.

Mr. Conyers raised $156,489 for the quarter and spent $79,088, leaving him with $151,455 on hand. Mr. Anderson raised $64,413, but spent just $7,940 and had $56,474 on hand.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) posted low numbers, raising just $9,220, spending $3,420 and reporting $5,800 on hand.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=89401&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) has not filed a statement of organization to begin raising funds to run for Congress, but she said Tuesday her campaign is reaching out to voters in western Wayne County, where she is lesser known.

Ms. Jackson said she would be filing a campaign finance disclosure for the next reporting quarter in March.

5th: Former Genesee County Treasurer Dan Kildee, who is looking to succeed his uncle, retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=1901&locid=1" } (D-Flint), has raised $210,403 so far for the election, including $78,223 during the last quarter. Of that, he had $49,716 left in cash on hand, his report showed.

So far, no opponents have officially lined up to challenge Mr. Kildee for the Democratic nomination, though several names have circulated as possibilities.

1st: In the 1st U.S. House District, where the battle will be in the general election, U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls) raised $667,663 for the cycle, including $202,773 for the quarter. Mr. Benishek had $277,056 cash on hand, but also still had $93,000 in outstanding debt.

Former Rep. Gary McDowell, in his second attempt at the seat, raised $338,639 for the cycle including $181,509 for the quarter. But he still had most of those funds, $303,078, cash on hand.

6th: Former Rep. Jack Hoogendyk, who is challenging { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph), announced only recently, but is still starting his race at a tremendous disadvantage. His report showed his sole source of funds so far was a $100 loan to his committee and he had $15.15 cash on hand.

Mr. Upton, in contrast, raised $1.49 million for the cycle, including $280,305 during the last quarter. After expenses, Mr. Upton had $1.71 million cash on hand.

3rd: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Kentwood), who does not have a primary opponent and is not expected to face a substantial challenge in the general election, raised $134,242 for the quarter and spent $41,808, giving him $162,900 cash on hand. Democrats would probably love to challenge Mr. Amash because of his voting record and his seat becoming slightly more Democratic, but as of yet, no viable candidate has emerged.

11th: The decision of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) to abandon a challenge to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=4001&locid=1" } (R-Livonia) in the Republican primary was a surprise, but his campaign finance report showed he was struggling to raise money.

Mr. McCotter raised $105,800 over the quarter, spent $83,351 and reported cash on hand of $142,528. Meanwhile, Mr. Kowall, who announced his bid before the start of the quarter, raised just $22,648, spent $13,739 and had just $8,909 remaining. Beating Mr. McCotter would have required significant resources in the expensive Detroit media market, and those did not appear to be materializing for Mr. Kowall when he ended his campaign January 18, citing a need to focus on work in the Senate.

Bill Package Targeting Public Union Dues, Strikes Heads To Floor

Union members packed the House Oversight and Reform Committee on Tuesday, as the Republicans on the panel reported a package of bills that would impose fines on striking public employees and require written consent of an employee to have his or her employer deduct union dues from wages.

Since the package was introduced in September, union leaders have testified in opposition, saying the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB502301" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB502401" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB502501" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB502601" }) are unnecessary and would cause an undue burden on unions and businesses.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=191501&locid=1" } (R-Rochester Hills), committee chair, moved quickly through the remaining five union advocates who wanted to testify. He had planned to not allow committee members to ask questions of the witnesses, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=159701&locid=1" } (D-Grosse Pointe) objected loudly.

"I demand an opportunity to ask a question of this witness," Mr. Bledsoe said.

Mr. McMillin said the committee has had numerous meetings in the past few weeks on the bills and numerous questions had been asked.

"I should have just wrapped it up last week," Mr. McMillin said.

Mr. McMillin relented and Mr. Bledsoe was allowed to ask a brief question to Tim Hughes of the United Auto Workers, and it was the only question asked.

Mr. Hughes was testifying in opposition to HB 5025 and said it preempts federal law, which regulates dues check-off rather than the states.

"I don't know why the state would need to insert itself in this process to begin with," he said.

HB 5025 would require written consent of an employee to have his or her employer deduct union dues from wages and at recent hearings has drawn the most fire from union leaders.

"We're allowing union workers to hold union management accountable for how they are spending their hard-earned dollars," Mr. McMillin said in a statement. "Union leadership will work that much harder for their membership if they realize that workers have an ongoing choice in paying dues."

HB 5023, sponsored by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), would impose a fine on public employees equal to a day's pay for each day the employee illegally strikes. The bargaining representative of the public employee would be fined $5,000 per day for each day the employee strikes.

HB 5024 would modify laws regarding picketing so that the event could not obstruct the entrance to a place of employment or roadways. It would also prohibit the picketing of a private residence by any means. The business or person being picketed could seek an injunction from their local circuit court.

The fourth bill, HB 5026, would eliminate language that an employer in a labor dispute has to state in an advertisement seeking employment that the jobs sought are to replace those workers involved in the dispute.

All four bills were reported on 4-2 party-line votes.

Proponents of the legislation said in prior testimony that the penalties created in the bills are for actions taken that are already illegal and if union members or others don't break the law, the bills will have no impact.

"This is just another effort by politicians to dismantle collective bargaining one piece at a time," Michigan AFL-CIO President Karla Swift said in a statement. "These bills won't create jobs, but

they will give big corporations more power to silence the voices of Michigan workers. Our Legislature should be focused on putting people back to work instead of attacking workers and our teachers, nurses and firefighters."

Ray Holman of United Auto Workers Local 6000, the largest state employee union, said the bills are unnecessary, and is more about Republicans wanting to limit how much unions can contribute to political causes.

"This is a power grab," Mr. Holman said.

The bills now head to the House floor.

Some G.O.P. Skepticism On Bill Forcing Local Revenue Requests To Even-Year Nov. Ballots

Taxing units in the state could only place a request for new revenue on a November ballot of an even-numbered year under a bill being considered by the House Redistricting and Elections Committee.

The panel took testimony only on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB521901" } , sponsored by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), who said the goal is to increase voter turnout, and eliminate stealth elections.

The bill does not affect renewals, only requests for additional revenue.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville) had a concern about bond issues in local communities.

"If we have to wait two years and interest rates go up, I don't know if we've saved taxpayers money by making them vote on a bond issue at a higher rate," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801&locid=1" } (R-Shelby Township), committee chair, said it's also possible that interest rates could go down.

"I just had a kind of uncomfortable moment, I was agreeing with Rep. Pscholka," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=224601&locid=1" } (D-Flint).

Mr. Stanley said he had the same concern as Mr. Pscholka did and asked about balancing the benefits with the timing factor.

Mr. Knollenberg said communities should be looking ahead like is done in Oakland County where there is a three-year rolling budget with a five-year revenue projection.

Another concern about timing came from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), who wondered what would happen if a school burned down and the district had to wait more than a year before it could put a proposal on the ballot for new revenue to rebuild it.

In his experience, insurance would not cover all the expenses necessary to reopen, he said.

Snyder Raises Much Less Than Granholm Did In First Year As Gov.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } raised 63 percent less in campaign cash during his first year in office as his predecessor, former Governor Jennifer Granholm did, in her first year as governor.

Mr. Snyder's haul of $346,300 fell well below Ms. Granholm's $935,793 although Mr. Snyder has refused to take money from political action committees, crimping his ability to raise funds. However, Mr. Snyder raised $314,950 of his overall take for the year at four fundraisers in October and November, meaning he raised almost no money during the first nine months he was in office.

Additionally, Mr. Snyder began to repay himself for the $6 million he loaned his gubernatorial campaign in 2010.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Snyder%20(2).jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s fundraising was somewhat lackluster.

Mr. Snyder's report for fundraising and spending activity in 2011 showed $825,000 worth of payments he made from his campaign committee, Rick Snyder for Michigan, to himself. That reduced the amount he showed as debts held by his committee to $5.12 million.

Politicians repaying themselves for loans they made to their campaigns is common. In Mr. Snyder's case, it is more notable simply because of how much of his own money he put into his campaign.

Snyder spokesperson Sara Wurfel said Mr. Snyder repaid himself in March from funds he had raised during the gubernatorial campaign and has no plans to make any more repayments from his campaign committee to himself.

"Any of the money that was new beyond that period was not used for any debt retirement and is not planned for that purpose," she said.

Overall, Mr. Snyder still intends to stick to his 10-year plan of running for office in 2009 and 2010 and then serving as governor from 2011-2019, provided that voters re-elect him in 2014, Ms. Wurfel said. She attributed his fundraising total to being focused on his agenda.

"He was pretty singularly focused on the economy and getting Michigan back on a path that was sustainable. He wasn't really focused on fundraising," she said.

For the year, Mr. Snyder spent $1.4 million (that includes the $825,000 Mr. Snyder paid to himself). That reduced his cash on hand to $534,236. That's about the same as what Ms. Granholm reported having on hand at the end of 2003 - $563,587.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } reported raising $225,435 for the period, which ran from November 23, 2010, through December 31, 2011. He had $187,487 on hand. Among Mr. Schuette's expenditures was $16,704 on legal fees to ward off a recall campaign against him.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1" } reported raising $118,310 with $90,052 on hand.

Senate Dems Have More Cash On Hand As G.O.P. Pays Back Loan

Senate Republicans significantly outraised their Democratic counterparts, quarterly financial reports submitted Tuesday with the state show, but the GOP trails in cash on hand.

The Senate Republican Campaign Committee raised $93,193 between late October and the end of December, but spent $94,422.

In comparison, the Michigan Senate Democratic Fund raised just $13,345 and spent $19,763 over the period.

More than $60,000 of the Republican spending went to pay down the $550,000 loan the caucus took out in the 2010 election cycle. The Senate is not up for re-election until 2014.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/hildenbrandnew.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } had a strong fundraising haul.

The caucus reported a $154,000 balance on that loan. They also reported $48,877 in cash on hand.

Meanwhile, Democrats have no debt and $152,076 in the bank.

Both caucuses raised money over a small pool of donors.

Donations of more than $10,000 came to Republicans from political action committees affiliated with Meijer, the Michigan Restaurant Association, Brooke Holdings, the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents, the Auto Dealers, Chiropractors PAC and the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants. In all, Republicans received 48 donations.

Democrats raised money from 95 donors, only one of which wrote a check at $10,000 or more - the Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association. The Michigan Laborers' Political League came in with the second highest donation of $7,500.

Leadership political action committees for members were not required to file a statement on Tuesday.

But campaign committees had to file their annual reports, which covered the period just after the November 2010 election through the end of last year. Below is a breakdown of what some of the members representing competitive districts reported.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba): Raised $47,694 with cash on hand of $40,374. Expenditures totaled $38.976.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville): Raised $53,960 with cash on hand of $32,288. Expenditures totaled $36,370.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart): Raised $46,039 with cash on hand of $74,820. Expenditures totaled $32,734.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell): Raised $78,336 with cash on hand of $82,634. Expenditures totaled $22,534.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek): Raised $58,150 with cash on hand of $69,102. Expenditures totaled $44,222.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc): Raised $41,098 with cash on hand of $26,347. Expenditures totaled $34,787.

- { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights): Raised $33,950 with cash on hand of $53,609. Expenditures totaled $4,403.

- A report for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) was unavailable on the Department of State's website.

Study Charges Low Income Will Pay More Than Wealthy Under Tax Plan

The changes enacted last year to Michigan's business and income taxes will affect lower-income persons far more than upper-income individuals by a factor of 1,000 times, a study being

released by the Michigan League for Human Services says, and 51 percent of all taxpayers will pay more income taxes.

The paper says the loss and reduction of several major tax credits, especially a reduction in the Earned Income Tax Credit, means the lowest paid workers will pay an effective average of 1 percent more in income taxes. But the wealthiest people will pay just an average of 0.001 percent more. On a percentage basis, that is a difference of 1,000 times, league officials said.

The study, conducted by the Washington-based Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, will be released by the Michigan League on Wednesday.

League President Gilda Jacobs said the study shows that the massive tax changes enacted last year by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and the Legislature show that "winners and losers" were picked. Working class families and retirees will pay more in taxes to offset the tax cuts that businesses received, Ms. Jacobs said.

Mr. Snyder proposed and the Legislature enacted an end to the Michigan Business Tax, replacing it with a corporate income tax at 6 percent. To help recoup some of the lost revenue, the Legislature eliminated virtually all income and business tax credits.

As a political compromise, the Earned Income Tax Credit was kept but drastically reduced.

The report challenged some of the assumptions used in adopting the tax shift. For example, one argument Mr. Snyder and supporters of the change made was that it would end double taxation on income on small, non-incorporated businesses (in those companies, the business income is paid to the owners, but under the MBT was taxed first as business income and then as personal income).

But the report argued that ignored the fact that businesses do use services, such as police and fire protection, and should pay for those services. Also, the report said by eliminating tax credits, such as the credit individuals received for paying city income tax, effectively now means they are paying double taxes when companies have been relieved of that.

The loss of credits, including credits for charitable deductions and children, as well as subjecting retirees to the income tax now when they were largely exempt before, is the primary reason that at least 51 percent of Michigan residents would pay more in the income tax, the report said.

Dramatically affecting the lowest income individuals and families, those with incomes of $17,000 a year or less, is the sharp reduction in the EITC and the loss of the child credit, the report said.

That group of taxpayers will pay an average of $101 more, or a full 1 percent, more in taxes, the report said.

The percentage increase declines as incomes go up. In most cases, the amount they actually pay will go up as well. Those earning between $151,000 and $334,000 a year, will pay $636 more on average, but that would equate to a 0.3 percent increase.

However, those earning $334,000 a year or more will only see an average dollar increase of $7 a year, because the loss of credits will hardly affect them. That equates to an increase of 0.001 percent.

Because the EITC remains and was not eliminated, there is still a chance the Legislature will increase its benefit with time, the report said.

A spokesperson for Mr. Snyder could not be reached for comment.

Report Outlines Plans To Separate Mississippi, Great Lakes

A report released Tuesday puts some numbers on the cost of separating the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins, but members of the Michigan congressional delegation are still expecting to have to push the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to turn that report into a work plan.

The Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative released a joint report Tuesday, { HYPERLINK "http://www.glc.org/caws/" \t "blank" }, that outlines three different options, with costs ranging from $3.3 billion to $9.5 billion and durations from 10 years to 17 years, for ensuring that Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species could not make their way between the two water basins, but the water traffic and water quality processes that created need for the canals in the first place could continue.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=150701&locid=1" } (D-Lansing) said in a conference call with reporters Tuesday that the report shows the Corps was wrong in its original timetables for acting on the issue.

She and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=1401&locid=1" } (R-Midland), who have sponsored legislation in their respective chambers to order the Corps to move faster on the report that it currently projects will not be completed until 2015, said the report will give their efforts a boost.

"This study is very helpful because it shows we don't have to wait years and years to have a plan, a timeline to make saving the Great Lakes a reality," Mr. Camp said.

And he said the report shows a cost benefit to the barriers, considering the projected cost of damage to Great Lakes fisheries should the Asian carp be allowed a foothold in the lakes.

"Prior to having this study, we had heard all kinds of numbers (on the cost of separating the basins)," Ms. Stabenow said. "It's within a range that's achievable, it's doable and that's going to give us some real momentum."

But Congress will still have to pass legislation to order the Corps to speed up its process, she said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }, who has been continuing the state's actions in federal court to get the Corps to move faster on a plan to keep the carp out of the Great Lakes, also praised the report.

"Asian carp are knocking at the front door of the Great Lakes, so we simply do not have until 2015 to complete a study. We need to get started separating these two bodies of water as soon as possible," Mr. Schuette said. "The Great Lakes Commission accomplished in months what the Army Corps hasn't been able to do in years. With thousands of jobs and a spectacular ecological resource at stake, we can no longer afford to wait for the federal government."

Gary O'Keefe, program manager for the Great Lakes Mississippi River Inter-basin Study for the Corps, said officials were still studying the report and would likely know in a few weeks how it would fit into the study the Corps is already developing.

The groups came up with three proposals, but are recommending use of what they call the Mid-System Alternative, which would place four barriers along the current canal system to prevent passage from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River. Among other advantages, the proposal would put water flow most closely back to what it was before the canal systems were built.

And it would be the least costly at a projected maximum $4.3 billion over up to 17 years of construction.

Leaders of the groups acknowledged the plans came with a substantial price tag, but they said doing nothing could cost more. And there could be side benefits of the projects.

David Ullrich, executive director of the Cities Initiatives, said the study showed separating the basins is not only possible, but brings benefit.

"There were many who said you've got to be crazy to even think about this," Mr. Ullrich said. "If 110 years ago they could be so bold as to reverse the flow, seems to me we ought to be able to take a serious look at a project like this."

He and Tim Eder, executive director of the Great Lakes Commission, also noted that some of the water transportation facilities in the Chicago area have languished in recent years.

"There are really going to be some opportunities for benefiting the Chicago region with this plan," Mr. Eder said. "So we think a federal investment is appropriate to consider."

In particular, Mr. Eder said the Mid-System Alternative would create an opportunity for a multi-modal shipping hub in the city.

The plan would still allow shipping to move into the city from both the Mississippi and Lake Michigan, and would allow most of the flood and treated sewage water to flow into the

Mississippi. Mr. Eder said only one of the water treatment plants would have to be upgraded to meet Lake Michigan water standards.

And preserving those water and transportation systems was among the mandates from the groups' boards in developing the plans.

"We could unite around coming together to find a long term solution," Mr. Eder said. "Our organizations also told us that we can't just do that by slamming the door in Chicago. We have to also come up with a barrier that also protects those uses in Chicago."

The Down River Alternative would be simpler from the separation side, requiring only one barrier on the Des Plaines River and essentially turning the flow back to Lake Michigan. But Mr. Eder said that would also mean some difficulties for container shipping into the city from the Mississippi River side and would require all of the city's water treatment plants to upgrade to Lake Michigan quality standards. That would push costs to some $9.5 billion.

The Near Lake Alternative would also come in at $9.5 billion. More water would flow back down the Mississippi because the barriers would be closer to Lake Michigan, but there would be five barriers and there would be little room for container ships to come into the canals from the lake.

Financial Review Team Ordered For Muskegon Heights Schools

A financial review team has been named to look into the finances of the Muskegon Heights School District, the Department of Treasury announced Tuesday, making it the third such team reviewing local finances of a potentially distressed system.

Also Tuesday, the state gave the financial review team investigating Inkster's finances an additional 30 days to complete its study of the city's fiscal situation.

And a Treasury spokesperson said the Detroit financial review team had held at least four meetings to go through the city's fiscal problems. Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh was quoted in The Detroit News as saying he was hearing a breakthrough was near on a deal for concessions with the city's employee unions.

The team was ordered for Muskegon Heights Schools after a preliminary review showed the district had probable financial distress. That includes a cumulative deficit of $8.5 million, which is 15 percent more than its current revenues. The review also indicates the district would probably be in a deficit until at least 2015 and owes the Michigan Public School Employee Retirement System at least $1.4 million.

Named to the committee were Carol Wolenberg, deputy superintendent in the Department of Education; Tom Saxton, deputy treasurer; Doug Ringler, director of the office of internal audit in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget; Dale Nesbary, president of Muskegon Community College; John VanWyck, retired public affairs officer for GTE/Verizon; Fredrick Headen, director of Treasury's local government services; David Martell, executive director of

the Michigan School Business Officials Association; and Brom Stibitz, senior policy adviser in Treasury.

The committee has 60 days to complete its review.

In the meantime, the review committee looking into the finances at Inkster have been granted 30 additional days to finish their review, meaning they must report to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } by February 29, a Treasury spokesperson said.

And the Detroit review team has met at least four times to look over the city's finances. Mayor Dave Bing is still trying to reach agreement with the city's unions on concessions to help stave off the appointment of a manager. The state still hopes to see a resolution with the unions in early February.

Emergency managers are now overseeing operations in Flint, Pontiac, Ecorse and Benton Harbor, as well as Detroit Public Schools and most recently in Highland Park Schools.

Unpaid Parking Ticket Bill Headed To Governor

A measure lowering the threshold for the court to notify a person to appear because of unpaid parking tickets is headed to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his signature.

Under current law, that notification is triggered after six unpaid parking tickets, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB13001" } lowers it to three. If a person fails to appear, the secretary of state is still prohibited from issuing or renewing a driver's license until those tickets are paid for and the court has received a $45 "clearance fee," according to the Senate Fiscal Agency.

The House added a sunset to the three-ticket threshold for January 2018 and the Senate concurred Tuesday in that change 27-11.

Three Republicans joined Democrats to oppose the bill: Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights).

But four Democrats crossed lines and voted with Republicans to support it: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=53401&locid=1" }

(D-Flushing), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell), the bill sponsor, said, "There's been people abusing the unpaid parking system."

The statute of limitations on unpaid parking tickets is six years. Grand Rapids has written off $1.3 million in unpaid parking tickets in the past three years because of the statute of limitations, the fiscal agency noted.

Not only is it a local revenue issue, Mr. Hildenbrand said, but sometimes six tickets are too much for a person to pay. By triggering them to go to court earlier, the hope is the issue can be resolved before it becomes a larger problem.

"We all don't care for them, (but) it's the law of the land," he said. "If you get them, pay them."

The bill is a reintroduction from last year after the Senate didn't take up a measure sponsored by

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205201&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids).

'SUPER DRUNK' BILLS PASS: The Senate also passed a five-bill package permitting local governments to adopt "super drunk" driving violations. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB492001" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB492101" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB492201" } , { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB492301" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB492401" } were all passed on unanimous votes.

The package contains a bill sponsored by former Rep. Paul Scott (R-Grand Blanc), who was recalled in November.

Supreme Court Rejects Request To Review Consumers Plan

The Supreme Court is letting stand the renewable energy plan of Consumers Energy, rejecting a request that it review the proposed plan established under the 2008 changes in Michigan's electric policy.

In an order released Tuesday, the court, in *In Re: Review Of Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Plan* (SC docket No. 143613) said it was not persuaded it should review the plan based on the questions raised.

The Association of Businesses Advocating Tariff Equity had challenged the plan after it was modified and approved by the Public Service Commission and the Court of Appeals.

The Supreme Court also let stand a finding against Detroit-area journalist Diane Bukowski, who, while working for the Michigan Citizen newspaper, was arrested when she crossed police lines to take photographs for a story. In *People v. Bukowski*, the court said it was not persuaded it should hear her appeal.

Mortgage Criminal Actions Will Not Be Let Off, Schuette's Office Says

Michigan has not yet said if it will sign onto a settlement against banks and other mortgage lenders as part of the so-called robo-signing scandal, but a spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said any potential criminal matters would not be exempt in the settlement.

Ingham County Register of Deeds Curtis Hertel Jr. sent a letter to Mr. Schuette urging that any potential criminal matters not be excused or turned into civil matters if the state signs the settlement which is expected to be completed this week.

Those companies robbed Michigan residents of their due process rights, Mr. Hertel said, and should not get a pass from criminal liability.

The settlement would follow several years of investigations by most of the state attorneys general into the practice of robo-signing and other allegedly fraudulent activities by lenders on home mortgages and foreclosures that are blamed in part for the financial crisis that triggered the recession of 2008 and helped precipitate the unprecedented foreclosure crisis in the nation.

Michigan has been one of the states most dramatically affected by the foreclosure crisis.

In his letter, Mr. Hertel specifically mentioned a potential case against a firm named LPS that has reportedly pushed to have its case converted to a civil matter.

But John Sellek, spokesperson for Mr. Schuette, said Michigan was the first to open a potential criminal case against LPS and that would not be closed if the state did sign the settlement.

Mr. Sellek said he could not confirm if the state had made a decision on the settlement. Several states, including California and New York, have decided not to sign the settlement.

Rail Bill Clears Committee, But Discussion Remains

A bill authorizing the sale of rail track to the city of Petoskey cleared the Senate Transportation Committee on Tuesday, but it appears members want to have further discussion on the topic.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB475401" } begins the process for the state to sell the Jarman spur property, which the city intends to incorporate into its existing trail system.

But a few members of the committee said they're concerned with existing law that prohibits the trails from being used for off-road vehicles and restricting snowmobiling to less than 50 percent of the trails' mileage.

"One of the fastest growing sports is ORV use and yet we seem to avoid it like the plague," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba). "This kind of language (in the law) seems counterproductive to what we should be doing and the opportunities we pursue."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart) also expressed concern for limiting snowmobile use on the trails and suggested the law be amended in another bill, however it may not be possible because of federal regulations. Deb Brown with the Department of Transportation said she would research that issue further and Mr. Casperson said that discussion could move over to the Senate Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Committee, which Mr. Hansen chairs.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=53401&locid=1" } (D-Flushing) said a senior center in his community wanted to use a nearby bike path for senior citizens to get out and drive their golf carts, but were told that's not permitted. He said, perhaps, that's another area to discuss further.

"There are too many shortcomings I thought," he said.

Kelly Bartlett, legislative liaison for the Department of Transportation, said the questions from committee members about the future of rail in Michigan and the ORV issue are something the department would be happy to discuss further with lawmakers.

Mr. Bartlett said the language dealing with the trail's use came in 1976 when the rail industry and department were in different places than they are now.

Members seemed to be in agreement that the bill shouldn't be held up because of these ongoing discussion items, and it was reported unanimously to the full Senate.

Concealed Weapons Changes Sent To New Committee

A bill changing the process for obtaining a license to carry a concealed weapon has been referred to another committee after reaching a stalemate in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB5901" } was the subject of a hearing in November, where the bill was changed to keep license approval at

the county level, but allow counties to process non-resident applications for a $20 fee. The Michigan Association of County Clerks and Michigan of Chiefs of Police had indicated opposition to the bill and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge) said sponsor { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) should work out the remaining issues with stakeholders.

But the bill was suddenly referred Tuesday to the Senate Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes Committee.

Mr. Jones told Gongwer News Service that was done by request of Mr. Green. Ryan Mitchell, an aide to Mr. Green, said they would like to see the bill move along in the process.

He said there is no timeline yet for action before the new committee, but Mr. Green plans to discuss the issue with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), the chair.

Mr. Green is a member of that committee, but is not a member of the Judiciary panel.

NO-CARRY ZONES: The Judiciary panel did take testimony on a related bill, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86301" }, which would expand the people permitted to carry a gun in no-carry zones such as schools and churches to the employees of licensed professional investigators.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell), the bill sponsor, said it's often the employees of the license holder who are out doing the work.

The Michigan Council of Private Investigators supports the change. Mr. Jones said a vote would take place next week.

TWO-INCH RULE: The committee did report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB458901" }, which deals with a rebuttable presumption a government is not liable for a person's injury on a sidewalk if the gap is less than two inches big.

Senate Session Cancelled For Thursday

The Senate will not hold session on Thursday because some members are attending the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

The breakfast marks the 60th anniversary of the interfaith event, which hosts the president, along with elected officials, visiting foreign dignitaries and other guests.

When asked to comment about why session was cancelled for the annual event, Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe), said, "The majority leader's office received a formal bipartisan, bicameral request in writing from members of the Legislature asking for consideration to allow members to attend this event."

Bob McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing), said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) is the only Democrat planning to attend.

The House will hold session on Thursday, said House Republican spokesperson Ari Adler.

Capitol Job Marketplace Updated

Gongwer's Capitol Job Market page, a feature Gongwer is pleased to offer featuring jobs available around the Capitol, has been updated.

For details on the new job posting and how to submit information to have a job from an organization posted, see { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/programming/jobs.cfm" }.

Campaign Notes

PETERS CAMPAIGN: Brian Love will head { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" }' (D-Bloomfield Hills) campaign in the new 14th U.S. House District, Mr. Peters announced Tuesday. Mr. Love was most recently field organizer for the House Democratic Caucus.

Mr. Peters also announced a number of union endorsements from within the new district, including the Communications Workers of America AFL-CIO Unified Council of Michigan, Detroit Building Trades Council, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Michigan Maritime Trades Port Council, and Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights.

FERGUSON RUNNING: Joel Ferguson, long-time member and current chair of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, announced Tuesday that he will run for re-election this fall.

"This is a time of unprecedented growth and harmony at MSU, and I look forward to continue helping with our Administration's initiated projects," Mr. Ferguson said on announcing his candidacy.

University board members are nominated at the party conventions for the ballot, but Mr. Ferguson would be expected to be a shoo-in given his tenure on the board (all but two years since 1986) and his now fifth two-year term as chair.

VERHEULEN ANNOUNCES BID FOR 74TH DISTRICT: Republican Rob VerHeulen, mayor of Walker and general counsel to The Meijer Foundation, has announced he plans to run for the solidly GOP 74th House District.

"We are at a cross roads in Michigan; the next 2 years will prove to be crucial in the economic recovery of our state. I believe I have something to offer in Lansing to help us

continue to reinvent Michigan," he said in a statement.

The seat is now held by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=175101&locid=1" } (R-Grandville), who cannot run again due to term limits.

Capital Notebook

VENTURE FUND: A public hearing on the new Pure Michigan Venture Match Fund will be held at 10 a.m. February 8 at the Michigan Economic Development Headquarters.

The fund is expected to begin in March after public comments have been taken and the Michigan Strategic Fund Board approves it.

DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS: The results of a new poll suggest opposition to governments providing health insurance benefits to the same-sex partners of their gay and lesbian employees.

The poll, commissioned by Lambert, Edwards and Associates and conducted by Denno Research, posed the following question to 600 likely voters in the November election: "Should the State of Michigan and local municipalities use taxpayer money to offer health care benefits to domestic partners of employees, in other words, offering benefits to gay and lesbian couples and couples in common law marriages? Would you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose using taxpayer money for this purpose?"

Fifty-four percent of respondents said they would oppose such benefits while 32 percent said they would support them. The survey had an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } recently signed legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB477001" } , PA 297) barring public entities from offering benefits to an unrelated adult living with one of their employees. That legislation is the subject of a federal lawsuit.

Appointments By The Governor

BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY: Helena DeYoung of Grand Rapids is appointed, succeeding Cheryl Hadsall, to represent cosmetologists, and Kathleen Skipper-Stong of Ida is appointed,

succeeding Denise Washington to represent the general public. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2015, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY ACTION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY: Kimberly Small of West Bloomfield is appointed to represent elected public officials, Gregg Iddings of Britton is appointed to represent elected public officials, Nichole Jenks of Mount Pleasant is appointed to represent low-income persons, Kimberly Ruiz of Monroe is appointed to represent low-income persons. Sheu-Jane Gallagher of Detroit is appointed to represent the private sector, Frances Amos of Waterford Township is appointed to represent the private sector, Dennis Echelbarger of Byron Center is appointed to represent the private sector, and Anne Armstrong Cusack of Grand Rapids is appointed to represent elected public officials. The appointments are for terms expiring June 21, 2014, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. The eight appointees replace the existing 10 members of the commission, which can have as many as 15 members.

WOMEN'S COMMISSION: Deidre Lambert-Bounds of Southfield is appointed, filling a vacancy, for a term expiring July 15, 2012. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Wednesday, February 1

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68801&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210101&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 307, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB5206 01" } **CHERRY ASSESSMENTS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701" }) Rescind administrative rules related to cherry assessments.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=218701" } **RESCIND PRODUCT RULES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=218701" }) Rescind certain administrative rules.

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GRAIN DEALERS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283401" }) rescind administrative rules related to grain dealers.

NURSERY STOCK ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" }) Rescind certain administrative rules related to certain nursery stock.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70701&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289901&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 308 House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Presentation on Farmland and Open Space Preservation program (also known as PA 116)

Thursday, February 2

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69601&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210901&locid=1" }, 373-7256), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB48601" } **MENTAL HEALTH** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401" }) Provides for merger of mental health and substance abuse services.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB48601" } **SUBSTANCE ABUSE** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401" }) Eliminates local substance abuse treatment coordinating agencies and refers to substance abuse services provided by community mental health service programs.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB486301" } **MENTAL HEALTH** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=294301" }) Modify standards for fingerprinting, photographing, audio recording, and using 1-way glass for recipients of mental health services and regulate video surveillance in psychiatric hospitals.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69701&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203801&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

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AUTO INSURANCE ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801" }) Prohibits practitioners who employ, use or act as a runner, capper or steerer to falsely or fraudulently obtain benefits.

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~~Canceled: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68001&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 402/403, Capitol, 1:30 p.m.~~

- Michigan Rehabilitative Services audit

~~Canceled: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=72001&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 402/403 Capitol Building, 3 p.m.~~

- - Army National Guard Armory Maintenance - Michigan Youth Challenge Program

~~Canceled: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68701&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 402/403, Capitol, 3 p.m.~~

- Army National Guard Armory maintenance and Michigan Youth Challenge Program

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 11:31 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Snyder Taking Case To Detroit's People ---- 11:26 a.m.

MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Snyder Taking Case To Detroit's People ---- 11:26 a.m.
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Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration will host a series of town halls in Detroit after his return from a European economic trade mission next week to take the case about the city's financial woes directly to the people, his director of urban affairs, Harvey HOLLINS III, told reporters this morning.

Hollins, who was the administration's point person in reaching out to citizens in Flint during the recent appointment of an emergency manager there, said Detroit's extremely dire financial situation is new to its residents. He said he believes Detroit citizens will find facts on the extent of the city government's financial problems sobering.

"There's a lot of information that has to get to the residents. The residents really have not been presented with the financial challenges of the city by its leadership," he said. "Long-term legacy costs equate to about $10,800 per resident in the city of Detroit. That's pretty bad."

Snyder's team is working with the NAACP and other groups to "directly bring the information to the residents" on paper, Hollins said. This is on top of Snyder's conversations with pastors and other city leaders. The Governor is planning on meeting with Detroit lawmakers today to address their concerns.

No dates or locations have been announced.

A public dialogue gets Detroit's residents closer to the Governor and eases fears about some perceived hidden agenda to "divert democracy." It allows residents to ask questions directly of Snyder. It's not about "taking over Detroit" it's about creating a fiscally sound Detroit.

Hollins said the "carrot" to Detroit residents is the creation of a stable fiscal environment in Detroit. It's not punitive. The citizens need to know that the state cannot get national investors into Detroit to create opportunities because of the government's financial insecurity.

Some residents are fearful about the "takeover" perception of state government taking an active role in their city's finances and their concerns "need to be respected," Hollins said.

"We want to get to a point where we have a stable platform so we can build on it," he said. "The carrot is building that stable platform."

Groups of residents are beginning to see the city's financial information presented and "are concerned" and "want something done," Hollins said. They want crime taken care of right now. They want streetlights on right now.

Flint has already been through a financial emergency manager, Hollins said, so "this isn't new territory" for the citizens there. Also, with the crime problems in Flint, there were a number of residents "crying for help" so the environment for incoming EM Mike BROWN was much different.

"This is a new experience and there's some histories we need to be sensitive to with regards to (Detroit) and the residents," he said. "They haven't received enough information. This whole financial situation for the city hasn't been clearly transparent."

The Governor stressed numerous times during today's 40-minute roundtable conversation with reporters that the proposed consent agreement released Tuesday is a draft document. There is some "wiggle room," but he refused to be pinned down on what, specifically, is negotiable, other than to say he wanted to see all of the city's concerns "on the table."

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Subject: Michigan Report, Thursday, March 15, 2012
Attachments: Mar15.htm; Mar15House.htm; 120315dayplan.htm; Mar15Senate.htm

Michigan Report for Thursday, March 15, 2012

Snyder: Don't Like Agreement? Propose Something Else

S.E.I.U. Pushing Own Collective Bargaining Petition

Judge Imposes Restraining Order On Flint E.M.

Petition Approval Bill Granted I.E. After More Drama On House Floor

House Bars Videotaping Of Thursday's Session From Floor

Detroit Senators Blast Snyder Consent Agreement

Senate Panel OKs Interstate Health Care Compact Bill

Ban On Young Drivers Using Mobile Phones Passes Senate

Senate Panel Approves Environmental Leader Program

Clinic Inspections Could See Additional Funds

Counties Take Issue With New Revenue Sharing Program

New Food Code Nearing Completion

Stokes: Mangalitsa Pigs Allowed

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook

Campaign Notes

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Activity Reports

House

Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #51, Report #52 -- Thursday, March 15, 2012

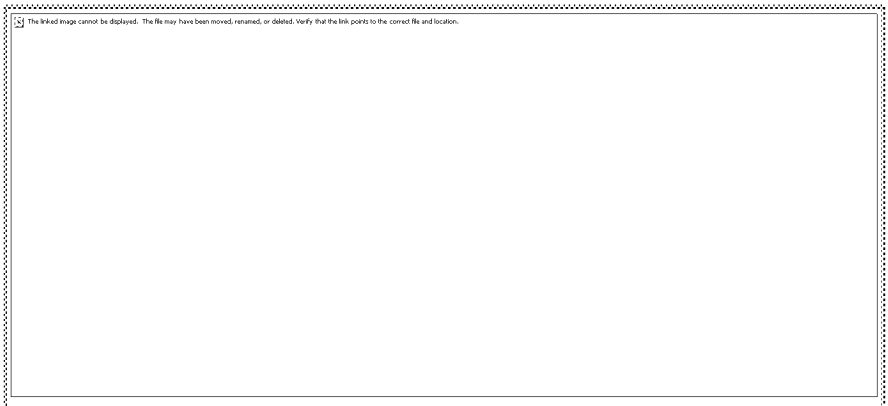
Snyder: Don't Like Agreement? Propose Something Else

With a large photo of the Detroit skyline behind him, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } on Thursday said he was encouraged Detroit officials were discussing a counter-offer on his controversial proposed consent agreement to address the city's financial crisis, but clearly seemed to outline certain specifics that any proposal would have to include.

While Mr. Snyder refused to take the bait on questions of whether any consent agreement would have to include a financial advisory board, his answers seemed to imply a financial board would be needed. Also, any consent agreement would have to include a penalty in the form of an emergency manager if the city refused or failed to live up to the agreement.

And Mr. Snyder said city officials could not expect any financial assistance in the short-term from the state.

Mr. Snyder also said Detroit residents should not see the proposed consent agreement as punitive. It is a way of helping Detroit get back on the path of greatness, Mr. Snyder said, which everyone should want.



{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } listens to a question from a reporter about the Detroit financial crisis as his urban affairs director, Harvey Hollins (left) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" } (right) listen.

And Harvey Hollins, Mr. Snyder's urban affairs advisor, said Mr. Snyder would take the proposal to the public in Detroit to discuss its outlines and implications. Those town hall meetings would not take place next week because Mr. Snyder is scheduled to be out of the country, but Mr. Hollins said they were being scheduled as soon as possible.

One thing the administration considers important is for city

residents to understand fully the magnitude of its problems, Mr. Hollins said. For example, Detroit's "legacy costs" of pensions and retiree health care amount to $10,800 per resident, he said.

But the timeframe to act is drawing near, Mr. Snyder said, with the financial review team looking over the city's finances scheduled to make a report to Mr. Snyder by March 26. Mr. Snyder then has 10 days to act on the proposal, if that means naming an emergency manager.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=105001&locid=1" } announced Thursday evening that the Detroit financial review team would meet early next week.

"As has been the case for several months, I am in regular contact with the Bing administration and various council members," Mr. Dillon said in a statement. "Based on recent conversations, it is possible that a proposal from the city could be ready for the review team's consideration, perhaps as soon as this weekend. With the deadline for the review team to report to the governor looming, time is of the essence."

Asked if he had to act within that timeframe, Mr. Snyder said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/programming/legislation_billdetail.cfm?billid=2011HB421401" } does not contemplate not acting.

Late Wednesday, officials with Detroit Mayor Dave Bing said he and members of the city council were meeting to negotiate a counter-proposal to the consent agreement.

Reports said the counter proposal at this point could give Mr. Bing close to emergency manager powers. But on Twitter, Mr. Bing said he did not know to what the reports were referring.

While Mr. Snyder welcomed news that city officials were working on an alternative, he also laid out some aspects that he likely would require in a counter-proposal.

Mr. Snyder's proposal calls for a financial advisory board that would have oversight of Detroit's finances. And whether a board had nine members as he proposed, a financial advisory board is "one of the fundamental things" to help the city.

"The concept of a financial advisory board is good," Mr. Snyder said. "Instead of viewing the advisory board as an adversarial body, which it isn't intended to be, think about this: If you're running an organization, whether it's a city or any organization, and you have the opportunity to say now to help you - because there is a history of, how many decades of financial challenge - now there's a group in this particular draft of nine financial experts, that would have a wide background and you could draw on their expertise to help the mayor and city council to develop their budget. Most people would be very excited to say, 'I'm really glad I don't have to go pay some huge consulting fees to have a group of that kind of expertise to help us make decisions.'"

The proposed consent agreement also says that if city officials challenge the consent agreement, an emergency manager would be named. Some in Detroit have called that close to extortion, but Mr. Snyder said they should then come up with another proposal.

However, he also said that any agreement had to include some penalty for non-action to meet the financial requirements.

City officials have said they will need money from the state to help fix the problems, but Mr. Snyder said several times they should not expect any short-term funding. The state is still working through its own financial difficulties, Mr. Snyder said.

And Mr. Snyder said repeatedly the consent agreement was not intended to punish Detroit.

"This should not be an adversarial situation," Mr. Snyder said. "We're all in this together."

And he said the state is trying to do many good things for Detroit. He pointed to his public safety message he outlined a week ago, which focused on Detroit and three other cities with extremely high crime rates, and legislative action is underway on a regional transit system for Detroit and the region.

S.E.I.U. Pushing Own Collective Bargaining Petition

Yet another proposed constitutional amendment ballot drive is in the works as the Service Employees International Union hopes to place the Michigan Quality Home Care Council into the Constitution and ward off the legislative attempt to eliminate it.

The proposal, which has been submitted to the Board of State Canvassers for approval as to form, would establish the council for the purpose of "improving the availability, reliability and skills of the individual provider workforce. The council, which appears to be a slight tweak in name from the current Michigan Quality Community Care Council, also would provide a registry of providers of in-home care to seniors and people with disabilities.

But probably the key piece of the proposal ensures collective bargaining rights by constitutionally enshrining them as public employees only for collective bargaining purposes. A bill that has been pending on the Senate floor since November ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB400301" }) would declare such workers not to be public employees.

The council would have 11 members, including nine appointed by the governor with expertise in participant needs. The directors of the departments of Community Health and Human Services, or their designees, also would serve on the council.

The language also makes clear that the new council would inherit the authorities, duties and obligations of the Michigan Quality Community Care Council.

The proposed language, which will be taken up at the Monday canvassers meeting, comes as a broader coalition of unions pursues a sweeping constitutional amendment protecting collective bargaining rights.

A spokesperson for SEIU did not return a message seeking comment.

Judge Imposes Restraining Order On Flint E.M.

The legal troubles facing the law allowing state-appointed emergency managers to exercise greater powers continued to mount Thursday with the placement of a restraining order on Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown by a judge.

Once again, the issue surrounded the Open Meetings Act, and whether the financial review team named by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to assess the city's financial condition should have met in public. Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina placed a restraining order on Mr. Brown after a Flint city employee union filed suit against the law over the Open Meetings Act issue.

"Because these proceedings were conducted illegally, including the appointment of Michael Brown as emergency manager, the court has quite properly enjoined Mr. Brown from acting on behalf of the city of Flint," Lawrence Roehrig, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 25, said in a statement. "As emergency manager, he has announced he will privatize various city assets and services, including the city jail, waste collection, water services, and golf course maintenance. Because of the shroud of secrecy these public bodies have utilized in their deliberations, it is uncertain how far Mr. Brown may have gone with his plans."

That same question caused problems for the state in implementing an emergency manager for the Highland Park schools and has clouded the review process in Detroit, where Ingham Circuit Judge William Collette has ruled the review team must meet in public.

"In each case, these proceedings were conducted in secret, without notice to the public and without keeping minutes," Mr. Roehrig said. "Such proceedings by a public body are in flagrant violation of the Open Meetings Act.

Ms. Aquilina has scheduled a hearing on the issue for 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Caleb Buhs, spokesperson for the Department of Treasury, said neither Mr. Brown nor Flint Mayor Dayne Walling is in charge of the city. Department directors will run their departments while the court case plays out.

The state has not yet decided whether to appeal Mr. Collette's ruling on whether financial review teams have to comply with the Open Meetings Act.

Petition Approval Bill Granted I.E. After More Drama On House Floor

The tense back and forth between { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } and House Republican leadership continued Thursday as she struggled to be recognized by the chair and to force a vote on immediate effect on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB506301" }

.

The bill requires that a committee distributing a petition drive for an initiated act or constitutional amendment have that proposed petition language approved by the Board of State Canvassers.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Segal-Kate.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } tried a variety of ways to keep HB 5063 from leaving the House chamber.

The bill passed on Wednesday on a near party-line vote, but the issue of immediate effect was not taken up over the objection of Ms. Segal (D-Battle Creek).

She submitted a motion to have the vote reconsidered that was brought up Thursday. There was insufficient support for the motion, therefore the vote was not reconsidered.

Prior to that, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R-Midland) began session by making a parliamentary inquiry of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206701&locid=1" } (R-Livonia), the speaker pro tempore, whether the House would accept signatures as support for a request for recorded votes and if the House would continue its longstanding practice that motions must be made orally after being recognized by the chair.

As previously reported in Gongwer News Service, Mr. Walsh indicated to Mr. Stamas that the Constitution requires recorded votes for only specific actions in the Legislature and immediate effect votes are not on that list.

That is left up to the House to establish its own rules and the House does not accept signatures as support for a motion.

Ms. Segal asked for a point of order to challenge Mr. Walsh's ruling, but was told that he was not making a ruling, simply stating what the rule was.

Mr. Stamas then moved for immediate effect over the loud objections again of Ms. Segal. Mr. Walsh asked those in support of immediate effect to stand, which Republican members did, and then granted immediate effect.

Ms. Segal then submitted a request to have the vote reconsidered again next week.

She was informed by Mr. Walsh that the bill had already left the chamber.

Ms. Segal said she submitted her request before the bill was removed from the chamber.

When he was handed the motion, Mr. Walsh said the bill had already left.

Ms. Segal tried to challenge that ruling and asked for a roll call vote, but Mr. Walsh said it could not be challenged because he did not make a ruling.

"We would like to render our objection to your visual impairments today please," Ms. Segal said.

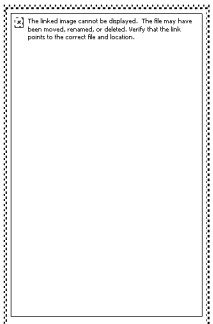
That statement was met with boos from Republicans on the floor.

House Bars Videotaping Of Thursday's Session From Floor

In an unusual and rare move Thursday, House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } barred House staff from videotaping or photographing session from the floor.

No specific reason was given, other than that the speaker has the right to decide that each day.

"Today's decision was no," said Mr. Bolger's spokesperson Ari Adler.



House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } barred staff from filming Thursday's session.

This was the first time this session that Mr. Bolger barred staff from doing so.

Such access is routinely given when the staff from either party asks for permission, or if a media outlet seeks permission.

House Democratic spokesperson Katie Carey said Democrats were not notified ahead of time that they could not film Thursday's session. As a staffer was setting up his camera, he was informed he could not tape.

"We're extremely disappointed that the majority barred us from videotaping," she said. "We're curious as to why."

Ms. Carey said she wondered if the Republicans didn't want documentation to show how political they were being.

The session began with continued drama surrounding the process of how { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB506301" } was granted immediate effect and moved to the Senate. (See related story.)

Mr. Adler said there was nothing specific about Thursday's session that Mr. Bolger didn't want recorded.

He also noted that Michigan Government Television broadcast the entirety of Thursday's session and House staff could have videotaped the proceedings from the gallery.

Mr. Adler said barring staff from being able to videotape the proceedings was not a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

"Everything the House did was open and people were able to see it," Mr. Adler said.

"It is something we make a daily decision on," Mr. Adler said. "(Today) they were told not to by their employer."

The speaker technically employs the staff members from both parties.

Detroit Senators Blast Snyder Consent Agreement

The five senators who represent Detroit in the Senate ripped into the consent agreement proposed to fix the city's financial crisis, but declined to offer their own solutions.

Major flaws in Mr. Snyder's proposal include giving too much power to a financial advisory board the governor would control and effectively allowing the state to remain in control of city government indefinitely, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=35001&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said at a news conference.

The senators said Mr. Snyder's comments Thursday backing his proposal offered more reason for concern.

"We all agree there's a fiscal crisis," Mr. Hunter said. "Something needs to be done. We want the governor to work with our mayor and city council in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration."

Mr. Hunter criticized Mr. Snyder's comments Wednesday that there is a "cultural problem" in Detroit that causes its officials to resist change.

But Mr. Hunter also said the exchange of sharp words between Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and Mr. Snyder this week is alarming.

"I'm concerned about this just devolving into a war of rhetoric," he said.

But while the five senators clearly dislike the consent agreement Mr. Snyder proposed, they declined to offer an alternative. Mr. Snyder needs to negotiate with Mr. Bing and the Detroit City

Council. The five senators have no direct say in what the consent agreement will look like, Mr. Hunter said.

"I don't think it's our role here today to negotiate any kind of construct," Mr. Hunter said. "The only thing we have to respond to is what the governor proposed 48 hours ago and what he doubled down on today."

Senate Panel OKs Interstate Health Care Compact Bill

Legislation that would allow Michigan to join an interstate compact to suspend the operation of the controversial federal health care act was sent to the full Senate by the Health Policy Committee on Thursday.

The panel reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB97301" } on a 6-1 vote with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) the only committee member opposing the bill.

Under the measure, each state in the compact would be able to suspend the operation of a federal law regarding health care within that state.

If the state suspended the federal law then it would be responsible for the financial obligation of regulating health care in its state.

However, the bill also said each state in the compact would still be eligible for its full portion of federal funding, even if it had suspended the federal law.

Interstate compacts to provide health care are allowed under the federal health care act that was passed in 2010 and will go before the U.S. Supreme Court this month.

Presuming it becomes law in Michigan, the compact would take effect if ratified by two states and approved by Congress.

While in some respects the measure is seen as a way to get out of some aspects of the federal act, Isabelle Terry of Rockford argued the measure would actually be worse than the federal act. She suggested the compact could go further than the federal measure and actually dictate what people could do and eat and what kind of medical treatment they could get.

The panel also heard testimony on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB59501" } (though it did not act on the bill) that would create a basic health care program for low-income people. The federal act would already expand those eligible for Medicaid, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), the bill sponsor, said the proposal would provide basic coverage for about 100,000 people whose incomes were between 133 percent and 200 percent of the poverty level.

Mark Cook with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan countered that, in fact, low-income persons would have a greater range of options available under a health care exchange.

So far, however, the Legislature has held up efforts by the administration to see a health care exchange enacted in the state.

Ban On Young Drivers Using Mobile Phones Passes Senate

New drivers with a level one or level graduated driver's license would be barred from using mobile phones under a bill passed Thursday by the Senate.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB75601" } cleared the Senate on a 28-10 vote. It would make the use of a mobile phone by such drivers a civil infraction and is designed to ensure young drivers are focused on operating their vehicle. The offense would be a primary one.

Motorists with graduated licenses at levels one or two are under 17. Once a resident turns 17, he or she can obtain a level three license - with all the rights of an adult license - provided that the driver has met the necessary training requirements.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=73001&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the bill sponsor, said he took up the issue after one of his constituents told him about a traffic crash that killed her daughter, who was using a mobile phone at the time of the accident. Her family was on hand in the gallery for the vote.

"While we will never know if Kelsey would still be here today if she wasn't talking on her phone that day, I think it is safe to say that probationary drivers should be completely focused on the road and not on cell phone conversations," Mr. Walker said, referring to Kelsey Raffaele, a 17-year-old with a level two license when she was killed in a traffic crash while talking on her mobile phone. "That is what my bill will help to accomplish."

But Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) said she thought the bill should apply to all motorists.

"We have a duty to ensure people on the road are safe," she said. "People are in car accidents every single day. We should do whatever we can to protect the public from all drivers who are distracted by any means.

Senate Panel Approves Environmental Leader Program

Businesses that are meeting state and federal environmental requirements, and helping other companies to do so as well, would see discounts on their permits and preference on state contracts under legislation approved Thursday by the Senate Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes Committee.

The bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB93901" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB94001" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB94101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB94201" }) moved on a party-line vote with little discussion after the changes to the main bill, SB 939, were explained.

Among the key changes, the bill would allow the Department of Environmental Quality to remove a company from the Environmental Leader Program for minor violations, said Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), sponsor of the bill.

The program, which would replace the current Clean Corporate Citizen Program, requires applicants to have clean records for the three years prior to the application, or have an approved plan to address any outstanding violations. But it waives certain penalties for violations after being admitted to the program.

The substitute, however, would allow the department to find the company or facility had committed a pattern of minor violations that affect natural resources, Mr. Meekhof said.

The program would also be more accessible to small business under the substitute. Companies with fewer than 100 employees could qualify by maintaining a sustainability policy.

The program now also calls on participants to spread their experience to others. The bill requires that the company's plan include methods for disseminating information on its programs and experiences, but the substitute also encourages companies to "initiate community-based activities" as part of that effort.

Mr. Meekhof said that could include providing mentoring to other facilities seeking to enter the program.

Businesses admitted to the program would see a 15 percent reduction in their fees to the DEQ during the first year. Any permits that it does need would see priority treatment from the DEQ and would last for twice the normal period. It also would see half the inspections and would have 72 hours' notice of those inspections.

Environmental Leader participants also would see preference in bidding on state contracts and seeking state grants and loans, and they would qualify for free technical assistance from the department.

If a company in the program does have a violation, it would not be subject to civil fines as long as the violation was reported within 24 hours, the company acted quickly to correct it, and the violation was not intentional and did not endanger public safety.

Clinic Inspections Could See Additional Funds

On the heels of a report from Right to Life of Michigan that licensed abortion clinics around the state are not being regularly inspected, and acknowledgement from the Department of License and Regulatory Affairs that neither are the rest of the state's free-standing surgical clinics, the department's budget could include some additional funding for inspectors, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township), chair of the Senate Appropriations Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee, said Thursday.

Exactly how much money the Bureau of Health Systems could see for inspectors is still in flux. Mr. Jansen said after a hearing on the Right to Life report that he would be working with the agency to determine how many people it would need to clear up the current backlog of inspections.

"My goal is let's get the inspections up to speed," Mr. Jansen said.

The agency has requested a fee increase to allow it to hire additional inspectors, but Mr. Jansen said that would not likely be part of the fiscal year 2012-13 budget that he expected to be ready for some initial hearings after next week.

"I could not get a fee increase done quickly enough," he said. Instead, he said he would try to find some one-time general fund money for the coming fiscal year.

The issue came to Mr. Jansen's attention with the recent release of the report (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news_articledisplay.cfm&article_id=510460113&newsedition_id=5104601&locid=1" }) citing the state for lax enforcement of health and safety regulations on abortion clinics.

Mike Pemble, director of the Bureau of Health Systems, which oversees medical clinics, told Gongwer News Service then and the subcommittee Thursday that he does not have the staff to conduct the required annual inspections of the 120 licensed free-standing surgical facilities in the state.

Mr. Pemble has proposed increasing the fee for each facility to $4,653 a year from the current $238 to allow him to hire the additional inspectors he would need to see each facility once every three years, but he told the subcommittee he ultimately would want to return to annual inspections for each clinic.

Mr. Jansen said such a change would take more time and research. Not only would he have to sell the rest of his caucus, and the Legislature, on the need for the increase, but he said he would

have to understand how that change would affect all the various types of surgical clinics before he could do that.

He also raised concerns that there still were some differences in enforcement between abortion clinics and other types of surgical clinics. Noting a case where aborted fetuses, some in containers with patient information still attached, were found in a trash container behind a clinic, but the clinic was fined only $100, he questioned whether a different type of surgical facility, for a similar offense (improperly disposing of medical waste and disclosure of patient information) would have received a similar penalty.

Mr. Pemble said most of those kids of cases have to be addressed by the Department of Attorney General. He said his primary hammer is rescinding the license.

Mr. Jansen indicated a need for a solution that would not be driven by the priorities of the attorney general. "Sometimes in the last 20 to 30 to 40 years it's been a priority and sometimes it hasn't," he said of taking action against abortion clinics violating licensing requirements or the law in general. "We need to fix this."

Mr. Pemble said there could be value in looking at the penalties under the current licensing laws, particularly those for operating without a license. "Are they strong enough to get people to come in voluntarily to get a license?" he said.

And he said in some cases there would be value to having sanctions short of rescinding a license, which, for most clinics, means closing its doors.

Mr. Jansen said he would also be exploring the current law the requires abortion clinics to be licensed only if more than half of the patients they see have abortions performed.

Ed Rivet, legislative liaison for Right to Life of Michigan, said the number was essentially a political compromise in 1999 to have any licensing for the clinics at all. But he also said the group did not want to force physicians who might perform an occasional first trimester abortion for a regular patient to have to go through the time and cost of getting a license.

Mr. Jansen said he also feared, at this point, forcing more clinics into the system to be inspected when the agency does not have the resources to inspect the ones there already. And he said he did not know if those clinics, while not licensed as surgical facilities, were licensed and inspected under some other regulation.

Counties Take Issue With New Revenue Sharing Program

Michigan's counties have saved the state more than $1 billion in the past few years by not taking revenue sharing to help the state with its budget problems, but don't feel the state has appreciated that effort.

At the House Appropriations General Government Subcommittee on Thursday, Deena Bosworth of the Michigan Association of Counties said the state is continuing to cut payments to county's for a variety of mandated services.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s proposed budget, he expands the discretionary pool of funds, known as the Economic Vitality Incentive Program, from $200 million to $210 million.

Ms. Bosworth said on the surface it looks like it's a $10 million increase.

"In fact, it's a bigger cut than last year," she said.

She said it is $42 million less than what counties were anticipating under the statutory formula.

The program replaces statutory revenue sharing in the current fiscal year and provides funding for local governments if they are meeting best practices, such as reforming employee compensation and being transparent to the public about their finances.

In the current fiscal year, to comply with PA 152, which requires most public entities to spend no more than a certain amount of money on their employees' benefits, local governments could opt out of the mandated hard dollar cap on how much they could spend on health benefits for employees or alternative of splitting the cost 80/20. Doing so did not have any bearing on qualifying for Economic Vitality Incentive Program funds, part of which was contingent on putting more of the cost of benefits on employees.

Under the new proposal, if local units opt-out next year, they would face a 10 percent cut to all payments issued under incentive funding for best practices. That's because the boilerplate in the revenue sharing budget hands out a 10 percent penalty to those entities failing to submit a certification that they have complied with PA 152.

"To us it appears that this program is designed to force counties to yet again earn their revenue sharing dollars," she said. "We implore you to recognize our contributions, our efforts and our proven worthiness for the revenue sharing dollars owed to us."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township) said there are injustices that have gone on with revenue sharing and said that the state is not requiring its departments to earn its money.

Officials from Grad Rapids and Saginaw testified in favor of the EVIP program.

Ken Cole with Governmental Consulting Services Incorporated, representing Detroit, said the city is eligible to receive $121 million under the proposal.

But he said that is phenomenally insufficient for all of the services the city has to provide.

He said the state continues to shackle the city to an agreement several years ago that the state walked away from, that has kept the city from receiving millions in revenue sharing payments.

While the state freed itself from its obligation, it has not returned to the city the ability for it to set its income tax rate, and pull itself up by its bootstraps.

"Free us also, that's only fair," Mr. Cole said.

New Food Code Nearing Completion

Revisions to the Food Code, including a new system for categorizing violations, won approval Thursday from the Senate Agriculture Committee and are nearing final legislative approval.

The committee made relatively minor changes to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB513001" } . Cottage food operations could have gross sales of up to $25,000, up from the current $15,000 under one amendment. Additionally, retail outlets and processing facilities selling maple syrup or honey would be exempt from licensure up to $25,000 in gross sales, up from the current $15,000.

But the major changes in the legislation would update the state's Food Code to the 2009 federal food law instead of the 2005 version. The significant changes in the federal food code include mandatory training for employees in food allergy awareness, banning the ordering of undercooked burgers from children's menus, declaring that cut tomatoes and cut leafy greens are considered potentially hazardous and must be temperature controlled for safety, and new standards for how to par-cook foods safely.

The new violation system would go from the current two categories of "critical" and "noncritical" to three categories. The least serious would be "core item," the second most serious "priority foundation item" and the most serious "priority item."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } called for the revised Food Code in his special message on health and wellness last fall.

The committee reported the legislation on a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Stokes: Mangalitsa Pigs Allowed

Breeders of Mangalitsa pigs in the state should be able to continue their operations without concern for the state's new invasive species order on certain breeds of swine, Natural Resources { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303701&locid=1" } said in a letter to the group representing those breeders.

Mr. Stokes, in the letter dated March 8 but disclosed Thursday, said the Mangalitsa farms the DNR had inspected so far, at the request of the owners, had not had any animals matching the characteristics of the Russian and Eurasian boar the department is trying to remove from the state.

"It is the DNR's understanding that purebred Mangalitsa swine do not exhibit characteristics listed in the Declaratory Ruling, other than potentially striped piglets," Mr. Stokes said in the letter to the American Mangalitsa Breeders Association general counsel Jason Foscolo. "The Invasive Species Order would not prohibit purebred Mangalitsa swine based solely on this characteristic."

But he left open the offer for DNR staff to visit any breeder still concerned to verify that their stock did not fall under the order.

Mr. Foscolo, in an earlier letter to the department (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news_articledisplay.cfm&article_id=510370106&newsedition_id=5103701&locid=1" }), said the group would take what action was necessary, including legal action, to ensure its members were not caught under the order.

But Mr. Stokes said Mr. Foscolo was incorrect in asserting the department was only seeking to eradicate feral swine. He said the department was looking to remove a certain species of boar from the state.

The boar listed in the order has most typically been raised on hunting ranches, which are also argued to be the source of most of the feral hogs found in the state and other areas of the country. Domestic hog farmers had requested the order as a way to combat the problem of feral hogs and their potential to transmit disease to the domestic herds.

Mr. Stokes also said the Mangalitsa breeders have the same notice as most other parties both that the order was coming and to its contents.

"The DNR has reached out to individuals that it knew may be affected by the Invasive Species Order, but DNR had no way of specifically identifying Mangalitsa breeders," Mr. Stokes said. "However, general public notice, consistent with DNR policies, was given for all public meetings held by the DNR on the Invasive Species Order, Declaratory Ruling, and enforcement of the Invasive Species Order."

Committee Roundup

CHEMO DRUG BILLS TO SEE FURTHER TESTIMONY: Testimony will continue on next week in the House Health Policy Committee on bills from both chambers that effectively would require equal health insurance treatment for oral and intravenous chemotherapy drugs.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), sponsor of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB54001" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB54101" }, testified that the bills would not add huge costs to insurance companies or patients. He said they are not requiring insurance companies to cover oral chemotherapy drugs, but just ensuring that oral medication isn't treated more restrictively.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210901&locid=1" } (R-Lake Angelus), committee chair, is the sponsor of similar bills also on the agenda, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB513201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB513301" }.

Capital Notebook

C.M.U. CHARTER OFFICE: Cindy Schumacher has been named the new executive director of the Central Michigan University Center for Charter Schools.

Ms. Schumaker previously served as deputy director in the center, which oversees the university's charter school program, and takes over for Mary Kay Shields, who had served as interim director since the departure of Jim Goenner in 2010.

"I feel honored and eager to take on this new role with the Center," Ms. Schumacher said. "We have such a dedicated and talented staff, and I look forward to working with them to raise the bar for all of Michigan's public school students."

JEFF-JACK SPEAKER: Robert Gibbs, former press secretary to President Barack Obama, is slated as the keynote speaker for the Michigan Democratic Party's Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner on April 28 at the Cobo Center in Detroit.

"Robert Gibbs can provide intimate insight into the Obama campaign and administration," Michigan Democratic Party Chair Mark Brewer said. "His experience and leadership will be a great addition to this year's Jeff-Jack program."

YARD WASTE BILLS HEAD TO SENATE: Two bills governing yard waste found Democrats and Republicans joining together on both sides of the issue Thursday.

The bills would allow landfills to again take yard waste, which would increase the amount of methane, and so electricity, they can produce. The state's composting facilities feared this would put them out of business and endanger particularly urban agriculture.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB426501" } was approved 67-40 and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB426601" } was approved 66-41. While both vote totals are close to the partisan split in the House, the votes were not party-line.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=158101&locid=1" } (R-DeWitt) argued on the floor that the bills allow complete and total local control over the entire process.

"More landfills, more layoff notices and more greenhouse gases make these bills bad policy for the State of Michigan," James Clift of the Michigan Environmental Council said in a statement opposing the bills "Instead Michigan should be exploring policies that would make us a clean energy leader around the country."

Campaign Notes

ANDERSON ENDORSEMENTS: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=39501&locid=1" } (D-Westland) announced a series of endorsements Thursday in his run for the 13th U.S. House District, including some 50 elected officials from around the new district.

Among the new supporters is Romulus Mayor Alan Lambert and Inkster Mayor Pro-Tempore Marcus Hendricks, he said.

Mr. Anderson also announced Thursday polling that he said put him in a dead heat with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=5601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) across the new district and gave him the lead in the areas of the district covered by his current Senate district.

KILDEE ENDORSEMENT: The Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters has endorsed Dan Kildee in his run for the 5th U.S. House District.

Mr. Kildee is seeking to succeed his uncle, retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=1901&locid=1" } (D-Flint).

BERRYMAN RECEIVES SUPPORT OF TEACHERS' GROUPS IN 57TH DISTRICT: Former senator and current Michigan Education Association Uniserv Director Jim Berryman has announced he has the support of the MEA and the Hillsdale-Lenawee County Education Association in both the August and November elections.

"Jim truly understands the needs of all of the residents of Lenawee County and will help bring common sense back to the Legislature, Jeff Condon of the HLCEA wrote. "Jim Berryman is someone that Lenawee County can believe in."

In the August primary for the Democratic nomination, Mr. Berryman will face Harvey Schmidt.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" } (R-Clayton) is serving her first term in that seat.

SINGH ANNOUNCES ENDORSEMENTS IN 69TH DISTRICT: Former East Lansing council member Sam Singh announced a series of early endorsements in his race for the 69th Distirct.

According to a statement, the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights and the Michigan Laborers' District Council have endorsed Mr. Singh.

"In this tough economy, Sam Singh understands the importance of building our communities. He has the experience and know how to make an excellent state legislator," Geno Alessandrini, business manager for the district council wrote.

Mr. Singh faces Susan Schmidt in the Democratic primary.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155901&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) cannot run again due to term limits.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Monday, March 19

Board of State Canvassers, Room 426, Capitol, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/March%2019%202012%20BSC%20Notice.pdf" \t "_blank" })

Thursday, March 22

Aeronautics Commission, Auditorium, First Floor, Office of Aeronautics, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Joint meeting with Transportation Commission; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Joint%20STC-MAC%20Meeting%20agenda%203-22-12.doc" \t "_blank" }; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/AERONAUTICS%20COMMISSION%20Agenda%203-22-12.doc" \t "_blank" })

Transportation Commission, Auditorium, First Floor, Office of Aeronautics, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Joint meeting with Aeronautics Commission; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Joint%20STC-MAC%20Meeting%20agenda%203-22-12.doc" \t "_blank" }; { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_Trans_Comm_Mtg_Agenda_03_22_2012_379155_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

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House Activity for Thursday, March 15, 2012

ENROLLED

HB 4618 **DISABLED HOUSING** (O'Brien) Provides retroactive property tax exemption for elderly or disabled housing under certain circumstances.

Earlier returned from Senate

IMMEDIATE EFFECT APPROVED

HB 5063 **ELECTION LAW** (Tyler) Mandate approval by board of canvassers prior to circulating a petition.

Earlier motion to reconsider vote rejected

Gongwer Coverage

PASSED

SB 685 **DEER SHOOTING** (Proos) Limits number of authorized shooters for deer damage shooting permits.

107-0, immediate effect

HB 4265 **YARD WASTE** (Opsommer) Provides yard waste ban waiver for facilities with methane capture.

67-40

Gongwer Coverage

HB 4266 **YARD WASTE** (Horn) Provides yard waste ban waiver for facilities with methane capture.

66-41

Gongwer Coverage

HB 5084 **HOTEL BEER SALES** (Horn) Allow sale of beer and wine by certain hotels.

101-5

HB 5297 **ABSENTEE BALLOT** (Outman) Expand federal write-in absentee ballot to include state and local candidates and ballot questions.

107-0

HR 212 **GRADUATE EDUCATION WEEK** (Rutledge) Declares March 26-30, 2012, as Graduate Education Week in the state of Michigan.

Voice vote

HR 213 **MULTIPLE BIRTH AWARENESS MONTH** (Townsend) Declares April 2012 as Multiple Birth Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Voice vote

HR 214 **MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH** (Shaughnessy) Declares May 2012 as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Voice vote

RETURNED FROM SENATE

HB 4647 **WITNESS TESTIMONY** (Heise) Allows expert witness testimony to be delivered by video communications.

Laid over one day

HB 4691 **JURY DUTY** (Heise) Provides exemption for nursing mothers from jury duty under certain circumstances.

Laid over one day

ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

SB 992 **MORTGAGES** (Meekhof) Clarifies effect of certain mortgage provisions in nonrecourse mortgage loans.

HB 5232 **INCOME TAX CHECKOFF** (Farrington) Modify contribution designation requirements.

Committee substitute (H-1) adopted

REPORTED

Agriculture:

SB 946 **NURSERY STOCK INSPECTIONS** (Caswell) Requires certain inspections of nursery stock.

Appropriations:

HB 4289 **SUPPLEMENTAL** (Moss) Provides supplemental appropriations for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

Substitute (H-1) adopted

Education:

HB 5040 **HIGHER EDUCATION DISCRIMINATION** (Haveman) Prohibit discrimination against students for sincerely held religious beliefs in education programs for counselors, social workers and psychologists.

Substitute (H-1) adopted

HR 111 **STUDENT RELIGIOUS RIGHTS** (Haveman) Urges President Barack Obama and the Congress to enact legislation protecting the rights of conscience of students seeking counseling degrees and licensed professional counselors.

HR 112 **STUDENT RELIGIOUS RIGHTS** (Haveman) Urges Michigan's public universities to adopt policies to protect the rights of students in counseling, social work or psychology programs who are faced with situations that conflict with their religious beliefs.

HCR 46 **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION** (Pettalia) Urges Congress to reconsider cuts to vocational education.

Judiciary:

SB 727 **ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR** (Booher) Eliminates requirement for circuit court to consent to appointment of assistant prosecutor by prosecuting attorney in certain cases.

SB 728 **ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR** (Booher) Eliminates requirement for circuit court to consent to appointment of assistant prosecutor by the prosecutor in certain cases.

SB 789 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** (Jones) Provides temporary scheduling of a controlled substance under certain circumstances.

HB 5338 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (McBroom) Provide for temporary scheduling of controlled substance under certain circumstances.

Substitute (H-1) adopted

Regulatory Reform:

SB 874 **SELLING TO MINORS** (Rocca) Bases revocation of license for multiple sales to minors on consecutive 12-month period.

Transportation:

SB 35 **RECREATIONAL VEHICLE LENGTH** (Nofs) Includes trailers in maximum length for recreational vehicles.

SB 582 **UNLOADED LOWBOYS** (Casperson) Allows access to designated highways for unloaded lowboys.

REFERRED

SB 756 **GRADUATED LICENSE** (Walker) Prohibits cell phone use while driving for individuals with a level 2 graduated driver license.

To Transportation

Gongwer Coverage

SB 783 **CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS** (Schuitmaker) Modifies protection from liability to nonclients for certified public accountants.

To Families, Children and Seniors

SB 887 **GRAIN DEALER FEES** (Green) Modifies grain dealer licensing fees and eliminates surety requirements.

To Banking and Financial Services

SB 888 **FARM PRODUCE INSURANCE** (Green) Authorizes collection of fee for administration of farm produce insurance program and revises fund investment requirements.

To Appropriations

SB 1005 **GUARDIAN AD LITEM** (Emmons) Requires certain child development training for lawyer-guardian ad litem and modifies termination of parental rights provisions.

To Appropriations

HB 4867 **EQUINE ACTIVITY** (Johnson) Limits liability of persons under equine activity liability act to willful and wanton acts under certain circumstances.

To Agriculture

HR 215 **BATTLE CREEK AIR BASE** (O'Brien) Expresses support for the 2012 United States Air Force Re-Missioning Plan to locate an MQ-1/9 RSO element at the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek, Michigan.

To Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security

INTRODUCED

HJR SS **SUNSET ON BILLS** (Bauer) Require constitutional amendment for 4-year sunset on bills that increase or create new tax exemption or credits.

To Government Operations

HB 5473 **ORGAN DONOR** (Irwin) Require secretary of state to specifically inquire whether driver license applicant wishes to participate in organ donor registry and prohibit issuance of license if applicant fails to respond. Amends 1949 PA 300, by amending section 307 (MCL 257.307), as amended by 2012 PA 26.

To Transportation

HB 5474 **WITHHOLDING DIPLOMAS** (Irwin) Prohibit grades, or transcripts for nonpayment of fees owed to school. Amends 1976 PA 451, (MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1136.

To Education

HB 5475 **PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS** (Gilbert) Revise definition of qualified agricultural property to include certain private golf courses. Amends 1893 PA 206, by amending section 7dd (MCL 211.7dd), as amended by 2011 PA 320.

To Tax Policy

HB 5476 **GASOLINE EXPENSE CREDIT** (Darany) Provide for certain gasoline expenses credit. Amends 1967 PA 281, (MCL 206.1 to 206.713) by adding section 272a.

To Tax Policy

HB 5477 **21ST CENTURY JOBS FUND** (Schmidt, W.) Modify 21st century job trust fund. Amends 1984 PA 270, by amending sections 88f and 88q (MCL 125.2088f and 125.2088q), section 88f as added by 2005 PA 225 and section 88q as amended by 2009 PA 144.

To Commerce

HB 5478 **TOWING SERVICE** (Zorn) Prohibit practice of soliciting business at scene of vehicle accident, emergency, or disablement and designate as a civil infraction. Amends 1949 PA 300, by amending section 907 (MCL 257.907), as amended by 2011 PA 159, and by adding section 676c.

To Transportation

HB 5479 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ACT** (Knollenberg) Prohibit engaging in contracts

with companies that have business activities in Iran.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5480 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** (Knollenberg) Prohibit engaging in certain contracts for services or supplies with companies that have business activities in Iran. Amends 1984 PA 431, by amending section 261 (MCL 18.1261) as amended by 2008 PA 133.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5481 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** (Callton) Prohibit engaging in contracts for construction with companies that have business activities in Iran. Amends 1984 PA 431, by amending section 241 (MCL 18.1241), as amended by 2010 PA 22.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5482 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** (Agema) Subject strategic fund to new Iran economic sanctions act. Amends 1984 PA 270, (MCL 125.2001 to 125.2094) by adding sections 15.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5483 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** (Moss) Subject receipt of revenue sharing to compliance with new Iran economic sanction act. Amends 1971 PA 140, (MCL 141.901 to 141.921) by adding section 17b.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5484 **IRAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** (Haines) Subject receipt of transportation funds to compliance with Iran economic sanctions act. Amends 1951 PA 51, (MCL 247.651 to 247.675) by adding section 1j.

To Banking and Financial Services

HB 5485 **REAL ESTATE BROKERS** (Yonker) Clarify licensing requirements for residential property management offices operated by real estate brokers. Amends 1980 PA 299, by amending sections 2501, 2503, and 2505 (MCL 339.2501, 339.2503, and 339.2505), section 2501 as amended by 2008 PA 90, section 2503 as amended by 1990 PA 269, and section 2505 as amended by 2003 PA 196.

To Regulatory Reform

HB 5486 **VETERAN'S OMBUDSMAN** (MacGregor) Create veteran's ombudsman.

To Government Operations

HB 5487 **ROAD COMMISSION AGENT** (Potvin) Expand authority of authorized agent of a county road commission. Amends 1949 PA 300, by amending sections 42 and 726c (MCL 257.42 and 257.726c), as amended by 1989 PA 173.

To Transportation

HB 5488 **LIQUOR LICENSE** (Franz) Allow issuance of a temporary license under certain circumstances. Amends 1998 PA 58, by amending section 525 (MCL 436.1525), as amended by 2010 PA 279.

To Regulatory Reform

HB 5489 **SUPPLEMENTAL** (Ananich) Provide for funding for state police.

To Appropriations

The House adjourned until 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

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Senate Activity for Thursday, March 15, 2012

PASSED

HB 4618 **DISABLED HOUSING** (O'Brien) Provides retroactive property tax exemption for elderly or disabled housing under certain circumstances.

36-1; immediate effect

HB 4691 **JURY DUTY** (Heise) Provides exemption for nursing mothers from jury duty under certain circumstances.

36-0; immediate effect

SB 756 **GRADUATED LICENSE** (Walker) Prohibits cell phone use while driving for individuals with a level 2 graduated driver license.

28-10

Gongwer Coverage

SB 887 **GRAIN DEALER FEES** (Green) Modifies grain dealer licensing fees and eliminates surety requirements.

24-14

SB 888 **FARM PRODUCE INSURANCE** (Green) Authorizes collection of fee for administration of farm produce insurance program and revises fund investment requirements.

24-14

SB 1005 **GUARDIAN AD LITEM** (Emmons) Requires certain child development training for lawyer-guardian ad litem and modifies termination of parental rights provisions.

38-0

SR 129 **GRADUATE EDUCATION WEEK** (Hune) Declares March 26-30, 2012, as Graduate

Education Week in the state of Michigan.

Voice Vote

SR 130 **DYSTONIA** (Bieda) Commemorates Dystonia Awareness and commends Warren resident Mike Delise and the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF).

Voice Vote

ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

SB 890 **SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY** (Jones) Removes certain exceptions to placement on public sex offender registry.

SB 934 **FOSTER CARE SEX** (Jones) Prohibits sexual penetration or contact of a foster child regardless of age by certain care providers during residency.

Substitute S-1 adopted

REPORTED

Agriculture:

HB 5130 **FOOD SERVICES LAWS** (Denby) Modify food services laws and regulations.

Amendments adopted

Gongwer Coverage

Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes:

SB 939 **ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER PROGRAM** (Meekhof) Establishes environmental leader program and provides incentives.

Substitute S-1 adopted

Gongwer Coverage

SB 940 **ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS PROGRAM** (Proos) Grants priority consideration in state purchasing to companies in environmental leaders program.

Gongwer Coverage

SB 941 **ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS PROGRAM** (Casperson) Makes parts in Public Health Code concerning medical waste and radiation control subject to environmental leaders program.

Gongwer Coverage

SB 942 **ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS PROGRAM** (Green) Makes Safe Water Drinking Act subject to environmental leaders program.

Gongwer Coverage

RECEIVED

HB 5058 **ELECTION LAW** (Knollenberg) Limit expenditures by candidate committees to defend certain officials in criminal or civil actions.

To Local Government and Elections

HB 5059 **ELECTION LAW** (Tyler) Modify ballot question and political party committee filing requirements.

To Local Government and Elections

HB 5158 **STATE CONTRACT AUDITS** (Forlini) Provide for audits of contract expenditures for organizations that provide service contract for the state.

To Reforms, Restructuring and Reinventing

INTRODUCED

SB 1020 **OFF-ROAD VEHICLES** (Casperson) Allows county board to authorize operation of off-road vehicles on certain state highways. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 81115, 81129 and 81131 (MCL 324.81115 et seq), sections 81115 and 81129 as amended by 2008 PA 240 and section 81131 as amended by 2011 PA 107.

To Transportation

SB **PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES** (Casperson) Increases payment in lieu of taxes on

SB 1021 certain state-owned land and prohibits prorated payments. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 2150 and 2153 (MCL 324.2150 and 324.2153), section 2150 as amended by 1996 PA 585 and section 2153 as amended by 2004 PA 513.

To Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes

SB 1022 **PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES** (Booher) Revises payment in lieu of taxes on certain state-owned land. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 2154 and 51106 (MCL 324.2154 and 324.51106), section 2154 as amended by 2011 PA 118 and section 51106 as amended by 2006 PA 382.

To Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes

The Senate adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Senate, House Taking Different Roads To June 1 Budget Goal
The Senate is slated to start kicking Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 bills out of appropriations subcommittees next week with the goal of getting them out of the full Appropriations Committee before spring break.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30454

SEIU Trying To Get MQCCC Into Constitution
A SEIU-bankrolled organization is beginning a drive to enshrine into the Constitution the controversial state umbrella organization over home help care workers in an attempt to save the group from potential Republican-led legislation.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30459

Cyber School Fires Back Over Incomplete Curriculum Analysis
The Tri-County Alliance for Public Education put out an analysis this week claiming cyber schools aren't meeting the learning goals public schools adhere to, but the only company studied says the analysis is flawed.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30450

Snyder Leaving For Europe, Bing Counter-Proposes
Gov. Rick Snyder will leave for his one-week economic trade mission to Italy and Germany on Saturday with some reading material -- Detroit Mayor Dave BING's 26-page counter proposal on a consent agreement between the state and the cash-strapped city.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30458

Gov Fills Two COA Vacancies
Gov. Rick SNYDER today announced the appointments of Michael RIORDAN, of Plymouth, to the 1st district and Mark BOONSTRA, of Dexter, to the 3rd district of the Michigan Court of Appeals -- filling two vacancies

he had previously said should stay open.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30461

MCCA Announces $30 Premium Increase
The Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) announced today it is increasing its premium from $145 to $175, a 21 percent increase.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30462

Flint Functioning Without EM, Mayor
The city of Flint is functioning without a leader right now, as Emergency Manager (EM) Michael BROWN has been served a temporary restraining order separating him from city business.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30453

Graves: Not Afraid To Speak Out
Rep. Joe GRAVES (R-Argentine Twp.) spent 32 years working at General Motors (GM) and wants the pension tax repealed -- and he's not afraid to speak out about those perspectives.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30451

Santana Apologizes To Gov
Gov. Rick SNYDER huddled with most of the Detroit legislative delegation late Thursday and Rep. Harvey SANTANA (D-Detroit) opened the session by handing the governor a written apology for comparing him to the late Iraqi dictator Saddam HUSSEIN (See "Detroit Dems Beat Snyder Proposal Like Piñata," 3/13/12).
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30448

Teacher Unions Disappointed In Snyder's Latest Signature
Gov. Rick SNYDER today signed HB 4929, which prohibits schools from deducting union dues or service fees from employees' paychecks.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30456

MI Has 4th Biggest Net Tax Cut For 2011
Michigan had the fourth biggest net tax decrease last year -- despite raising personal income taxes, according to a new report by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30447

SOS Finds 165,000 Suspicious Voter Registrations
Secretary of State Ruth JOHNSON this week touted that as part of her Secure and Fair Elections (SAFE) initiative, the state would participate for the first time in the "Kansas Project," which cross-checks voter registration records between states.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30457

Supremes Decline Taking Up DIBC Case
The Michigan Supreme Court today declined to take up a case related to the Gateway dispute between the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Detroit International Bridge Company (DIBC).
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30455

Poll: Michiganders Happy With Current Liquor Rules
A coalition of groups came together today to disclose results from a poll on alcohol policy, the results of which they hope may dampen any deregulation plans coming out of the Liquor Control Advisory Rules Committee.
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Transparency Report: Michigan Improving
A report released this week measuring transparency in the states ranked Michigan's as an "advancing" state, putting it in the top 20 states.
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Bits And Tidbits
Oakland County Releases Inmates Early Due To Overcrowding
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Talk About Talk
- Politibomb, the podcast of Joe DiSANO of Mainstreet Strategies, and Jake DAVISON of Advantage Associates, is online now. Topics this week include the potential rematch between former U.S. Rep. Joe SCHWARZ and U.S. Rep. Tim WALBERG and other competitive congressional races. MIRS Deputy Editor Susan J. DEMAS is the guest.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3791#30446

On This Day In Michigan History
On March 16, 1939, Gov. Frank D. FITZGERALD died soon after starting his second term. He is the only Michigan governor to die in office.
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Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:15 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: NEWS UPDATE--Judge Reinstates Flint Mayor, Council

News Update

Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 05:13 PM

Judge Reinstates Flint Mayor, Council

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling and the Flint City Council have had their powers restored after a judge ruled Tuesday that the state appointed financial review team looking into the city's finances violated the Open Meetings Act.

The decision involving the Flint emergency manager was the second major blow issued Tuesday against the controversial emergency manager act. Earlier Ingham Circuit Judge William Collette had ordered the Detroit Financial Review Team to sign no consent order with Detroit until a contempt hearing is held in his court next week.

In the Flint matter, Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina also invalidated all decisions made by Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown. Ms. Aquilina said nothing in 2011 PA 4 exempted the financial review team from the 1976 Open Meetings Act.

Gongwer will have more on this story in Tuesday's report.

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Subject: Police Chief Under Fire in Florida Teen's Shooting

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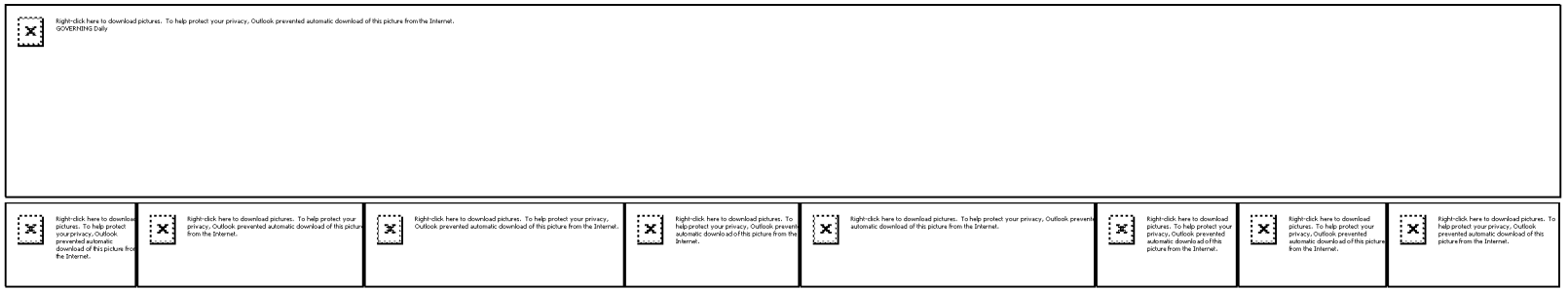

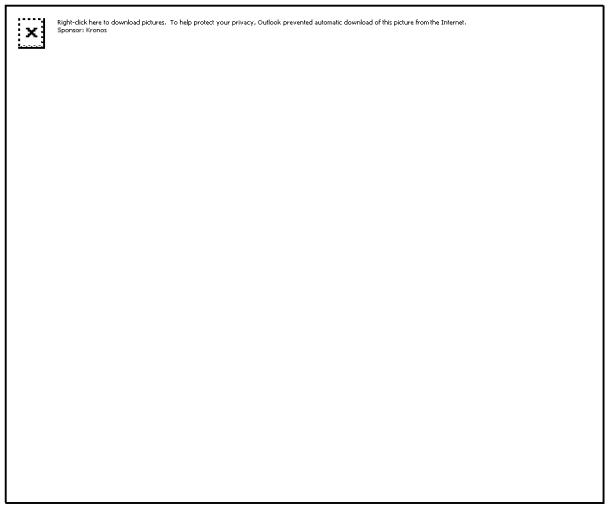

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Sanford, Fla.

Police Chief Under Fire in Teen's Fatal Shooting

The fatal shooting of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin is bringing heated calls for the resignation of the local police chief, and the city's commissioners voted "no confidence" in the chief Wednesday night. Sanford police have not arrested 28-year-old George Zimmerman, who says he shot Trayvon Martin, an unarmed teen, in self-defense.
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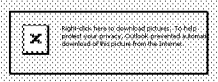

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Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower's grandchildren asked a commission tasked with designing his memorial to return to the drawing board.

3. States Protected from Sick Leave Lawsuits, Court Rules

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states cannot

FEMA Denies Illinois' 2nd Request for Tornado Aid
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Emergency Manager Law Dealt a Blow in Flint, Mich.
San Francisco Mayor Suspends Sheriff, Seeks Removal
Judge Rules Detroit Can't Sign Consent Agreement Without His Approval

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Legislators' DWI Immunity Under Attack in Minnesota
Tennessee Abortion Bill Sponsor Removes ID Provisions
Idaho Lawmaker's Abortion Comments Spark Anger

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Earthquake Warning System Experiencing Cracks in California
Public Safety Broadband Network Won't be Ready for Years
Minnesota Government Joins the Email Cloud

FEDERAL NEWS

Ex-Paradise Valley, Ariz., Mayor to Run for U.S. House
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140,000

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The GOVERNING Daybook

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FROM THE BLOGS

Snowe's Pending Departure Opens Door for Maine Lawmakers

With the "big dogs" in the race for the U.S. Senate seat from Maine scared off by the entry of former independent Gov. Angus King, the door has opened for state officers and legislators to get into the race.

Politics | Read more

Montana Awaits Campaign Finance Law Ruling from High Court

Montana's century-old campaign finance law which bans direct corporate contributions is being held in abeyance pending U.S. Supreme Court action, throwing the door wide open for companies and labor unions to pour money into the state's races.

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Business Playing Key Role in Gay Marriage Push

Corporations worried about recruiting a high-skill workforce to their states are gradually supporting the same-sex marriage movement, Stateline.org reports.

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Who Owns Government Efficiency?

What's Happening This Week?

We'll tell you, if you'll tell us. Every week, we compile state and municipal government-related events happening around the country. The GOVERNING Daybook is updated every Friday. We encourage you to send submissions to daybook@governing.com. Deadline for submissions are Thursday, 3 p.m.

Professional managers will always be key, but lawmakers who care about efficient government can have a big role to play.

Better, Faster, Cheaper | Read more

GOP Legislatures Try to Limit Local Government's Power

Conservative state lawmakers who rail against federal mandates often find themselves using the same weapon in dealing with their own cities and counties, Stateline.org reports.

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Spring Break! How Cities Prepare for an Increase in Tourists

Fun-loving college students present some public safety challenges for local officials.

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Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 1:04 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: CORRECTION: MIRS Monday Podcast March 26, 2012

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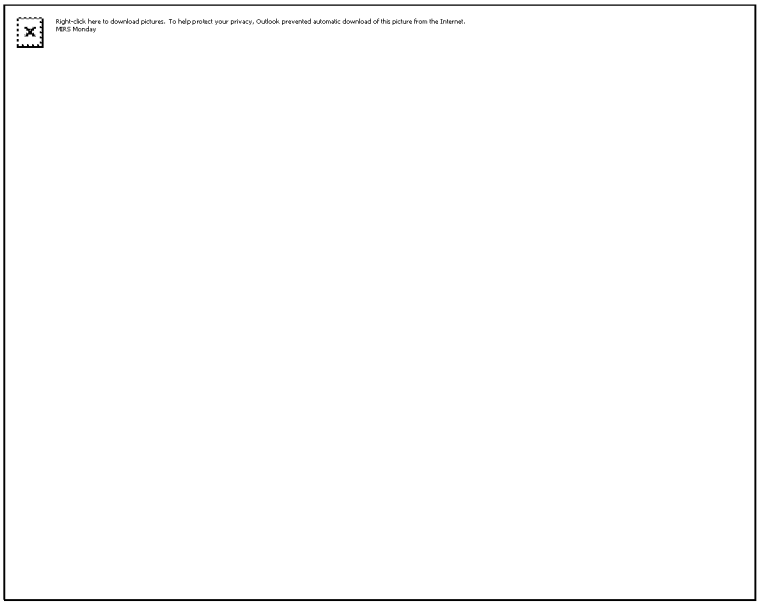

Rich Robinson of the Campaign Finance Network gives Jocelyn Benson's "Right to Know" ballot proposal an "incomplete." Was Robinson consulted on Benson's shelved proposal? What would his ballot proposal look like if he were to craft one? Also, Republicans try to play the role of compromiser on Right to Work, why Flint will get its emergency manager back quickly and why the public doesn't care about the immediate effect controversy in the House.

Listen to the podcast by clicking on the following link: http://mirsnews.podbean.com/

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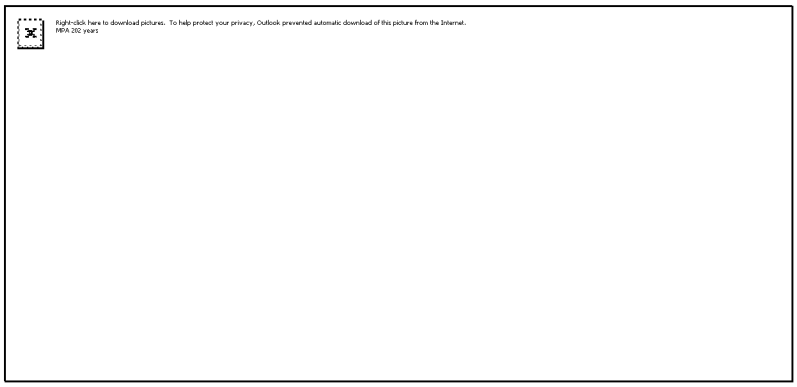

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Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:11 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: NEWS UPDATE--Appeals Court Stays Order; Flint E.M. Returns To Power

News Update

Monday, March 26, 2012, 04:11 PM

Appeals Court Stays Order; Flint E.M. Returns To Power

The Court of Appeals has restored Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown to operate under the provisions of 2011 PA 4 while it hears an expedited review of the Ingham Circuit Court ruling that threw out the emergency manager in that city.

The court issued an order Monday afternoon in *Muma v. Flint Financial Review Team* (COA docket No. 309260), setting the schedule for briefs in the appeal which would take place likely within a month. Following the schedule set in the order, all briefs and counter arguments would have to be completed within 21 days.

Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina ruled that Mr. Brown could not continue in his role as emergency manager, appointed there by Governor Rick Snyder last fall, since the panel violated the Open Meetings Act. That put Flint Mayor Dayne Walling and the city council back in charge.

In its order, the court ruled Mr. Brown could operate under the powers of the emergency manager act during the pendency of the appeal.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in Monday's Michigan Report.

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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Chaotic Public Meeting Results In Financial Stress, No Consent Agreement
The Detroit Financial Review Team today passed a motion saying that there is financial stress in the Motor City, but no consent agreement was adopted as the team withstood a barrage of the objections from more than 15 public commentators and various hecklers.
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House Budget: Between Governor's and Senate's Targets
The House Appropriations budget will be lower than Gov. Rick SNYDER's recommendation and higher than the Senate's budget target, MIRS has learned.
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Compromise Cyber School Bill Coming In House
The House is preparing to vote this week on a scaled-back version of a bill that would expand charter school-sponsored cyber schools to 15 and limit the number of students able to participate to 3 percent of the state's student population.
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Anuzis To Run Again, Who Will Challenge?
Michigan Republican National Committeeman Saul ANUZIS announced over the weekend that he would seek re-election for a four-year term during the Michigan Republican Party's (MRP) May 19 state committee meeting.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30562

Stem Cell Issue Not Expected In Senate Higher Ed Budget
Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Tonya SCHUITMAKER (R-Lawton) today said she doesn't expect her Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget to delve into hot-button issues of embryonic stem cell research (ESR) or domestic partner benefits.
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The Senate is set to take up the motorcycle helmet bill this week independent of no-fault insurance reform,

Senate Majority Leader Randy RICHARDVILLE (R-Monroe) told MIRS.
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Jumping The Gun On Concealed Weapons Bill?
A bill that would allow people to carry concealed weapons in churches, hospitals, schools, bars and sports venues is not slated to be taken up this week, Senate Majority Leader Randy RICHARDVILLE (R-Monroe).
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Shields GOP Confident of House Control
The House Democrats are making noses about swiping back control of the lower chamber and a GOP consultant said that's to be expected, but his clients are "confident" that will not happen.
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Midland Joins The Big Boys
Midland can now be counted as one of the urbanized areas of the state, and several other areas are nearing that designation, according to U.S. Census Bureau data released today based on the 2010 Census.
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Bits And Tidbits
CPAN Holding Town Hall
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On This Day In Michigan History
On March 26, 1859, Adrian College adopted articles of incorporation. By 1862, Adrian College had a student enrollment of 82 women and 133 men.
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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Supremes OK Oakland County Redistricting
The Oakland County Commission redistricting plan shoved through the Legislature in the waning days of 2011 was ruled constitutional by the Michigan Supreme Court in a decision released after 7:30 p.m. Monday night.
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Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 11:00 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, March 26, 2012
Attachments: Mar26.htm; 120326plan.htm; 120326dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Monday, March 26, 2012

4-3 Supreme Court Upholds Oakland County Redistricting

State, Detroit Near Consent Agreement; Activists Drown Out Meeting

Senate Subcommittee To Raise Film Incentive To $40M

Court Of Appeals Rebuffs Ingham Circuit On E.M. Rulings

Senate Expected To Run Bill Repealing Mandatory Helmet Law

Supremes Decline Schuette Request To Bypass Appeals Court In Same-Sex Benefits Case

Split Supreme Court Rules Arson Case Can Be Reheard

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Volume #51, Report #59 -- Monday, March 26, 2012

4-3 Supreme Court Upholds Oakland County Redistricting

In what could be characterized as 4-3 Republican-Democratic split on the officially nonpartisan Supreme Court, the justices ruled a politically charged law ordering Oakland County to reapportion itself was constitutional.

That reapportionment process is scheduled to begin on Wednesday when 2011 PA 280 ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB518701" }) takes effect, and the process will be the second undertaken by the county since the 2010 census, but this reapportionment will be under the authority of the Republican-controlled county board of commissioners. The first reapportionment was overseen by the countywide officers, who are dominated by Democrats.

The decision, in Houston v. Snyder (SC docket No.144691), came as an order overturning a Court of Appeals decision that held the act was a local act and failed to meet the constitutional guidelines for enacting a local act.

The court heard arguments last week over whether to grant leave to appeal the decision. Instead of deciding to hold more arguments, the four-member majority ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=298201&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" }) said simply the act "is not a 'local' act in violation" of Article IV, Section 29 of the Constitution.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/young05.jpg" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&

locid=1" } sided with the majority; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" } wrote the dissent.

The majority opinion in the order was not signed, so it is unknown who wrote the opinion.

However, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" } clearly wrote the main dissent, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151701&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153201&locid=1" } concurred in a separate short dissent), in which she said the only way in which 2011 PA 280 could be constitutional would be for the court to sever the section that requires Oakland County to begin to reapportion beginning on Wednesday, March 28.

"If it is possible to sever the constitutionally flawed section of a statute while the remainder of the statute could function, the court should sever the flawed section. That is what the Court of Appeals did in this case. This court should affirm its decision," Ms. Kelly wrote in her concluding comments.

The action passing the statute was one of the more politically charged in recent legislative history. The day before the Supreme Court heard the arguments, Frank Houston, the chief plaintiff in the case and the Oakland County Democratic Party chair, released emails the party had obtained under the Freedom of Information Act that showed that despite the argument of supporters that the measure would save money, it was clearly being pushed because Republicans wanted the act passed to protect their majority on the board.

Both the majority and dissent acknowledged the partisan nature of the law. Ms. Kelly simply referred to it as a "politically charged case."

The majority said the plaintiffs "made much" of the political nature of the act. But the majority decision also said in effect every reapportionment effort tries to provide a partisan advantage to one party or another. "Notwithstanding this reality," the court said, political motives cannot be a basis for rendering a decision on the constitutionality of the law.

A major difference between the majority and dissent was in reading the entirety of the statute. The majority cited previous decisions in saying that an effort to segregate a section would misinterpret legislative intent, and that a statute must be read so all the sections harmonize with themselves.

Ms. Kelly wrote that, "The whole, however read, cannot cure the constitutional flaw of one of its parts." The majority, she said, argues that because one part of the law is unconstitutional it can still be constitutional because the rest of the act is constitutional and that is not possible.

The two sides also differed on the specific date in the act and whether it made the act an unconstitutional local act (that would require approval by a two-thirds majority of the Legislature as well as the local public).

The majority held that the act included enacting conditions that meant it was open-ended enough that theoretically most counties could fall under its provisions. It also referred to an admission made by the plaintiff's counsel that if the act had been enacted before the first reapportionment had occurred, no constitutional question would be raised against the act.

The specific date implementing the required reapportionment process was part of the transitional nature of the act, the majority said. Oakland County was the only county affected beginning Wednesday, but that still did not render the measure a local act because every county "remains potentially subject in the future" to the act's requirements.

But Ms. Kelly argued it was the time frame, and the fact that as defined the only county that could be affected on Wednesday, March 28, would be Oakland County, made the provision a local act. "It is a date certain, and it will never occur again," she wrote. And where only one municipality at one specified time is affected, an act is effectively a local act, she said.

Reaction to the decision fell along predictable partisan lines. Democrats fumed that the Republican majority on the court was in the tank for Oakland County Republicans out of partisan loyalty, not impartial legal analysis.

"It's just another outrageous act by the Republican Party in Michigan," said Frank Houston, chair of the Oakland County Democratic Party. "It's clear that this Supreme Court has set aside legal precedent and our state Constitution all for Republican gain. Outraged would be one word for it. Even more, I think it's extreme disappointment that the Supreme Court would choose the politics of one party over the rule of law."

Mr. Houston said the statute clearly was a local act. Only Oakland County - now and in the future - could possibly qualify under the terms of the statute, he said.

Leading up to the decision, Mr. Houston said Republican attorneys told him legally, Democrats should expect to win, but politically, they should expect to lose.

A federal lawsuit is possible, Mr. Houston said. There also might be some aspects of Ingham Circuit Judge William Collette's ruling that the Supreme Court did not address upon which Democrats could seize.

But Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who led the effort to change the redistricting process in the county, said he simply went through the system to secure the legislation.

"Did we do anything illegal? Did we do anything improper?" he said. "You may not like the result, but it was all done by the rules, by the book."

That is more than the Oakland County Democratic Party can say, Mr. Patterson said, saying the local party remains tainted from the scandal that broke in 2010-11 in which the party's then chair and his then top staffer pleaded no contest to charges related to fraudulently filing the names of

persons to run for office without their knowledge. The two were filing the names of people under the banner of a fake tea party with the goal of siphoning votes from Republican candidates.

However, the plot collapsed after the fraudulent activity was exposed and the fake tea party failed to secure ballot access.

Asked to respond to Democratic complaints that Oakland County Republicans, after not having control of the redistricting process for the first time ever, acted like sore losers by going to their Republican colleagues in the Legislature and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to change the rules, Mr. Patterson said: "What we did was absolutely legally proper. Whether you like the end result depends on which political horse you're riding."

Democrats were unmoved. In response to a tweet from Mr. Patterson about how the county secured the statute legally, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151201&locid=1" } (D-Onondaga) tweeted in response, "Unethical and legal, yes."

Democratic Party Chair Mark Brewer branded the ruling as one to "allow GOP corruption." He took aim at the two Republican incumbents up for election on the 2012 ballot, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" }.

"Today, the Michigan Supreme Court has shown it is on the side of political corruption and not the rule of law. Two other lower courts have already declared this law unconstitutional, yet Republicans on the Supreme Court chose to ignore the law and the facts in order to permit Republican corruption," Mr. Brewer said in a statement. "This plan was set in motion months ago and email records prove that the sole intent was nothing more than a Republican power grab. Our justices should be standing up for the Constitution instead of promoting corruption. Voters will not forget this decision and will hold this Court accountable this November. Justices Markman and Zahra have once again proven they are nothing more than puppets of special interests."

State, Detroit Near Consent Agreement; Activists Drown Out Meeting

DETROIT - Enveloped in chaos, the state-appointed review team examining Detroit's finances declared before an unruly crowd the city is in a state of severe financial stress on Monday, paving the way for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and the city to negotiate a consent agreement in next 10 days and avoid an emergency manager which all sides say they want to avoid.

If the two sides cannot reach a deal, then Mr. Snyder would likely have to name an emergency manager to take control of operations in Michigan's largest city. However, earlier today, Mr. Snyder was upbeat about the prospects of reaching an agreement. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=105001&locid=1" }, who for most

of the hour and a half meeting at Cadillac Place could not be heard because the crowd was so loud, said the hope is to have a consent agreement in place by the end of the week.

The review team stopped short of declaring a financial emergency in the city, which usually is a prelude to the governor naming an emergency manager. If talks on a consent agreement fall apart, Mr. Snyder could still declare a financial emergency within 10 days and proceed down the path of naming a manager.

Racial undertones coursed through the crowd and throughout the meeting.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Snyder%20(2).jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was upbeat Monday about getting an agreement with Detroit officials on the city's finances.

Activist Minister Malik Shabazz, who is associated with the New Black Panther Nation, said this is white on black crime.

"This is white supremacy and we will fight you," Mr. Shabazz said. "Before we let you take over our city, we will burn it down first."

One man in the crowd stood up to address no one in particular and said he supported the city having an emergency manager, which the crowd turned on immediately. He was told to shut up and called an "Uncle Tom."

As he tried to explain himself, the crowd shouted "Tom!" over him and drowned him out.

Later in the meeting, with tensions running high, a man in the back of the room began yelling at a security guard for putting his hands on him.

Nearly everyone in the room turned their attention to the altercation as it played out, with no one listening or paying attention to the review team.

Before the meeting even began, the crowd got things started by shouting "No takeover!", a refrain that would be echoed later at various points in the meeting.

Well more than a dozen times, the crowd took over the meeting, shouting at the review team and over one another.

At first Mr. Dillon and the team waited for the crowd to stop chanting and then tried to move forward until the next interruption.

After numerous interruptions, Mr. Dillon said the team was just going to push through and if the crowd couldn't hear that was their fault.

He later called those shouting out "rude," which did not sit well with those doing the shouting.

Throughout the meeting the crowd took turns chanting "No takeover," "This is what Democracy looks like!", "Where's our money?", and then stopped the meeting for several minutes as they sang several verses of "We Shall Overcome."

One woman in the crowd chastised the review team saying they were "raping the city of Detroit."

Another focused her rage on Mr. Dillon, "You Democrat turned Republican!"

The crowd also turned on former Chief Justice Conrad Mallett, a member of the review team, for what the crowd saw as fixing up the mess of Mr. Dillon. One woman referred to Mr. Dillon as a "white man," and said Mr. Mallett was acting like a "good colored person."

"Don't do it Conrad!" the crowd shouted for about a minute.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Mr. Shabazz said the city needs help from the state that it wants and deserves, "not the help that you want to impose upon us."

Even after the meeting, Mr. Shabazz continued to bellow as Mr. Dillon was meeting with reporters to explain what happened since it was so difficult to hear during the meeting.

"It's fascism...Damn the governor... worst governor we've ever had," Mr. Shabazz shouted over and over.

Mr. Dillon said during the course of negotiations, the state also introduced the idea of a project manager, who would handle the reform measures identified that need to take place. A chief financial officer would also be added.

The makeup of the nine-member advisory board was also altered. Instead of predominantly being made up of members the state had final say on, it would include four from the state, two from the mayor, two from the city council and one member agreed to by the mayor and the governor and approved by the city council.

During the meeting, the review team worked on its report to send to the governor and worked off a draft that Frederick Headen, director of the Department of Treasury's Local Government Services Bureau, had developed.

Some members of the team wanted nothing to do with it since they had no hand in writing it. Changes were made to the draft during the meeting and one page was deleted entirely. Mr. Dillon did not say what the contents of that page included.

Mr. Dillon said in the next 10 days, he and the governor are hopeful an agreement can be reached. He said the governor does not want to be in a situation where he has to declare an emergency.

"He does want a consent agreement," he said.

At a press conference earlier in the day, Mr. Snyder sounded upbeat about the prospects of a negotiated deal with the city.

"My role is not to run the city of Detroit," he said. "I don't want an emergency manager."

He said discussions between his administration and city officials are focusing on a deficit elimination plan that they are calling a "financial stability agreement," because the city did not want a consent agreement.

Mr. Snyder said he wants some additional elements added to the deficit elimination plan that would qualify it as a consent agreement under Public Act 4 of 2011 ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401" }). One of the additions would be to give Detroit Mayor Dave Bing some of the expanded powers provided under that statute.

Mr. Bing remains hospitalized after undergoing surgery this weekend for a perforated intestine. Mr. Snyder said he has not spoken with Mr. Bing, but has sent flowers. He said he met with six of the nine city council members Monday and his staff continues to meet with Mr. Bing's staff. He called the meetings with city officials productive and said they have not been adversarial.

In a joint statement released late Monday afternoon, Deputy Mayor Kirk Lewis and Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh said significant progress is being made to develop a financial stability agreement "to restore Detroit fiscally and preserve the democratic process."

"The Mayor's Office and City Council have agreed not to discuss details until a final agreement is reached. Our goal is to have an agreement by the end of the week," the statement read.

The statement also said the mayor and the majority of the council are not in favor of a consent agreement. That might explain why officials keep calling the plan under discussion a "financial stability agreement."

Mr. Snyder said he hopes the city council will have the ability to see something in writing before its meeting on Tuesday, but he isn't putting any pressure on them to approve a deal then because he wants them to be comfortable.

"It's a serious agreement," he said.

Mr. Bing and the city council roundly rejected Mr. Snyder's proposed consent agreement earlier this month, because it called for a financial review team to take authority for city's fiscal situation.

The city council's counterproposal calls for the financial review team to advise the mayor and city council on fiscal issues, as well as asks the state to provide more than $130 million in immediate funding for the city and to assist it in collecting taxes from non-resident workers in the city.

Whether the two sides could enter into a consent agreement was in doubt until Friday evening when the Court of Appeals unanimously overturned an Ingham Circuit Court judge's prohibition on the city of Detroit and the state entering into such an agreement.

Also on Friday, a coalition of 30 of the nearly 50 labor unions that represent city of Detroit workers announced they had ratified concessions negotiated with Detroit Mayor Dave Bing.

The concessions would save the city $54 million a year, but Mr. Snyder and Mr. Dillon had made clear that was not nearly enough to resolve the city's cash crisis.

"Detroit's finances are in a very difficult shape," Mr. Snyder said. "Times are very difficult in Detroit and we need to all work together to get to financial stability."

There are three things the city needs, Mr. Snyder said. Detroit needs to get its finances stable and moving in a positive direction, do a better job of providing basic services for the residents and grow the city.

"The long-term answer to Detroit's issues is a growing Detroit," he said.

Senate Subcommittee To Raise Film Incentive To $40M

A Senate subcommittee will recommend increasing funding for the state's film incentive program from $25 million to $40 million.

The Senate Appropriations General Government Subcommittee is scheduled to approve the budget for a variety of smaller state departments and agencies Tuesday ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95401" }
). There's been a significant change in the Senate target for that budget. Initially, Senate Republicans planned to spend $25 million less in that budget than { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } recommended.

Now { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), the subcommittee chair, said the caucus has raised the target to $15 million more than Mr. Snyder's recommendation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/pappageorge.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001&locid=1" } said

the discussion on film incentive funding will continue.

Initially, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), the Appropriations Committee chair, said the $25 million cut would be accomplished through halving { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s $50 million recommendation to upgrade the state's information technology systems. But Mr. Pappageorge said Monday that he never planned on that big of a cut and instead will call for trimming the program to $48 million.

"We need that desperately," he said.

Mr. Pappageorge said bumping up the film incentive program to $40 million is designed to allow the conversation on that issue to continue.

In another switch from Mr. Snyder's budget, Mr. Pappageorge plans to handle revenue sharing to counties differently. Mr. Snyder had proposed requiring counties to follow a set of best practices to receive their funds, much like cities, villages and townships had to do starting with the current fiscal year.

However, Mr. Pappageorge said cities, villages and townships receive 80 percent of their revenue sharing from the constitutional formula and 20 percent through the Economic Vitality Incentive Program, while counties get no money through the Constitution. So he decided to wall off 80 percent of the county revenue sharing money and instead make just 20 percent of it subject to the EVIP program. And he set the funding for counties at the same level they received in the current year.

Other budget bills on the Senate side remain works in progress. In the higher education budget, the plan at this point is to retain the tuition restraint language Mr. Snyder recommended requiring universities to keep tuition increases below 4 percent to receive additional funding. However, no decision has been made on Mr. Snyder's proposal to allocate more funding to universities based on their success at meeting certain metrics. The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee is scheduled to vote Thursday on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95501" }.

The K-12 budget ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB96101" }) also is still gelling, said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=73001&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the subcommittee chair. Mr. Walker said he is examining whether to place certain programs, namely the best practices funding incentive and payment for the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, that Mr. Snyder has recommended as categoricals instead into the foundation allowance.

Mr. Walker said the Senate is considering some new categories for the best practices program although he did not want to go into details.

In the Department of Education budget ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95201" }), Mr. Walker has a target funding level $500,000 below Mr. Snyder's recommendation. He said that would be done by unrolling and reducing the administrative line. Mr. Walker said senators are unhappy with the lack of notice about Highland Park schools' financial crisis. The Legislature had to quickly approve funding that would allow the district's students to continue receiving their education through the Detroit Public Schools operating Highland Park school buildings or to provide funding to charter schools accepting students leaving the Highland Park system.

"We didn't hear about it until they needed an emergency appropriation, so we'd kind of like to see what's going on there in that line item," he said.

Court Of Appeals Rebuffs Ingham Circuit On E.M. Rulings

The Court of Appeals reined in a pair of rulings by two Ingham Circuit Court judges who took severe action to remedy what they said were violations of the Open Meetings Act by state-appointed review teams that examined problems in the Detroit and Flint city governments.

Monday, the Court of Appeals overturned Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina's ruling that ousted Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown from power and placed Flint Mayor Dayne Walling and the city council back in charge. The court granted the state's request for a stay on that portion of Ms. Aquilina's decision, and Mr. Brown returns to power while the case is resolved.

Also Monday, union activist Robert Davis filed an emergency appeal with the Supreme Court after the Court of Appeals' ruling late Friday evening that overturned Ingham Circuit Court Judge William Collette's decision that the state and city could not enter into a consent agreement to fix the city's finances until he held a hearing Thursday on whether the review team should be held in contempt for violating the Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Davis urged a decision by the court by Tuesday so that the hearing could proceed.

The three-judge panel held that Mr. Collette can only bar action by the review team if there is additional evidence that it violated the Open Meetings Act. The court stayed all other aspects of Mr. Collette's March 20 ruling and barred him from holding any other hearings on the issue, including the Thursday hearing.

The court further held the application for leave to appeal Mr. Collette's ruling in abeyance pending further order and retained jurisdiction.

The judges on the panel were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109001&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109201&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153101&locid=1" }. The same three judges also heard the Flint case. Mr. Kelly and Mr. O'Connell were both elected directly to

the court and are generally considered independent. Mr. Whitbeck was appointed to the court by former Governor John Engler, but also is not considered a conservative firebrand.

In the Flint case, the court ordered the sides to conclude filing briefs within 21 days.

Senate Expected To Run Bill Repealing Mandatory Helmet Law

Senate Republicans apparently have decided they will no longer wait for a comprehensive auto insurance reform bill and instead will pass legislation repealing the state's longtime requirement that motorcyclists wear helmets.

The Senate is expected to take up the helmet law repeal ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB29101" }) on Thursday, said Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has said he prefers to deal with the helmet issue as part of an overall insurance legislative package that addresses unlimited medical benefits for those with catastrophic injuries ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB493601" }).

But that legislation appears to be in serious trouble on the House floor, where it has been stuck for months.

Additionally, on Tuesday, the Senate will vote on a bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB35101" }) that would direct sales tax revenues from gasoline purchases to roads, Ms. McCann said.

Supreme Court Declines Schuette's Request To Bypass Court Of Appeals In Same-Sex Benefits Case

The Supreme Court overwhelmingly rejected a request from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } that it directly hear his case against the Civil Service Commission's awarding of benefits to unrelated adults living with state employees and bypass the Court of Appeals.

Last May, Mr. Schuette challenged the legality of the Civil Service Commission's action, asserting that it exceeded the commission's authority and violated the rights of family members of state employees who are not eligible for benefits because it allows non-family members to be eligible. Under the policy, one unrelated adult living with a state employee can receive state health benefits, as can any dependents of that adult.

Mr. Schuette later asked the Supreme Court to take up the case, bypassing the Court of Appeals, out of concern that the case would take too long to work its way through the system.

The Supreme Court rejected Mr. Schuette's request on an 8-1 vote in an order dated Friday, but released Saturday (SC Docket 144184). { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" } dissented, saying the case warranted expedited consideration.

"Individuals and communities that are immediately affected, as well as the citizenry generally, whose constitution is at issue, are entitled to dispositive resolutions of these disputes in a reasonably facilitated manner," Mr. Markman wrote. "I would have treated each of these disputes as priority matters for our consideration."

Split Supreme Court Rules Arson Case Can Be Reheard

A directed verdict is not necessarily a resolution of the factual matters of a case, and therefore a criminal defendant can be tried a second time even after a directed verdict favoring him without violating the double jeopardy provisions in the U.S. and Michigan constitutions, the Supreme Court ruled Monday in a 4-3 split decision.

The minority in the decision in *People v. Evans* ({ HYPERLINK "http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Clerk/11-12-Term-Opinions/141381.pdf" \t "blank" }) charged the majority had overturned a 1996 opinion of the court that was based on a U.S. Supreme Court decision and did so without a persuasive argument.

But { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" }, who wrote the majority opinion in the case, said it was undetermined if the 1996 case, *People v. Nix*, was correctly decided.

A directed verdict can only be considered an acquittal to avoid the double jeopardy provisions if it resolves at least some of the factual elements charged in the case, Mr. Zahra said in the opinion joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=298201&locid=1" }.

The case involved Lamar Evans, who was accused of burning a building, which was an unoccupied house. Mr. Zahra said the trial court, the Wayne Circuit Court, added an incorrect element to the case - whether or not the house was occupied.

Based on that decision, the trial judge issued a directed verdict in favor of Mr. Evans.

The prosecution appealed, arguing it did not have to show whether the property was occupied, and the Court of Appeals held that the trial court had erred. It ordered a new trial in the case.

Mr. Evans appealed, arguing a second trial would violate his rights against double jeopardy.

But Mr. Zahra wrote, "We hold that when a trial court grants a defendant's motion for a directed verdict on the basis of an error of law that did not resolve any factual element of the charged

offense, the trial court's ruling does not constitute an acquittal for the purposes of double jeopardy and retrial is therefore not barred."

To prevent wrongly being retried under double jeopardy provisions of the U.S. and state constitutions, there has to be a resolution of the factual issues in the case, Mr. Zahra said. Even if that resolution is found later to be incorrect, if the factual matters are resolved, then double jeopardy protections are invoked, he said.

In this matter, Mr. Zahra said, the directed verdict did not resolve any of the factual matters in the case because the verdict was based on an incorrect element that was not part of the factual basis of the crime. It was based on an error of law and not to the elements of the defendant's innocence or guilt, he said.

Mr. Zahra acknowledged that the 1996 *Nix* case would have barred retrial, but said that case's application to another case did not consider whether it was correctly determined in the first place.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151701&locid=1" }, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" }, dissented, saying the decision essentially overruled *Nix,* which he argued was based on U.S. Supreme Court principles. The majority creates a distinction in its ruling that acts to elevate form over substance, he said.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153201&locid=1" } dissented, arguing the *Nix* decision was the governing precedent in the matter.

Campaign Notes

S.E.I.U. ENDORSES RENEWABLE ENERGY BALLOT INITIATIVE: The Service Employees Union Michigan State Council announced Monday that it is backing the proposed constitutional amendment to require utility companies to generate 25 percent of their power from renewable resources by 2025. "Michigan workers and businesses have benefited from the renewable energy standard and the momentum for investments and jobs should continue," said SEIU Michigan State Council President Marge Robinson Faville in a statement. "Our members enthusiastically endorse this ballot initiative because it's good for families, good for public health and good for our economy."

HOOGENDYK/CAIN APPEARANCE: Former Rep. Jack Hoogendyk has endorsed former Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain's 9-9-9 tax plan, and the two are scheduled to appear together next week to promote Mr. Cain's plan and Mr. Hoogendyk's run for the U.S. House.

The events are planned for April 5 at 5:30 p.m. in Benton Harbor and at 7:30 p.m. in Kalamazoo. Venues for the events had not been announced as of Monday afternoon.

Mr. Hoogendyk is challenging { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) for the 6th U.S. House District.

Capital Notebook

F.R.I.B. SUPPORT: The Facility for Rare Isotope Beams proposed for Michigan State University now has a website dedicated to urging support for its funding in Congress. Onevoiceforscience.com added a FRIB advocacy page created by East Lansing film and audio producer Doug Monson, who is currently working on a project for the National Academy of Science about investment in physics research nationally.

"FRIB is a good example of the kind of science investment the U.S. needs to stay competitive in the world economy," Mr. Monson said. "Isotope research in particular is a field where we already show strong leadership. It's a source of important innovations in medicine and material."

The project is also important to MSU's physics program and to the state's economy, Mr. Monson said.

PURE MICHIGAN/COCA-COLA PROMOTION: Pure Michigan scenes and logos will soon be appearing on Coca-Cola trucks and billboards around the state as part of a joint marketing campaign that includes national drawings for four vacation packages in the state.

The joint marketing campaign, announced Monday at the Pure Michigan Governor's Conference on Tourism, includes opportunities to win trips through the MyCokeRewards website. A trip to Mackinac Island will be available April 18 through May 9, to Traverse City May 9 through May 30, to the Pure Michigan 400 at Michigan International Speedway May 30 through June 20, and to Detroit June 20 through July 11.

"By joining forces with Pure Michigan, Coca-Cola is helping to support travel across the great state of Michigan and in all of its communities where we do business," said Matthew Barribeau, Coca-Cola's vice president of sales operations in Michigan. "Through this collaborative effort, we hope to not only drive economic development across the state, but to provide vacation-goers with moments of happiness and ice-cold refreshment all summer long."

"We are always looking for innovative ways to introduce Pure Michigan to new audiences and it doesn't get much bigger than partnering with an iconic brand like Coca-Cola," said George Zimmermann, vice president of Travel Michigan. "With more than 17 million people participating in MyCokeRewards, this is a perfect opportunity to showcase the scenic beauty, great cities and exciting events that make Michigan a terrific vacation destination."

M.E.D.C. HOSTING TRIBAL ECONOMIC FORUM: The Michigan Economic Development Corporation will host a forum for the third time geared toward economic development for Indian tribes. The forum will take place May 17-18 at the Radisson Hotel Lansing, 111 North Grand Avenue.

Appointments By The Governor

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT: Margaret Van Houten of Dearborn Heights succeeds Mary Beth Kelly, who was elected to the Supreme Court, for a term expiring January 1, 2013. Ms. Van Houten will have to run to keep her seat in the November 2012 elections. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Signed by the Governor

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB77801" }, PA 56 INLAND LAKES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" }) Specifies authorized uses for public road access to inland lakes or streams.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: March 22, 2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB63401" }, PA 57 PROPERTY TAX DEFERMENT ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" }) Clarifies eligibility for property tax deferment for partnerships.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=l WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" }) Allows citation to watercraft owner or operator for operating without required safety equipment; requires observer when towing person; revises definition of passenger.

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, PA 58

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK BARGE REQUIREMENTS ({ HYPERLINK
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ngwer.com/inde }) Requires certain identification and lighting for barge.
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}, PA 59

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ FLEEING WATERCRAFT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201&locid=1"
"http://www.g }) Prohibits fleeing and eluding law enforcement officer in watercraft.
ongwer.com/i
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&billid=2011
HB484801" }
, PA 60

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ WATERCRAFT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPERLI "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" })
NK Allows children younger than age 12 to use type III personal floatation devices
"http://ww while in or towed behind watercraft.
w.gongwer.
com/index.
cfm?link=le
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11HB5109

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61

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB511001" }, PA 62 WATERCRAFT ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=168001&locid=1" }) Clarify criteria for investigatory stops of moving vessels.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: March 22, 2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB463901" }, PA 63 MILITARY REMAINS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283301&locid=1" }) Requires directions of person designated by deceased military personnel be followed for disposition of remains.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, March 27

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70901&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 352, Capitol Building, 8:30 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

{ **COMMUNITY HEALTH BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204301" **}**) Provide for
LINK department of community health for fiscal year 2012-2013.
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71101&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" **}**, 373-8080),
Room 424 Capitol Building, 9 a.m.

- Bureau of Fire Services and Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration

{ LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" **}**) Provide for
RLIN department of licensing and regulatory affairs for fiscal year 2012-2013. (To be reported)
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}

{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69501&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" }, 373-2002), Room 327, House Office Building, 10 a.m.

{ **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" }) Clarifies definition of public employee regarding recognition of union based on receipt of government subsidy or interlocal agreement.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB101801" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67701&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 110, Farnum Building, 12 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ **NATURAL RESOURCES BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" }) Provides Department of Natural Resources budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67801&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" **}**, 373-2768), Room 110, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" **}**) Provides Department of Environmental Quality budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67101&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" **}**, 373-5314), Room 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

{ WERDA MEMORIAL HIGHWAY (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" **}**) Designates portion of M-61 as Trooper Jeffrey Werda Memorial Highway.

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{ HIGHWAY MEMORIAL ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" **}**) Provide
RLINK technical amendment to portion of US-31 designated as the "Medal of Honor Recipients
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~~Canceled: { HYPERLINK~~
~~"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71301&locid=1" },~~
~~(Chr. { HYPERLINK~~
~~"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901&locid=1" }, 373-8080),~~
~~Room 426, Capitol Building, 3 p.m. or after session~~

- Chair's recommendation

{ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" **}**) Provide for
RLINK department of environmental quality for fiscal year 2012-2013.
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Wednesday, March 28

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68801&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210101&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 307, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

- Testimony only:

{ HYPER LINK "http:// www.go ngwer.c om/inde x.cfm?li nk=legis lation_bi lldetail.c fm&billi d=2011 HB4866 01" } **FARM MARKETS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Limits civil liability of farm markets for personal injury and property damage.

{ HYPE RLINK "http:// www.g ongwer .com/in dex.cf m?link =legisla tion_bil ldetail. **EQUINE ACTIVITY** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Limits liability of persons under equine activity liability act to willful and wanton acts under certain circumstances.

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}

{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69201&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" **}**, 373-2002),
Room 519, House Office Building, 9:15 a.m.

{ **KINDERGARTEN AGE** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" **}**) Sets
LINK September 1as the deadline date for children to be admitted to Kindergarten.
"http://
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lation_b
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1HB451
301" }
{ **SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" **}**) Revises age
LINK and date requirement for school enrollment.
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71601&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=212601&locid=1" **}**, 373-8080),

Room 352 Capitol Building, 10:30 a.m., { HYPERLINK "http://www.house.mi.gov/htv.asp" \t "blank" }

- Presentations on 2012-13 Higher Education Budget from Business Leaders for Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Wayne State University, Central Michigan University, MSU Extension and Ag Bio Research, and American Association of University Professors

{ **HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=212601" }) Provide for higher education budget for fiscal year 2012-2013.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB537701" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70401&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=22401&locid=1" }, 373-2013), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **SALES TAX PREPAYMENT** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" }) Revises prepayment of sales taxes collection process.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB42801" }

{ TOBACCO TAX ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601" **}**) Modifies tobacco tax enforcement, administration and distribution.

{ NONPROFIT HOUSING EXEMPTION. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201" **}**) Provide for nonprofit housing exemption.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70601&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=158101&locid=1" **}**, 373-1260), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

{ SCHOOL BUS LIGHTING ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" **}**) Mandate enhanced rear lighting for school buses. (Testimony only)

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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=65301&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" **}**, 373-1106),
Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol Building, 2 p.m.

{ HYPER LINK "http:// www.go ngwer.c om/inde x.cfm?li nk=legis lation_b illdetail. cfm&bil lid=2011 HB4803 01" }

STATE FAIR (**{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213101" **}**) Provides
transfer of certain state fair property to Michigan fast track land bank authority.

{ HYPE RLIN K "http:/ /www. gongw er.com /index. cfm?li nk=leg islation _billde tail.cf m&bill id=201 1SB95

CORRECTIONS BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" **}**) Provides for
Department of Corrections budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.

101" }

Thursday, March 29

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71301&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol Building, 8:30 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

HB 5379 **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" }) Provide for department of environmental quality for fiscal year 2012-2013.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=72101&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol Building, 9 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB538601" } **APPROPRIATIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301" }) Provide for department of natural resources for fiscal year 2012-2013.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68001&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 405, Capitol Building, 1:30 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUDGET ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401" **}**) Provides **ERLI** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.
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Lansing Michigan 48933
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{ HYPERLINK "mailto:amiller@gongwer.com" **}**, President | **{** HYPERLINK "mailto:jwlindstrom@gongwer.com" **}**, Publisher | **{** HYPERLINK "mailto:zgorchow@gongwer.com" **}**, Editor | **{** HYPERLINK "mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" **}**, **{** HYPERLINK "mailto:cgautz@gongwer.com" **}**, Staff Writers

Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com" }

Volume #51, Report #116 -- Wednesday, June 13, 2012

House G.O.P. Passes One Abortion Bill, Shelves Another

A controversial abortion bill won House approval after an extraordinarily heated debate Wednesday to criminalize coercing a woman into having an abortion and require some physicians providing abortions to carry insurance, but House Republicans unexpectedly did not act on the most significant bill that would ban abortions after 20 weeks of gestation.

What was approved was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB571101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB571101" } that combines a number of abortion coercion bills that had been working their way through the Legislature. It passed 70-39.

The floor substitute to the bill also changed from a felony to a civil infraction for failing to dispose of aborted fetal remains and changed which doctors would be required to carry $1 million of professional liability insurance.

But the day will likely be remembered for what was some of the more memorable floor speeches in memory. It also quickly made its way into social media circles and nabbed the attention of liberal MSNBC host Rachel Maddow.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) took to the floor and decried the fact that Republicans were launching a war on women, but not a war on poverty. She proposed an alternate way to stop unwanted pregnancies and the resulting abortions.

"Stop having sex with us, gentleman. Find somebody else to do it with," Ms. Tlaib said to a smattering of applause. "I ask women across Michigan to boycott men until these bills stop moving out of the House."

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601&locid=1" } provided one of the more memorable floor speeches in recent memory, as she stated her opposition to the abortion bill. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701&locid=1" } said the bill is about protecting the unborn.

It was one of numerous passionate floor speeches on the issue from both sides.

"This bill is not about protecting women's health," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } (D-Battle Creek).

Others were more blunt with their objection to the bill they felt was too intrusive into a woman's health issue.

"I'm flattered that you are all so interested in my vagina, but no means no," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=171401&locid=1" } (D-West Bloomfield) said.

Rep. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) said she rejected the notion these bills are a "war on women."

She said it's an umbrella of protection for women to make sure they are not coerced into having an abortion and that institutions that provide abortions meet certain standards.

"I'm very committed to protecting the rights of women and the unborn," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701&locid=1" } (R-Lake City), the sponsor of the main bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=279101&locid=1" } (R-Charlotte), sponsor of the 20-week abortion ban contained in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB571301" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB571301" }, said her responsibility to women and to society was to make sure the places where "the horrific procedure of abortion takes place are licensed and inspected.

"I would rather there be no abortions performed anywhere, tragically that is not the case," she said.

So emotional was the debate that it overshadowed a major development with the decision of majority Republicans to hold off on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB571201" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB571201" } and HB 5713, the latter of which contained the most controversial item in the package,

banning abortions after 20 weeks with no exception for rape or incest, only one to save the life of the mother.

Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said the House would not be voting on those bills this week.

He said Mr. Bolger wants to review the language in the bills to make sure they adhere to the Constitution. Abortion rights advocates say the 20-week law would violate the *Roe* vs. *Wade* decision that legalized abortion.

"We want to address some concerns that were brought to our attention," Mr. Adler said. "We're not done with that issue. We need to look at it further."

Ms. Shaughnessy said she believes the House should act deliberately and not rush the bill.

"I certainly don't have a problem with that," she said.

She said she believes the caucus does support her bill, but said concerns have been raised about constitutionality and with the 20-week time frame.

David Maluchnik, spokesperson for the Michigan Catholic Conference, said in an email that it sounded like Mr. Bolger was taking a prudent approach to the bill.

Before the debate began, the House dispensed with all of the Democratic amendments, several of which attempted to turn the tables and require some of same restrictions placed on abortion providers on facilities that do vasectomies.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151201&locid=1" } (D-Onondaga), the sponsor of one of those amendments began shouting, saying she wanted to speak to it, but was not allowed.

As she walked away, she shouted "vasectomy!" Her amendment would have required a physician to determine that a man seeking a vasectomy needed the procedure because his life was in danger or a medical emergency existed.

One amendment by Rep. Stacey Erwin Oakes (D-Saginaw) stated that before a physician could prescribe medication for erectile dysfunction, a physician has to perform a digital rectal exam and cardiac stress test.

Planned Parenthood, though, is planning another protest day at the Capitol on Thursday morning, encouraging members on Facebook and Twitter to meet at the Capitol.

On Tuesday, about 200 Planned Parenthood supporters in pink shirts stood outside the Capitol before session, chanting and holding signs and then shouted in the lobby and tried disrupting

session on several occasions. It was the largest and most vocal protest against anti-abortion legislation in years.

But on Wednesday, the gallery was relatively empty. Ms. Brown had several boxes containing 10,000 cards from constituents from around the state indicating opposition to the bills, but those were removed from the floor by a House sergeant.

Mr. Adler said such displays or presentations are a violation of House rules.

Prior to the vote, the Michigan Catholic Conference released a video message from policy advocate Rebecca Mastee, saying the package contains common sense measures.

"Considering that only 4 of the 32 abortion clinics in Michigan are licensed, which abortion advocates recognize, don't women in Michigan deserve better?" she said. "Others have erroneously stated that this legislation is a politically motivated attack on women. However, legislators were informed of egregious abortion industry practices back in March. Should they simply sit idle while verifiable reports of dirty and unlicensed facilities circulate? No, because women deserve better."

M.P.S.E.R.S. Deal Tentatively In Place As Leaders Seek Votes

Top Republican legislative leaders have a tentative agreement in place for overhauling the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, and it would retain the hybrid pension plan for new hires.

Some Republican senators continue to push for ending the hybrid plan for new hires and instead placing them all into a 401(k)-style defined contribution plan, but House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall) and Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) are rounding up the votes to pass the legislation Thursday before the Legislature adjourns for the summer.

Mr. Richardville told reporters Wednesday evening after the Senate adjourned that an agreement is in place.

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Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (top) and House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } are working on getting the votes for the deal.

"I think in general they (the caucus) want to make sure we do the health care thing, but we'll make sure we get another vote on it down the road so they'll have a chance to speak up and maybe the numbers will even show that they were right all along," he said. "I'm supportive of the defined contribution though, I think that's the way to go but we'll see what the study says."

Mr. Richardville said the study would cost $100,000.

Sources familiar with the bill who spoke on condition of anonymity said the new H-3 substitute for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB104001" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB104001" } would see other changes from the H-2 version now pending on the House floor.

The major change would be an attempt to address stranded costs that result from school districts privatizing services like food, transportation and janitorial. With those workers no longer school employees, there are fewer workers paying into MPSERS, putting considerable pressure on the system.

To address that factor, the bill would require school districts to contribute to MPSERS based on 11.9 percent of their expenditures starting in the 2013-14 school year instead of payroll. That way, the funds districts spend on contracts for privatized services would be counted toward MPSERS. This change would not affect other participants in MPSERS like public universities and community colleges, which would continue to pay based on 24.46 percent of their payroll.

And the changes to the bill also would mean no longer requiring all retirees to pay 20 percent of the cost of their health insurance premium. Current retirees 65 and older would continue to pay 10 percent under the revised plan.

As is the case in the H-2 substitute, the bill would require those in the basic pension plan to contribute 4 percent of their salary to the system and those in the Member Investment Program to contribute 7 percent. Currently, those in the basic plan pay nothing, and those in the MIP plan, the bulk of those in the pension system, pay 3.9 percent.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair) said he was disappointed in the agreement.

"If we're really going to be serious about protecting not only the retirees but also the taxpayers of the state of Michigan, we've got to shutter that system," he said of the hybrid plan that provides new hires with some pension benefit and some defined contribution. "There's been a 50-year experience on public employee pensions - that doesn't work."

A significant unknown headed into Thursday is how the approach to dealing with stranded costs by having school districts pay into MPSERS based on their expenditures will play with rank-and-file lawmakers. Sources said there is some reticence among legislative Republicans toward this proposal because they see it as penalizing those districts that have put services up for competitive bidding in an effort to save money.

Mr. Pavlov is one of those lawmakers critical of this piece of the legislation.

"We're penalizing good behavior," he said, noting that the best practices language in the K-12 budget has rewarded districts for contracting out such services.

The expectation Thursday is that House Republicans will caucus on the proposal and then vote shortly after session convenes at 10 a.m. Sources said there were 14 of the 64 members of the House Republican caucus that at one point were cool to the plan, but it appeared Mr. Bolger was having success in bringing some of those members aboard to get the 56 votes he needs.

If it passes the House, then the question is whether Mr. Richardville can find 20 votes in his caucus to pass the plan, a task that could prove a little tricky considering 20 Republican senators voted to end the hybrid plan and shift to defined contribution when the bill first passed the Senate.

Mr. Pavlov said he did not know whether enough votes existed to stop the bill in the Senate.

"We had 20 votes to convert to defined contribution in the Senate, and that's the only record we've got to look at," he said.

Battle Over Collective Bargaining Is On

Less than an hour after unions submitted more than double the signatures necessary for a proposal that would enshrine collective bargaining rights in the Constitution and nullify a series of laws passed in the last 18 months, business organizations announced an unprecedented coalition to oppose that proposal and several others that could appear on the November ballot.

Department of State officials have until September to analyze the signatures through a random sample to determine whether the Protect Our Jobs organization met the minimum number needed of 322,609.

"It far exceeded anyone's expectations," Protect Our Jobs spokesperson Dan Lijana said. "That's why we submitted them now. We had more than double what's required by the state."

The proposal is expected to be the biggest fight on the ballot this year. Already there is worry among House Democrats that union money that usually would go toward helping their campaigns will be focused on the collective bargaining measure.

The union effort has been shrouded in near total secrecy. Leaders of the proposal have refused to say what laws the proposal would void, other than a possible right-to-work law. Since the news

conference to announce the proposal, the leader of Protect Our Jobs, Ken Brock, has declined all interview requests. The organization didn't even announce its plan in advance to submit its 684,286 signatures Tuesday.

Mr. Lijana said he did not know when the organization would begin television advertising and direct mail, saying its efforts had solely been focused to this point on collecting petition signatures.

Unions launched the collective bargaining proposal after seeing an avalanche of new laws passed by the Republican-led Legislature and signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } eliminating or curbing union rights.

Among the new laws unions found abhorrent:

*Enabling state-appointed emergency manager to void the contracts of local government and school district workers;
*Prohibiting university graduate student research assistants from unionizing;
*Barring several subjects from collective bargaining between teachers and school districts, such as performance evaluation systems and district policy for firing or disciplining employees subject to the tenure law; and
*Setting limits on how much public entities will contribute toward their employees' health benefits with the workers required to pay the rest.

The move also is a pre-emptive strike to prevent the Legislature and Mr. Snyder from enacting a right-to-work law that would bar mandatory union membership for employees of entities that have collective bargaining agreements with their workers. Some Republicans have called for pushing such legislation, but Mr. Snyder has resisted it and the movement toward a bill has faded in deference to fighting the ballot proposal.

Protect Our Jobs said in a statement that more than 85 percent of its signatures were collected by 41,000 volunteers.

Signatures for ballot proposals are due to the Department of State by July 9. There are at least 10 other proposals having petitions circulated, six of which have a realistic chance of getting the signatures needed to qualify for the ballot.

One advantage the collective bargaining proposal could have is that it would be at worst the second proposal listed on the ballot as opposed to being the last one voters have to sift through. If the referendum to repeal the Local Government and School District Fiscal Accountability Act, also known as PA 4 of 2011, fails to make the ballot because of legal battle over the point-size used on its petition heading, then the collective bargaining proposal would be the first one on that portion of the ballot.

Almost immediately after unions submitted the signatures, a huge coalition of business groups announced it had formed a unified committee, Citizens Protecting Michigan's Constitution, to

oppose many of the proposed ballot measures. Gongwer News Service first reported business groups' plan to organize against the ballot proposals in this unusual fashion.

The members of the committee include the Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan, Business Leaders for Michigan, the Detroit Regional Chamber, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Manufacturers Association, the Michigan Association of Realtors, the Small Business Association of Michigan, and the West Michigan Policy Forum.

"Job creators and taxpayers are opposed to special interest attempts to manipulate the Michigan Constitution," said Rich Studley, president and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. "This coalition is committed to educating Michigan voters on the perils of these proposed initiatives and the risks involved if they pass."

At this point, the coalition is opposing the proposal requiring utilities to generate 25 percent of their energy from renewable sources by 2025, the collective bargaining proposal, and the proposed constitutional amendment ensuring the state's home help workers can unionize, said Jim Holcomb, general counsel for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

So far, the coalition has not formally decided to support retaining PA 4 although all members of the coalition want to see the law kept in place. The coalition is taking a wait-and-see posture on the other proposals to see if they make the ballot, such as those that would restrict the ability of the Legislature to raise taxes, prevent new international border crossings without a public vote and expand the number of casinos in the state.

The strategy in general was to emphasize to voters to simply vote no on all proposals to avoid cluttering the Constitution. That would allow for a consolidated messaging and fundraising effort instead of trying to fight the proposals one by one.

"It's a natural extension," Mr. Holcomb said. "A lot of people have looked at these and thought how damaging these will be for the state of Michigan. It just makes sense to come together in a coalition format and fight them and to really take the message across the state of Michigan."

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy also denounced the collective bargaining proposal.

"This ballot measure is a radical constitutional amendment that makes government-sector unions more powerful than the Legislature," said Joseph G. Lehman, president of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, which condemned the union proposal although it is not part of the coalition against multiple proposals. "If it passes, unions will set public policy in secret negotiations with their government employers. Lawmakers won't be able to override anything they decide."

Detroit Counsel's Lawsuit Over Consent Agreement Dismissed

MASON - Moving quickly Wednesday, Ingham Circuit Judge William Collette dismissed a lawsuit brought by Detroit's corporation counsel against the consent agreement the city had

reached with the state, saying that only the mayor and city council could direct the counsel to bring the lawsuit.

"I've been a city attorney," Mr. Collette told lawyers as he listened, almost impatiently, to the arguments raised by Detroit deputy counsel James Noseda before ruling from the bench in the Ingham County Courthouse. "This lawsuit is not valid. It is dismissed."

The city has a consent agreement with the state, Mr. Collette said, and "people need to learn to live with this and move forward."

In a statement, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=105001&locid=1" } said with the decision, the state could continue to "work collaboratively" with the city on implementing its financial turnaround plan.

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Detroit Mayor Dave Bing appeared relieved at the judge's quick decision.

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing told reporters the decision means the city can now return to the business of implementing major changes.

"This legal challenge has been an unfortunate distraction, but now it's time for the city to move forward," he said. "The city is still in a crisis, and we can't have all these distractions and think we're going to bring the city back."

Not said directly by Mr. Dillon was that the dismissal should also clear the way for up to $80 million in revenue sharing to go to the city. The Department of Treasury had said it would withhold those funds if the lawsuit continued.

Mike Hodge, the attorney hired by Mr. Bing to argue for dismissing the lawsuit, said that if the lawsuit was not dismissed, the city could see payless paydays and essentially no money to operate as early as Friday.

Speaking to reporters after the hearing that resulted in the case being dismissed, Mr. Noseda said he did not know if Corporation Counsel Krystal Crittendon would appeal the action.

Ms. Crittendon brought the lawsuit without either the Detroit City Council or Mr. Bing formally asking for it to be brought (although it later emerged that members of the council and Mr. Bing tacitly blessed the move in a closed meeting). And Mr. Noseda said to the court there was a question of law that should be heard if Ms. Crittendon could bring that action. He said it was disappointing that Mr. Collette had not heard arguments on that issue or ruled on that basis.

But Mr. Hodge said if Ms. Crittendon had a reasonable concern over her ability to bring the action, Mr. Collette decided that question for her. "If the corporation counsel is truly concerned about her ethical duties, this judge has decided it for her," Mr. Hodge said.

The case marked the latest incident in which Mr. Collette has made a major ruling regarding the state's emergency manager law or the process of instituting financial repair programs for communities.

He remarked on this, saying, "I don't know why I keep getting these."

His earlier rulings, related to the emergency manager appointed for Highland Park schools and for the financial review team for Detroit, had to do with whether the financial review team had to meet in public under provisions of the 1976 Open Meetings Act. He held they did, but was overturned by the Court of Appeals.

This situation was unique, and Mr. Collette said he had never had such a hearing.

From the moment he walked into the courtroom, it was clear that however he ruled, it would be with dispatch. Within the first minute, he granted a motion to allow Mr. Bing's attorney to intervene in the case.

Ms. Crittendon had argued in her lawsuit that the consent agreement was void because the state owed the city millions in revenue sharing monies, as well as funds for a variety of issues including parking tickets. Mr. Noseda said the city cannot have a contract with a creditor.

But Michelle Brya, representing the state, said many of the issues raised in the lawsuit were being handled administratively.

She also argued that the corporation counsel could not bring the action in the first place.

And it was on the ability of the counsel to bring the lawsuit without the authorization of either Mr. Bing or the council that Mr. Collette focused in his questioning of Mr. Noseda.

Under the city's charter, the Law Department is an independent agency and the counsel has the right to act "to remedy a charter violation," Mr. Noseda said.

In effect, he said, it was no different than the city pursuing people who did not pay their taxes. The mayor and council do not rule on those matters either.

But Mr. Collette said that position effectively gives the corporation counsel veto power over contracts.

A corporation counsel cannot have the ability the make decisions on suing, Mr. Collette said. That has to be the function of the mayor and council.

Most of the people watching the hearing were reporters, but a small busload of city residents was present and clearly unhappy with the ruling. As reporters spoke to the attorneys afterwards, one woman shouted out that Mr. Collette had "ruled against the people."

In his press conference, Mr. Bing said the city would make the $34 million bond payment as required Friday under a complex financing deal with the state that prevented the city from running out of cash in April and the Financial Advisory Board would hold its first meeting that same day at Cobo Center. The Detroit City Council has yet to appoint its two members to the board, but Councilmember Ken Cockrel Jr. said via his Twitter account he expected that to happen shortly. Mr. Bing said even if the council has not appointed its members, the board would still meet.

Mr. Bing said he held no personal animus toward Ms. Crittendon, saying she did what she thought was right.

"I am hopeful that all of us from a leadership standpoint here in this city can put this behind us and start concentrating and focusing on the work that needs to be done to bring our city back," he said.

House Panel Blocks Bridge Spending; Bridge Co. Attacks Pending N.I.T.C. Deal

A negative supplemental appropriation approved Wednesday morning by the House Appropriations Committee would now also block state spending on the expected interlocal agreement to build the New International Trade Crossing bridge.

The agreement is expected to include the Michigan Strategic Fund as a partner in the bridge, and the amendment adopted to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB87101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB87101" } would prevent any spending from the Strategic Fund on the bridge construction.

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offered language to stop spending on New International Trade Crossing.

The amendment blocks spending of "state appropriations" on the bridge, which { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=175101&locid=1" } (R-Grandville), sponsor of the amendment, said would block any spending except potentially the tribal casino revenues in the Strategic Fund.

The money from the casinos is "a different animal," Mr. Agema said, and it would likely fall to the attorney general to decide if the amendment covers it.

The Strategic Fund would also be blocked, under the amendment, from entering into a contract regarding the bridge. Mr. Agema said it would again be up to the attorney general to determine if an interlocal agreement would be considered a contract under the language.

But he said his goal was not to block the bridge. "My goal is to stop spending money we didn't authorize," he said.

As to whether the language could block the agreement expected to be announced Friday, he said, "If it derails it, then it shouldn't have been entered into in the first place."

Sara Wurfel, press secretary for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, said the new language was no different from past appropriations language on the bridge project.

"We've been clear all along that Michigan taxpayers would not pay for this bridge." Ms. Wurfel said. "There has been no additional money added to or appropriated for the bridge in the new budget. And no MSF funds would be used either. Period."

The bill moves a variety of funds, but overall cuts $259.66 million gross, $168.85 million general fund from the current year budget.

The largest change is $208.6 million ($105.33 million GF) cut from the Department of Community Health. Another $85.45 million ($75.73 million GF) is cut from the Department of Human Services.

The cuts reflect recent Revenue Estimating Conference projections of cash assistance and Medicaid caseloads.

The bill also replaces $4.2 million, all general fund, that was expected as savings from privatizing residential care aides at the Grand Rapids Veterans Home. The move is currently being challenged in court.

The panel dropped plans, approved by the Senate, to use $15 million general fund through the Strategic Fund to cover origination fees under the Agriculture Disaster Loan Program.

The committee also dropped $2.15 million ($1.85 million GF) to restore payments in lieu of taxes through the Department of Treasury.

The House included $50,000 to cover the potential costs of an appeal of the state's redistricting, but, under an amendment offered by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=31101&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) that divided the Republican caucus, the money would have to be returned to the general fund if the appeal is not filed (as Mr. Durhal expected it would not be) rather than being left in the department to be put to other use.

The bill was reported 22-0 with four members abstaining.

Meanwhile, owners of the Ambassador Bridge are showing no signs of doubt about their effort to amend the Constitution barring new international border crossings from being constructed without a statewide public vote even as an expected announcement Friday on a new bridge connecting Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, looms.

In a post on the website of The People Should Decide, the committee supporting the ballot proposal, backers of the effort said they would keep fighting and that any announcement Friday is meaningless.

"The governor said he plans to announce a 'deal' with Prime Minister Harper of Canada," the statement says. "Please note how hard he is trying to show by this announcement that his new Bridge deal is 'finalized,' and that the 'construction of the government bridge is underway.' Nothing could be further from the truth! You may ask ...what does this mean for our petition drive? The answer is simple... NOTHING - as a vote of the people trumps the intentions of a single bureaucrat."

Manuel "Matty" Moroun, the owner of the Ambassador, will need to collect more than 322,000 petition signatures before July 9 to get his proposal on the ballot. He is funding an unusual television advertising campaign urging voters to sign petitions. Those ads also serve the dual purpose of continuing to turn public opinion against the proposed new bridge.

"Remember the announcement by Gov. Snyder is nothing more than a political move of desperation," the website posting says. "His objective is to prevent the petitions from being completed because they will force Gov. Snyder to listen to the people of Michigan!"

Ms. Wurfel said she had no information to offer on the status of the bridge.

As Gongwer News Service reported Tuesday, Mr. Snyder and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper are expected to formally sign an interlocal agreement to set up an authority that would oversee the construction of the new bridge.

Senate Slows Pace on Detroit Lighting Authority Bills

Although it was slated to be voted on Wednesday, the Senate opted to wait on two bills that would establish a lighting authority for various municipalities, most notably Detroit, as well as a funding mechanism for that authority.

"We've got some people asking questions about it, what the board make-up is (for example)," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) told reporters after session adjourned. "If they're all appointed by the mayor of Detroit, is that okay or is that not okay? Should the Legislature and/or governor have some input into this too since we're approving it? Some of the monies in that city (Detroit) have disappeared or are not being treated with the kind of respect that I think we treat it with up here, so maybe we should just have somebody there."

Though the bills are not necessarily Detroit-centric, the city would greatly benefit from them given that their utilities pay a tax, and part of that revenue - about $12.5 million - would have to go toward funding Lighting Board activities such as replacing or installing new lighting throughout the city.

Currently the legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB568801" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB568801" }) calls for a five-member board to be appointed by the city's mayor and to be include professionals such as an engineer, lawyer and accountant.

"One suggestion was maybe you go from five members to eight members (on the board) with the governor, the speaker, and the majority leader appointing someone so that the Legislature and the administration has a look at it, maybe only in certain-size cities or something like that," Mr. Richardville said of discussions within the caucus.

But another Republican senator, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that the caucus also has some concerns that it doesn't have as much support from Senate Democrats as the GOP expects. Consequently, the bills - which also include { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB570501" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB570501" } - would stand less of a chance of passing if they could not garner support from senators within those communities.

Mr. Richardville said he is hopeful that the Senate can take another crack at the legislation on its last day before summer recess tomorrow. If not, he again emphasized the next day the Senate is supposed to meet on July 18 as one that will be consumed with high-priority items such as these bills.

DETROIT INCOME TAX: The Senate also did not vote on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB97001" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB97001" }, a bill that would freeze the city's income tax rate at 2.5 percent for residents and 1.25 percent

for non-residents (subscribers please note: a story in some editions of the Tuesday Michigan Report inaccurately described the impact of the bill on the city's income tax rate).

Unemployment Rate Rises For First Time In A Year

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and legislative Republicans have touted the steady decline in Michigan's unemployment rate for the past year as evidence their policies are working, but the state announced Wednesday the first uptick in unemployment since May 2011.

The state's unemployment rate edged up to 8.5 percent in May from 8.3 percent in April.

"Michigan's labor market in May and throughout early 2012 has been stable," said Rick Waclawek, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, in a statement. "The minor upturn in the state's jobless rate in May was partially due to individuals entering or re-entering the workforce looking for jobs."

Employment fell from April by 2,000 although it is still up 94,000 for the year. Unemployment rose by 6,000, but is still down 98,000 for the year.

In previous months, as the rate plummeted, Mr. Snyder would announce the new rate on his social media accounts prior to the release from DTMB. That was not the case this time. Democrats jumped all over the governor and legislative Republicans on the issue.

"We're seeing unemployment rise for the first time in a year, and the only place Lansing Republicans can look is in the mirror," said Zack Pohl, executive director of Progress Michigan. "A massive tax cut for big corporations was passed under the veil of job creation, but instead of creating more and better jobs, greedy CEOs are pocketing the profits."

Senate Democratic spokesperson Bob McCann said in a Twitter account post, "I assume @onetoughnerd will be taking responsibility for the rise in unemployment after doing same for recent small dips in it."

Job cuts were recorded in manufacturing (-4,000) and professional and business services (-3,000) while job gains were posted in financial activities (3,000), and trade, transportation, and utilities (3,000).

The state's largest region, the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan statistical area, saw its unemployment rate rise from 9.2 percent to 9.6 percent.

Despite the decline, the labor statistics bureau noted that the statewide job count for May was the same as the average for the first five months of the year.

Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel disputed the contention from Democrats that the numbers show signs of trouble in the state's economic recovery.

"There are so many other signs that show that Michigan is in fact headed in the right direction," she said. "As an example right today we have a national economic gardening conference today right in Michigan and the excitement and enthusiasm for Michigan today was apparent."

Senate Clears Election Reform Package

The Senate passed several bills that will modify campaign finance laws and protect the integrity of elections, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1" } said on Wednesday.

"I think it's really important because we want to encourage as many people as we can to register and to vote," she said, speaking with reporters during the session. "But we also need to protect the integrity in the system and that's why we call it our safe package for secure and fair elections."

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1" } spoke in support of the election reform package that cleared the Senate on Wednesday.

One of the bills, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB505801" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB505801" }, which would prohibit a candidate committee from spending campaign funds on personal legal battles, passed unanimously. Another bill, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB505901" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB505901" } modifies ballot questions and political party committee filing requirements. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) was the only senator to vote against the bill earning a 36-1 vote.

A bill requiring photo identification to obtain an absentee ballot ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB506101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB506101" }), in addition to other provisions, cleared the Senate on a 26-11 party line vote.

"Recently the auditor general said we had 1,500 people, of the small number that they checked, that were either dead or in prison that had voted," Ms. Johnson continued on the package. "I think they're clerical errors, but again, it shows vulnerability in the system. We've also had the Department of Justice tell

us they have far too many people registered to vote in 20 counties because not that many people live there. So we know we have vulnerabilities, and we know that if we have a good, Qualified Voter File, we're going to have good elections."

Some opponents have alleged the legislation amounts to "voter suppression," but Ms. Johnson dismissed the allegations as partisan politics.

"To tell you the truth, it's either partisan theatrics, drama, or they don't understand the bills," she said of the allegations. "Everything in there is to encourage people to vote. Everything that we're doing makes it convenient to vote."

Ms. Johnson said 99.5 percent of eligible voters in the state have some form of identification and that the 0.5 percent that may not were considered in the provision in HB 5061 that permits a voter to sign an affidavit assuring his or her identity.

The Senate also passed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB506201" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB506201" } on a 36-1 vote, with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) voting against the bill that calls for those who solicit people to register to vote to go through a training program first.

"This is widely supported by local clerks, both Democrats and Republicans," Ms. Johnson said. "What it is, is a 15-20 minute educational process for one person from the organization who will go back and spread the word."

Similar legislation in the Senate that would make multiple changes to election law did not fare as well, however.

The Senate concurred in House changes to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB75101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB75101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB75401" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB75401" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB80301" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB80301" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB82301" }{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB82301" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB82401" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB82401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB82501" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB82501" } on a 26-11 party-line vote with those bills now headed to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }. But { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB529701" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB529701" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB75201" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB75201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB75301" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB75301" }, also part of the package, received unanimous support 37-0. Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) was absent from the afternoon session in which the Senate voted on these bills.

Senate Finance Moves Income Tax Reduction, Exemption Bills

House bills that would speed up an income tax rate reduction and increase the personal exemption from $3,700 to $3,950 were reported Wednesday from the Senate Finance Committee.

But the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB569901" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB569901" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB570001" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB570001" }) drew criticism from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor). The bill would provide a 0.1 percent cut on an individual's income taxes on October 1, rather than on the currently scheduled January 1.

Ms. Warren questioned the estimated $28 that an individual would end up receiving a year, saying that a single person could "blow through" that kind of money and that perhaps it would be better spent invested in programs that could fund schools, police and fire departments.

"If you want to say that we should take this money and invest it into programs rather than entrusting the taxpayers to invest it as they see fit ... I'm going to strongly disagree with you," shot back { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), the bill sponsor..

The legislation was reported on a 6-1 vote, with Ms. Warren the only senator in objection to it and its counterpart, HB 5700.

That bill would increase the personal exemption from $3,700 per person to $3,950 on October 1. It would then increase by $50 effective January 1, 2014, and rise to $4,100 effective January 1, 2017.

Howard Ryan, the Department of Treasury's legislative liaison, spoke in support of both the bills.

"We are very much in support of the bill," he said. "We think it's a very fair and efficient way to deal with the tax structure."

Land Purchase Cap Headed To Snyder

A bill limiting the amount of land the state can own is on its way to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } after the House rejected a change from committee that altered a line in the state making a good portion of the bill deal only with the Upper Peninsula.

In the House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee, an amendment from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City) moved the line from north of the Mason-Arenac line to apply just to the UP, without altering the amount of land in that portion of the cap.

The House restored the language dealing with the line on Wednesday and the Senate concurred with the changes to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB24801" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB24801" }. It restricts the state to owning no more than 3.91 million acres of land in that portion.

It passed the House on a 58-52 vote and cleared the Senate 24-12.

Also as part of the bill, the Department of Natural Resources is tasked with developing a land acquisition plan for each region of the state by October 1, 2014. It must then be approved by both

the House and Senate. If that is accomplished, the bill states the intent is for the cap to then be removed, but if not, the cap stays in place.

Sara Wurfel, Mr. Snyder's press secretary, said the administration had been working hard with legislators to finalize an agreement.

"The governor thinks it's very important that we have to be good fiscal stewards of our land," she said.

MARRIAGE BILLS: The House unanimously passed a three-bill package that will allow local judges and magistrates to perform marriage ceremonies outside their home county.

The Senate unanimously passed the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB69801" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB69801" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB69901" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB69901" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB70001" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB70001" }) in January.

The practice is allowed now, but only if the official seeks approval from the State Court Administrative Office.

Liquor License At Big House, 911 Fee Get Senate Stamp Of Approval

When it was not caucusing or recessing for committee meetings, the Senate approved numerous pieces of legislation on Wednesday, including granting the University of Michigan the ability to sell liquor at the Winter Classic hockey game it will host next year at Michigan Stadium.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB561101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB561101" } cleared the Senate unanimously 37-0, with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) absent at the time of voting.

The Senate also approved a bill that will force users of prepaid wireless phones to pay a 911 fee when purchasing their phones and any future minutes for it.

Previously the cost was charged at the wholesale level and customers then paid sales tax at the retail level, but now both will be paid at the retail level, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), the bill's sponsor, has said (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=51085" }).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=39501&locid=1" } (D-Westland), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } (R-Hamburg), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights) voted against the legislation that passed 29-7.

BRIDGE CARD REQUIREMENTS: Two pieces of legislation that tack on additional Bridge Card regulations cleared the Senate on Wednesday as well.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB472401" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB472401" }, which would make people pay to replace a Bridge Card if lost a second time, moved 27-10 along party lines, with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } of Warren the only Democrat that voted for the bill.

"The whole issue of lost or stolen Bridge Cards is already in effect," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield). "The Department of Human Services deemed that they had the authority to implement this program some time ago, so it is already in effect. What this bill would do is it would put it into statute. My opposition to this is that if it is in statute, just as the department put it into effect, if they say this is not working or there is a better way of doing this, then now you can't do that. You must come back to the Legislature and have us vote to take it back out of statute again."

The Senate also ordered enrolled { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB10901" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB10901" }, which would prohibit the use of Bridge Cards in casino ATMs.

"Cash assistance should be temporary and only for basic needs - not blackjack and booze," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "My measure is one of many that have been passed by the Legislature that will ensure assistance goes only to those who truly need it, not those who want to gamble away taxpayers' hard earned money."

HOME VISITATION: The Senate also passed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB557201" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB557201" }, a bill that would require home visiting service providers to use evidence-based or promising program models to continue receiving state funding.

"We are thrilled that the House and Senate have approved this measure that will make such a positive impact on the lives of many Michigan children and families," Amy Zaagman, director of the Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health, said in a statement. "We look forward to Governor Snyder signing the legislation soon."

The bill was passed unanimously, 37-0, with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) absent at the time of voting.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto) sponsored the legislation and also issued a statement upon final passage of the bill.

"By improving the lives of Michigan's most high-risk families, home visiting models benefit children, parents and the community as a whole," she said.

The legislation returns to the House for concurrence before going to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Capital Outlay Supplemental On Its Way To The Governor

A bill that would provide $613.1 million for 18 infrastructure projects at nine public universities and nine community colleges passed in the Senate on Wednesday after a near unanimous vote.

The projects were not included in the current year budget but had already been given initial approval by the Legislature (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=51111" }).The state's share of the bill will be $304.5 million while universities and community colleges will chip in $308.7 million.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB554101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB5541

01" }) ultimately cleared on a 36-1 vote, as Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) was absent from the afternoon session in which voting took place and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } (R-Hamburg) voted no.

The bill is identical to the recommendations by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, but it does not include boilerplate language relating to reform of the capital outlay process as he had requested.

Natural Resources Trust Fund Debate Lingers

The conference committee on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB536401" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011HB536401" }, which will discuss a supplemental to the current year budget, left some scratching their heads when they noticed a meeting for Wednesday night and moved it instead to tomorrow morning.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart) could only say that he had heard through second-hand sources that an agreement on the supplemental (HB 5364) had been reached but as the day went on the deal was less certain.

The Senate did not fund four projects that the House had passed. Those projects would have enabled the Department of Natural Resources to purchase privately owned land otherwise surrounded by current DNR property.

Poll Finds Mixed Feelings On E.M.s In 4 Cities

A survey commissioned by Business Leaders for Michigan shows that voters in the four cities run by emergency managers disapprove of how those managers are running their community, but also think the managers have done a better job than previous elected city leadership.

The survey, conducted by Glengariff Group, asked 200 registered voters each in Benton Harbor, Ecorse, Flint and Pontiac. When assessing the results of all 800 respondents combined, the poll showed 31.4 percent approve of the job performance of their emergency manager while 47.8 percent disapprove.

Respondents also said services had not improved in the past year in their city. Just 13.6 percent said they had improved while 39 percent said they had worsened and another 43 percent said they stayed the same.

But there was some optimism among voters in these four troubled cities.

Some 41.5 percent said they expected conditions in their city to improve in the next year compared to 19.4 percent who said conditions would degrade and 30.5 percent who said they would stay the same.

And when asked who had done a better job managing the city budget, 42 percent said the emergency manager while 19.3 percent said the city council. Some 17.1 percent said neither and another 18.4 percent said they did not know.

In looking at the city-by-city results, it appears emergency managers in Benton Harbor and Ecorse are getting better reviews than those in Flint and Pontiac.

In Benton Harbor, the emergency manager has a 37.5 percent job approval rating compared to 40 percent negative. In Ecorse, 41.5 percent approve of the emergency manager's job performance compared to 38 percent disapprove.

But managers have gotten hostile receptions in Flint and Pontiac. In Flint, just 24 percent approve of the manager's job performance compared to 58 percent who disapprove. And in Pontiac, 22.5 percent approve of the manager while 56 percent disapprove.

However, even in Flint and Pontiac, the manager was given better ratings than the council on handling the budget although those numbers were within the margin of error in Pontiac.

"While the residents of the four cities with emergency managers may not like having an EM, the majority of residents in every case are optimistic about their city's future," said Doug Rothwell, president and CEO of Business Leaders for Michigan, in a statement. "In fact, residents in these communities overwhelmingly believe that their city budget is better managed under the EM than by their city council."

The overall survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. The survey results for each individual city have a margin of error of plus or minus 6.8 percentage points.

Senate Committee Discusses Labor Strike Penalty Bills

Public employees would be fined one day's salary for participating in an illegal strike under legislation considered Wednesday by a Senate committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB116201" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB116201" } would require that a public employee would be fined one day's pay for an illegal strike, and his or her bargaining representative would be fined $5,000 per day. A public employer would be fined $5,000 each full or partial day of a prohibited lockout.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB70401" }{

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB70401" } would mandate that a person who violated the prohibitions against preventing lawful work by mass picketing or obstructing the entrance to a place of employment, among others actions, be subject to a civil fine of $1,000 per day. A civil fine of $10,000 would be subject to a union or organization that sponsored or assisted in the prohibited activity.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB116101" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2011SB116101" } potential employees taking the place of striking workers would not be notified with the fact they are replacing people who are on strike.

The Senate Reforms, Restructuring, and Reinventing Committee heard testimony on the legislation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph), sponsor of SB 1161, said for 50 years the notice of strike legislation hasn't changed and has become antiquated.

Wendy Block, director of Health Policy and Human Resources at the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, supports the bills. "The bills have a common thread: to make Michigan's labor laws more competitive and protect job providers and employees alike in our labor environment," she said.

She said a state's labor environment is an important factor that companies considered when they open a branch or relocate their companies.

She also said the bills are important because they would empower employers to seek legal remedies and relief, as well as provide a stronger deterrent to the laws that already make various strikes illegal.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) questioned since public employee strikes are already illegal, why go further for fines. Ms. Block responded that it is unfair to reward public employees striking with receiving taxpayers' money and if they think losing their daily pay for a strike is worthy, they can do that.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said prospective employees have the right to know whether they are replacing striking workers. For example, she said if workers are striking because their employer is not covering a particular benefit, the new workers should know.

Ms. Block said the requirement of a strike notice is unique to Michigan and could have a "chilling impact" on people who might apply for an open position. She said it would not impact

future employees because "the employer has made the difficult decision to move forward and start a clean slate."

Charlie Owens, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business,

said the bills are necessary, because" it's difficult, expensive, and time consuming to penalize illegally striking employees as the current law is now constructed."

Due to time constraints, opponents to the bills did not get the chance to testify, but people from American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and United Auto Workers Local 6000 wanted to oppose the bills, and their testimony might be continued next week.

Ray Holman of UAW Local 6000 said in a post from his Twitter account that fining workers $1,000 a day for striking is wrong.

Stallworth Pushes Standards For Consent Agreements

Consent agreements to resolve financial emergencies for local governments would have to include set performance measures and an explicit end date under legislation introduced Wednesday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=97101&locid=1" }.

Mr. Stallworth (D-Detroit) said the accountability being required of local governments is not being applied to communities operating under consent agreements.

Rep. Thomas Stallworth has introduced legislation to guide future consent agreements with financially struggling local governments.

"The issues with the consent agreement in Detroit have been appalling," Mr. Stallworth said. "We can't expect Detroit to survive and thrive without some credible process for permanence."

The goal is to create agreements that will improve the operations of communities in distress, said House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } (D-Battle Creek).

"Our communities have to emerge from a consent agreement better off than they were," Ms. Segal said.

While the legislation would allow the agreement to be amended, Mr. Stallworth said it was essential that it have an end date, a point at which the community's fiscal emergency is expected to be resolved.

The agreement also would have to include milestones for the manager to meet to show the plans in the agreement are working, Mr. Stallworth said.

And, as long as the agreement is in effect, residents should also know what are considered core services and what will be done to guarantee they are delivered, he said. The agreement would have to define those core services

If the milestones and goals are not being met, there also needs to be consequences for the manager, Ms. Segal said.

Mr. Stallworth said the current plan for Detroit has none of those elements. "What we've experienced going forward is an uncertain, unclear and undefined plan that many feel was coerced," he said.

The plan would not require the Detroit agreement be rewritten, but he said he hoped the leadership there would follow the accountability requirements in the bill anyway.

Mr. Stallworth said he currently has full support of the Detroit Caucus and many other members of the Democratic Caucus, but said he had not yet attracted any support from Republicans for the proposal.

Audit Calls For Improvements In 401(k) Controls

Financial controls over Michigan's 401(k) program need substantial improvements to prevent misstating values in the fund, a financial audit of the program released on Wednesday said.

The { HYPERLINK "http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/11_12/r071015612.pdf" \t "blank" } found that the lack of controls caused the fund to understate the value of its mutual fund investments in the 2010-11 fiscal year by $184.5 million and to overstate the value of common trust funds by the same $184.5 million.

The audit said these mistakes and others were brought to the attention of the fund, and substantial corrections were made.

The audit, which looked at the fund for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 fiscal years, recommended improvements be made to prevent similar mistakes in the future.

The Department of Technology, Management and Budget, which oversees the plan, agreed with the finding, though it said there had been substantial improvements in the statement preparation procedure and process.

The 401(k) plan for the state was established in the mid-1980s. However, beginning in 1997 all newly hired state workers had to participate in the plan instead of being part of the state's pension system.

The total investments for the fund has been widely varied over the last several years, as the stock markets have gone through wide swings, and as the state has changed some retirement rules.

At the end of the 2010 fiscal year, the fund was up by $314.6 million to a total of nearly $3.1 billion. But with the market turmoil that occurred in August and September 2011 following the fight over raising the U.S. debt ceiling, and the fact that the state created an early retirement program for state workers, the fund was down by some $68 million to $2.996 billion at the end of the 2011 fiscal year.

D.N.R. Cited For Land Acquisition, Disposal Practices

The Department of Natural Resources is not always purchasing and selling land in ways that enhances its mission, and is not adequately melding former correctional facilities back into its recreation programs, a report released Wednesday by Auditor General Thomas McTavish said.

The { HYPERLINK "http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/11_12/r751015511.pdf" \t "blank" } of the DNR's real estate acquisition, disposition and land holding program, for the period October 2008 through August 2011, found that, as of the end that period, the DNR still held 55.3 percent of the acreage it had determined was non-essential in its review process that began in March 2005.

And, while the DNR had argued it was less costly to hold some of the parcels than sell them, auditors said the department had not conducted a cost-benefit analysis to support that assertion.

Auditors said 2,413 acres of the 9,390 acres would have been appropriate to send to the Land Bank Fast Track Authority.

The department is also still holding six former correctional facilities, including Camp Baraga that was abandoned in 1991, where it has not demolished buildings to meld the lands back into neighboring recreation areas.

"We visited the vacated Camp Waterloo and Camp Brighton correctional facilities and noted significant deterioration, vandalism, fire damage, open entry points in the fence surrounding the correctional facilities, and paperwork strewn about unsecured outbuildings," the report said. "Without appropriate restoration, the State-owned lands that these correctional facilities reside on do not align with DNR's mission and initiatives for natural resources conservation or outdoor recreation opportunities."

Noting that there were formal agreements with the Department of Corrections on some of the facilities requiring that it be responsible for maintaining or demolishing the buildings, auditors recommended that DNR work with Corrections, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget and the Executive Office to have the buildings removed.

But the auditors said the DNR's overall administration of land purchases and sales was effective.

Schuette: Law Allows Local Fireworks Sales Regulation

As long as a local ordinance does not prohibit sales of fireworks, local governments can regulate those sellers, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said in an opinion released Wednesday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge) asked the question on behalf of a township that has an ordinance requiring temporary vendors using sales tents to register, for a fee, with the township and allow fire department inspections of the facility. He wondered whether the ordinance conflicted with the statute.

Mr. Schuette said ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.ag.state.mi.us/opinion/datafiles/2010s/op10345.htm" \t "blank" }) the township can enforce the ordinance, and the fee, because they are not targeted specifically at fireworks and would not serve to prohibit sales.

"Its requirements regarding a permit, inspection, and payment of a fee before vendors may sell out of a temporary facility do not run afoul of the Act," he said. "Further, these local requirements are in addition to the requirements found in the Act since the ordinance requires that the vendor be 'in compliance with all applicable laws.' Thus, the terms of the ordinance and the Act may each be fully implemented."

D.N.R. Selling Fire-Damaged Timber

With the Duck Lake fire now completely contained, Department of Natural Resources officials announced Wednesday that they would sell some of the timber damaged in the blaze.

The sale will not only clear some trees felled during the fire, but will also help to prevent insect infestations and other damage to remaining trees, officials said.

Companies interested in purchasing the timber will have one week to review the fire zone and make a bid. Currently, most of the timber is red pine and jack pine, but further assessments could change that makeup.

The sale is scheduled for June 22 at 10 a.m. at the Newberry Field Office, 5100 State Highway M-123, Newberry.

Committee Roundup

PETITION BILL: The Senate Local Government and Elections Committee heard testimony Wednesday on requiring a ballot question petition to indicate whether an individual was being compensated to circulate it.

Specifically, if an individual were receiving compensation for circulating a petition to amend the Constitution, initiate legislation, or initiate a referendum, the petition would have to indicate the fact and the name of the person or organization that provides the compensation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights), the sponsor of the bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB8801" }), said that petition would provide name of individual or organization on the front of the petition in 10-point boldfaced type, and petitions that comply with the requirement would be valid.

Mr. Rocca also said since it is the first draft of the bill, it could see changes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc), the chairman of the committee, said he likes the bill because it provides more transparency.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) questioned whether the bill would affect this year's petitions. Mr. Rocca said nothing would affect petitions distributed this year.

Mike Batterbee, deputy director in the Department of State's Office of Government Affairs, said the department is neutral on this bill although he stated some concerns. He said it's unclear how the bill would work and circulators have no way of knowing petitioners were being paid or not.

Chris Thomas, director of the Bureau of Elections at the Department of State, expressed similar concerns and said there would be no additional public cost, in response to Mr. Young's question on whether there's significant cost for that.

Capital Notebook

STOCK SCAM: Hiep The Trinh of Fullerton California was charged Wednesday with 15 different counts related to an alleged scheme to sell shares of a non-existent company.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }, whose department filed the charges, alleged Mr. Trinh used his ties to the Vietnamese community in the state to convince people to buy shares in a technology company called NRG. But the charges allege he merely kept the money.

Mr. Trinh faces a variety of felony fraud charges carrying penalties up to $10,000 and 10 years in prison as well as racketeering, which carries penalties of $100,000 and 20 years.

KRESNAK RETIRES FROM MICHIGAN'S CHILDREN CEO POST: Jack Kresnak, the CEO of Michigan's Children for the past four years, is retiring from that position. The longtime former Detroit Free Press writer, honored many times for his enterprising coverage of problems in the state's handling of child protection, plans to begin writing again. Taking over as interim CEO of Michigan's Children is William Long, a Lansing attorney and long-time consultant to the organization.

TRUSCOTT ROSSMAN ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS: The Truscott Rossman public relations firm announced Tuesday that it has promoted Josh Hovey, senior account executive, to vice president and Lauren Zdeba from associate account executive to account executive.

Appointments By The Governor

TALENT INVESTMENT BOARD: Tony Day of Union City is appointed to represent individuals with expertise relating to Native American programs. He is not replacing anyone on the board. His term expires at the pleasure of the governor and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

TAX TRIBUNAL: Victoria Enyart of Jackson is reappointed for a term expiring June 30, 2016. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 8:50 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Michigan Report, Wednesday, June 5, 2013--Resend
Attachments: Jun5.htm

Subscribers Please Note: The report is being resent to correct an incorrect reference in the first story. The story should have refered to Rep. Jon Switalski, not Rep. Robert Kosowski.

Michigan Report for Wednesday, June 5, 2013

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Anger Clear As House Panel Hears On Foreclosure Bills

Approps Members Chastise DHS Over Adoption Spending

House Oks Bill Allowing Retired Corrections Officers To Work Indefinitely

House Panel Reports Veteran Property Tax Exemption

Disaster Fund Bill Clears Senate Appropriations

Medicaid Reform Set To See Changes Next Week

Senate Education Talks Anonymous Reporting Hotline 'Ok-2-Say'

Senate Democrats Announce Winners Of #mi2020 Scholarship

Bridge Card Fraud Bill Signed By The Governor

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Volume #52, Report #110 -- Wednesday, June 5, 2013

So-Called Main Street Fairness Bills Stalled By Dems

Bills that would force the collection of the sales and use tax on purchases made through online entities that have affiliations in the state were on the House Tax Policy Committee agenda Wednesday, but were not voted on because House Democrats on the committee were going to abstain from voting.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), chair of the committee, said he thought the bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB420201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB420301" }) had enough votes to be reported from committee. But Mr. Farrington said he found out before the meeting on Wednesday that the Democrats on the committee were planning on abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Farrington said he did not know why the Democrat committee members decided to pass, and he said it could possibly have been for "political reasons."

He also said plans for moving the bills are up in the air, since it does not have the votes to be reported from committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501&locid=1" } (D-Warren), a member of the committee, said it wasn't a last minute decision and the Democratic members simply feel the issue is a federal one.

Mr. Switalski said the U.S. Senate has passed bills requiring internet retailers to charge the sales and use tax, and he said the U.S. House is "poised" to do so as well.

However, those watching the issue said it seemed Democrats were leveraging their votes in hopes of winning Republican support on other issues.

Officials Announce $4M To Address Backlog Of Detroit Rape Kits

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } is making available $4 million from money his office has obtained through legal settlements to pay for processing many of the more than 9,000 remaining abandoned, untested rape kits found in a Detroit Police Department property room almost four years ago.

At a news conference that included { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and Wayne

County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, officials said they could not be sure exactly how many of the kits could be processed for $4 million, but at an average cost of $1,550 per kit, they were hopeful of making a significant dent in the backlog.

"There are people that have been victims that are in these kits that deserve justice," Mr. Snyder said.

Ms. Worthy undertook a private fundraising effort to process about 1,600 of the original 11,303 kits. Through those tests, and many of the kits were no longer testable, 32 serial rapists were identified, Ms. Worthy said.

She praised Mr. Snyder and Ms. Schuette for their efforts. She said more than 100 rapists could be identified as a result of the funding.

"It's bigger than huge," she said.

Ms. Worthy is in the middle of a well-publicized battle with Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and the County Commission about the size of her budget. She was asked whether her office had the prosecutors available to handle cases stemming from testing the kits and responded that she hoped county officials were listening to the commitment of Mr. Schuette and Mr. Snyder.

"At times when I don't hear very much good news of a financial nature in Wayne County, it was a great day, a fabulous day, when the attorney general called me and said that he was making available funds that will allow thousands more kits to be tested," she said. "That was better news than manna from heaven."

Ms. Worthy said her office already has obtained convictions, a guilty plea and another four with trial dates set from its work on the kits tested so far.

Mr. Schuette said the effort would hopefully provide some healing or closure for the thousands of women who feel abandoned by law enforcement.

"Rape, it's not just another crime. When a woman is violated, attacked, assaulted, brutalized, it cries out for justice," he said. "Twice, women were violated. Once by the rape and then second that justice was put in a box, put on a shelf. That's going to end now with this team effort."

Peters Leads All Potential Republican U.S. Senate Candidates

Democratic { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } leads all possible Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate race in 2014, according to a new poll released Wednesday, although the firm conducting the poll said it was more of a generic ballot test given the lack of familiarity those surveyed had with the candidates.

The only Republican who has announced a bid is former Secretary of State Terri Land, and she performs the best against Mr. Peters, who still led her 41 percent to 36 percent even though more voters recognized Ms. Land's name than Mr. Peters'.

Mr. Peters scores even better against the Republican many in the GOP are hoping will run, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3001&locid=1" } of Brighton. Mr. Peters held a 42 percent to 32 percent lead in that match-up.

Against { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Kentwood), Mr. Peters held a 42-30 lead.

Other Republicans considering a bid, like state { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } of Saginaw Township and physician Rob Steele, trail Mr. Peters by the same 44-26 margin. Former Republican Party Chair Saul Anuzis was further back at 44-24.

The poll was conducted by Public Policy Polling, a Democratic firm with a good track record for accurate polling in Michigan. Holland Mayor Kurt Dykstra, who says he is considering a bid, was not tested in the survey.

"Peters' strength in these early match-ups has less to do with him than it does the general Democratic lean of the state in national elections," Public Policy Polling said in a memo about the survey.

Eighteen percent of those polled had a favorable opinion of Mr. Peters compared to 16 percent unfavorable, leaving 66 percent with no opinion. Ms. Land, who won statewide office twice, in 2002 and 2006, registered a 29 percent favorable rating and 21 percent unfavorable.

Looking deeper into the poll, there were some encouraging numbers for Ms. Land if she faces competition for the Republican nomination. Forty-two percent of Republicans had a favorable opinion of her compared to 11 percent unfavorable - by far the best spread of any other potential candidate. Mr. Rogers had a split of 27-12 among Republicans, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Kentwood) had an anemic 15 percent favorable to 16 percent unfavorable rating among Republicans.

In a Land-Peters general election match-up, Mr. Peters' five-point edge comes from the greater number of Democrats voting. The two are statistically tied among independents with Ms. Land at 32 percent and Mr. Peters at 31 percent.

The survey was conducted via automated telephone interviews May 30 through June 2 among 697 Michigan voters. It has an error margin of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points. The poll conducted used an oversample of 334 Republicans for a question on whom the party would most like to see as its nominee with opinions varied.

And on that question, there was less enthusiasm for Ms. Land.

Twenty-one percent said they wanted { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=1401&locid=1" } of Midland to run, although he has said he is not running. Eighteen percent named Mr. Rogers, who is considering the contest, while 16 percent chose Mr. Amash, 15 percent Ms. Land, 7 percent Mr. Anuzis, 2 percent Circuit Judge Kimberly Small and Mr. Steele and Mr. Kahn at 1 percent each. The error margin for that question was plus or minus 5.4 percentage points.

Mike Murray, a Republican political consultant, said the poll is a positive for Ms. Land. Mr. Peters spent big money in his three congressional campaigns and has had the field to himself for some time, but she is barely outside the margin of error against him

Mr. Murray, who is not working for anyone in the race, said he was somewhat surprised that Ms. Land fared better against Mr. Peters than Mr. Rogers or Mr. Amash. He noted she will need to raise big money and avoid a bruising primary to position herself.

"I think she stacks up very well with Gary Peters," he said.

Democrats, however, were less than concerned, noting that 85 percent of Republicans suggested they preferred someone other than Ms. Land as their nominee.

Senate Passes Legislation Barring Mandatory Paid Sick Leave

The Senate on Wednesday passed, mostly along party lines, a bill prohibiting local governments from establishing their own laws on employee leave for employers in their jurisdiction, with Democrats calling the bill unnecessary and one of the worst bills they had ever seen.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) offered a substitute to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB17301" } that would essentially undo is the legislation by instead requiring employers to give employees paid sick leave time.

"Paid sick leave policies are good public policy and in fact good for business," Ms. Warren said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township), sponsor of the legislation, of course urged defeat of the substitute. He referenced his son, who had just started his own business and could barely stay afloat as it was, let alone if he were to be required to pay sick time for his employees.

"I believe leave time benefits, paid or unpaid, is an agreement between employer and employee," Mr. Jansen said.

Ms. Warren said the bill would override local control and that the legislation was "a solution in search of a problem," since to her knowledge only four places in the nation - none of which are in Michigan - have implemented such a policy. She also argued that having paid sick leave helped increase worker performance, boost morale and cut down on health care costs.

Mr. Jansen was joined in support by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), who said one thing that has been missing from the conversation as the bill relates to local control is the issue of private control. He said the government should not be able to make such a decision and force the burden of cost onto employers.

The substitute was defeated along party lines, and the bill was passed 25-13 with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R-Sterling Heights) voting in opposition to the bill alongside Democrats.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) called the bill "despicable."

"I come before you today with shame and with anger in my heart in the fact that we would take away sick leave from our workers. This is disgraceful. It's unnecessary. It's despicable," Mr. Young said. "This is the worst idea for a bill I've seen since they decided to make Garfield and the Tale of Two Kitties. This bill is so incredibly bad that I think it would make a tear in the space continuum if I blacked out, woke up in a hot tub time machine, and traveled through time so I could stop it and repeal it."

And some others expressed disgust at the passage of the bill as well.

"I suspect that from where most working people and restaurant patrons sit, these lobbyists look like little more than agents for Mr. Scrooge refusing to allow sick days or a decent wage for workers," Danielle Atkinson, director of Mothering Justice, said in a statement. "Sadly, that's hardly an accurate reflection of many local restaurant owners I know who care about their workers and public health."

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=270701&locid=1" } (D-Lathrup Village), who has introduced a bill that would allow workers to take earned paid time off to recover from illnesses, said business and employees both lose when someone comes to work sick.

"A healthy workforce leads to a healthy economy, and this Senate Bill is a step in the wrong direction for Michigan," Mr. Hobbs said in a statement. "As state lawmakers, we need to show we're serious about valuing workers and protecting public health by moving towards a statewide policy for all municipalities."

DIA Protection Legislation Waits For Senate Vote, Faces Uncertain Fate In House

The Senate on Wednesday did not take up a bill that would protect the Detroit Institute of Arts' artwork from liquidation should the city of Detroit file for bankruptcy, despite having placed the item on its calendar as intended for final passage.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said he expects his legislation, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB40101" }, will instead be taken up next week. He said there was a degree of complexity to the legislation since it dealt with a law that began in 1885 and had changes made to it.

"(It was the) first time we had talked about it as a caucus so I told them I'd give them a little extra time (and) we would talk again Tuesday," Mr. Richardville said after session. "There's no event there, it's just that it was moving pretty fast and I thought I had a few questions for clarifying. I don't think there will be a problem with the vote on Tuesday."

Indeed, the bill was just introduced last week and reported from the Senate Government Operations Committee on Tuesday. The bill would require an art institute to adhere to the code of ethics for museums as published by the American Alliance for Museums or a successor organization, and specifically a provision that the institute could not sell items from the museum collection unless doing so would to the direct benefit of the institute itself.

The potential caveat helping the case of saving that artwork is that while the city of Detroit owns the DIA and the art within the facility, technically substantial aid comes from people and groups all across the state. And some of that artwork comes from those private parties, too.

If and when the bill clears the Senate, it is unknown how well it will fare in the House. Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said the speaker currently does not have any plans to take the bill up before summer recess over a couple of concerns.

"One, we want to try to stay focused right now on keeping Detroit out of bankruptcy," Mr. Adler said. "And the second thing is the speaker is concerned that if you start talking about things that cannot be touched, before long that list starts to include everything."

"That has been a problem for cities like Detroit for many years now," he said. "People say that changes need to be made but don't change the thing that I really like. When you do that, you end up running out solutions."

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was noncommittal on Mr. Richardville's bill when pressed about it at a separate news conference on Wednesday.

"Looking at the legislation, it was just recently introduced," he said of the bill. "I'm happy to review it as part of the process."

Mr. Snyder also declined to say whether he thought a state statute could protect the art from a federal bankruptcy judge.

"My goal is not to see the art of the DIA disappear," he said. "This is a fabulous asset of the city of Detroit. It's very important."

Anger Clear As House Panel Hears On Foreclosure Bills

As the House Financial Services Committee took testimony on a series of bills that would shorten the redemption period homeowners in foreclosure can use to get their house sold or work out a final arrangement to prevent losing their house, it was clear the overflowing crowd watching the meeting was opposed to the measures.

Critics said the bills will increase the number of foreclosures, while supporters said they would help neighborhoods by moving properties to new owners more quickly and help lenders from losing money on damaged homes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" } (R-Nashville), chair of the committee, had to repeatedly ask audience members not to applaud speakers they agreed with or to shout out criticisms of speakers with whom they disagreed.

The panel did not vote on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476401" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476501" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB476601" } and HB 4766. The Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee did vote out similar legislation to the full Senate two weeks ago.

Mr. Callton also did not say when the committee would next meet on the package.

But when he adjourned the meeting for the beginning of the House session at 1:30 p.m., several audience members angrily demanded they be allowed to speak.

"What kind of audacity is this?" shouted Jerry Goldberg, a Detroit-based, anti-foreclosure attorney, saying people had come from a great distance to speak at the meeting.

The committee meeting lasted for some 90 minutes, and when the meeting had gone on for nearly 45 minutes, Mr. Callton said there were 35 people left to speak.

The meeting was also marked by the somewhat surprising acknowledgement of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1" } (D-Fraser), who said she had been through a foreclosure and was critical of banks taking too long to work with them, in one case letting a short sale of her house slip away.

The legislation is identical to the Senate bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38001" }, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38201" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB38301" }). When the Senate panel met on the bills, that committee too was packed, but with more officials who work with legislation and foreclosures. The House meeting was marked in part because a number of home owners who had faced foreclosure were present.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart), chair of the Senate committee and sponsor of one of the bills, said the package, which would extend the current 90-day period that lenders and homeowners have to work on resolutions before beginning the foreclosure process, but cut the current six months redemption period to 60 days, was the "right policy" for the state.

Banking officials supported the measure, with several saying they have never seen a house issue resolved during redemption (a spokesperson with the Michigan Bankers Association said the average is about 1 percent of houses in foreclosure can work out a resolution in redemption).

Plus, supporters said homes are often abandoned, with fixtures stolen or destroyed, during the redemption period and there is nothing they can do about it.

But Lorray Brown with the Michigan Poverty Law Program said state law now allows a lender to seize property if it has been abandoned.

And Neeta Delaney of the Michigan Foreclosure Task Force said 60 days in redemption would not be enough time for most lenders and home owners to work out a short sale.

Sam Frangie of the Lansing-based LAFCU said short sales through his institution generally take 60 days. He also said he has never had a situation where a foreclosure was redeemed.

Baxter Jones of Detroit seemed to encapsulate the overall opposition when he said, "Everyone wants to protect the banks." Instead, he said, the Legislature should pass bills to help people stay in their homes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217401&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), minority vice chair of the committee, released a statement in opposition to the bills.

"In order for Michigan's economy to make a full recovery, we should be doing everything we can to help our citizens get back on their feet," Mr. Nathan said. "The reduction in redemption periods is unconscionable. It's wrong to dump residents on the street before allowing them a fair chance to make other living arrangements."

Approps Members Chastise DHS Over Adoption Spending

Some House Appropriations Committee members were a bit hot under the collar Wednesday for having to approve a $25.3 million supplemental to allow the Department of Human Services to pay an increase for adoption subsidies.

The issue was not providing the additional $3 per child per day, but that they were not told there was a problem until the supplemental legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB411201" }) was put on their desks.

Most of the outrage came from committee Democrats, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205901&locid=1" } (R-Holland), the committee chair, agreed that the department needed some process to notify the Legislature that it was having unexpected budget problems.

The conflict came as the result of the $3 increase that had been included in the current year budget. The intention had been to provide the increase only to certain new foster care and adoption cases, which would have cost about $1.5 million. But department officials discovered that law required them to provide the increase to all current adoption cases, about 27,000 of them, bringing the total needed to about $28 million.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said the department should have raised the issue earlier. "Instead of coming to the Legislature and saying we made a mistake ... you're coming to us and saying we need $28 million to cover up the mistake," she said.

Had officials raised the issue earlier, the statute could have been changed to allow the increases to be applied as intended, she said. And she said department officials, particularly Director Maura Corrigan, should have apologized for allowing the mistake.

Amanda Bright McClanahan, budget director for the department, said Ms. Corrigan had apologized in meetings with legislative leaders. "She has taken full responsibility for the fact that the rate increase was implemented without notification to the Legislature," Ms. Bright McClanahan said. "This was something that was missed by the department, the Legislature and the Executive Branch during the budget process last year."

She said the increase, to all cases, is included in the fiscal year 2013-14 budget. And she said the department had taken steps to prevent such situations in the future.

Ms. Bright McClanahan said the department would not necessarily have supported changing the law to allow increases only to new foster care cases. "If there's a disparity between foster care and adoption, there's a disincentive for foster families to move to adoption," she said, adding that the children involved in the cases were special needs and the incentives were needed to get them into permanent families.

The issue, Ms. Tlaib said, was this was the second time the department had changed its spending without notifying the Legislature. The first time, she said, was the department's decision not to implement the JET program despite it being included in the budget.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280501&locid=1" } (D-Grand Rapids) said the department had to be sure that, at a minimum, all Appropriations members were included in any communications about budget problems. "Private communication to the leadership is not communication to the entire Legislature," he said.

Members also chafed at the department saying it had a legal opinion finding the payments were required, but would not supply that opinion to the Legislature because it was informal and so covered by attorney-client privilege.

The committee rejected amendments from Ms. Tlaib that would have required the department to find the additional funds, as well as funds for a proposed departmental restructuring, from within its current budget rather than providing additional funds.

Ms. Tlaib also offered language, again rejected, that would have required the department to come up with the funds for some additional Family Independence Program cases generated by a court ruling that the department had improperly removed some families. Most of those families were on only a few months before they were again removed under the federal time limit for cash assistance, Ms. Bright McClanahan said.

Mr. Haveman ruled out of order a motion from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=31101&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) for Mr. Haveman to draft a letter to the department on behalf of the committee, but Mr. Haveman said he would work with Mr. Durhal on such a letter if one had not already been sent to the department.

The bill, as reported on an 18-0 vote with all Democrats abstaining, represented a $637.5 million gross reduction in the current year budget. General Fund was down $25 million.

The bulk of the bill was a $625.88 million gross reduction for DHS and a $157.24 gross reduction for the Department of Community Health to adjust for expected caseload reductions. Another $15.95 million, this all federal funds, came out of the Department of Education for child care subsidy caseload reductions.

Among some other provisions, the bill included $1 million General Fund for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, half to cover shortfalls in food inspection program fees and half to cover bovine tuberculosis testing.

The Department of Education would pass through $350,000 to Marshall Public Schools as it takes on high school students from Albion Public Schools next year. Officials said the funds would cover an expected lag in federal at-risk funds for the receiving district, noting that

Marshall could end up with less at-risk money than Albion depending on its final percentage of at-risk students once the transfer is completed.

Democrats on the committee questioned why similar funds could not have been made available for Buena Vista Public Schools when that district ran out of money last month.

The $1.8 million to the Unemployment Insurance Agency to hire additional fraud inspectors drew fire from both sides of the aisle, with members complaining about the agency's treatment of both businesses and employees.

Stephanie Comai, deputy director in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, which houses UIA, said the agency prides itself in customer service, but also always has room to improve. To allegations that the agency is allowing workers to collect thousands of dollars in benefits before filing fraud complaints and requiring repayment, with fees, she said UIA cannot withhold payments until a complaint has been resolved. She said the inspectors were intended to reduce the backlog in cases and reduce the period where improper benefits are being paid.

The bill also allowed the Department of Corrections to spend $2.48 million from Detroit for the Mound Correctional Facility, which is being converted to a detention center. The state is paying $450,000 for some upgrades, including security cameras, but the city is expected to reimburse those costs once it begins operating the facility, officials said.

DHS would also see another $26.19 million in federal funds for retirement costs. Officials said those costs increased faster than projected (the line had generated lapses in prior fiscal years).

Transit in Detroit would see two boosts: $5.4 million in Comprehensive Transportation Fund to make up for expected reductions in support from Detroit for local transit and $10 million in federal funds for a variety of transportation improvements, mostly around the Eastern Market.

The committee rejected an amendment to expand Medicaid as allowed under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. That provision had been pushed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } but was left out of the 2013-14 budget.

The committee also reported two bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB470801" }) that would extend the hazardous waste management fee through the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year and combine three restricted funds dealing with hazardous waste into a single fund.

It also reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB467001" } to allow the Department of State Police to use funds set aside under the Emergency Management Act and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB467101" } to eliminate the sunset on the e911 fee.

House Oks Bill Allowing Retired Corrections Officers To Work Indefinitely

The full House narrowly passed a bill on Wednesday that would remove the September 30 sunset date in legislation enacted last year that allows the Department of Corrections to hire retirees to work part time to reduce overtime costs.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466401" }) passed 58-51 on mostly party lines. Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" } of Clayton and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } of Utica joined the 49 Democrats in opposing the bill. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228901&locid=1" } (I-Detroit) voted yes.

The legislation is designed to help the department save money in its ever-growing budget. By removing the sunset, supporters said it would help get more retirees working while the department is in the process of training new workers.

HUNTING, ORV FEES: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466801" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB466901" } passed 77-32 and 70-39, respectively. The latter would raise fees for off-road vehicles by $10 to $26.25 for a general license. For those who wish to ride on state trails, the license would be $36.25.

Hunters would see a price increase and a change in their licenses as well. They would have to get a base license and additional licenses for certain species. It would cost $10 for a resident base license and $150 for nonresidents. Junior hunters would pay $5 and seniors would pay $4 for a base license. A person would be allowed to hunt small game with a base license.

To hunt deer, the hunter must pay another $20 for the deer license. An elk license would be an additional $100.

The cost of 24-hour and 72-hour fishing licenses increase to $10 from $7 and to $28 from $21, respectively, under the bill. But fees for a resident all-species fishing licenses would decrease to $25 from $28. Nonresident, all-species fishing licenses increase to $75 from $42.

House Panel Reports Veteran Property Tax Exemption

The House Tax Policy Committee reported bills on Wednesday that would extend the property tax exemption so that it would also apply to the principal residence of veterans who have been permanently and totally disabled as the result of military service and are entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100 percent rate.

The bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB469801" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB411001" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB35201" }) are all very similar and were reported unanimously from committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) won an amendment for SB 352 that would include language from the other bills in the package ensuring that once a veteran's spouse remarried, he or she would no longer receive the exemption.

Samantha Harkins, representing the Michigan Municipal League, said the league is opposed to the bills simply because it is a piece-meal solution. Ms. Harkins said the Legislature could possibly develop a broader and more comprehensive statewide policy to address what veterans are lacking in services.

Ms. Harkins said property taxes are where local units of government get most of their revenue.

BUSINESS TAX LIABILITY: A bill that would make an officer, manager or partner of a business personally liable only for uncollected trust taxes, or taxes collected from the business for the government, such as sales tax, was also discussed in the House Tax Policy Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB6401" }) would limit liability to only situations where a business failed to pay a tax from another person and to a person who had been responsible for collecting the tax or filing returns during the time of default.

Dan Papineau, chief of staff for the bill's sponsor, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), said under current law a person could be held liable for certain corporate taxes and the Michigan Business Tax.

Mr. Papineau also said few states collect taxes other than trust taxes from individuals if a business hasn't paid.

The bill also would limit the liability of the person to their proportionate share of the tax assessed and require the Department of Treasury to assess the purchaser of a business that owes taxes before assessing a person involved with the company under previous ownership.

Howard Ryan, with the Department of Treasury, said the department is opposed to the bills. Mr. Ryan said the bill does not define trust taxes, and the department is under the impression sales and use taxes would not be considered a trust tax.

Mr. Ryan also said there are many businesses that owe back taxes, have the funds to pay them and just refuse to do so. He said holding a manager, officer or partner personally liable helps the department collect the taxes.

Mr. Ryan said the department is interested in working on different language for the bill that would define trust taxes and ensure if an individual was not liable, he or she would not have to pay the tax.

However, Mr. Papineau said the department's proposed language would make the situation worse.

The chair of the committee, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), said the committee will continue to work on the bill in upcoming weeks.

Disaster Fund Bill Clears Senate Appropriations

Legislation that would ensure a minimum level of $2 million in the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund and raise the maximum grant to a local government from it won approval Wednesday from the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The move in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB33001" } is part of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s 2013-14 budget recommendation and would represent a change from how the state has disbursed disaster aid. Historically, the state has not placed money in what is now called the Disaster Contingency Fund. Instead, the state has handled the disbursement of funds through a supplemental appropriations bill.

Backers of the legislation say it will better prepare the state and make the disbursement of funds much smoother.

Under the bill, a county or municipality could obtain a maximum grant from the fund of $100,000 or 10 percent of the local government's operating budget, whichever is less, up from the current $30,000/10 percent level.

The committee adopted an amendment that would mean a smaller ceiling for the fund than originally proposed. The bill initially called for an $8.5 million cap, but under the amendment the cap would be $4.5 million.

The bill won approval on a party-line 11-4 vote. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor) abstained.

Local governments would request funds through the Department of State Police, which would decide whether to grant the funds. The governor must have signed an emergency declaration for the situation as well for it to be eligible for funds.

Medicaid Reform Set To See Changes Next Week

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" }, chair of the House Michigan Competitiveness Committee, said on Wednesday the bill reforming Medicaid reform would see a substitute on Monday for members of the committee to look through, followed by meetings next Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Michigan Competitiveness Committee heard its fourth day of testimony on the bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB471401" }) designed to gain waivers from the federal government before the state expands Medicaid to 133 percent of the federal poverty level.

Mr. Shirkey (R-Clarklake) said if all goes well, the committee will be in a position to consider voting next on the legislation next week.

Mark Cook, vice president of governmental affairs for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, said currently, residents who are uninsured go to the emergency room to receive care, and that is the least cost-effective way to get people care.

He also said BCBSM currently has products in the private marketplace where consumers receive savings for going to the doctor and taking steps to improve their health. He said those products have proven to be successful. In the bill proposed in committee, there are incentives to reduce premiums for those who would newly be accepted into the Medicaid program to get healthier.

Mr. Cook also said the state should take advantage of the federal money given for the expansion because the state will otherwise be required to spend more of its own money.

Doug Paterson, with the Michigan Primary Care Association, said the 14 states that have chosen not to implement the Medicaid expansion have increased rates of uncompensated care and will lose $8.4 billion.

Mr. Paterson also expressed concerns with the 48-month limit on Medicaid coverage in the bill. He said he was worried about a situation where a woman would receive Medicaid benefits, then get pregnant after she reached the limit and no longer qualify. He also said various conditions treated do not go away in four years.

"They are able bodied (right now) because we can treat these issues," he said. "But if they were not treated, they would not be able bodied."

Representatives from Michigan Consumers for Health Care said the group was concerned individuals would be penalized if they lived in an area where transportation was an issue and could not comply with the wellness incentives.

The group also said one-third of health care costs come from fraud and abuse, and those issues should be looked at more.

Members of the small business community, including the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Association of Health Plans and the Small Business Association of Michigan said without the expansion, many of their members would have to pay fees under the Affordable Care Act. They also said the expansion could help bend the cost curve by removing the extra costs from those paying for uncompensated care within their insurance rates.

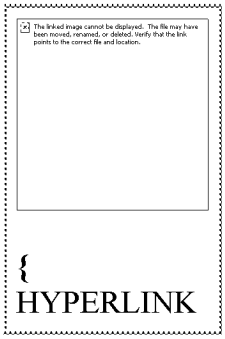
Senate Education Talks Anonymous Reporting Hotline 'Ok-2-Say'

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }, the Department of State Police and legislators are in agreement that an anonymous hotline for students and members of the community to report potential for dangerous or violent situations is a good thing, but how exactly that hotline will be organized is still anyone's guess.

The Senate Education Committee on Wednesday took testimony on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB37401" }, which would create the Michigan Student Safety Act to require the development and implementation of a program that would allow for confidential reports of dangerous, violent or criminal activities to a toll-free hotline.

The Department of Attorney General would develop the program, which Mr. Schuette said in testimony would use $3.5 million fund it has been able to amass from various settlements the state has received.

"What Ok-2-Say is, is really it's an early warning system," Mr. Schuette said. "We try to stop violence in schools before it occurs. Ok-2-Say would be a 24-7 command center of sorts that would receive concerns and threats and then transmit those to the closest responder.



"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said on Wednesday that he would like to move legislation on Ok-2-Say before the summer is up.

"The new feature on this which I think is the most fundamental one is the fact that it's confidential," he said. "You eliminate the risk or the fear or concern that this tip would then later be public. It really starts a new dialogue in Michigan."

Mr. Schuette and others continued to refer to a statistic that in the event of serious incidents, whether it was to harm oneself or others, 81 percent of the time there was at least one person other than the perpetrator who knew about it.

"This whole nonsense about don't be a snitch, don't be a nark, we have to stop," Mr. Schuette said. "If we can save the life of even one child, then Ok-2-Say would be of huge value."

But several of the senators on the panel, including { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of the committee, questioned why current hotlines that exist for such purposes were being under-used and how this one would be any different.

Dwayne Gill, legislative liaison for the State Police, responded, "I would imagine that the lack of marketing this hotline that we have could be the reason as to why we have limited calls of service right now."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) said he had hoped the legislation would somehow differentiate this upcoming hotline from others. He also said he wanted to identify how many people would need to staff the hotline, where they would be located and how much money that would cost; as none of that was set in the S-2 substitute of the bill (the committee did not adopt the substitute yet).

The other point of difference both Mr. Gill and Mr. Schuette are hoping to attain with Ok-2-Say is the type of communication available, especially for students. Current hotlines are promoted on the State Police website, Facebook and Twitter, but they do not have much of a presence in schools or on things such as mobile apps, Mr. Gill said.

"We're going to be able to communicate with these children on a level they're used to communicating on," Mr. Gill said, reiterating Mr. Schuette's plans for text message availability, mobile phone apps, and other ways to more effectively reach youth.

The $3.5 million is likely to be used to get the program up and running, Mr. Schuette said, but as long as the legislation keeps moving, he is convinced that his office and others he will be coordinating with will be able to develop the finer details of the program over the summer and before the next school year.

Mr. Pavlov, in speaking to Gongwer News Service after the meeting, said he was unsure whether the funding for the program through the settlements would need to be identified in the current-year budget or identified at all. Technically, the substitute removed language regarding a supplemental and the appropriations process, he said.

He also expects marketing the current hotline will be part of the final product.

"We've got to get the word out. I don't know how they're going to go about it," he said. "We didn't really talk a lot about the implementation of the plan, but clearly we have to be able to make people aware of it."

Mr. Pavlov said it's possible the committee could move the bill before summer recess but wanted to get more details about the development and organization of the program into the bill first.

EAA NOT BEFORE SUMMER RECESS: Mr. Pavlov said on Wednesday he does not expect to take up legislation on expanding the Educational Achievement Authority ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB436901" }) before the summer recess, anticipated to be on or around June 21.

There are reportedly significant disagreements between the House and Senate on the language of the bill, but Mr. Pavlov said only, "We just have some work to do on that EAA and it's going to require a little more time to get it right I think."

Asked what kind of work, Mr. Pavlov said, "We've got to work on getting votes." Asked if that was in the committee or in caucus, he said it was "in the Senate." Democrats have largely advocated against the legislation, and recently Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) said his caucus isn't too thrilled about it either (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=521090104" }).

Senate Democrats Announce Winners Of #mi2020 Scholarship

Senate Democrats have announced three winners of their second annual #mi2020 scholarship, originally developed in conjunction with the caucus' plan to approve legislation that would give every Michigan high school senior free college tuition by using money from expiring tax credits.

Though the legislation once received a hearing last term and then died upon the end of session and has yet to be recognized this term, the caucus has kept its scholarship program, which asks current Michigan high school seniors to submit a short video explaining the importance of investing in higher education and how the Michigan 2020 plan is the right investment for the state.

Spencer Genrich of Wyandotte took first place in this year's competition, winning a $10,000 scholarship. Second place went to Sara-Jane Dakroub of Rochester Hills, who received $2,500, and third place went to Nathan Douglas of Bloomingdale, who will receive $1,000.

"I congratulate Spencer, Sara-Jane and Nathan on their winning entries and am excited that we can help them pursue a college education," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) said in a statement. "This video competition gave students across the state the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity and show us why investing in their futures is investing

in our own. Their entries made it clear that the challenges of paying for college are not unique geographically, politically or even economically and show the importance of passing the Michigan 2020 Plan to help all of our kids go to college for free."

The winners were determined by a combination of public vote that included more than 60,000 votes and the votes of a panel of judges that included an educator, a public relations practitioner and a recent college graduate, according to Senate Democrats.

The winning videos can be seen at the Michigan 2020 { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan2020.com/competition" \t "blank" }.

Bridge Card Fraud Bill Signed By The Governor

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } signed a bill Wednesday intended to reduce fraud involving Michigan's Food Assistance program.

"This is a common-sense bill that will continue efforts to save taxpayer dollars by helping keep the Bridge Cards that are intended to help people in need from reaching the hands of criminals," Mr. Snyder said in a statement.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB404201" } (PA 41, immediate effect) makes it mandatory for the Department of Human Services to conduct monthly death record and incarceration checks to ensure Bridge card holders who are deceased or in prison are not still receiving funds.

Department officials have said they were already conducting the checks.

National Guard Director Bill Reported By House Committee

A Senate bill amending the job of an adjutant general, director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, was unanimously reported in a House committee Wednesday.

The House Military and Veterans Affairs Committee reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB17501" }, which deals with the job description and retirement changes to the position of adjutant general and assistant adjutant general, as well as expanding some of the governor's authority to enter into agreements with other governors and ordering members of the militia into active service.

The committee also unanimously reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB460501" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB473101" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475201" }

, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475401" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB475601" }, with some technical changes to the legislation.

LARA Streamlines 2014 Accountancy License Renewals

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs on Wednesday said it has streamlined the reporting of continuing professional education and peer review for accountants, and their license renewal must be completed by July 31, 2013.

The license renewal fee paid by July 31, 2013, will be for the license taking effect January 1, 2014, the department said.

The two-year license period had not changed, though, and licenses will still expire December 31 of odd years. Once renewed, the new license registration will expire on December 31, 2015. Registrations are valid until expiration.

The renewal fees for a registered CPA are $50, or $200 for licensed CPAs and licensed firms, respectively.

License and registration renewals not received by the expiration date can be renewed with submission of the regular renewal fee plus an additional $20 late fee within 60 days following the license expiration date, the department said. Licensees who fail to renew online or by mail, or to meet all renewal requirements by the expiration date of the license, cannot legally practice as a certified public accountant or CPA firm and may be subject to disciplinary action if they continue to practice.

Capital Notebook

STATE CHRISTMAS TREE: The search for the Christmas tree that will stand in front of the Capitol began Wednesday. The Department of Technology, Management and Budget is now taking nominations for a 65-foot tree.

"I know it seems odd to start the search for a Christmas tree at the start of summer," said Phil Jeffery, DTMB chief deputy director, in a press release. "In order to have time to conduct the search and be ready for the lighting festivities in November, this is when we need to start the process."

There are certain requirements that need to be met for the tree, including the height minimum of 65 feet, the maximum trunk diameter of 30 inches, it must be a spruce or a fir tree and it must be given to the state at no cost.

Nominations for the tree will be taken until July 31.

PRE-PAID SALES TAX FOR JULY: Pre-paid gasoline and diesel fuel sales taxes will go up again for wholesalers in July, the Department of Treasury announced in a revenue administrative bulletin, 2013-8.

In July the prepaid sales tax will be 20.8 cents per gallon of gasoline, compared to the 20.5 cents rate set for June, and diesel fuel will go to 22.2 cents per gallon compared to 21.9 cents charged in June.

Appointments By The Governor

MICHIGAN FREEDOM TRAIL COMMISSION: Tamara Barnes of Ann Arbor succeeds Mary Ann Edmond to represent civil rights activists for a term expiring February 1, 2017. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, June 6

Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board, State Treasurer's Board Room, First Floor, Austin Building, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.

Monday, June 17

Crime Victims Services Commission, Third Floor Conference Room, Lewis Cass Building, 320 South Walnut Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/CVSC_Agenda_6-17-13.pdf" \t "_blank" })

Thursday, June 20

Unarmed Combat Commission, Conference Room 1, Second Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCC_Agenda_6-20-13.doc" \t "_blank" })

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Michigan Report for Wednesday, June 26, 2013

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Volume #52, Report #125 -- Wednesday, June 26, 2013

Gay Marriage: Many Unanswered Questions After Rulings

Same-sex marriage is still illegal in Michigan, but the historic decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday open a series of questions and issues on what the future of that illegal status will continue to be.

Supporters of same-sex marriage will certainly see the decision in *United States v. Windsor* ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/12pdf/12-307_g2bh.pdf" \t "blank" }) and in *Hollingsworth v. Perry* ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/12pdf/12-144_8ok0.pdf" \t "blank" }) as a spur toward efforts to end Michigan's 2004 amendment barring same-sex marriage.

At the same time, opponents of same-sex marriage took comfort that the court did not end the ability of a state to define marriage, but also said they would be prepared to fight to maintain the state's constitutional ban.

While same-sex marriage supporters are anticipating putting a ballot issue before the voters in 2016, to repeal the 2004 amendment (see related story), there is a chance the issue could come to the fore well before that through the federal court case being heard by U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman in Detroit.

Aside from the issue of whether or not Michigan's ban remains, the decisions also raise some technical questions. If for example, a same-sex couple married in a state that does recognize the marriage and moves to Michigan, would Michigan have to recognize that marriage?

A spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said no, and the decision itself in *Windsor* would suggest the same since the case dealt specifically with Section 3 of the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act that provided a specific federal definition of marriage to a laundry list of federal laws. Section 2 of the act permits a state to not recognize a same-sex marriage from another state and that section was not the subject of the decision.

But even more technical questions remain, such as could that couple - married, for example, in Massachusetts or New York where same-sex marriage is legal, but living in Michigan - be permitted to file their federal income tax jointly from Michigan and would Michigan then disallow a joint filing of state income taxes?

In the *Windsor* decision, the 5-4 majority ruled that the federal DOMA violated equal protection. The majority opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy held that states do have the authority to set marriage requirements, but that the law treated some marriages differently.

"The responsibility of the States for the regulation of domestic relations is an important indicator of the substantial societal impact the State's classifications have in the daily lives and customs of its people. DOMA's unusual deviation from the usual tradition of recognizing and accepting state definitions of marriage here operates to deprive same-sex couples of the benefits and responsibilities that come with the federal recognition of their marriages," Mr. Kennedy said.

"The avowed purpose and practical effect of the law here in question are to impose a disadvantage, a separate status, and so a stigma upon all who enter into same-sex marriages made lawful by the unquestioned authority of the States," he added.

The *Hollingsworth* decision dealing with California's Proposition 8, let stand a lower court's ruling barring the Golden Bear State's constitutional prohibition, saying the proponents of the ban had no standing to oppose the ruling.

Kary Moss, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, said for a time interpreting the overall effect of the decisions "is going to be a bit messy."

But she said the decision was "really important" and that Wednesday was a "historic day."

Garrett Arwa, executive director for the Michigan Democratic Party, also called the decision historic and said people should celebrate. The party, he said, stands for marriage equality.

(Officials with the Michigan Republican Party did not put out a statement on the decision.)

Equality Michigan said the ruling allows gay couples to enjoy the same federal benefits that other married couples have, but that same-sex couples in Michigan will have to get married in other states to obtain those benefits.

Jessica Tramontana of Progress Michigan said the U.S. decision meant it was time for Lansing politicians, such as Mr. Schuette, to "get on board and stop wasting our tax dollars defending unconstitutional, hateful legislation."

But Mr. Schuette issued a statement saying the decisions affirmed that the states had the right to define marriage. "Michigan's Constitution stands and the will of the people to define marriage as between one man and one woman endures in the Great Lakes State," he said.

But one of the two Republican legislators who did not vote for the proposed Marriage Protection Amendment on the House floor in 2004, which led to the petition drive to put the matter before the voters, praised the Supreme Court.

Former Rep. Lorence Wenke said Wednesday was a "gratifying" day. "This decision, coupled with the nation's overall shift toward acceptance of same sex marriage, affirms what my heart and conscience told me back in 2004. Discrimination is never acceptable, and above all, should not be sanctioned or legitimized by elected officials - the very people who have taken an oath to ensure equal protection under the law for each and every citizen," he said.

The Michigan Catholic Conference issued a statement saying that, "We will continue to promote the truth that marriage is and can only be the union of one man and one woman, and that children have the right to both a mother and father." That statement, also posted from the organization's Twitter account, developed into a social media fight in which supporters of gay marriage criticized the group's position.

James Muffett, president of the Michigan branch of Citizens for Traditional Values, said the refusal to "usurp federalism" was the only "silver lining in the card." He said he was also astonished that a year ago in upholding the federal Affordable Care Act the "court bent over backward to protect legislative prerogative" but would not do so to protect DOMA.

He also said he found Mr. Kennedy's comments personally disturbing in that they suggested there was something wrong with traditional marriage.

Mr. Muffett also said he and other supporters of the 2004 ban knew that same-sex marriage advocates were going to pursue a ballot proposal and they would be prepared for it by ensuring their supporters understood what was at stake.

But the issue may come to a head before a 2016 ballot campaign. In March, Mr. Friedman, in a case dealing with the state's ban on same-sex couples jointly adopting children, invited the parties to expand the issue on one dealing with same-sex marriage, and they did so. But Mr. Friedman held off issuing a ruling until the U.S. Supreme Court acted.

With the decisions now in place, Ms. Moss said she expected Mr. Friedman to require supplemental briefs and then hold a hearing on those briefs.

And the decisions, Ms. Moss said that in ruling same-sex marriage is constitutional, defenders must apply a more stringent standard than a reasonable basis argument.

Mr. Muffett also said he and supporters of traditional marriage will watch that case carefully.

Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema, a strident opponent of gay marriage, posted several items on the decisions on his Facebook page.

"I truly doubt this would pass in a nationwide ballot," he wrote. "They have pushed immorality upon us. Like Lincoln said, an oligarchy of 5 men can change the peoples' law. It's not their job to make law but defend the Constitution. Our forefathers are rolling over on this one."

And however Mr. Friedman rules, it is unlikely appeals will run into the same situation as they did in California, where the administration of Governor Jerry Brown decided against contesting the lower court ruling, leaving no one with standing to appeal the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Schuette would likely either challenge a ruling against the state or defend a ruling in its favor.

A spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said the

Constitution now bans same-sex marriage and the governor will uphold the Constitution. That has long been Mr. Snyder's response to the issue. If the Constitution were changed, Mr. Snyder would uphold and respect that as well, the spokesperson said.

In an email statement, Sara Wurfel said nothing about whether Mr. Snyder would support changing the Constitution, however. Mr. Snyder's focus remains on building jobs in the state, creating a healthy Michigan and the state's children.

Dems Urge Legislature To Repeal Michigan Ban On Gay Marriage

House and Senate Democrats who introduced legislation allowing same-sex couples to marry said Wednesday they are pleased with the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings striking down the federal Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8 in California.

House Democrats who introduced legislation earlier this week said the ruling that DOMA is unconstitutional helps pave the way for Michigan to end discrimination toward same-sex couples.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), who sponsored some of the marriage equality legislation in the House announced this week, said he believes the issue of same-sex marriage is one of civil rights and he was hoping for a national ruling against barring states from prohibiting same-sex marriages. But he said he was still happy with the DOMA ruling.

"Obviously thrilled, in particularly about the DOMA ruling," Mr. Zemke said. "If you read some of the more intricate details of the decision, it was quite clear this was kind of a no-brainer. It is blatantly discriminatory to treat a man and a woman who are married differently than ... two people of the same sex who are legally married."

{ INCLUDEPICTURE \d "http://www.gongwer.com/members/GretchenWhitmer.jpg" \y * MERGEFORMATINET }

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&na

meid=60101& locid=1" } Mr. Zemke said now that there is a clear message from the federal government that same-sex marriage is a states' rights issue, the legislation introduced will become more important. He also said not providing marriage and other rights to gay people in the state negatively affects the perception of the state for those looking to live in Michigan.

And he said residents of the state have changed their mind on the issue.

"When you're seeing this amount of traction in one direction on an issue ... and your current statutes dictate something completely the opposite, I think it's kind of irresponsible to not look at that issue," he said. "I don't see any data to support continuing Michigan's current ban and discriminatory practices for those in the LBGTQ community to show me that is a good idea ... nor do I think it is from a moral perspective."

Ari Adler, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall), said the speaker did not have a reaction to the court's ruling.

"The people of Michigan were clear in 2004 when they defined marriage in the state Constitution as being between one man and one woman," Mr. Adler said. "There are no plans to do anything in the Legislature to change that."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said Republicans have the chance to come around on the issue.

"Republicans are really going to have ... to come to the realization that government shouldn't be sticking its nose in people's bedrooms, and granting certain rights to some people and not others based on personal choices - that's big government," Mr. Irwin said.

Mr. Irwin said there is a shift in public opinion on the issue, and Republican legislators, who work for the people, are going to realize that "people acknowledge a same-sex marriage does not threaten their heterosexual marriage any more than divorce does."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) said the court's ruling will help move the conversation forward and begin to right a wrong that has been given to couples around the country.

"My hope is that people will take a look at the Supreme Court decision acknowledging discrimination in the federal law and look at the discrimination in state law," he said.

Mr. Singh also said he is confident if the Legislature does not take up legislation repealing the state's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, citizen groups will collect signatures to take it to the voters. Activists are targeting the 2016 ballot.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=230301&locid=1" } (D-Battle Creek) said the rulings are a good starting point for where the state wants to go, but there is still work to be done.

"I think it's a good tool to start with to start with in the Legislature," she said. "We do have a ways to go with the legislators."

Ms. Segal, along with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), sponsored legislation ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB40601" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2013SB40601" } and a House bill yet to be formally introduced) that would require the state to recognize same-sex marriages from other states.

"I am proud of the Supreme Court decisions today that extends equality to more Americans," Mr. Smith said in a Facebook post. "These decisions are bittersweet however considering the action yesterday in regards to the Voting Rights Act. I look forward to the future when Michigan joins the growing number of states who support marriage equity."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1" } (D-Highland Park) introduced { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SR6401" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2013SR6401" }, which called on Congress to overturn the Defense of Marriage Act, done in part by Supreme Court on Wednesday.

"It's a big victory for people in general and not just folks of the gay community but really for American from an equality standpoint," Mr. Johnson said.

As for how the rulings change the discussion over same-sex marriages and couples' rights in Michigan, Mr. Johnson said he thought that was actually one of the major components of the opinions.

"The states have the ability now, so I think in various locales across the country the way has been paved legally that they can take their direction from the Supreme Court," he said.

He added: "Dare I say myself and other Senate Democrats are a little ahead of the curve," when it comes to public opinion and the direction of gay rights. "(The rulings are) confirmation of what we thought and asked the federal government to do something about."

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) issued a statement calling the ruling "a proud step forward for our nation" that "affirms

the belief that love, not politics, should be the only factor that determines whether any two Americans choose to get married."

Ms. Whitmer also said the rulings and public polling make it clear it is time to move forward on ensuring those rights, opportunities and protections in Michigan. She is the sponsor of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB40501" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_querymanager.cfm&billid=2013SB40501" } to repeal the statutory ban on same-sex marriages.

"It's very exciting and I do think that the rulings really say that the states should move forward and grant these rights, and I'd love for Michigan to be the next state to do that," Ms. Whitmer said in a phone interview.

Asked about the viability of moving her caucus' legislation, she said there are actually some Republicans - particularly in the House - who are supportive of their efforts.

"When you look at the polling, more people support gay marriage than identify themselves as Democrats, so that tells me there are people on both sides of the aisle that embrace this," she said. "We're going to continue to push. We are eager to see some action whether it starts in the House or the Senate. It's never been about credit. It's been about doing the right thing and we're going to push."

But even outside of what does or does not happen in the Legislature, Ms. Whitmer said she believes "it's only a matter of time" before the issue finds resolve.

"I'd love to see Michigan not be the last one to the table on this issue like we have with so many other issues," she said.

Richardville Names Medicaid Work Group

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } on Wednesday announced the appointment of six members of the Senate Republican caucus to a work group that will study and offer possible options for reforming Medicaid in Michigan.

The work group will be headed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), who has long been a proponent of expanding Medicaid and including reforms that encourage healthy behaviors and personal responsibility for recipients.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=56201&locid=1" } (R-Hillsdale), also a proponent of expanding access to low-income individuals - though not through an expansion of Medicaid - will also be on the work group, as well as { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand

Blanc), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80201&locid=1" } (R-Lake Orion) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart).

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" }

"At the end of last week, I made it clear that the debate and discussion regarding Medicaid is not over," Mr. Richardville (R-Monroe) said in a statement. "A comprehensive plan for a healthy Michigan is critical to the well-being of our population and our state."

In reviewing the make-up of the workgroup, most of those involved are considerable persuadable senators on the issue although Mr. Caswell has been a staunch opponent of Medicaid expansion to date.

Mr. Caswell has also introduced { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013SB42201" }, which could prove to be a starting point in the discussion. The bill is designed to assist the poor with obtaining health insurance through the state reducing premium contributions or cost-sharing or providing additional benefits for those with incomes up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level.

"Today I am happy to announce the formation of a workgroup that will soon meet and discuss ways that we might be able to improve upon existing legislation," Mr. Richardville said. "The members of this workgroup, led by Senator Kahn, all have a specific interest in this issue. I look forward to reviewing their suggestions and sharing that information with my fellow legislators, the governor and the speaker."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, while traveling across the state to advocate to health professionals, residents and other stakeholders that they call Senate Republicans and urge them to "take a vote, not a vacation" on the House Medicaid bill, called the creation of the work group "good progress."

But, Mr. Snyder said, he is also urging Senate leadership to establish a specific date for a vote on legislation. At a Medicaid event in Grand Rapids on Tuesday, Mr. Snyder said his preference would be movement in weeks, not months, and getting into the fall could be too late (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=521240101" }).

"Passing this bill is critical to the well-being of our citizens and the vitality of our economy," Mr. Snyder said Wednesday. "The bill will provide health care coverage for nearly half-a-million more Michigan residents while also encouraging people to take responsibility for making smart choices when it comes to their own health. This initiative will save money for taxpayers and employers."

He announced he would visit the Genesys Health System in Grand Blanc on Thursday to continue discussions on the issue. That is notably in Mr. Robertson's district.

Meanwhile, others in and around Lansing continued to advocate for a vote on the current legislation, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2013HB471401" } . Several organizations seeking a solution to reform and expanding Medicaid on Wednesday unveiled Reform Medicaid Now, and launched an online petition urging the Senate to return to Lansing and pass the bill that is quickly being referred to as the "Healthy Michigan plan."

The { HYPERLINK "http://www.healthymichigannow.com" \t "blank" } features an online petition, a tool to connect citizens with their state senators, and more information about the Healthy Michigan plan.

Wayne State Breaks Tuition Cap With 8.9% Increase

Wayne State University will lose some of its state funding now that is has approved an 8.9 percent tuition increase for the coming school year.

The 2013-14 state higher education budget included a 3.75 percent cap on tuition increases for state universities, which all of the other institutions have followed. With that cap came 0.29 percent additional state funding.

Officials decided the $534,700 in state aid they would lose was worth it to otherwise balance a $576 million budget. The university also did not receive any funding for three of the five performance metrics.

"The current system of determining increases in state appropriations hurts universities like Wayne State that serve non-traditional students," WSU President Allan Gilmour said in a statement. "That is unfortunate, because Wayne State is a valuable asset to Michigan in many ways. We graduate thousands of students every year - most of them Michigan residents who stay in Michigan to live and work."

The university sought to offset the tuition increase by increasing financial aid by 11 percent.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY: Oakland University's Board of Trustees approved a 3.75 percent tuition increase for the coming year, increasing annual undergraduate tuition to $11,108 from $10,706 for the past school year.

The board did not increase tuition for graduate students or out-of-state undergraduate students.

Pontiac Official To Serve As Hamtramck EM

Cathy Square, who was city administrator in Pontiac, will serve as emergency manager in Hamtramck after the city asked for the appointment.

Ms. Square is set to take her new post on July 1. She has been administrator and head of the human resources and public works departments in Pontiac since 2011 and is prior chief operating officer for the city of Detroit as well as that city's former director of public works.

"Cathy Square's extensive municipal government experience, specifically in southeast Michigan, makes her well-suited to assume the duties of emergency manager for Hamtramck," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said of the appointment. "I am certain Cathy will work collaboratively with local officials, citizens, and others to address the financial crisis in Hamtramck and ensure residents receive the essential services they need and deserve."

Mr. Snyder had confirmed a financial emergency in the city on June 11 and the city council voted to accept appointment of an emergency manager on June 12. It is the first instance under the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act in which a community has had the chance to choose whether it wants an emergency manager, to file Chapter 9 bankruptcy, a consent agreement or go to mediation.

FLINT MANAGER: Mike Brown, who was Flint city administrator under retiring Emergency Manager Ed Kurtz, will take over that top spot when Mr. Kurtz retires July 3, Mr. Snyder announced Wednesday.

Mr. Brown had originally been appointed emergency manager, but was ineligible for reappointment when { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401" } was suspended. Once PA 72 of 1990 came back into effect, Mr. Brown was ineligible under a provision ruling out city official from serving as emergency financial manager.

iLottery On Hold

It is unclear when or if the Lottery will sell tickets or offer games online with the Legislature's denial of funds for the program in the fiscal year 2013-14 budget.

"The lottery has suspended plans for iLottery pending further evaluation," spokesperson Andi Brancato said Wednesday.

Ms. Brancato said there was not yet any public timeline for when that evaluation might be complete, nor any parameters for that evaluation.

Legislators had rejected funding for the project over concerns that the online sales would undercut traditional lottery retailers and would make tickets too easy to purchase for those with gambling addictions.

Byrum Looking Into Same-Sex Marriage Licenses After Decision

Two former state representatives now serving as county clerks said Wednesday that while they are pleased with Wednesday's decisions by the Supreme Court on same-sex couples, more questions still remain as to whether Michigan can start to issue same-sex marriage licenses.

"I'm reaching out to legal counsel and the team about figuring out what our options are and if this ruling will allow us to stop denying same-sex couples (a license to wed)," said Ingham County

Clerk Barb Byrum. "I believe we should welcome the opportunity to perform such ceremonies in our county. I look forward to working with our legal counsel and our team to move our county forward."

Ruling a portion of the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional means same-sex couples cannot be denied federal benefits of lawfully-wed couples, but what remains in question is how the ruling, if at all, relates to the state. Ms. Byrum said she has been talking with legal counsel on what questions can be answered but would not say what those legal questions involved at this point.

Oakland County Clerk and Register of Deeds Lisa Brown is also in a unique position when it comes to Wednesday's rulings because of an adoption case involving a Hazel Park lesbian couple. Michigan's Adoption Code prohibits joint adoption by unmarried or same-sex couples, so trying to acquire legal protections as a pair rather than on an individual basis in such a case is not allowed.

At the judge's invitation, the case was amended in March to test the legality of the 2004 constitutional amendment that stipulates Michigan only recognizes marriages between a man and a woman. But U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman stayed the case until the Supreme Court ruled on the cases it did on Wednesday, and now Ms. Brown says she is in a wait-and-see mode before she can officially grant marriage licenses for same-sex couples.

"Personally I'm thrilled with the decision of bringing marriage equality to so many people in our country and hope Michigan follows suit soon," Ms. Brown said. "Once deemed constitutional, I'd be happy to help any loving couple in Michigan, whether they're same sex or heterosexual, I don't care. Love is love and I believe in equality."

While she does not have a crystal ball to see what Judge Friedman will do, Ms. Brown said she personally thinks the rulings will give the judge a "positive path" to take for same-sex couples in Michigan.

And Ms. Byrum said she believes the ruling on DOMA was a step toward moving the country forward, adding that she was "pleasantly surprised."

"I believe this is a big win for couples," Ms. Byrum said. "It's huge for our country because finally we can stop treating people differently. Love is love. We need to support all of our residents."

Courts To Share Juror Pool

The 36th District Court in Detroit will no longer develop its own jury pool, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1" }, the special administrator for the court, announced this week.

The court has in recent years conducted fewer than 12 jury trials per year, but had still been sending summonses for jury pools each week. Under the plan, the district court would draw

Detroit residents from the Wayne Circuit Court jury pool should it need to conduct a trial. The court will arrange transportation from the circuit court to the district court if needed.

"Each person who reports for jury service, even if he or she never sees the inside of a courtroom, must be paid $25 and mileage according to state law," Mr. Talbot said. "By ending the unnecessary summons of 4,500 citizens, we save their time and the taxpayer's money."

The new system will begin July 1, but, as summonses have already been issued for July, those potential jurors will be told to report to the circuit court and included in that court's jury pool as well.

Court: Child Need Not Be Biological For Estate Settlements

The Court of Appeals ruled Tuesday that a child of a deceased parent need not be biologically related to be the personal representative of the parent's estate.

In the case *In Re Daniels Estate*, { HYPERLINK "publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20130625_C311310_38_311310.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }, the decedent's biological daughter did not want the decedent's son, who at the time of the trial had not been proven as biologically related, to replace her as the personal representative of the estate.

What separates this case from other estate settlement cases of this nature is that the son's mother and presumed father were living together at the time of the his birth, but they were not married. State law says that if a child is born to a married couple, the father is considered the child's natural father, even if the father is not the biological parent.

It was a per curiam decision, signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109101&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245601&locid=1" }.

The court ruled that the son could become the personal representative of his father's estate because state law says, "If a child is born out of wedlock or if a child is born or conceived during a marriage but is not the issue of that marriage, a man is considered to be the child's natural father for purposes of intestate succession if ... the man and child have established a mutually acknowledged relationship of parent and child that begins before the child becomes age 18 and continues until terminated by the death of either."

The court rejected the daughter's assertion that a relationship between parent and child must be biological for the child to serve as the parent's estate representative.

"This argument is inconsistent with the language of the statute," the court wrote.

MEDC Grants Six Incentives Across Michigan

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation on Wednesday announced state incentives for six community redevelopment projects that are projected to total more than $82.2 million in private investment and 213 new, direct jobs in Michigan, a statement said.

Those receiving incentives:

- Kirco CH Distribution, LLC has been awarded a $1 million Community Revitalization Program incentive for the Cardinal Health Inc. Redevelopment Project in Detroit, which includes the demolition of all the existing structures on about 23 acres, as well as redevelopment of the area for a medical distribution facility for Cardinal Health;

- URC FJ, LLC, a subsidiary of Uptown Reinvestment Corporation, was awarded a CRP incentive to the tune of more than $5.64 million to redevelop four city blocks in downtown Flint, creating a health and wellness district;

- The former Flint Journal headquarters will make way for Michigan State University's Flint Public Health and Medical Campus project, and include 16 loft-style apartments and office spaces;

- The Village of Cassopolis received a $400,000 community development block grant for on-the-job training for the Postle Operating, LLC expansion project. The company is a producer of extruded aluminum products for recreational vehicles, the MEDC said;

- Frankenmuth was awarded $249,975 in CDBG funds for infrastructure improvements for the Kremin, Incorporated, construction project in Frankenmuth as well;

- The Grand Rapids Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will use school and local tax capture money to demolish two buildings located at 600 Douglas Street and construct four multi-story residential buildings consisting of 18 units; and

- Riverside Senior Care Project in Grand Rapids will be developed from Brownfield Redevelopment Authority money that will partially demolish a functionally obsolete former elementary school.

Environmentalists Praise President Obama's Climate Change Speech

Following President Barack Obama's speech on climate change, leading environmentalists in Michigan hailed his proposals Wednesday, especially the new restrictions on carbon emissions from power plants.

"The president called for first ever limits on carbon pollution from new and existing power plants," according to Wibke Heymach, Michigan state field organizer for Moms Clean Air Force. "Pollution is dirty and deadly, and doesn't belong in our air."

Art Toy, president of Four Elements Energy, said the proposed changes by Mr. Obama will help move the nation away from depending on fossil fuels. Mr. Toy also said clean energy is becoming more affordable, which will help move the country in the direction of clean energy.

Mr. Obama has directed his administration to develop federal regulations on greenhouse gases that power plants emit. He also called for increasing renewable energy production on federal land and other measures.

Campaign Notes

CARPENTERS UNION ENDORSES SCHAUER: The Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, which endorsed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } in 2010, instead is endorsing Democratic candidate Mark Schauer in 2014. The union has seethed about Mr. Snyder's decision to sign right-to-work legislation in December.

"Mark Schauer has shown time and time again that he is a champion for middle-class families, fighting to make sure ordinary men and women get decent wages, safe working conditions and a quality of life that helps them care for their families," said Mike Jackson, the union's executive secretary-treasurer. "Carpenters and millwrights are eager to stand behind a candidate who will stand up for ordinary Michiganders, not corporate CEOs and big banks on Wall Street, as Rick Snyder has repeatedly chosen to do. Michigan deserves a governor who will keep his word, not betray us, as Snyder has done."

Appointments By The Governor

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: Sally Talberg of Williamston succeeds Orjiakor Isiogu as an independent for a term expiring July 3, 2019. The appointment is subject to Senate advice and consent.

Presented To The Governor

By The House

June 26, 2013

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CHIPPEWA COUNTY LAND ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501&locid=1" }) Conveys state-owned property in Chippewa County to Kinross Township.

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By The Senate

June 26, 2013

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Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 6:37 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Friday, August 2, 2013
Attachments: Aug2.htm; 130802dayplan.htm

Michigan Report for Friday, August 2, 2013

Tea Party Becoming More Organized, Possibly A Bigger Factor In 2014

Pontiac Schools Facing Financial Emergency

Fears Starting To Appear On Local Finance Issues In Wake Of Bankruptcy

Barnett Says Talk Going On To Allow Local Millage Increases

Detroit Bankruptcy: Pensioner Committee Ordered

Half Of Voters Oppose Abortion Coverage Limits

Michigan, Illinois Partner Up On Medicaid Technology

Appeals Court Rules Jackson Fee Violates Headlee Amendment

Veterans Home Short On Psychiatric Care

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Appointments By The Speaker

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #52, Report #151 -- Friday, August 2, 2013

Tea Party Becoming More Organized, Possibly A Bigger Factor In 2014

At least three conservative or tea party Republicans are currently running for open House seats in 2014 and a more organized and campaign-savvy tea party could make those candidates more successful in 2014.

Both candidates and campaign consultants say the movement has matured over the past couple of election cycles and could drive outcomes in at least a few races around the state next year.

Dan McMaster, a Republican consultant with Lansing-based Grassroots Midwest, said those involved in the state's tea party movement are watching, listening and no longer just showing up. Mr. McMaster said the group is very good at communicating and networking and all it takes for a win is the "right place, right seat, right time."

Among those candidates already declared is Wendy Day, a former Howell School Board Trustee who is running for the open seat in the 47th District. She said it's not good enough for candidates to put on a Republican label while running, and conservative members of the tea party have shown the importance of primaries. Voters can judge what kind of Republican you are through primaries, she said.

She said the tea party has been successful because it carries a believable message: "stop the government from spending our money irresponsibly," she said.

The 47th District is open because Rep. Cindy Denby (R-Handy Township) is term limited and cannot seek re-election.

Ms. Day said in the past the candidates who believe in limited government have not been trained well in strategies that get their message across the way Democrats or liberals can. But, she said, now they're learning how to build coalitions, network and communicate the message.

"The left is doing everything right and they still can only get 50 percent of the vote because their message is wrong," she said.

Ms. Day said she was motivated to run after President Barack Obama won the 2012 presidential election and she wanted to strengthen the Legislature so it could push back against Washington, D.C.

"The limited government message is true and right and will provide the best outcome for country and state," she said. "If you want to see what the alternative is, look at Detroit."

Republican strategist Jake Davison said with more tea party candidates and possibly more tea party winners in 2014, a fiscally conservative Republican caucus would obviously be the result.

"More fiscally conservative, and more of a problem for what Governor Snyder wants to do," he said.

Mr. McMaster said he wouldn't be surprised if more tea party-like Republicans ran in open seats on the west side of the state, including in Rep. Bob Genetski's (R-Saugatuck) and Rep. Wayne Schmidt's (R-Traverse City) seats. He also said the tea party movement has a lot of momentum in the Thumb Area, where a tea party meeting can draw hundreds but a Republican Party meeting doesn't get the same turn out.

Gary Glenn, who is running in House Majority Floor Leader Jim Stamas' (R-Midland) open seat in the 98th District, said the tea party is becoming more organized, but still remaining separate. He said there aren't tea party officials recruiting and supporting candidates collectively, but he believes there will be many other tea party candidates announcing for a 2014 election, particularly in the House.

Mr. Glenn said he does not feel pressure to win as part of a larger party movement, but he feels personal pressure to win the election in 2014.

"The last off year, without a presidential election, in 2010, it was certainly a very strongly positive result for candidates who believe in constitutional principles (and) limited government," he said. "I expect it will be the case again."

Mr. Glenn ran for U.S. Senate in 2012 and is president of the American Family Association of Michigan and he said his broad variety of experience and passion for public policy inspired him to run for the House seat. He also said his record, which includes setting up a right to work law in Idaho, proves he can use his experience to gain real results.

Lana Theis, running in the 42nd District currently filled by term limited Rep. Bill Rogers (R-Brighton) said she does not consider herself a member of the tea party necessarily, but that she is certainly a conservative. She said she also feels no pressure to win on behalf of a tea party movement.

Ms. Theis is a former Livingston County Republican Party chair, and currently Brighton Township treasurer.

Pontiac Schools Facing Financial Emergency

With a $37.7 million general fund deficit, Pontiac School District is in a financial emergency, a review team determined in a report released Friday.

Governor Rick Snyder now has 10 days to decide if he agrees with the report and declare a financial emergency in the district, which could mean appointment of an emergency manager.

The finding was not unexpected, given discussions earlier in the year that the district might not have enough money to open this coming fall. Legislators had originally considered including the district under the recently-enacted school district dissolution law, but Mr. Snyder and others had argued the district was too large to dissolve that quickly without causing disruptions for the surrounding districts that would be receiving students.

The key finding for the review team, which has been working in the district since July 3, was the deficit, which is four times what it was in 2009 despite statutory requirements that the district take steps to reduce the number. Most of that increase came in the 2012 budget, which showed a deficit more than twice that of the prior year.

Review of audits found that, at least for the last three years, the district has budgeted for more revenue than it actually received and then spent more than it budgeted. It also appeared to have used pension funds to cover payroll.

The deficit was made worse by a January court judgment that the district owed the Michigan Education Special Services Association $7.8 million for health care.

The district also missed a $1.4 million payment in May on the energy bonds it issued in 2006.

Under PA 436 of 2012, the district would have the option of having an emergency manager appointed, negotiating a consent agreement, filing bankruptcy or seeking a neutral evaluation if Mr. Snyder agrees with the review team's findings.

School district officials did not return calls for comment.

But Pontiac Education Association President Aimee McKeever put the problem back on the governor.

"Students and school employees in Pontiac are innocent victims of Governor Snyder's massive cuts to school funding and gross financial mismanagement by officials at the local level," Ms. McKeever said in a statement. "It's time our elected leaders take the issue of education funding seriously and provide our local schools with the resources they need so our children can get the education they deserve."

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills), whose district includes Pontiac Schools, said both the district and the state were at fault.

"No one disputes the severe mismanagement of the Pontiac School District," Mr. Greimel said. However, more can be done at the state level to provide adequate funding to all schools in Michigan. The lack of funding, in both per-pupil dollars and categorical funds, has harmed this school district and many others across Michigan, for years."

Fears Starting To Appear On Local Finance Issues In Wake Of Bankruptcy

As officials and the public watch the proceedings in the Detroit bankruptcy move ahead, new issues are arising affecting public finance in the state, leading at least one national firm to say investors should take care when dealing with municipal issues from Michigan.

A spokesperson for the Department of Treasury acknowledged that there was nervousness expressed by some investors on bonds issued by local governments. But Michigan and its communities continue to be a good investment, Terry Stanton said.

The Detroit bankruptcy should have no effect on other issuances by the state or other Michigan cities, Mr. Stanton said.

His comments came on the sudden decision on Thursday by Genesee County officials to delay the sale of more than $54 million in bonds.

Moody's Investors Services announced it was downgrading the bond rating for Wayne County, the state's largest county and home of Detroit.

On Friday, Standard and Poor's announced a rating for Michigan Finance Authority notes to help cover state aid payments to the Detroit Public Schools. While the district could face a huge drop in enrollment and its overall finances are weak, the state should not see significant delays in state aid payments during the 2013-14 fiscal year, the Wall Street rating agency said.

Some bond experts also said the Detroit bankruptcy was beginning to have some effect on bond sales for communities in the rest of the state.

Specifically in terms of the bankruptcy, however, S&P put out a statement on Friday saying it did not think the Detroit filing would not set a trend of other cities seeking bankruptcy protection.

Detroit, which S&P had downgraded seven times since 1999, was a specific issue and its filing reflected its inability to make significant headway in its finances, the agency said.

S&P acknowledged that municipal defaults and bankruptcies have increased in the last several years, but said its review holds to the expectation that nationally municipal finances are generally stable.

Mr. Stanton said the Detroit filing was a unique situation and the bankruptcy filing was the last viable option for Michigan's largest city.

The Genesee County decision caught many people by surprise. The bonds were to be tied to water-system revenues and backed by a limited tax, to help build water supplies from Lake Huron. Now the county gets much of its water through the Flint system, which in turn gets water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

It would have been the largest bond issuance since the bankruptcy. Flint, like Detroit, is under emergency management, and Genesee County has one of the highest percentages of residents living in poverty in the state.

Thus far county officials have not said why they held off on the sale.

In the meantime, Moody's said it was downgrading Wayne County's bond rating to Baaa3, close to junk status. The county has $726 million in general obligation debt. The rating agency raised worries about a depreciating tax base in the county.

But Mr. Stanton said only two communities out of the hundreds in the state were not considered investment grade by the rating agencies.

All communities are rated separately, and a number have the top ratings from all the agencies, which includes Fitch along with S&P and Moody's. Oakland County, next to Wayne and the state's second largest county, has a triple A rating, for example.

Saginaw County is still scheduled at this point to go ahead with a $61 million general obligation debt next week. The sale, rated Aa3 by Moody's, the fourth highest rating by the agency, will help finance pensions.

Mr. Stanton said, "Michigan and its local communities will continue to be sound, smart investments."

Barnett Says Talk Going On To Allow Local Millage Increases

There are some bipartisan discussions underway on whether to allow local school districts to hold elections for millage increases, Rep. Vicki Barnett (D-Farmington Hills) said Friday on public television's Off the Record program.

Ms. Barnett, who also said on the program she is not interested in being the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, said if the state were to attempt to raise the sales tax to pay for transportation and road improvements, she would focus the increased tax instead on helping pay college tuition.

Asked if allowing for those elections would violate one intent of Proposal A to reduce property taxes, Ms. Barnett said any increases would be voter approved.

When the Proposal A school finance reform was approved by the voters in 1994, it allowed for enhancement millages to be enacted by the voters in an intermediate school district. The provision has almost never been used, however.

Since first being elected to the House in 2008, Ms. Barnett said she has introduced legislation that would allow local school districts to hold elections to raise millages.

Now she said there have been some bipartisan discussions on the idea, though she did not say who was involved in those discussions and what direction they were going.

Raising the sales tax a penny to help pay tuition for Michigan students would also be an economic development concept for the state, she said. Tax cuts enacted by the Legislature are not succeeding in attracting businesses, she insisted, but companies would come to the state if they knew the state had a potentially well-educated workforce.

Detroit Bankruptcy: Pensioner Committee Ordered

A committee to oversee the interests of Detroit's pensioners was ordered on Friday during a hearing into the city's Chapter 9 Bankruptcy filing.

Also during the hearing before Judge Stephen Rhodes, lawyers for the city said they believed they could produce a restructuring plan by December 31. If such a plan is produced, it would beat by more than two months the March 3 deadline Mr. Rhodes set at a hearing earlier this week.

But much of the focus at the hearing held on Friday - which dealt with a number of issues as the legal process for dealing with the bankruptcy is just getting underway - was on how to deal with the interests of the city's more than 20,000 retirees.

The retirees are unsecured creditors under Chapter 9, and therefore are not automatically entitled to a creditor committee. In corporate bankruptcies, such as those under Chapter 11, unsecured creditors do have creditor committees.

The fate of the pensioners has become a major concern as the bankruptcy proceeds. Last week, Attorney General Bill Schuette said he would represent the pensioners to ensure the state's constitutional provision that public pensions not be impaired is enforced. Mr. Schuette will also represent the state's interests in the bankruptcy.

And Detroit's Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr said a creditor committee should be appointed for the pensioners because they do not have strong representation otherwise.

Mr. Rhodes said he would direct the U.S. trustee for the bankruptcy to appoint members of the retiree's committee.

But lawyers for the city pensioners argued that no one from the city should sit on the committee, nor should anyone representing unions for current workers.

A reorganization plan could show what the city expects to pay all its creditors. The city has as much as $20 billion in debt.

Half Of Voters Oppose Abortion Coverage Limits

Right to Life of Michigan might be starting out without the voters on its plan to prevent health insurance companies from offering abortion coverage as part of their base policy.

The group, which is collecting signatures to put the issue on the ballot next November (given its history an effort is likely to be successful), argues insurance by its nature pools funds to pay for claims, so those opposed to abortion would still be required to pay for it, particularly under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requirement that everyone carry health insurance. The proposal would require customers to purchase a separate rider for abortion coverage.

But already half of voters oppose RTL's plan, a poll released Friday by Lambert, Edwards and Associates and Denno Research said.

The poll found only 42 percent of voters would support the plan, while 50 percent were opposed and 8 percent were undecided. Even among Republicans, a core constituency for RTL, only 57 percent supported the idea and 38 percent opposed it.

History shows opposition to a ballot proposal usually grows between the time it is introduced and the election.

It might be enough, though, for RTL to simply get the issue on the ballot, Jeff Lambert, president of Lambert, Edwards & Associates said. "Although half of voters polled are against limiting health insurance plans in this way, it may not matter if enough lawmakers support it," Mr. Lambert said. "This has been a successful way for Right to Life in the past to bypass a gubernatorial veto."

The state's initiated law process provides that any law placed on the ballot by enough signatures is presented to the Legislature, which has the opportunity to enact it before it goes to the voters.

However, opposition to the proposal may not matter. Since, presuming RTL gets enough signatures for the proposal, the Constitution gives the Legislature the authority to simply enact a measure at the people's instruction. In years best, RTL has used that tactic on other initiatives and avoided the ballot altogether.

Michigan, Illinois Partner Up On Medicaid Technology

Michigan and Illinois are teaming up to enable Illinois to access a technology that supports state Medicaid programs that Michigan already uses while saving Michigan potentially $10 million over five years, the Department of Community Health announced on Friday.

Through the Illinois Michigan Program Alliance for Core Technology project, Illinois will modernize its Medicaid Management Information System rather than implement a costlier stand-alone system. Illinois' system is more than 30 years old, the department said.

"This innovative and unprecedented alliance is a testament to the success of Michigan's Medicaid Management Information System, and the opportunity it presents for other states," said Nick Lyon, chief deputy director of the DCH, in a statement.

The management system processes and adjudicates all Medicaid claims, said DCH spokesperson Angela Minicuci. The Michigan system gives providers a single source for direct access to enrollment, and in the future, claim information and other Medicaid-based business functions.

Such alliances are being encouraged by the federal government, Ms. Minicuci said. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services confirmed the approach is consistent with federal standards and regulations, and Ms. Minicuci said the partnership for the system will have no effect on Medicaid expansion being debated by the Legislature.

The department anticipates a decrease in overall administrative costs for both states. For Michigan, the partnership is expected to save 20 percent in operational costs, as well as potentially $10 million over a five-year period. Also, operational savings from the partnership are estimated to be $196 million for the federal government and $57 million for Illinois over a five year period compared to using a stand-alone system.

The cost for implementing the system will be significantly reduced from a conservative estimate of $190 million for a stand-alone system, for example, to $85 million for the shared cloud model. And since the project is 90 percent federally funded for implementation, this translates to a savings of $10 million for Illinois and $76 million to the federal government.

The first phase of the Michigan-Illinois system is expected to launch in early 2014, with full implementation expected in 2016.

Appeals Court Rules Jackson Fee Violates Headlee Amendment

Relying heavily on a Supreme Court decision striking down a similar type of fee in Lansing, the Court of Appeals on Friday ruled a storm water assessment in Jackson violated the Headlee Amendment.

The fee the city set up to avoid tapping its general fund to pay the costs of maintaining its storm water drainage system is in fact a tax enacted without public approval, Judge William Murray, Judge Joel Hoekstra and Judge Donald Owens ruled per curiam in *Jackson County v. Jackson City* (COA docket No. 307685).

The case was a consolidation of several brought by property owners against the city over the fee, which it began collecting in 2011.

The city decided to assess the fee to help meet rising costs for the storm water system and allow its general fund to maintain funds for other needs. The ordinance creating the fee assessed all properties, but also gave credits if property owners used storm water maintenance, such as rain gardens or rain barrels.

Quoting extensively from *Bolt v. Lansing*, in which the Supreme Court ruled a similar fee in Lansing was a tax, the court said the Headlee Amendment bars local governments from saying that their activities are services and then assessing a fee.

And the court said the fee is compulsory in nature, which bolstered its determination that the fee was an inappropriate tax.

Veterans Home Short On Psychiatric Care

Once the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans brings in some additional psychiatric services, it will have met all of the federal standards for veterans homes, officials said in announcing the results of the annual survey for the facility.

The home met 156 of the 158 standards set by the U.S. Department of Veterans, and partially met two regarding psychiatric care, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs officials said, and the psychiatric care improvements are coming with the upcoming state budget.

"Based on the State of Michigan audit released earlier this spring, the Legislature has appropriated $500,000 to fund psychiatric care at the Home," said Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Administrator Sara Dunne in a statement. "This appropriation allowed us to set in motion the process to secure the required psychiatric care. We have established an RFP for care, and procurement is currently underway. We expect to fully implement the required psychiatric care this fall."

The facility has come under fire from state employee unions and some residents after it converted its nurse aides to contract workers. Opponents of the move said it had negatively affected patient care.

The survey did not mention the issue.

Capital Notebook

FREEDOM FUND: Gideon D'Assandro has been appointed communications director for the Michigan Freedom Fund, President Greg McNeilly announced Friday.

Mr. D'Assandro most recently worked for the House Republican Caucus and before that worked for the Michigan Republican Party.

DEICING RUNOFF: Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids will be the first in the state to treat runway runoff to remove deicing fluids, the Department of Environmental Quality announced Friday.

The airport's permit, designed to address runoff into a tributary of the Thornapple River, requires the airport to construct an on-site water treatment facility to remove the fluids before discharging the runoff to nearby waterways.

BAR BOARD: The following have been elected officers for the State Bar of Michigan for 2013-14: Brian Einhorn of Southfield, president; Thomas Rombach of New Baltimore, president-elect; Lori Buiteweg of Ann Arbor, vice president; Lawrence Nolan of Eaton Rapids, secretary; and Donald Rockwell of Flint, treasurer.

Appointments By The Governor

FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL: Timothy James of Vermontville is appointed chair for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

Appointments By The Speaker

FREEDOM TRAIL COMMISSION: Louis Brown Jr. of Troy is appointed for a term expiring December 31, 2014.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, August 6

Board of Speech-Language Pathology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)

Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Agenda)

Wednesday, August 7

Transportation Asset Management Council, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, 1 p.m. (Agenda)

Thursday, August 8

Natural Resources Commission, Annis Water Resources Institute, Lake Michigan Center, 740 West Shoreline Drive, Muskegon, 3:30 p.m. (Agenda)

Friday, August 9

Canceled: ~~Board of Respiratory Care, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.~~

Monday, August 12

Wheat Program Board, Crops Farm, Michigan State University, East Lansing, 8 a.m.

Thursday, August 22

Grape and Wine Industry Council, Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing

124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200
Lansing Michigan 48933
Phone: 517−482−3500 | Fax: 517−482−4367 | Email: gongwer@gongwer.com

Alan Miller, President | John Lindstrom, Publisher | Zachary Gorchow, Editor | Christopher Klaver, Danielle Emerson, Alethia Kasben, Staff Writers | Ashley Weigel, Intern

Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2013 7:46 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Gov. Rick Snyder: Saginaw to receive $11.2 million of demolition funds for five cities

*"**SAGINAW, MI** — Saginaw will receive $11.2 million of the $100 million in federal funds set aside to demolish blighted homes in five Michigan cities, Gov. Rick Snyder has announced."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2013/08/gov_rick_snyder_saginaw_to_rec.html#incart_river_default

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Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson on Detroit vote confusion: 'LOL'

"Local elected officials sounded surprised after reports indicated today that Benny Napoleon — and not Mike Duggan — was the highest vote-getter in the recent Detroit mayoral election."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2013/08/21/news/politics/doc5213c86dea5ae847504963.txt

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Meetings to discuss changes to Michigan Trust Fund formula

"MARQUETTE - Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh both said they support discussing potential changes to the formula dictating how money is spent from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund."

Source: *Houghton Daily Mining Gazette* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/530919/Meetings-to-discuss-changes-to-Michigan-Trust-Fund-formula.html?nav=5006

Benishek hosts town meeting

"HOUGHTON - The Affordable Care Act was the top issue for constituents at a town hall meeting by U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek in Hancock Monday."

Source: *Houghton Daily Mining Gazette* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/530918/Benishek-hosts-town-meeting.html?nav=5006*

Medicaid expansion debate heats up in Michigan

"

With lawmakers preparing to return to Lansing next week, the debate over expanding Medicaid in Michigan is heating up."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/article/20130820/NEWS01/130829936/medicaid-expansion-debate-heats-up-in-michigan*

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow rallies support for food stamps, passage of 2013 Farm Bill in Kalamazoo

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI –** Signs at the Kalamazoo Farmers Market showing that vendors accept government-assisted cash were on display as U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., visited the market on Tuesday."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2013/08/sen_debbie_stabenow_rallies_su.html#incart_river_default*

Sander Levin releases IRS documents indicating liberal groups targeted in nonprofit scrutiny

"ROYAL OAK, MI -- U.S. Rep. Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak) on Tuesday released documents that he believes show the Internal Revenue Service targeted progressive groups along with conservative organizations in scrutinizing nonprofit status applications."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/08/sander_levin_releases_irs_docu.html#incart_river_default*

Flint isn't ready for transition away from emergency manager just yet, Michael Brown says

"FLINT, MI – Despite Gov. Rick Snyder's approval of a transition advisory board in Pontiac, residents in Flint shouldn't expect to see a similar move on the horizon in Flint."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/08/flint_isnt_ready_for_transitio.html#incart_river_default*

U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio says impeachment bill against president would be 'a dream come true'

"DETROIT, MI -- U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio (R-Milford) would like to submit articles of impeachment against President Barack Obama, but lacks any evidence of crimes committed by the president, the Congressman told a crowd of supporters in a recorded discussion posted to YouTube."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/08/us_rep_kerry_bentivolio_says_i.html#incart_river_default

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Duggan, Napoleon campaigns exchange jabs after messy count in Detroit mayoral election

"DETROIT, MI -- After a failed attempt Tuesday to disqualify thousands of votes and change the results of Detroit's Aug. 6 mayoral primary, the final tallies remained uncertified."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/08/duggan_napoleon_campaigns_exch.html#incart_river_default

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Snyder explores shipwreck for 'Pure Michigan' moment

"

Gov. Rick Snyder, in his ongoing bid to promote the Pure Michigan tourism campaign, zipped up a wetsuit, strapped on scuba gear and dove into Lake Huron on Tuesday to explore the remains of a Great Lakes shipwreck."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130820/POLITICS02/308200040/Snyder-explores-shipwreck-Pure-Michigan-moment?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Michigan congressman says he wishes he could impeach Obama

"

Birmingham — A congressman said it would be a "dream come true" to seek the impeachment of President Barack Obama but says he lacks evidence of crimes to back such a move."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130821/POLITICS02/308210043/Michigan-congressman-says-he-wishes-he-could-impeach-Obama?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Most Michigan schools miss mark on state's new scorecard

"

The Bloomfield Hills School District is among Michigan's most affluent and sought-after school districts, with its 97 percent graduation rate and high state test scores."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130820/SCHOOLS/308190130/Most-Michigan-schools-miss-mark-state-s-new-scorecard?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Judges selected to help with Detroit bankruptcy mediation

"

Detroit —Chief Judge Gerald Rosen on Tuesday announced the formation of a mediation team to assist with major issues in the Detroit bankruptcy case in U.S. District Court's Eastern District"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130820/METRO01/308200103/

Patterson: Oakland Co. will pull DIA funds if art sold for Detroit creditors

"

Pontiac — Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announced Tuesday that his county plans to withhold regional tax funding for the Detroit Institute of Arts if the museum sells any of its collection as part of the city's bankruptcy filing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130820/METRO02/308200061/

State has 10 days to vote to certify tumultuous Detroit mayoral race

"

Detroit— The state may step into Detroit's tumultuous mayoral race after the Wayne County Board of Canvassers decided Tuesday not to certify the primary results after a controversy about whether to count more than 20,000 votes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130820/METRO01/308200068/State-has-10-days-vote-certify-tumultuous-Detroit-mayoral-race?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Dillon 'doing a good job' as state treasurer amid domestic investigation, governor's office says

"

Lansing— Gov. Rick Snyder is standing by state Treasurer Andy Dillon in the face of allegations that Dillon assaulted his ex-wife as the fallout from an acrimonious divorce becomes increasingly public."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130821/POLITICS02/308210040/Dillon-doing-good-job-state-treasurer-amid-domestic-investigation-governor-s-office-says?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Bankruptcy fees cost Detroit $12.8M so far

"

Detroit— The city has spent $12.8 million on lawyers and other professionals who are working to restructure Detroit's finances as part of its historic bankruptcy filing, according to figures obtained by The Detroit News."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130821/METRO01/308210039/Bankruptcy-fees-cost-Detroit-12-8M-far?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Rosen selects team of mediators for Detroit bankruptcy case

"Chief U.S. District Judge Gerald Rosen formed a mediation team Tuesday to help oversee what are expected to be the most heated money disputes in Detroit's historic bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130820/NEWS01/308200142/Detroit-Rosen-mediators-bankruptcy

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Flint manager: City not ready for local control

"Flint's emergency manager says the financially troubled city isn't ready to follow Pontiac on the road out of state control."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130821/NEWS06/308210064/Flint-manager-City-not-ready-for-local-control

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Michigan House, Senate chambers renovation wrapping up

"A roughly $370,000 renovation of the state's House and Senate chambers is wrapping up."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130821/NEWS06/308210068/Michigan-House-Senate-chambers-renovation-wrapping-up

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Bankruptcy adds to the cost of Detroit schools bond deal

"Michigan was on its way to getting one more deal done in the municipal bond market Tuesday with an offering involving Detroit Public Schools. But a premium, or, Detroit penalty, was likely attached to the price because of the City of Detroit filing the largest municipal bankruptcy in history."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130820/COL07/308200096/

Federal bankruptcy attorneys interview candidates for retirees committee

"Retirees who hope to have a powerful voice on a committee representing their interests in Detroit's historic bankruptcy proceedings were interviewed Tuesday by federal lawyers deciding who will have a role in the process."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130820/NEWS01/308200091/

Q&A: Will Detroit bankruptcy judge approve 'swaps' settlement?

"Several creditors today will try to persuade U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes not to approve the first proposed settlement in Detroit's Chapter 9 bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130821/NEWS01/308210026/Detroit-bankruptcy-swaps-Chapter-9-hearing

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Detroit mayor count in chaos as Wayne County refuses to certify primary results

"A state election panel will have to decide who really won the Detroit mayoral primary after Wayne County election officials on Tuesday refused to certify shocking new election results, which would have invalidated about 20,000 votes and handed the primary win to Benny Napoleon instead of Mike Duggan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130820/NEWS01/308200117/

Obamas welcome Sunny, a Michigan-born puppy, to First Family

"

Washington---President Barack Obama and his family welcomed a new 14-month-old Michigan-born puppy Sunny to the White House on Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-20-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130819/NATION/308190121/Obamas-welcome-Sunny-Michigan-born-puppy-First-Family?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Advocacy/Opinion

Medicaid reform critical to improving mental health care in West Michigan (Guest column)

"Since my recent appointment to executive director at network180, I have had the privilege of meeting many individuals who have benefited from services and support for mental illness, substance use disorders, and developmental disabilities. While there are plenty of successes, many more in our state and county remain untreated, often due to lack of access to basic health care. Fortunately, we now have the opportunity to improve the overall health of many in our communities."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/08/medicaid_reform_is_critical_to.html#incart_river_default*

Some schools sell themselives in silly, superficial ways

"Back to school shopping in Michigan takes on a whole new meaning in this era of free market school choice."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/08/some-schools-sell-themselves-in-silly-superficial-ways/*

Far from bankrupt: Michigan art museums thrive despite economic woes

"To hear John Henry, director of the Flint Institute of Arts, tell it, there once existed a near-magical time in that city's history, when its blue-collar roots lived in harmony with a yearning for beauty and creativity somewhere off the assembly line."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/08/far-from-bankrupt-michigan-art-museums-thrive-despite-economic-woes/*

Study: Welfare Benefits Pay $28,872 Per Year In Michigan

"State and federal welfare benefits pay $28,872 per year in Michigan, according to a new study. This puts Michigan in about the middle of the pack nationwide."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19008*

School District Links Retiree Benefits Funding To Salary Schedule

"The Dearborn Public Schools teachers' union contract has a rare clause in it that links costs of retirement pension and health care to teacher pay."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19011*

Tim Skubick: Color coding school performance could give a kid an inferiority complex

"Effective yesterday a new color code is in place, known as the Michigan School Accountability Scorecard."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/08/tim_skubick_color_coding_schoo.html#incart_river_default

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Detroit schools EM Jack Martin: True reformer?

"Detroit Public Schools Emergency Manager Jack Martin is conducting the summer ritual of walking door-to-door trying to generate renewed public interest in the beleaguered district. His goal is to recruit and enroll 5,000 more students by the opening of school on September 3. What gives him an outside chance is the deployment of a new strategy: giving parents and students a greater say in their choice of schools. Every year at this time, DPS volunteers, teachers, parents and community partners conduct a door-to-door enrollment drive aimed at both new and former students who might have left the district for better opportunities. Indeed, flight from the city explains much of the precipitous drop-off in enrollment from its 1966 peak of 298,000. Detroit has lost more than half of its population in the interim."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2013/08/21/detroit-schools-em-jack-martin-true-reformer/*

Stephen Henderson: Each vote cast in Detroit primary counts, so recount them to get tally right

"Somewhere, a banana republic's strong man is dumbfounded."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130821/COL33/308210032/Detroit-election-Mike-Duggan-ballots-Benny-Napoleon

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Press Releases

Michigan Freedom Fund expands operations, announces new staff to better protect state's workers and

"LANSING, August 20, 2013 – The Michigan Freedom Fund today announced the addition of four new staff members to better protect the rights of Michigan workers and families, including the organization's Director of Operations, Senior Regional Director and two new Regional Directors."

Source: *Michigan Freedom Fund* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377027907_MFF.pdf

Snyder makes appointment to Talent Investment Board

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Chris Warren, of Traverse City, to the Governor's Talent Investment Board."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025703_govTIB.pdf

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Snyder makes appointment to Manufactured Housing Commission

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Linda O'Brien, of Milford, to the Manufactured Housing Commission."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025661_MHC.pdf

Snyder makes appointments to Board of Counseling

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointments of LuAnn Sawdey-Roberts, of Hudson; Tracey Galgoci, of Shepherd; and Sara Kruse, of Pleasant Ridge, to the Michigan Board of Counseling."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025515_govboc.pdf

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Snyder makes appointment to Board of Audiology

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Nichole Ferguson, of Frankenmuth, to the Michigan Board of Audiology."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025469_govboa.pdf

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Appointment made to Appellate Defender Commission

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of former Judge William Caprathe, of Bay City, to the Michigan Appellate Defender Commission."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025370_govADC.pdf

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JPMorgan Chase Faces Possible DOJ Probe After Congressman Dan Kildee in May Implored U.S. Attorney G

"WASHINGTON – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) today acknowledged and welcomed media reports that JPMorgan Chase & Co., the nation's largest bank, is under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice for alleged manipulative energy trading schemes that cheated Michigan and California ratepayers out of millions of dollars. Congressman Kildee, who sits on the House Financial Services Committee, initially called for the Justice Department to investigate the bank on May 29, 2013."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025291_kildee2.pdf

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Higher and higher: Michigan electric rates continue steep trajectory under DTE and Consumers monopol

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan's electric rates are just plain higher – higher than the national average, higher than they were at this point last year, and higher than the rates of our regional competitors, putting our state at a significant business disadvantage."

Source: *Energy Choice Now (ECN)* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025253_ECN.pdf

MAPT's back-to-school safety message: School buses are like traffic signals!

"August 20, 2013 -- The Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT) today announced a simple, yet effective back-to-school safety message to help drivers respond safely in and around school buses. This year, MAPT officials encourage all drivers to think of school buses as traffic signals."

Source: *Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025206_MAPT.pdf

Statement by Congressman Dan Kildee on Federal Funds for Flint and Saginaw to Remove Blight

"

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) issued the following statement today after it was announced that Flint and Saginaw will receive a combined $31.2 million in federal funds he helped to secure for Michigan:"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377025084_kildee.pdf

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Department of Agriculture Makes Interpretation to Allow Smoking on Outdoor Non-Food Service Areas

"

LANSING, Mich. – Yesterday, the Michigan Department of Agriculture made an interpretation to the Michigan smoke-free law to allow smoking on outdoor areas where there is no employee preparation or service of food in that space. These areas include patios and rooftops."

Source: *Michigan Licensed Beverage Association (MLBA)* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024994_MLBA.pdf

Acuitas Hires Robert O'Meara and Anjali Ravindran as Legislative Director and Legislative Assistant

"LANSING, Mich. — Acuitas, LLC is pleased to officially announce that Anjali Ravindran has been named the firm's Legislative Assistant and Robert O'Meara Legislative Director. "

Source: *Acuitas, LLC* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024927_Acuitas.pdf

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SBM Domestic Violence Committee Offers Free Pro Bono Training

"

The State Bar of Michigan Domestic Violence Committee will offer an in-person training on how to handle pro bono family law cases with domestic violence components from 1-5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25 at Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Lansing Campus. It will be simultaneously broadcast to Cooley's three other campuses in Ann Arbor, Auburn Hills, and Grand Rapids.

"

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024891_SBM.pdf

Foster declines bid for 37th Senate district, emphasizes the importance of maintaining a strong Repu

"PETOSKEY, MI – Representative Frank Foster (R-Petoskey) released the following statement today announcing that he will not seek the Republican nomination for the 37th Senate district, and will instead seek re-election to the 107th House district: "

Source: *Rep. Frank Foster* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024848_foster.pdf

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Snyder announces distribution of $100 million in federal funds to fight blight in five cities

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder announced today that Detroit will get $52.3 million in federal funds for blight removal and approximately $37.4 million will go to four other Michigan cities to fund large-scale projects to stabilize neighborhoods, preserve property values and fight crime."

Source: *Gov. Rick Snyder* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024800_gov.pdf

AARP Michigan designates HB 4714 a 'Key Vote'

"

***LANSING, MI --** AARP Michigan announced today it is sending letters to all members of the State Senate notifying them that their vote on House Bill 4714 is designated a "key vote." By designating the Healthy Michigan bill a key vote, AARP will inform members and the public on how lawmakers vote on this critical bill. "*

Source: *AARP Michigan* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377024758_AARP.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee to Speak at Dinner in Support of Amir Hekmati's Freedom Wednesday in Grosse P

"

GROSSE POINTE FARMS – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) will give remarks at a benefit dinner in support of Amir Hekmati's freedom, ***tomorrow, Wednesday, August 21, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. ET in Grosse Pointe Farms."***

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377007475_kildee.pdf

Radon town hall meetings offered in Jackson County

"The DEQ and state Rep. Mike Shirkey will offer two public information sessions this week in Jackson County to help residents better understand the origins of radon gas."

Source: *Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377007258_DEQ.pdf*

MIOSHA Invites Employers and Workers to Share a Cup of Coffee and Learn about the Benefits of Workpl

"August 20, 2013 – The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) is holding a "Coffee with MIOSHA" information session to promote the benefits of workplace safety and health in protecting workers and improving the business bottom line. On August 21, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. MIOSHA and Eastern Michigan University are sponsoring the coffee to reach new audiences to help "Connect MIOSHA to Industry". This event will be located at Eastern Michigan University, 38777 W. Six Mile Rd, Livonia, 48150."

Source: *Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)* **Date:** *08-21-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1377005924_LARA.pdf*

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 8:21 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Susan Ford Bales, daughter of former U.S. President Gerald R. Ford, to speak at Albion College

"ALBION, MI – Susan Ford Bales, daughter of former President Gerald R. Ford and Betty Ford, will deliver this year's Albion College William K. Stoffer Lecture, the centerpiece of the college's Opening Convocation."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2013/08/susan_ford_bales_daughter_of_f.html#incart_river_default*

Michigan's apple crop rebounding

"Michigan apples aren't known to bounce, but mid-Michigan farmers say they are rebounding this year in a big way."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20130826/MICHIGANDER/308260012/Michigan-s-apple-crop-rebounding*

Rogers, wife say careers don't overlap

"The husband has the lead role overseeing the nation's 17 intelligence agencies."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20130826/NEWS04/308260009/Rogers-wife-say-careers-don-t-overlap*

States prep for health-insurance hiccups

"With a key deadline approaching, state officials across the country are scrambling to get the Affordable Care Act's complex computer systems up and running, reviewing contingency plans and, in some places, preparing for delays."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://business-news.thestreet.com/the-oakland-press/story/states-prep-health-insurance-hiccups-2/1*

Congressman Dan Kildee set to tour Davison water plant

"DAVISON, MI -- U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint, will stop in Davison for a tour of the city's water treatment facility."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/08/congressman_dan_kildee_set_to.html#incart_river_default*

Trial date scheduled for former city treasurer's lawsuit against Burton

"BURTON, MI – A trial date been scheduled after former Burton city Treasurer Iris Piske decided to reject a case evaluator's decision."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/08/trial_date_scheduled_in_lawsui.html#incart_river_default*

AAPS superintendent search: Site visits account for 27 percent of expenses

*"The **Ann Arbor Public Schools** spent $16,279 in its search process for incoming Superintendent **Jeanice Kerr Swift**, according to documents obtained by AnnArbor.com."*

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/education/aaps-superintendent-search-site-visits-account-for-27-percent-of-expenses/*

Rep. Joel Johnson announces office hours in Clare, Gladwin and Arenac counties

"State Rep. Joel Johnson, R-Clare, hosts office hours Aug. 26 in Clare County and Aug. 30 in Arenac and Gladwin counties."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2013/08/rep_joel_johnson_announces_aug.html#incart_river*

Question of the day: Do the Michigan Department of Education's color rankings accurately monitor school progress?

"The Michigan Department of Education revealed a new way of ranking schools on their academic performance last week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2013/08/question_of_the_day_does_the_m.html#incart_river

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Right on cue, hedge fund 'vultures' are circling Detroit

"DETROIT, MI - The hedge fund "vultures" that had been setting their sights on Detroit as it slid toward bankruptcy are now circling above its financial carcass."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2013/08/right_on_cue_hedge_fund_vultur.html#incart_river

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Unleaded gas? Abortion? Obama? Theories abound on why Michigan crime is going down

"Gasoline. Aging Boomers. Abortion. The president of the United States."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/08/unleaded_gas_aging_boomers_oba.html#incart_river

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Subcontractors begin vying for work on Detroit's $140 million M1 Rail project

"DETROIT, MI - At an open house for subcontractors and others needed to help build a 3.3-mile streetcar down Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Lawrence Stevenson said he considered being involved in the project as something that would be "historic.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2013/08/subcontractors_begin_vying_for.html#incart_river

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Tea party leader Wes Nakagiri wants to replace Republican Lt. Gov. Brian Calley in 2014

"LANSING, MI -- Tea party leader Wes Nakagiri, a vocal critic of Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, is looking to replace him."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/08/tea_party_leader_wes_nakagiri.html#incart_river

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More than 500 police agencies and a decade of crime: How MLive's investigation was done

"To evaluate crime and police staffing trends statewide, MLive Media Group obtained manpower records from the Michigan State Police and crime rates from the FBI."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/08/less_cops_less_crime_how_mlive.html#incart_river

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Lack of seasonal workers puts Michigan farmers in a pickle

*"Lansing— Fred Leitz has watched some of his family's southwest Michigan vegetable crop go unpicked this summer because of seasonal worker shortages that are plaguing the state's agriculture industry.
"*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130826/BIZ/308260007/Lack-seasonal-workers-puts-Michigan-farmers-pickle?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Michigan legislators to tackle Medicaid expansion

"Lansing— State senators return to the capital city this week to decide whether to expand the state's health insurance program for the poor after spending the summer considering one of Gov. Rick Snyder's top priorities.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130826/POLITICS02/308260022/Michigan-legislators-tackle-Medicaid-expansion?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Taking the lead: Regional Transit chief Hertel builds his career on emphasizing service

"John Hertel has played many important roles as a public servant. He has been a state senator and chaired the Wayne County Board of Commissioners in 1985-86 and the Macomb County Board of Commissioners from 1997 to 2002, reportedly making him the only person in Michigan's history to chair two different county boards."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130825/BUSINESS06/308250023/Hertel-regional-transit-Detroit

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Fire burns 10 acres of Antrim County woods, grass

*"**MANCELONA TOWNSHIP, MICH.** — Michigan Authorities say they've contained a wildfire that consumed about 10 acres of grassland and woods in the northwestern Lower Peninsula."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130826/NEWS06/308260047/Fire-burns-10-acres-of-Antrim-County-woods-grass

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Mental health courts making a difference, according to state

*"**LANSING** — The agency that oversees Michigan's court system is praising the performance of special courts that serve people with mental illness."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130826/NEWS06/308260049/Mental-health-courts-making-a-difference

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Lansing alley closed after bricks fall from building

"Nicole Rogers, a waitress at Tavern of the Square in downtown Lansing, was outside five minutes before the bricks from part of the facade started to fall off the 10-story Capitol Hall building on Allegan Street Saturday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130826/NEWS06/308260050/lansing-alley-bricks-fall-building

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Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: Gov. Rick Snyder faces crucial test in this week's Medicaid vote

"With the state senate poised to vote Tuesday on the governor's top priority Medicaid expansion legislation, here's the headline the gov wants on Wednesday: Senate Says Yes-Medicaid Expanded."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/08/tim_skubick_gov_rick_snyder_fa_1.html#incart_river

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Get ready to pay more for health care

*"A new study by the Kaiser Family Foundation further highlights the costs that will be heaped on individuals under Obamacare. Some Americans will get help from the government to pay for their health insurance. But just as many will pay more.
"*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *08-26-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130826/OPINION01/308260002/Get-ready-pay-more-health-care?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 9:36 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, September 11, 2013

MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, September 11, 2013
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166

PDA Friendly Web Version:
www.mirsnews.com/handheld/

HOUSE ACTION REPORT
www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/417

SENATE ACTION REPORT
www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/415

INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Young: This Is My Best Year On The Court
Today's rare press conference featuring a chief justice and a justice nominated from an opposing party highlighted a trend that's been evident in the 2013 Supreme Court. These justices are getting along, more so than in years past.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36811

Bicyclists Urge Tougher Penalties For Reckless Drivers
Judith FINNEREN knew something was wrong when she got home from work on July 27, 2011, and her husband, Ralph, an avid bicyclist, wasn't there. About 15 minutes later, she got a call from the hospital.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36815

Labor, Biz Groups Clash On UI Reforms
Business groups and organized labor locked horns at a morning legislative hearing on proposed unemployment insurance (UI) reforms that many Republicans claimed would squeeze fraud out of the system while adhering to new federal rules.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36810

ACLU Sues SOS Over License Plates
The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) today announced it was suing the Secretary of State (SOS) for turning down variations of the word "infidel" on a vanity license plate.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36820

Supremes Mandate Courts Provide Interpreter Services
Indigent non-English language speakers involved in the Michigan legal system must be provided free interpreter services under a new Supreme Court rule adopted today, the first day of the high court's new session.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36812

'12 GOP Nominees Trying MSU Trustee Slots for '14
The Michigan Republican Party's (MRP) two nominees to the Michigan State University (MSU) Board of

Trustees in 2012 are giving it another go in 2014, according to an announcement e-mail put out Tuesday night.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36813

D's, R's Carpool In Driving 'Main Street' To Floor
Democrats disagreed with Democrats. Republicans disagreed with Republicans. And a committee chair passed on bills that his own committee wound up supporting.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36816

Joint Education Committee Hears From Teacher Eval Experts
Deborah BALL, chair of the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness (MCEE), today took her teacher assessment recommendations to the legislature, emphasizing fairness and training.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36814

Bills Protecting Faith-Based Adoption Hits Opposition
Could faith-based adoption agencies be free to deny left-handed parents, a divorcee, or a Jewish family in an adoption because of an alleged conflict to their religious convictions?
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36819

Poll: Bentivolio Holds Early 19-Point Lead Over Trott
Exactly one week after Birmingham attorney David TROTT officially launched his campaign for a Congress, a poll released today put him 19 percentage points behind fellow Republican and incumbent Rep. Kerry BENTIVOLIO (R-Milford).
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36821

Courser: Who's Primarying The Governor?
It's a question on a lot of people's minds lately. And apparently, conservative activist Todd COURSER has given it some thought, as well.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36822

China Trip First Expansion Into Asia, Says Tourism Director
The trip to the Far East may be old hat to some attendees, but for Travel Michigan, it represents its first tourism marketing foray into the Chinese market.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36818

Flint Gets A New EM . . . Again
A little more than two months after retaking his position, Flint Emergency Manager (EM) Mike BROWN is stepping down, and Saginaw City Manager Darnell EARLEY is filling the position.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36817

Bits And Tidbits
State Employee Unions File RTW Appeal With Supreme Court
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36823

Gubernatorial Appointments
Gov. Rick SNYDER today made appointments to the following:
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36824

On This Day In Michigan History

www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4166#36825

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 10:06 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Wednesday, September 11, 2013
Attachments: Sep11Senate.htm; 130911dayplan.htm; Sep11House.htm; Sep11.htm

Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Bipartisan Backing Carries 'Main Street Fairness' Bills

Educator Effectiveness Plan Has Long Road Ahead, Committee Chairs Say

Committee Again Exploring Religious Freedom For Adoption Agencies

Bills Addressing Unemployment Agency Fraud, Compliance In House Commerce

Bentivolio Leading In Early Poll

Young Couple Charged In Trooper Slaying

Poll Shows Snyder Improving Against Schauer; Peters, Land Tied

Supreme Court Issues Order On Translation Services In Courts

Young: Working Hard To Put Aside Past

Senate Passes Child Abduction Legislation

Courser (Sort Of) Downplays Governor Talk

Audit Praises Prison Mental Health Services, Finds Some Problems

Army Veteran Sues State For Denying Him 'INFIDEL' License Plate

Appeals Court: Law Barring Vehicular Death Instruction Unconstitutional

Snyder Names New Flint Emergency Manager, Darnell Earley

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Appointments By The Majority Leader

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Activity Reports

House

Senate

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #52, Report #178 -- Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Bipartisan Backing Carries 'Main Street Fairness' Bills

Certain online sellers with a presence in the state could be required to begin collecting the 6 percent sales or use tax under legislation the House Tax Policy Committee reported Wednesday, but with some believing the issue needs to be resolved at the federal level, it is unclear how much traction the bills will have in the full House.

The legislation (HB 4202 and HB 4203) cleared the committee on a 9-1 vote with five abstentions. Six Republicans and three Democrats voted yes.

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall) said the issue should really be solved on the federal level, and the question now is if the state's legislation is going to accomplish what the federal government isn't doing.

{ INCLUDEPICTURE \d "http://www.gongwer.com/public/JaseBolger.jpg" \y * MERGEFORMATINET }

{ INCLUDEPICTURE \d "http://www.gongwer.com/members/barnett-vicki.jpg" \y * MERGEFORMATINET }

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link

=bio.cfm&nameid=226901&locid=1" } (R-Marshall) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills)

"You're not hearing opposition from me, but you're not hearing we're going to run this tomorrow," Mr. Bolger said to reporters after House session. "You're hearing me wrestle with what the federal government is not doing. You're hearing frustration from me that once again the federal government is not doing its job, so we're left to pick up their slack. You're hearing also concern about what's the best policy."

The "main street fairness" issue - so named because retailers say their businesses face a 6 percent disadvantage to the Amazons of the world who do not collect sales or use tax - is in the House Republicans action plan for the term. That action plan, unveiled earlier this year, declares, "We will remove the 6 percent competitive advantage that out-of-state online retailers enjoy over Michigan companies."

Ari Adler, spokesperson for Mr. Bolger, said the speaker has always thought it was a federal issue, and it is still a part of the action plan. Mr. Adler said it is still unclear if the best course of action would involve state legislation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), chair of the committee, said he abstained on the bills because he agreed it is a federal issue.

"Tax policy should be fair and across the board, and that can only be done at the federal level," he said.

Asked if he thought the federal government would act on legislation soon (a bill passed through the U.S. Senate in May and is now in the U.S. House) Mr. Farrington said: "I've got no confidence at all."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills), minority vice chair of the committee, also abstained. Ms. Barnett said the Department of Treasury still was not certain if the tax collected on Internet sellers would be sales or use tax. She also said it is a federal issue, and something she supports on the federal level.

Most of the sales tax goes to the School Aid Fund, and most of the use tax goes to the General Fund. The House Fiscal Agency analysis says it appears the majority of revenue generated from the bills would be sales tax, but it depends on how it is remitted.

"It's a tax increase on consumers who are looking for efficiency and convenience when they shop," Ms. Barnett said after committee. "There's no clear rules as to who would actually be forced to pay this tax. Probably, most importantly, the 1996 Telecommunications Act explicitly says that states are preempted from acting in this arena."

According to the Department of Treasury, about $482.4 million in sales and use tax revenue will be uncollected in the 2013-14 fiscal year, and nearly 60 percent of that is due to online sales. Although residents are supposed to remit the taxes in income tax returns, many do not.

The House Fiscal Agency analysis, however, says it is unlikely the bills would generate much revenue because sellers can move affiliated partners and warehouses to other states. To generate more revenue, federal legislation would need to be passed.

Mr. Farrington had the Democrats vote before the Republicans in the committee to make sure they didn't change their votes at the last minute, he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) was the lone no vote on both bills. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211501&locid=1" } (D-Warren), Rep. Bob Genetski (R-Saugatuck) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266701&locid=1" } (R-New Boston) joined committee leadership in abstaining.

Voting yes were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209401&locid=1" } (D-Roseville), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=313001&locid=1" } (D-Monroe), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=226701&locid=1" } (R-Portage), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501&locid=1" } (R-Petoskey), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } (R-Park Township).

Educator Effectiveness Plan Has Long Road Ahead, Committee Chairs Say

The House and Senate Education committees on Wednesday jointly heard testimony in support of a teacher evaluation system that focuses on both in-class hours as well as individual student growth, but chairs of both the committees say there is still some time to go before any legislative action may come as a result.

"We want to hear from the education community," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said after the meeting, noting the Senate committee

will travel to Port Huron on September 26 to hear from teachers there who were part of the pilot program of the evaluation system being proposed by the Council for Educator Effectiveness.

"I think the committee will get great value hearing from teachers that have been evaluated on the pilot program," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), chair of the House Education Committee, said she and her members are also looking forward to hearing from educators and administrators before moving forward.

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{ INCLUDEPICTURE \d "http://www.gongwer.com/public/LisaPosthumusLyonsnew.jpg" \y * MERGEFORMATINET }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (top) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&na

meid=284201 &locid=1" } "It's just a starting point," Ms. Lyons said after the joint meeting. "Our members are going to be talking with the education folks in their districts. It's important that we make sure we do this right and we do this well because it's that critical, not only to the educators and the administrators involved, but to the kids as well."

And because the committee members have to review the report by the council in addition to talking to educators in their district, there is still much work to be done before any legislative action can take place.

"We have a lot of work to do to break the report down," Mr. Pavlov said. "This is a very important step and it's a very significant reform that has to be done properly."

About half of the nearly three-hour committee was spent discussing - and questioning - { HYPERLINK "http://www.mcede.org/system/resources/BAhbBlsHOgZmSSIxMjAxMy8wNy8yMy8yMS80Ny81OS82NjYvRXhlY3V0aXZlU3VtbWFyeS5wZGYGOgZFVA/ExecutiveSummary.pdf" \t "blank" } reached by the council, chaired by Deborah Loewenberg Ball, dean of the School of Education at the University of Michigan. In addition to explaining the components of the council's recommendations, she said the state must adopt a tool and stick with it whole-heartedly.

"Currently, districts use some of these tools," Ms. Ball said, referencing her presentation to the committees. "Many of them adapt the tools a lot, which is to say they use only some of the things included. Our recommendation is that the tool be used as designed by the designer."

That is to say districts should not deviate, for the most part, from either the philosophy or the implementation of any one plan.

And rather than categorizing teachers in four different categories, the state should consider three: professional, provisional and ineffective.

The idea behind fewer categories is that there is less of a chance of misclassifying a teacher in a profession whose variables are always changing, as well as the philosophy that the evaluation system the council proposes seeks to ensure continued improvement for every grade of teacher, even the best (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=521440103" }).

Most questions from committee members focused on implementation, a point which Ms. Ball noted would have to take time in order to be done right.

For example, to enter a "testing mania" that seems to be trending nationally, according to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=211601&locid=1" } (D-Huntington Woods), is something that the state would have to re-examine annually, Ms. Ball said.

And any proposal that will work will work best if it is not tied to pay, particularly merit pay, Ms. Ball said.

"Our system is entirely oriented out of improvement," Ms. Ball said, responding to a question by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights). "To build a true system of improvement, we recommend this not be tied to pay issues."

Although it may seem counter to conventional wisdom to not pay attention to student and teacher results on a per-school basis, the way the evaluation system is being proposed, "A teacher will not be penalized for having a student below growth if that teacher is producing substantial growth for that student," Ms. Ball explained.

And Sandi Jacobs, with the National Council on Teacher Quality in Washington, D.C., said nationally there are three components to a strong evaluation system: make student learning preponderant criterion, require observations from well-trained observers, and require annual evaluations for all teachers (even the great ones).

"Since 2009, we see states beginning to move forward on these policies," Ms. Jacobs said. "We've seen a great increase in annual evaluations, very big increase in student learning, and more and more using results for tenured learning."

Committee Again Exploring Religious Freedom For Adoption Agencies

Faith-based organizations said the change was needed to ensure they could follow their religious tenets, while civil rights groups said the legislation would open potential adoptive parents to discrimination as the House Families, Children and Seniors Committee opened discussion on legislation that would prohibit the state from requiring faith-based adoption and foster care agencies to violate their religious beliefs.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=218701&locid=1" }, chair of the committee and lead sponsor of the package (HB 4927 and HB 4928), said his goal was to codify the Department of Human Services' current practice for overseeing the private agencies it licenses.

"This state has never required that these agencies abandon their faith, nor do I think it should," Mr. Kurtz said.

The bills would not, he said, change any current practices. "Anyone who can adopt today will be able to adopt under this bill," he said.

Supporters of the legislation said it would head off problems that have arisen in other states where mandates have required agencies to take actions that violated their tenets. The Michigan Catholic Conference, in a fact sheet on the issue (officials voiced their support but did not speak to the bills) said the church had been forced to close its operations in some other states because of new state mandates brought either through statute or court ruling.

"These bills will ensure the public/private effort to find homes for children exists well into the future," Tom Hickson, vice president for public policy and advocacy for the Catholic

Conference, said in a statement. "Faith-based adoption and foster care agencies, Catholic Charities for example, are prevalent in communities throughout the state and offer a multitude of services to destitute and vulnerable persons. It is imperative that the state continues to maintain and strengthen diversity in child placement."

Any future move to require faith-based agencies to violate their faith would mean loss not only of those agencies from the state-supervised system, but also of the families that support them, William Blacquiere, president of Bethany Christian Services, told the committee.

"When faith-based agencies are gone, so are most of the families that will adopt and provide foster care," he said. "We are not denying children a loving home. We are doing the opposite. We are ensuring there will be a loving home."

The bills would, though, allow agencies to turn away potential adoptive parents, opponents said.

"We should not be turning away willing and capable families willing to help a child in need," Emily Dievendorf, managing director of Equality Michigan, told the committee.

"Currently, faith based agencies are denying adoptions for a variety of reasons, including sexual orientation," Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union-Michigan LGBT Project, though he could not, when asked by committee members, list any cases where the group had filed complaints based on such discrimination.

The bills, he said, would allow faith-based agencies to be exempt from both state civil rights laws and requirements that they act in the best interests of the child in favor of supporting their religious beliefs.

"No public funds should go to a supposed welfare agency that ignores the best interests of the child," said Nicolette Siragusa, pastor of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Grand Ledge.

Much of the opposition came from gay rights groups, but some also raised concerns that agencies would turn away couples of other faiths as well.

"I don't believe we should be sending people on a mad search to find an agency that won't discriminate against them," Ms. Dievendorf said.

Mr. Blacquiere acknowledged his agency would not directly serve a Muslim family.

"We would work with the network of agencies we work with," he said, likely finding a Muslim agency to help that family.

Mr. Blacquiere said amendments were being developed to require development of such networks of providers to ensure all potential adoptive families are served.

Mr. Kurtz expected the bills to come up for additional discussion and potential movement in the coming weeks.

Bills Addressing Unemployment Agency Fraud, Compliance In House Commerce

A package of bills designed to bring the Unemployment Insurance Agency into compliance with federal standards and to properly handle fraudulent claims were discussed in the House Commerce Committee on Wednesday.

The bills (HB 4949, HB 4950, HB 4951, HB 4952, HB 4953 and HB 4954) did receive some criticism from members of the committee.

The more controversial piece of the package is { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269801&locid=1" }'s (R-Ray Township) bill, HB 4952, that would end a person's unemployment benefits if he or she failed a prospective employer's drug test.

Delaney McKinley, director of human resource policy for the Michigan Manufacturers Association, said a condition of receiving unemployment benefits is the person must be looking for suitable work, and cannot refuse that work.

"If there is a drug test required as a condition of that employment, if they refuse to take it or they failed it, they are essentially refusing that job," she said.

Ms. McKinley said the bill does not require a prospective employer to give a drug test, and doesn't require the prospective employer to even report the failure.

Tim Hughes, with the United Auto Workers, said in written testimony that the U.S. Department of Labor has not ruled on state legislation linking pre-employment drug tests to refusal of suitable work, but "it is certainly possible that they could find Michigan out of compliance with federal law under the terms of this legislation."

The first bill (HB 4949) would give the Unemployment Insurance Agency the ability to handle fraud and the improper payment of benefits. The agency would be able to receive payments for improper and fraudulent benefits from the moment a person began receiving the benefit.

Under current law, the agency receives the repayment from the time it was notified.

Some members were concerned the bill would force some unemployment claimants to pay for months of benefits that they cannot afford because of a mistake in the system or an appellate decision.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica) said he once had an employee who was forced to pay 9 months of unemployment benefits, that the person could not afford, back to the agency through no fault of his own.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204001&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak) raised the same issue with the bill.

Wendy Block, with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said she would be willing to look at other language to better separate a mistake made concerning benefits from actual fraudulent activity. But she said it is fair for the money to go back to the employer either way.

"It's not the claimant's money," she said. "At the end of the day it is employers' tax dollars."

Mr. Townsend also was concerned that the first bill could potentially require unemployed persons to pay back money they could not afford to the agency, but HB 4950 allows employers four chances, or 2 percent of their unemployment requests, to fail to provide information to the agency before the employer is penalized.

The bill specifies when an employer or employer's agent has a pattern of failing to respond with timely or adequate information to the agency, the employer would not be credited the funds it sent out for benefits.

Mr. Hughes said the bill allows employers "free passes" for not providing timely and accurate information, and also provides that unemployed workers have to pay back benefits received because of employers violating the law.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291501&locid=1" } (R-Petoskey), chair of the committee, said there would be another meeting next week on the issue, and more meetings if needed to allow more testimony. The bills need to be in law by October 21 to conform to the federal government's standards.

The other bills in the package would specify funds recovered by the agency because of fraud on behalf of the employer or employee would be credited no less than 15 percent into the Unemployment Trust Fund, which helps ensure sustainability of the program (HB 4951). This is to comply with federal standards and is accompanied by HB 4954, which amends complementary sections in the law. HB 4953 is a complement to HB 4950.

Bentivolio Leading In Early Poll

If the election was today, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=253101&locid=1" } would win renomination from Republicans in his 11th U.S. House District, a Murray Communications-Portable Insights-Combat Data poll released Wednesday said.

But money could turn those numbers, pollsters said.

Of 717 likely Republican voters, Mr. Bentivolio (R-Milford) led challenger David Trott 59.55-40.45. That lead was higher (62.47-37.53) among women than among men.

The automated poll had an error margin of 3.66 percentage points.

The key takeaway, though, is the two are close enough for Mr. Trott to make up the gap with enough spending. "Bentivolio can hold this seat. Republican primary voters seem to be willing to give him a chance. But, if he doesn't raise enough money to be competitive with Trott, I suspect this 19% margin will begin to evaporate," Christopher Mark of Portable Insights said in a statement.

Patrick Murray of Murray Communications and Brian Bellgowan of Combat Data aired respective surprise over Mr. Bentivolio's lead, given his recent comments in the media, and Mr. Trott's support given he has not yet begun campaigning.

Mr. Bentivolio got national attention for talking about his desire to impeach President Barack Obama and has gotten some bad publicity for showing interest in holding a hearing on a debunked, much-mocked conspiracy called "Chem Trails" whose believers think the government is putting toxic chemicals into jet contrails to conduct experiments on the public.

Young Couple Charged In Trooper Slaying

19-year-old Eric Knysz shot and killed State Police Trooper Paul Butterfield, and Mr. Knysz's 20-year-old pregnant wife Sarah Knysz aided his getaway afterward, prosecutors charged Wednesday in formally accusing the pair in Mr. Butterfield's death.

The Mason County Prosecutor's Office authorized charges against Mr. Knysz, a Luther resident, of homicide-murder of peace officer, weapons-felony firearm for the possession of a firearm during the commission of a murder of a peace officer, carrying a concealed weapon and unlawful driving away of an automobile.

The murder count is punishable by life in prison without possibility of parole; the weapons charge punishable by two years served consecutively with the life sentence; the CCW charge punishable by up to five years in prison, a $2,500 fine, or both; and the driving away charge punishable by up to five years in prison. Prosecutors also notified Mr. Knysz of his status as a habitual offender/second felony offense that would multiply the maximum penalties by 1.5.

Mr. Knysz was shot by a State Police trooper at a gas station/convenience store, reportedly in the leg with a non-life threatening injury, and will be arraigned once he is discharged from the hospital and returned to Mason County. He allegedly shot Mr. Butterfield during a traffic stop in Sherman Township in Mason County.

Ms. Knysz was arraigned Wednesday at the 79th District Court in Ludington on a charge of accessory after the fact to the murder of Mr. Butterfield, punishable by up to five years in prison, a $10,000 fine, or both; and unlawful driving away of an automobile, a felony punishable by up to five years in prison.

Magistrate Patricia Baker set bond for Ms. Knysz at $250,000 cash or surety. Ms. Knysz was remanded to the Mason County Jail pending the posting of that bond and a September 25 preliminary examination.

Mason County Prosecutor Paul Spaniola said in a statement that Manistee County Prosecutor Ford Stone is reviewing the case for crimes the Knyszs might have committed in Manistee County, where they were caught. Mr. Spaniola said Lake County Prosecutor Craig Cooper also is exploring possible charges in his jurisdiction.

The investigation remains ongoing. State Police spokesperson Shanon Banner said she could not disclose any new information about what led to Mr. Butterfield pulling over the Knyszs, what might have led to Mr. Knysz allegedly shooting Mr. Butterfield and what other criminal activity the Knyszs might have committed besides the shooting.

The Muskegon Chronicle reported that Mr. Knysz had a lengthy criminal record, but no outstanding arrest warrants.

Poll Shows Snyder Improving Against Schauer; Peters, Land Tied

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has moved out to a lead against his likely Democratic opponent, former U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer, in a new poll after previous surveys showed the pair in a statistical tie.

The survey from EPIC/MRA, released to the Detroit Free Press, put Mr. Snyder at 44 percent and Mr. Schauer at 36 percent. That compares to a 39-39 tie from an EPIC/MRA poll in May and an April poll from the same firm that had Mr. Schauer at 39 percent and Mr. Snyder at 38 percent.

The live operator poll of likely voters was conducted Sunday through Tuesday and had an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Mr. Schauer still remains unknown to most voters. But notably, Mr. Snyder's favorability and job approval ratings have improved considerably since May, during which time he pushed hard for Medicaid expansion and authorized Detroit to file for bankruptcy.

In May, 45 percent said they had a favorable impression of Mr. Snyder compared to 44 percent unfavorable. Now Mr. Snyder is at 49 percent favorable, 38 percent unfavorable. On job approval, Mr. Snyder was at 44 percent positive, 54 percent negative. That is improved from a 38-58 spread in May.

Meanwhile, EPIC/MRA continues to show the U.S. Senate race close between the presumptive Democratic nominee, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1" } of Bloomfield Township, and the lone declared Republican candidate, former Secretary of State Terri Land. Mr. Peters had 38 percent to 37 percent for Ms. Land.

Supreme Court Issues Order On Translation Services In Courts

In a move it said will help assure access to justice to Michigan residents who have limited English-speaking skills, the Supreme Court unveiled an order Wednesday requiring all courts in the state to provide interpreters for those individuals.

Under the order, persons who can afford translation services will be charged for those services, while lower-income individuals will not.

In a press conference, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=334301&locid=1" } said the rule would help "every person, every party" have access to the court system. That would include situations such as domestic abuse cases where a spouse needs to request a personal protection order, but has difficulty speaking English.

That would prevent, Mr. Young said, a situation of a judge saying, "Please bring your husband in to translate for you. That would be a problem."

The order was not unanimous. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" } dissented, arguing the state was effectively being coerced into creating the rule by the U.S. Department of Justice or face the prospect of the state losing federal funds. "The rules being adopted today under the coercive circumstances created by the (Department of Justice) are both unnecessary and ill-advised," Mr. Markman said.

But in the press conference, Mr. Young said former Justice Marilyn Kelly began working on the issue before the federal government sent a letter to all state supreme courts calling on those courts to help assist persons officially designated limited-English-proficient.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=334301&locid=1" } discusses the order while { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" } listens.

Already a number of counties provide translation service and assistance to persons with actions before the courts, the two justices said, and they praised Wayne County particularly.

But not all counties provide such service, they said, and under the rules and order issued, all the courts must prepare a language access plan as a local administrative order by December 11.

Those affected by the order will be anyone with legal decision-making authority, which could include a parent in juvenile matters. The rules and order also deal with any trial, hearing or appearance before any judge, magistrate, referee or other hearing officer.

The rules require the courts to use certified interpreters for limited English participants. If a certified translator is not available, the court will then have to assess whether the proceeding should be delayed or if the court should use a qualified translator.

Mr. Young and Ms. McCormack also said technology could assist a court by accessing a translator online or by telephone.

Mr. Young said he was unaware of any case where lack of access to a translator had been an issue in an appeal. "But that is not a reason not to act," Mr. Young said.

In his dissent, Mr. Markman said the federal "demands" were "staggering," and effectively would allow a "Gulf state emir or a South American multi-millionaire businessman" who may choose to file a lawsuit have access to free translation services.

Theoretically, he argued, the Supreme Court would also have to have translators available for the court's learning center.

And, Mr. Markman said, the federal government fails to show how the current system has failed to ensure persons have access to justice if they have limited English skills.

Young: Working Hard To Put Aside Past

With a history of rancor marking the Supreme Court for more than a decade, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=334301&locid=1" } said the court has worked in an extremely collegial fashion this year.

Meeting with reporters to discuss a new rule and order on translation services (see related story), the two even engaged in some clowning. After Ms. McCormack talked about how her first year on the court had been marked by "incredible collegiality," Mr. Young made a show of handing her a $10 bill. (She later returned it, and Mr. Young said he would need it for groceries.)

While it is Ms. McCormack's first year on the court, it is Mr. Young's 15th year, and he said it had been the best year of his tenure.

"We are respectful of each other's views," he said. "The court is willing to listen to each other."

In some cases, that listening to one another has meant that in some opinions the minority opinion has ended up becoming the majority opinion.

"We have worked very hard to put our past aside," Mr. Young said.

That past included years where opinions nearly smoked with fury expressed by the members for each other. The court has seen significant change in personnel in recent years as former Justice Elizabeth Weaver - who was outspoken in challenging court procedure - resigned in 2010. Former Justice Maura Corrigan - one of Ms. Weaver's targets, but also one who gave as good as she got - left in 2011 to become director of the Department of Human Services.

And in January, former Justice Diane Hathaway resigned before pleading guilty to federal fraud charges. She began serving a prison sentence this summer.

Mr. Young said this is a "wonderful court."

Every top court in every state should have "talented and learned lawyers," he said, and "I hope this is that court."

When one reporter said it was hard to imagine Mr. Young conducting a similar press conference with Ms. Hathaway, Mr. Young said, "You have a limited imagination."

Senate Passes Child Abduction Legislation

The Senate on Wednesday unanimously passed legislation that would help ensure children would not be abducted by their parents during divorce proceedings.

The bill, SB 325, would establish the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act, which is intended to prevent the abduction of children by establishing standards for determining whether a child is at risk for abduction by one of his or her parents.

"My legislation empowers judges to order abduction prevention measures in child custody when evidence of a credible risk of child abduction is established," said bill sponsor { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), in a statement.

If a court determines a credible risk exists that the child will be abducted, it may order provisions and measures to prevent such a thing from happening. Some warning signs of possible abductions could be a parent suddenly getting passports for children, threatening to abduct a child, undergoing a change in citizenship status and other high-risk factors, Mr. Jones said.

Accordingly, the provisions include travel restrictions, prohibiting the individual from removing the child from the state, or placing the child's name on the U.S. Department of State's Child Passport Issuance Alert Program.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=56201&locid=1" } (R-Hillsdale) supported the legislation, but warned his colleagues that extending judicial discretion too much could have unintended consequences down the line. The bill passed 37-0 as Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60101&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) was absent from session.

Courser (Sort Of) Downplays Governor Talk

Speculation prompted by the Right Michigan blog's countdown clock for a Republican primary challenger to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } led tea party activist Todd Courser to scoff Wednesday at the idea it would be him.

"Right now there is a little buzz on a primary challenge to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and some are predicting that I am the one that is going to announce at the Mackinac Leadership Conference," he said in an email he also posted to Facebook about the upcoming Republican Party event on Mackinac Island. "I will say that this is news to me."

But Mr. Courser also said: "I believe that at the very least we should not assume that any battle to attempt to unseat this governor is lost. It is imperative that we defend liberty and conservatism at any and all levels."

Mr. Courser urged primary challenges against those compromising the conservative Republican brand.

"But we also need to be more than passionate; we need to be strategic and realistic about where our efforts will have the most impact on the advancement of conservatism," he said. "I have and continue to explore every option available that will advance conservatism and unite the party around those principles. I believe that the Lord will lead and provide for whatever option he directs."

Audit Praises Prison Mental Health Services, Finds Some Problems

A performance audit of Mental Health Services in the Department of Corrections resulted in mostly positive reviews for the agency, but criticized it on some aspects of its documentation and meeting required timeframes for evaluations.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/12_13/r471032012.pdf" \t "blank" } concluded that most aspects of Mental Health Services operated effectively.

But it found the agency did not conduct all evaluations and assessments within required time frames and did not document all required evaluations and assessments. The audit cautioned that these problems undermine the ability of the agency to ensure it met prisoners' needs in a timely fashion.

Agency procedures require the completion of an evaluation from a qualified mental health professional and a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation within 14 days of a prisoner being referred to MHS. But auditors, which reviewed records for 90 prisoners, found that 11 percent of qualified mental health professional evaluations occurred from three to 17 days late and 25 percent of comprehensive psychiatric evaluations were three to 114 days late.

Among the documentation problems found among the 58 prisoners reviewed who transferred to a different MHS level of care were that MHS did not document that it conducted 12 percent of the required mental health evaluations, 4 percent of the required psychiatric evaluations and 25 percent of the required activity therapy assessments.

The audit also found that MHS did not document or update all required individual treatment plans within required time frames. Depending on the level of care, those procedures require the updating of an individual treatment plan between one day and 10 days of a prisoner's admission or transfer to a new level of care. In 13 percent of 90 instances, MHS did not document or update individual treatment plans for prisoners admitted or transferred to a different level of care with five coming six to 95 days late and two 11 to 69 days late.

In some cases, MHS did not properly document all required notes, reviews, evaluations and assessments in prisoners' mental health records to ensure mentally ill prisoners received all mental health services consistent with their individual treatment plans.

In 35 of 61 records where MHS recommended case management, MHS did not document 41 percent of the required case manager or progress notes.

MHS officials indicated in the audit that they agreed with all the recommendations and that they are taking steps to comply.

The audit was conducted from April through September 2012 and generally covered operations from October 1, 2009, through August 31, 2012.

Army Veteran Sues State For Denying Him 'INFIDEL' License Plate

A U.S. Army veteran from the Upper Peninsula who served in the Iraq war filed a lawsuit Wednesday in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids against the Department of State for denying his request for a personalized license plate saying "INFIDEL".

Sergeant Michael Matwyuk sought the plate as a way to show defiance toward insurgents who labeled him and other U.S. soldiers as infidels. But the department denied the plate under the provision in the Motor Vehicle Code allowing it to do so with requests "that might carry a connotation offensive to good taste and decency."

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, filing { HYPERLINK "http://www.aclumich.org/sites/default/files/ACLU_InfidelComplaint_9-2013.pdf" \t "blank" } on behalf of Mr. Matwyuk, said that policy violates the First and Fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

"As American soldiers in Iraq, we were called 'infidels' on a daily basis. As a way to cope, we decided to take this word, meant to hurt and demean us, as our own," Mr. Matwyuk said in a statement distributed by the ACLU. "It's a point of pride and patriotism that many of us identify with, just as we would identify with the word 'soldier.' This license plate is simply an expression of my service as an Iraqi combat veteran."

Appeals Court: Law Barring Vehicular Death Instruction Unconstitutional

A divided panel of the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday that a state law that prohibits a judge from instructing a jury on a lesser charge in vehicular death cases was unconstitutional.

The court, in *People v. Jones* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20130910_C312966_47_312966.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }) held the statute violated principles held since the 1840s that a jury may convict an individual of the crime charged or of a lesser included offense.

The decision, by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=302801&locid=1" } and joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245701&locid=1" }, upheld a ruling by the Wayne Circuit Court to provide an instruction to the jury that Thabo Jones could be convicted of a moving violation that caused death.

Mr. Jones was charged with reckless driving that caused death, and the prosecutor appealed the circuit court action.

But the court held the law's requirement that an instruction on the lesser crime fails to take into consideration that there is no such limitation if a case is before a judge only or that a jury could still find a defendant guilty of the lesser crime.

The court also said the Legislature can draft a statute so narrowly that the elements of a crime could preclude a lesser offense. But that did not happen in this situation.

Dissenting, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152501&locid=1" } pointed out that the requirement that a jury not be instructed in the lesser charge does not block the jury from deciding to convict on the basis of that lesser charge.

The Legislature may not establish procedural rules but alone has the power to establish substantive law, she said. And, she said, the law in question does not infringe on procedure or practice and therefore was properly adopted.

Snyder Names New Flint Emergency Manager, Darnell Earley

Saginaw City Manager Darnell Earley was named by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to be the new emergency manager for Flint after manager Michael Brown resigned.

Mr. Brown will leave the post on October 31. In his resignation letter to Mr. Snyder, which he submitted last week, Mr. Brown cited the death of his brother as a reason to step aside now.

Mr. Snyder praised Mr. Brown, saying he provided calm leadership during a difficult time. During his tenure as emergency manager, the city was able to finish the 2012-13 fiscal year with a surplus.

Mr. Earley has been the Saginaw city manager for eight years. Before going to Saginaw, Mr. Earley was the Flint city administrator and briefly served as the city's temporary mayor in 2002.

Capital Notebook

GRASSROOTS MICHIGAN ANNOUNCES NEW HIRES: Grassroots Michigan, the new bipartisan political consulting firm, has hired Brian Began as director of research and Trisha Kosloski as office manager and scheduler. Mr. Began comes out of the House Republican political operation and Ms. Kosloski was the manager of the Biggby on Ottawa Street in Lansing.

UNIONS OFFICIALLY FILE RIGHT-TO-WORK APPEAL: State employee unions formally filed their appeal to the Supreme Court on the question of whether the right-to-work laws apply to state employees. The Court of Appeals ruled in August that the laws do apply, overturning a lower court ruling. Unions had said then they would appeal to the Supreme Court.

DEER BAITING: Deer hunters in Iosco County will likely be able to use bait to attract their prey. The Natural Resources Commission is expected to approve a { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WCO_Amend_No._17_of_2013_431427_7.pdf" \t "blank" } at its meeting Thursday opening the county to baiting.

Baiting had been banned in several townships as part of the effort to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. Because Iosco County is now designated as TB-free, the Department of Natural Resources has recommended lifting the baiting ban.

Appointments By The Governor

MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS: Rich Homberg of Bloomfield Hills succeeds Amanda Van Dusen, Shamita Johnson of Detroit succeeds David Egner, Nikke Nason of Marquette succeeds Nheena Ittner, Susannah Goodman of Detroit succeeds George Bayard III, Kim Dabbs of Grand Rapids succeeds Barbara Kratchman and Christian Gaines of Grand Rapids succeeds Julia Taubman, who resigned. Mr. Gaines' term expires September 1, 2014. All other appointments expire September 1, 2016. None of the appointments is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL: Rebecca Parten of Dearborn succeeds Sheila Ashcraft to represent advocates of, and for, individuals with disabilities for a term expiring December 31, 2014. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION: Sharon Conklin of Comstock Park succeeds Ken Houck to represent private motor carriers and Timothy Yungfer of Bath fills a vacancy to represent the general public. Reappointed are Robert Ramels of Iron Mountain, Walter Heinritzi of Lansing, Daniel Blower of Ypsilanti, Dave Goller of Rockford and Thomas O'Brien of Fremont. The appointments are for terms expiring August 4, 2015, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointments By The Majority Leader

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=55701&locid=1" } (R-Monroe) has appointed Jane Ann Allison of Baldwin to the Baldwin Promise Authority for a term expiring September 9, 2017. Her appointment is effective immediately.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, September 18

Civil Service Commission, Conference Room A, Lower Level, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/CSC_Agenda_9-18-13.pdf" \t "_blank" })

Tuesday, September 24

Public Service Commission, Hearing Room 1, 4300 West Saginaw Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Friday, September 13

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=65501&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" }, 373-5323), St. Luke's New Life Center, 3115 Lawndale Avenue, Flint, 48504, 10 a.m.

- **A discussion of economic development with testimony from: Congressman Dan Kildee, Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, Genesee County Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright; University of Michigan-Flint, Mott Community College, Kettering University, Hurley Medical Center, Genesys Health System, McLaren Health Systems, Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy, Flint Chamber of Commerce, Genesee Chamber of Commerce, Goodwill, Michigan Economic Development Corporation**

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2013 6:56 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

Rogers, Levin want military option intact for Syrian situation

"U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Howell, and U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Detroit, said a military response to chemical weapons attacks in Syria can't be ruled out."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20130912/NEWS01/309120006/Rogers-Levin-want-military-option-intact-Syrian-situation*

Michigan governor backs off plan to boost gas tax to fix roads

"Gov. Rick Snyder backed away Wednesday from his call to raise an extra $1.2 billion for much-needed road and bridge maintenance through higher gasoline taxes and license plate tabs but said part of a funding plan he proposed early this year is salvageable in the Legislature."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20130911/NEWS04/309110041/Michigan-governor-backs-off-plan-boost-gas-tax-fix-roads*

Poll: Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder jumps ahead of likely Democratic opponent in 2014 race

"Gov. Rick Snyder has an eight-percentage-point lead on the likely Democratic candidate in the 2014 governor's race, while the top candidates in the U.S. Senate race are in a statistical tie, according to a poll released exclusively Wednesday to the Detroit Free Press and WXYZ-TV."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20130911/NEWS01/309110037/Poll-Michigan-Gov-Rick-Snyder-jumps-ahead-likely-Democratic-opponent-2014-race*

Health care changes: Thousands in Washtenaw County to be eligible for Medicaid, other subsidies

"With open enrollment in Michigan's new health insurance exchange starting in three weeks, a coalition of health industry experts and service providers in Washtenaw County is working to make sure local residents know their options."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/09/washtenaw_county_health_reform.html#incart_river_default*

U.S. reps Bill Huizenga, Dan Benishek honor fallen Michigan State Police trooper Paul Butterfield in Capitol

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. reps. Bill Huizenga and Dan Benishek spoke from the House of Representatives floor on Wednesday, Sept. 11, to honor fallen state trooper Paul Butterfield."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/09/us_reps_huizenga_benishek_hono.html#incart_river_default*

Poll: Does Flint still need an emergency manager?

"FLINT, MI – Flint got its fifth emergency manager since 2002 when Gov. Rick Snyder appointed Darnell Earley on Wednesday, Sept. 11, to step in after Michael Brown gave his resignation. "

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/poll_do_you_think_flint_still.html#incart_river_default*

Retiree committee wants different judge for Detroit bankruptcy

"

A committee representing City of Detroit retirees wants a U.S. District Court judge to decide the city's eligibility for bankruptcy protection on grounds the filing violates the state and U.S. constitutions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130911/METRO01/309110111/Retiree-committee-wants-different-judge-Detroit-bankruptcy?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Detroit bankruptcy judge could make appearance in witness chair

"

Detroit— Testimony began Wednesday in a federal trial that's expected to put Detroit's bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes in the witness chair."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/METRO01/309120034/Detroit-bankruptcy-judge-could-make-appearance-witness-chair?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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UAW: Majority at Tennessee VW plant have signed union cards

"

Frankfurt, GermanyA majority of workers at Volkswagen AG's Chattanooga Assembly Plant in Tennessee have signed cards in support of union representation in creating a German-style works council, according to United Auto Workers President Bob King."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130911/AUTO0104/309110086/UAW-Majority-Tennessee-VW-plant-signed-union-cards?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Schools step up student recruiting to keep state aid

"

Kids in seats — it sums up the bottom line for Michigan's public school districts, whose survival depends on getting enough students to show up at school and stay there."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/SCHOOLS/309120043/Schools-step-up-student-recruiting-keep-state-aid?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Support splits in Detroit mayor race: Labor for Napoleon, business for Duggan

"

Detroit— The city's mayoral race had been showing a traditional split among labor and business leaders over candidates Mike Duggan and Benny Napoleon, but since the Aug. 6 primary, the two candidates have been battling for union support."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/METRO01/309120039/Support-splits-Detroit-mayor-race-Labor-Napoleon-business-Duggan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Detroit bankruptcy puts DIA under scrutiny, stresses staff

"

The wooden "power figure" at the Detroit Institute of Arts stands 4 feet tall and sports dozens of large iron nails pounded into its chest."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/ENT01/309120036/Detroit-bankruptcy-puts-DIA-under-scrutiny-stresses-staff?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

House panel passes bill requiring Michiganders to pay 6% sales tax on Internet sales

*"**LANSING** — The state's 6% sales tax would be extended to Internet sales under a bill passed on a 9-1 vote by the House Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130911/NEWS06/309110097/Internet-sales-Michigan-legislation-tax*

Bill to deny adoptions on religious or moral beliefs debated in state House committee

*"**LANSING** — There was precious little middle ground Wednesday when a state House committee discussed bills that would allow private adoption agencies to refuse to place a child with a family if it goes against its religious or moral beliefs."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130911/NEWS06/309110158/adoption-religious-moral-beliefs-michigan-foster*

State courts must provide foreign-language interpreters under new rule

"In one court case in Michigan, a judge asked a man who had abused his non-English-speaking wife to interpret for her when she was asking for a personal protection order."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130911/NEWS05/309110178/State-courts-must-provide-foreign-language-interpreters-under-new-rule*

Michigan Supreme Court justice jokes with media about judge's wife

*"**LANSING** — The chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court jokingly says he wouldn't mind marrying the wealthy wife of an appeals court judge."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130911/NEWS06/309110152/judge-donations-lansing-justice-wife*

What Michigan health plans must offer

"Any health care plan offered in Michigan must carry these 10 benefits:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130912/NEWS/309120037/Michigan-health-plans*

Detroit may end health care coverage for retirees under 65, replace it with $125 monthly stipends

"Detroit emergency manager Kevyn Orr is considering a plan to replace current health care benefits for retirees under 65 with a stipend of $125 a month to buy coverage beginning next month from the state's new health insurance exchange, city officials said on Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130912/NEWS01/309120035/Detroit-retiree-health-care-cuts*

Advocacy/Opinion

JACK SPENCER: Michigan's U.S. Senate race: Must win vs. might win

"On election night 2014 the usual dizzying array of election results will be buzzing over TV, radio and the Internet. There will be the various national races from around the country, the Michigan gubernatorial race, Michigan's U.S. Senate race, state Senate races, state House races, possibly a statewide ballot proposal or two, and numerous local races and ballot issues."

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2013/09/09/jack-spencer-michigans-u-s-senate-race-must-win-vs-might-win/*

The importance of federally qualified health centers and the Affordable Care Act

"About six months after the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was passed in 2010, our Center hosted a symposium in Ann Arbor on the future of the health care safety net. Sara Rosenbaum, an expert on both the ACA and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), spoke at the event and her remarks emphasized that the ACA was designed to have FQHCs as a centerpiece. Her viewpoint was a surprise to many who had not focused on the centrality of the connection between FQHCs and the ACA. But, as we now head into the launch of the major coverage expansions included in the ACA, it is clearer how important FQHCs have become in the fabric of the health care delivery system."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/09/the-importance-of-federally-qualified-health-centers-and-the-affordable-care-act/*

Don't leave teacher training, support to chance

"Last week I had the pleasure of catching up with dear old friends during a trip up north. As their daughters geared up to return to school, my friend Marsha shared an observation about why her daughter's public school does such a fine job."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/09/supporting-training-teachers-dont-leave-it-to-chance/*

Michigan Scorecard solutions elude policymakers

"This year's Michigan Scorecard shows the state needs to boost educational performance, reduce poverty, repair crumbling roads and trim the percentage of residents without health insurance."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/09/michigan-scorecard-solutions-elude-policymakers/*

New Michigan Scorecard: Five years later, state still stuck in neutral

"Despite a rebounding auto industry and real estate prices beginning to turn around, Michigan is barely moving the needle in many other quality of life rankings against other states. That's the somewhat humbling message of this year's Michigan Scorecard, compiled through a partnership of The Center for Michigan and Data Driven Detroit."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/09/new-michigan-scorecard-so-how-are-we-doing-as-a-state/*

How you can help set Michigan's agenda for 2014

"What kind of Michigan do you want in the future?"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/09/how-you-can-help-set-michigans-agenda-for-2014/*

Tim Skubick: Rep. Greg MacMaster's vote switch shows how political winds can blow

"How ironic that a TV weatherman-turned-lawmaker was the only one to change his vote the other day on the Medicaid expansion bill in the Michigan House.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09/tim_skubick_rep_greg_macmaster.html#incart_river_default*

Blight is an emergency in Detroit

"

Before you can bust blight, you have to bust the bureaucracy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/OPINION01/309120003/Blight-an-emergency-Detroit?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Detroit can't go back to square one

"

Detroit's historic Chapter 9 bankruptcy continues to reverberate nationwide, this week eliciting offers of help from the White House, more fretting from the art world and a deal requiring Gov. Rick Snyder to answer questions under oath about the filing he approved."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130912/BIZ/309120044/Detroit-can-t-go-back-square-one?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Nancy Kaffer: The people of Michigan want Common Core, poll finds

"Most people don't know what the Common Core educational standards are, but when told, Michiganders overwhelmingly support adoption of the standards, a new survey by EdTrust Midwest has found."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130912/BLOG25/309120034/common-core-survey-michigan-support-poll-legislature-tea-party*

Brian Dickerson: Michigan Bar seeks to drag dark money out of the shadows

"Alarmed at the millions of dollars that anonymous donors have spent to sway judicial elections across the state, the Michigan Bar asked Secretary of State Ruth Johnson on Wednesday to reverse a 2004 decision that exempts most judicial campaign spending from public disclosure."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130912/COL04/309120028/campaign-spending-disclosure-michigan-secretary-of-state-bar-brian-dickerson-dark-money*

Press Releases

Michigan Republican Congressional Delegation Votes to Sabotage Obamacare

"After repeatedly failing to repeal and defund Obamacare, today Michigan Republicans in Congress took a new tack: Sabotage. This new angle in the Republican obsession to take health care away from millions of Americans took the form of a vote to increase premiums for individuals buying health insurance in the new marketplaces by creating an unnecessary new bureaucracy. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378931760_Votes to Sabotage Obamacare.pdf*

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Officials Meet to Expand Export Opportuniti

"Governor Rick Snyder and Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director Jamie Clover Adams have been meeting with various Chinese agriculture officials to discuss the potential for food and agriculture business cooperation, investment opportunities and food safety."

Source: *Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378930092_Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Officials Meet to Expand Export Opportunities in China.pdf*

Change Agent Consortium Remembers Lives Lost on September 11th

"In honor of the lives lost during the September 11, 2001 terror attacks Change Agent Consortium national spokesperson David Alexander Bullock released the following statement"

Source: *Change Agent Consortium* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378928992_cac remembers 911.pdf*

State employee unions take right-to-work case to Michigan Supreme Court

"State employee unions filed papers today asking the Michigan Supreme Court to review a Court of Appeals opinion that state employees are governed by the right-to-work law, which was passed by the legislature last December."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378924708_progress michigan.pdf*

Senator John Cornyn - 9/11 Statement

"Friend, Today we we honor the memory of nearly 3,000 souls lost during the brutal terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001."

Source: *Senator John Cornyn* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378921283_Friend.pdf*

MDOT updates highway bridge information on the Web

"TheMichigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has once again updated information on the MDOT Web site at www.michigan.gov/highwaybridgereport about the safety of 4,422 state highway bridges."

Source: *Michigan Department of Transportation* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378920562_bridge update.pdf*

Committee Adjourns Without Vote on Bills Denying Homes to Foster Children

"As thousands of emails were sent in protest, legislators serving on the Michigan House Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors postponed their vote. "

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378919822_no vote denying foster children.pdf*

Governor Snyder to Kick Off 2nd Annual Manufacturing Talent Summit

"The development of a sustainable talent pipeline is vital to Michigan's long-term economic success. Governor Rick Snyder and talent experts from across Michigan will be on hand as local, regional and state leaders come together to manufacture a career-ready generation."

Source: *MMA News* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378916018_manufacturing talent summit.pdf*

OAKLAND COUNTY JUVENILE DRUG COURT CELEBRATES THE GRADUATION OF FIVE PARTICIPANTS

"On Tuesday, September 17th, at 7 pm, the Oakland County Family-Focused Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) will hold its 40th graduation since its inception in June of 2001. The 127th through the 131st graduates will be honored with a ceremony and reception to be held in Judge Mary Ellen Brennan's courtroom in the Oakland County Courthouse, 1200 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac, Michigan."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit and Probate Courts* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378915902_Press Release - Oakland County Family-Focused Juvenile Drug Court - 9-17-13.pdf*

Aeronautics Commission honors two northern Michigan aviators

"The Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC) at its meeting today in Traverse City presented its Award of Excellence to two longtime northern Michigan aviators and the National Cherry Festival Air Show Committee."

Source: *Michigan Dept of Transportation* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378915821_aeuro commission.pdf

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D.C. Circuit Nominees Need Swift Vote, Says ACS

"The Senate Judiciary Committee heard testimony from Robert L. Wilkins today on his nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Wilkins, who currently sits on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, was nominated with two other judges to serve on the D.C. Circuit. Those nominees, Georgetown University Law Center professor Cornelia T. L. Pillard and Patricia Ann Millett, an appellate lawyer who has argued several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, have both had hearings as well."

Source: *American Constitution Society* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378914852_dc circuit.pdf

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Michigan Audubon Hosts a Day on the Grand

"Michigan Audubon Hosts a Day on the Grand On Saturday, August 24, 2013, Michigan Audubon hosted a morning Paddle and Bird trip down the Grand River which was made possible by a grant from the Quiet Water Society."

Source: *MI Audubon Society* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378914383_Audobon.pdf

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STATEMENT FROM AL CARDENAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION

""On this 12th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the American Conservative Union remembers those who were killed that day and those who have given their lives in service to our country in defense of our liberty. We also honor the American patriots who lost their lives at the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi, Libya, just one year ago. Let us honor their collective memories by continuing to be vigilant citizens and do our part to defend our liberty at home. At a time when we still face dangers and challenges both here and abroad, may God bless our men and women in uniform and the United States of America.""

Source: *The American Conservative Union* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378914356_STATEMENT FROM AL CARDENAS.pdf

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Michigan Republican Party September 11th Statement

"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 11, 2013– To honor the 12th anniversary of September 11, 2001, and the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi last September 11, 2012, Michigan Republican Party Chairman Bobby Schostak and Co-Chair Sharon Wise issued the following joint statement: "Today, we remember the Americans we lost in New York, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania and Benghazi."

Source: *MI Republican Party* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378914236_Michigan Republican.pdf

CLOSURE ALERT: N. Blackstone Street (Jackson County)

"Currently, N. Blackstone Street in Jackson, between West Avenue and Cooper Street, is closed for railroad crossing reconstruction."

Source: *Michigan Department of Transportation* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378910237_CLOSURE ALERT.pdf*

"Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court"

"On Monday, September 30, 2013, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m."

Source: *Oakland County Circuit and Probate Courts* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378909897_Press Release - Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court - West Bloomfield - 9-30-13.pdf*

PRO TROOP GROUP SAYS OBAMA STUMBLING WITH "CONTRADCITORY, INCOHERENT STRATEGY" ON SYRIA

"The nation's largest pro-troop grassroots group, Move America Forward, reacted to President Obama's prepared remarks to the American public by questioning his leadership and the consistency of his strategy."

Source: *Move Forward America* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378907605_pro troop group.pdf*

Michigan National Guard commander promotion ceremony held

"The 46th Military Police Command held a ceremony Saturday, September 7th, to recognize the promotion of Burton K. Francisco, commander of the 46th Military Police Command and Task Force 46, to the rank of major general."

Source: *Michigan National Guard* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378907605_nat guard promotion.pdf*

Michigan trapper education course now offered in classroom, online

"A trapper education course is now being offered in classroom settings and online for Michigan residents who are interested in trapping furbearing animals. The course is not a requirement in Michigan, but the Department of Natural Resources and the conservation community strongly encourage new trappers to take advantage of the knowledge and skills taught in the course. "

Source: *The Michigan Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378907594_trapper edu course.pdf*

Michigan National Guard commander promotion ceremony held

"The 46th Military Police Command held a ceremony Saturday, September 7th, to recognize the promotion of Burton K. Francisco, commander of the 46th Military Police Command and Task Force 46, to the rank of major general."

Source: *Michigan National Guard* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378907375_nat guard promotion.pdf*

PRO TROOP GROUP SAYS OBAMA STUMBLING WITH "CONTRADCITORY, INCOHERENT STRATEGY" ON SYRIA

"The nation's largest pro-troop grassroots group, Move America Forward, reacted to President Obama's prepared remarks to the American public by questioning his leadership and the consistency of his strategy."

Source: *Move Forward America* **Date:** *09-12-2013* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1378907139_pro troop group.pdf*

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2013 8:23 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Only days left to fund Common Core this year

"Michigan legislators have until Oct. 1 to decide whether to fund implementation of the Common Core State Academic Standards on math and English this school year."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20130922/NEWS01/309220014/Only-days-left-fund-Common-Core-year*

Bust to boom? U.P. works to diversify economy beyond timber, tourism, mining

"Seven hundred feet below the surface, John Mason drives a truck deliberately through the heart of the Eagle Mine, the tires crunching on irregular, egg-sized pieces of rock at the bottom of the tunnel."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20130922/MICHIGANDER/309220082/Bust-boom-U-P-works-diversify-economy-beyond-timber-tourism-mining*

Uncharted waters: Next Flint emergency manager could radically change the way city is run

"FLINT, MI – Radical changes could be in store for Flint before the state loosens its financial rein over the city."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/flints_charter_could_be_changi.html#incart_river_default*

Schools in U.P. receive praise

"HARRIS - Despite being kept in Lansing due to scheduling issues, State Superintendent of Public Schools Michael Flanagan made an appearance via live video stream at The Upper Great Lakes Talent Summit in Harris Friday."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/544053/Schools-in-U-P--receive-praise.html?nav=5003*

Charter schools gaining larger proportion of student enrollment in Washtenaw County

"The appeal of small class sizes and individualized programs at charter schools continues to draw students in Washtenaw County away from traditional public schools as districts fight to keep their enrollment stable."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/09/charter_schools_sustaining_str.html#incart_river_default*

Republican presidential prospects talk party future, defunding 'Obamacare' at Michigan conference

"MACKINAC ISLAND, MI -- Presidential prospects looked to shed the "party of no" label this weekend at the Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference, sticking to positive messaging -- except when it came to "Obamacare" and its Democratic namesake."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09/republican_presidential_prospe.html#incart_river_default*

Wisconsin governor decries government dependency

"Mackinac Island— Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker decried government dependency Saturday and said the GOP should measure success by the number of people coming off government assistance."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130921/POLITICS02/309210054/Wisconsin-governor-decries-government-dependency?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Right-to-work leader: Stop forcing lawyers to pay State Bar dues

"

Mackinac Island — The leader of an organization that was instrumental in making Michigan a right-to-work state in March wants to extend the new freedom of unionized workers not having to pay dues to attorneys."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130921/POLITICS02/309210047/Right-work-leader-Stop-forcing-lawyers-pay-State-Bar-dues?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Sen. Paul says GOP 'probably can't defeat or get rid' of Obamacare

"

Mackinac Island— U.S. Sen. Rand Paul, a libertarian leader and potential presidential contender, said Saturday Republicans likely have lost the battle on repealing Obamacare and should focus on improving the president's signature health care law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130921/POLITICS02/309210062/

GOP strategist Rove says party must get better 'describing what we're for'

"

Mackinac Island— Speaker-after-speaker at the Michigan Republican Leadership Conference here has called for the defunding and dismantling of President Barack Obama's health care law."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130921/POLITICS02/309210063/

United Michigan GOP prepares to defend right-to-work law in 2014 election

"

Mackinac Island — Republican leaders who fought to make the traditional labor stronghold of Michigan the nation's 24th right-to-work state believe the law making union dues optional will face a test in the next election."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130922/POLITICS02/309210078/Michigan-GOP-prepares-defend-right-work-law-2014-election?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

GOP needs more diversity, analysts warn

*"**MACKINAC ISLAND** — At the Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference that ends Sunday, the vast majority of the 1,500 attendees are white."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130921/NEWS06/309210096/1008/news06/GOP-needs-more-diversity-analysts-warn

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Right-to-work laws should be extended to lawyers, Michigan Freedom Fund head says

"Right-to-work laws should be extended to lawyers, so they don't have to pay $300 a year in dues to join the state Bar of Michigan, said one of the state's leading right-to-work supporters today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130921/NEWS06/309210060/1008/news06/Right-work-laws-should-extended-lawyers-Michigan-Freedom-Fund-head-says*

GOP strategist Rove: Republicans must put forward alternative to Obamacare

"While opposing Obamacare, Republicans must offer an alternative, GOP strategist Karl Rove told the Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference Saturday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130921/NEWS06/309210072/GOP-strategist-Rove-Republicans-must-put-forward-alternative-Obamacare*

Gov. Snyder hopeful feds will release grant money for Detroit after meeting this week

*"**MACKINAC ISLAND** — Gov. Rick Snyder says he's hoping for "a very successful day" when he meets with top officials from the Obama administration in Detroit on Friday to discuss the city's financial crisis."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130921/NEWS06/309210108/Snyder-grant-money-released-bankruptcy-Detroit*

Fixing Flint: Michigan's other motor city looks to reinvent itself

"Quick: Name a distressed Michigan industrial city that recently created a visionary plan for a more sustainable future."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/OPINION05/309220060/Flint-Detroit-Future-City*

After facing criticism, MEDC plans to put state contracts online

*"**LANSING** — After facing criticism over a lack of transparency, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. plans to post all of its contracts with outside suppliers online by mid-October."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/BUSINESS06/309220057/After-facing-criticism-MEDC-plans-put-state-contracts-online*

China expert backs Snyder's low-fanfare courtship

"A week ago, Gov. Rick Snyder returned from his third trip to China in as many years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/COL06/309220061/Tom-Walsh-Rick-Snyder-China*

Restoration efforts over 4 decades have made Michigan's rivers cleaner, healthier

"Paddling along the Grand River near his home on a recent morning, Allen Deming encountered deer, turkeys and a rather rare woodcock along the water's edge."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/NEWS06/309220012/Michigan-rivers-quality-improviing*

Michigan's top public companies failing to put women on boards, in executive suite

"It's still a man's world in the boardrooms and corner offices of Michigan's top public companies, with the rate of change toward gender parity glacially slow."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/BUSINESS06/309220062/Inforum-professional-women-business*

Hands off DIA, pensions, Detroiters say in poll

"At least two-thirds of Detroiters oppose two of the most passionately debated aspects of the city's historic bankruptcy filing: cutting city workers' pensions and selling off artwork from the Detroit Institute of Arts."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/NEWS15/309220066/detroit-bankruptcy-pension-poll-DIA-art*

Navigating health care reform: From tax credits to benefits, here's everything you need to know

"It's here. More than three years after Congress passed it and President Barack Obama approved it — and more than a year after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld it — the most contentious piece of the Affordable Care Act is within view."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/NEWS06/309220059/Michigan-insurance-exchange-obamacare*

Advocacy/Opinion

Rick Haglund: Ad criticizing slow job growth under Gov. Snyder is just the beginning of 2014 race

"We're more than a year away from the 2014 elections, but an ad released last week by the Democratic Governors Association is generating buzz in the Michigan governor's race."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2013/09/rick_haglund_ad_criticizing_sl.html#incart_river_default*

Tim Skubick: Michigan removes child from medical marijuana home; who's right?

"When Michigan voters overwhelmingly approved the state's Medical Marijuana law to help patients suffering with pain, little did they know that some patients would be hit with another malady…paranoia. If I legally use marijuana, could the authorities take my kids away from me?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09/tim_skubick_medical_marijuana_1.html#incart_river_default*

Food stamps: Republicans' erroneous, SNAP judgment

"This week Republicans exposed their true colors."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2013/09/22/republicans-erroneous-snap-judgment/*

Saving Brian Calley

"

Mackinac Island— Big Brian Calley signs adorn porches here as Republicans take over the island for their biennial leadership conference, while a legion of young volunteers in blue Calley T-shirts paper the island with leaflets."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130921/OPINION01/309210052/Saving-Brian-Calley?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Snyder: Look what I've done

"

Gov. Rick Snyder should be riding to re-election on the shoulders of an electorate grateful he ended a decade of economic failure and started Michigan growing again."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130922/OPINION01/309220005/Snyder-Look-what-ve-done?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Brian Dickerson: Remember the real victims of GOP's latest defunding charade

"It has been a year since I returned to work after a harrowing bout with shingles. My health is once again robust, the scars on my torso continue to fade, and I have been mercifully unscathed by the painful aftershocks that haunt many sufferers of shingles."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-22-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130922/OPINION05/309220051/Brian-Dickerson-Remember-real-victims-GOP-s-latest-defunding-charade*

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Sent: Sunday, September 29, 2013 9:21 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
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Sen. Levin thanks Obama administration for Detroit help

"DETROIT, MI - Sen. Carl Levin thanked the Obama administration on Friday for $300 million in new or repurposed federal spending to help Detroit through its financial crisis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/sen_levin_thanks_obama_adminis.html#incart_river

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President picks 'point person' to oversee Detroit aid

"DETROIT, MI -- The president's chief economic adviser Gene Sperling said Friday that the White House will appoint someone to watch over federal aid headed to Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/president_to_pick_point_person.html#incart_river

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House votes 231-192 to delay parts of Obamacare as price for avoiding partial government shutdown

"WASHINGTON -- Locked in a deepening struggle with President Barack Obama, the Republican-controlled House approved legislation early Sunday imposing a one-year delay in key parts of the nation's health care law and repealing a tax on medical devices as the price for avoiding a partial government shutdown in a few days' time."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2013/09/house_votes_231-192_to_delay_p.html#incart_river*

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President picks 'point person' to oversee Detroit aid

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Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/president_to_pick_point_person.html#incart_river*

Video: EM Orr and Mayor Bing discuss $300 million aid package for Detroit

"DETROIT- Detroit Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr addressed the media after an announcement of $300 million aid package for the City of Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/video_em_orr_and_mayor_bing_di.html#incart_river*

Vandals damage ArtPrize installation featuring documentary on controversial subjects

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — The documentary"united.states: an everyday people project" is meant to spur conversations about sensitive and sometimes controversial topics people deal with on a daily basis across the country, its creator said."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/09/vandals_damage_top_artprize_in.html#incart_river*

Open-carry picnic brings 200 people, including children, to Riverside Park

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Skip Coryell, a high school soccer referee, couldn't figure out what had happened Sept. 26 as a game between Hudsonville's Freedom Christian and West Michigan Christian suddenly came to a halt."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/09/open-carry_picnic_brings_200_i.html#incart_river*

New law requiring Pledge of Allegiance time in school has Bay, Saginaw students talking

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — The school day has a new beginning for many Michigan public school districts, including those in Saginaw and Bay counties."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2013/09/school_teachers_administrators.html#incart_river*

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3 Ways Health Care Scammers Are Racing to Steal Your ID

"NEW YORK (TheStreet) -- Today brings a new era in the health care market as the open enrollment stage of theAffordable Care Act kicks off."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://business-news.thestreet.com/hollandsentinel/story/3-ways-health-care-scammers-are-racing-to-steal-your-id/12052171*

How to Avoid the Tax Mandate on Obamacare

"NEW YORK (MainStreet) — I am "Passive & Unengaged" when it comes to healthcare, according to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, in a "psychographic segment" break-down of the uninsured American population. We are the 20.4% who are a passive and skeptical healthcare audience with better health care status. We do not use prevention and are not particularly worried about health."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://business-news.thestreet.com/hollandsentinel/story/how-avoid-the-tax-mandate-obamacare/1*

Near sellout: Licenses for Michigan\'s first wolf hunt move briskly on first day of sale

"Licenses for Michigan's first managed wolf hunt sold briskly today, with 900 of the 1,200 available snatched up in 30 minutes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/09/near_sellout_licenses_for_mich.html#incart_river_default*

Foreclosure inspires Kalamazoo artist to knit herself a 'safe house'

"Inside a knitted house made of wool roving, a Kalamazoo artist sat upon a knitted couch made of the same wool roving and clicked her triple zero needles making slow but steady progress on a yellow sweater."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/living/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/09/foreclosure_inspires_kalamazoo.html#incart_river_default*

Fenton Board of Education elects Rick Koester to fill vacant seat, plans to elect vice president

"FENTON, MI – The Fenton Board of Education voted to have Rick Koester serve as trustee and will hold a separate board election to fill the seat of vice president following theresignation of Nora Kryza."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/fenton_board_of_education_elec.html#incart_river_default*

Hunters on Genesee County park land have to take an antlerless deer before they take aim at trophy bucks

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI -- There's a catch to bagging a big buck during this year's managed archery hunt on county Parks & Recreation Commission property."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/want_a_big_buck_hunters_on_gen.html#incart_river_default*

New Michigan State Police Flint post commander wants more community involvment from troopers

"FLINT, MI – With more state troopers than ever patrolling and investigating crimes in Flint, the new leader of the Flint state police post is eager to see his team take a more active role in the community they serve. "

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/new_michigan_state_police_flin_1.html#incart_river_default*

Violent crime reported for Flint area college campuses on the rise

"Mott Community College had almost as much violent crime reported on or near its campus last year as the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and Michigan State University — schools that are three times larger."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/crime_on_flints_college_campus.html#incart_river_default*

Dam removals cause angst over lake lifestyles, property values

"For communities with dams and millponds for a century or more, dam removals can be traumatic."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290031

Some highlights of plans offered by the 13 insurers on state exchange

"There are 13 insurers offering plans on the Michigan Health Insurance Exchange (Priority sells products under two licenses). Below are some highlights from insurers who provided information."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309210020

Detroit's restructuring: Which companies received contracts

"Some of the companies that received contracts under Detroit's restructuring:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290081

Homeless veterans can get help at one-stop program in Detroit

"The motto of Stand Down is: "Give a hand up, not a hand out," says former U.S. Marine Sgt. Norm Wilcox."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290084

Judge Damon Keith, Mitch Albom to launch books, celebrate racial harmony at Fox Theatre event

"A legendary Detroit judge will share stories from his life at a star-studded Fox Theatre event celebrating the launch of two new books"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290075

Number of car-deer crashes drops across Michigan

"Across Michigan, the number of encounters between deer and motor vehicles has dropped 20% since 2009, but experts aren't sure what is driving that downward trend."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS05/309290090

EM Kevyn Orr hasn't kept promises of complete transparency

"On more than one occasion since he came to Detroit, emergency manager Kevyn Orr pledged to conduct his work transparently to keep the public informed."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290065

Some health insurers offer extras - like apps to find cheapest meds

"One Michigan insurer will offer an app that will help you find free or cost-effective medications close to you. Another will offer discounts for the gym or for exercise equipment. Still another will assign you a personal customer service assistant."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290085

Detroit's bankruptcy: Broke city, broken management

"Dealing with the City of Detroit can seem like a throwback to a less efficient, pre-wired age."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309150168

Challenge to Michigan gay marriage ban attracts debate from groups

"A major legal challenge to Michigan's ban on gay marriage is attracting interest from conservative Christians the Roman Catholic Church, law professors and civil libertarians as the state defends a 2004 constitutional amendment that defines marriage only as between a man and a woman."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290125

House GOP votes to delay Affordable Care Act for one year

*"**WASHINGTON** — Congress moved the nation closer to a government shutdown on Tuesday as House Republicans voted early Sunday 231-192 to advance a stopgap spending measure to delay implementation of President Obama's health care law for one year."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS07/309290126

Old, crumbling dams pose potential hazards across Michigan

*"**FLINT** — University of Michigan-Flint student Hannah Lee studied on a park bench along the Flint River earlier this month, unaware that a dam holding back the river a few hundred feet from her is falling apart."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290030

Experts answer reader questions about new health care rules

"The Free Press wants to connect readers who have questions about health care reform with experts and answers. This week, we turned to Jan Hudson, a senior policy analyst for the Michigan League for Public Policy, and Paul Duguay, deputy director for the Michigan Association of Health Plans."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290070

Spending in race to replace retiring U.S. Sen. Carl Levin could top $30 million

"LANSING – Total spending in the U.S. Senate race that is likely to pit Democratic U.S. Rep. Gary Peters against Republican National Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land could top $30 million — 50% more than was spent two years ago — says a national expert on campaign finance."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS06/309290079

Consultants' contracts soar to more than $62 million for Detroit bankruptcy

"Contracts approved for consultants and lawyers advising emergency manager Kevyn Orr's team as it restructures city government and prepares for a likely Chapter 9 bankruptcy have skyrocketed to at least $62 million, with some firms getting more than $10-million increases, according to records reviewed by the Free Press."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290063*

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan's Increased Unemployment Rate the Result of Growing Labor Force

"Despite the state's unemployment rate increasing from 8.4 percent in April to 9 percent last month, there's some good news amidst the increase."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19182*

Flawed State Rankings Mean Some Principals Are Out of a Job

"In Jackson Public Schools, a principal was removed earlier this year because Parkside Middle Schools was placed among the lowest 4 percent of schools in the state."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19169*

Julie Mack: Obamacare through the eyes of a 28-year-old without insurance

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** -- Casey Majewski is a 28-year-old Portage resident who lacks health insurance and is hostile to the idea of Obamacare."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/09/julie_mack_2.html#incart_river*

Tim Skubick: Gov. Snyder's ads cleverly make a pre-emptive strike

"Gov. Rick Snyder is not a Democrat, although some far-righties are convinced he is. But that didn't stop him from swiping a strategy that Democrat Barack Obama effectively used against Mitt Romney."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-29-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09/tim_skubick_gov_snyders_ads_cl.html#incart_river_default*

The Hidden IT Innovators of Southeast Michigan (commentary)

"Technology innovation is undoubtedly picking up steam in southeast Michigan. Every week, if not every day, we hear stories about startups and entrepreneurs building new tech companies and revitalizing Detroit. The

Grand Circus area, home to the M@dison Building has become a hub for tech entrepreneurs like Are You A Human, UpTo and Greenlancer."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-28-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09*

Press Releases

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Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Shutdown impact: Tourists, homebuyers hit quickly

"Washington — A government shutdown would have far-reaching consequences for some, but minimal impact on others.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/POLITICS03/309300051/1361

New commercial supply ship reaches space station

"Cape Canaveral, Fla. — NASA's newest delivery service made its first-ever shipment to the International Space Station on Sunday, another triumph for the booming commercial space arena that has its sights set on launching astronauts.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/SCIENCE/309300028

NASA preparing to launch 3-D printer into space

"Moffett Field, Calif. — NASA is preparing to launch a 3-D printer into space next year, a toaster-sized game changer that greatly reduces the need for astronauts to load up with every tool, spare part or supply they might ever need.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/TECHNOLOGY/309300030

Iran's president orders study of possible Iran-U.S. flights From The Detroit News:
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/NATION/309300048#ixzz2gNHu7EQj

"

Tehran, Iran — Iran's president is asking aviation authorities to study the possibility of resuming direct flights between Iran and the United States for the first time in more than three decades."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/NATION/309300048*

Michiganians get in on shutdown blame game

"Washington — A federal government shutdown Tuesday would furlough thousands of workers in Michigan, shutter the state's national parks and delay federal services.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/POLITICS03/309300025*

Corruption alleged after Detroit pension deal

"

Detroit — A Wall Street deal backed by former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick that helped push the city into bankruptcy bankrolled a three-year spree of alleged corruption, according to federal court records and pension officials."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130930/METRO01/309300024*

Zingerman's barn raising near Dexter marks new start for farm-related education and entertainment

"There's a barn raising taking place this weekend on one of the oldest properties in Washtenaw County. It's called Cornman Farms, and it's just west of downtown Dexter on Island Lake Road."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/09/barn-raising_marks_a_new_begin.html#incart_river*

Great Lakes Bay Region students receive scholarships from MidMichigan Health

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — MidMichigan Health awarded more than $236,000 to area students for the 2013-2014 school year from The Bernard F. and Melissa Anne Bailey Family Fund. "*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/living/bay-city/index.ssf/2013/09/great_lakes_bay_region_student_2.html#incart_river*

Toyota North America CEO Jim Lentz: Hydrogen is 'real solution' to auto carbon emissions

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — The CEO of Toyota's North America region said hydrogen-powered vehicles are one way the automotive industry can reduce carbon emissions in the future."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2013/09/toyota_north_america_ceo_jim_l.html#incart_river*

Genesee County wants to lease leftover water pipeline property to industrial users

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI -- County officials have big plans for about 200 acres of land adjacent to the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline intake on Lake Huron and are looking for help in marketing the property -- preferably to industrial users or manufacturers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/genesee_county_wants_to_lease.html#incart_river*

How ArtPrize inspired CEOs for Cities' first Grand Rapids conference

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- It's no coincidence the 13th annual CEOs for Cities timed itsnational meeting in Grand Rapids during ArtPrize, when the city is clogged with art and people."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2013/09/how_artprize_inspired_ceos_for.html#incart_river*

Trade missions bring foreign markets to Metro Detroit

"DETROIT, MI - As in other mature economies in history, American businesses are looking beyond their borders for business opportunities. Several time a year, private and public sector trade missions from Southeast Michigan fly to foreign countries on trade missions. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/trade_missions_bring_foreign_m.html#incart_river*

Retired military generals: Recruits dismissed for obesity cost $1.1 billion a year

"What would you say if we told you that roughly one quarter of all Americans between the ages of 17 and 24 are too heavy to qualify for military service?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/09/retired_military_generals_recr.html#incart_river*

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http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/09/summer_school_what_you_need_to.html#incart_river

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Debt and long-term liabilities have grown over the past decade at colleges and universities throughout Michigan."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/09/debt_graphics.html#incart_river*

Year-round school: What you need to know about an alternative calendar

"LANSING -- With a bill setting aside $10 million to help schools transition to an alternative calendar now pending in committee in the Michigan House, a number of questions have arisen about how alternative school calendars work and what impact they would have on district finances."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/09/summer_school_what_you_need_to.html#incart_river*

Detroit-area members of Congress react to 'rampant rascality' over looming shutdown and Obamacare

"DETROIT, MI -- Members of Congress from Metro Detroit reacted strongly to weekend developments in the budget battle that threatens a Tuesday government shutdown, with U.S. Rep. John Dingell (D-Dearborn) using the harshest words."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/09/detroit-area_members_of_congre_1.html#incart_river*

What Michigan lawmakers have to say about looming threat of government shutdown

"Unable to come to agreement this weekend on a spending bill that would keep the federal government operating, lawmakers in both parties are pointing fingers as the government barrels toward its first total shutdown in 17 years."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09*

Food-only scholarships on the way at University of Michigan-Flint

"FLINT, MI – With text books, school supplies and other living expenses, food may be at the bottom of the list for some college students. "

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09*

Genesee County wants to lease leftover water pipeline property to industrial users

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI -- County officials have big plans for about 200 acres of land adjacent to the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline intake on Lake Huron and are looking for help in marketing the property -- preferably to industrial users or manufacturers."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09*

Hamilton Dam in Flint listed as 'unsatisfactory,' according to a newspaper report

"FLINT, MI -- The Hamilton Dam is in "unsatisfactory" shape and is considered a "high-hazard" potential, meaning a failure could mean loss of life and significant structural damage, according to the Detroit Free Press report."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/09/*

$700K spent to spruce up Gov. Snyder's Mackinac Island summer home

*"**MACKINAC ISLAND** — It's the best perk a politician could ask for: use of a summer home in a premier tourist locale as long as he or she is in office."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130930/NEWS06/309300009/

Hundreds honor John Conyers for nearly 50-year career in Congress

"They came from ordinary places and high positions. From down the street and from Up North."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20130929/NEWS01/309290159/John-Conyers-tribute

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Time running out in Washington: What to know if federal government shuts down

*"**WASHINGTON** — To almost no one's surprise, a divided Congress is again flirting with a federal shutdown and unless the House and Senate reach some kind of budget deal, the U.S. government will close up shop at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20130930/NEWS06/309300028/congress-budget-federal-shutdown*

Advocacy/Opinion

The Detroit Narrative Will Shape the Nation

"One might say the Mackinac Center's biggest failure is Detroit. I'm hard pressed to name an issue on which we've spilled more ink and had less actual impact. But Detroit's collapse positions us to have greater influence on cities nationwide than we ever had in Motown."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19130*

Examining The Issues Surrounding Common Core

"

Common Core, a set of education standards that reportedly would bring uniformity to school curriculums across the nation, passed the Michigan House on Thursday."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19183*

Column: Face it, DIA artwork will be 'monetized' From The Detroit News: http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130929/OPINION01/309290002#ixzz2gNHSguR6

"For a museum with a board that includes some of Metro Detroit's brightest business executives, the Detroit Institute of Arts lives in a shocking state of economic denial.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130929/OPINION01/309290002*

Tim Skubick: Gov. Snyder doesn't mind sidling up to White House if it helps Detroit

"There it was in striking black and white: "Subject to final details from the White House.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *09-30-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/09*

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Who dishes dirt on 'fracking'?

"Companies permitted to drill for oil and gas in Michigan are only required to notify county clerks and residents where wells will be drilled — including whether hydraulic fracturing will be used — a state official said."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20131003/NEWS01/310030002/Who-dishes-dirt-fracking-*

Darnell Earley steps into upcoming Flint emergency manager role while still working as Saginaw manager

"FLINT, MI – Incoming Flint emergency manager Darnell Earley will be wearing two hats for a few days next week."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/10/darnell_earley_making_moves_as.html#incart_river_default*

STATE: Shutdown: Big pain in Michigan in less than a month

"Michigan can weather a federal government shutdown for a few days, and maybe as long as a month."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2013/10/02/news/doc524b367049248682136454.txt*

Q&A with Jon Huntsman, former Republican presidential candidate

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — Jon Huntsman, former governor of Utah as well as a former U.S. ambassador to Sinapore and China, was in Bay City on Wednesday, Oct. 2, to speak at the second annual Great Lakes Bay Regional Chamber Summit, presented by the Bay Area, Midland Area and Saginaw County chambers of commerce."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2013/10/qa_with_jon_huntsman_former_re.html#incart_river_default*

Health exchanges get attention early

"Michigan healthcare officials expected people to browse the new Health Care Exchanges Tuesday, but weren't sure how many to expect. At noon during the first day of the open exchanges, www.EnrollMichigan.com had already received 3,000 hits. By midnight, 9,000 more people had accessed the site."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20131002/NEWS01/310020019/Health-exchanges-get-attention-early*

Michigan Senate hearing on Common Core focuses on tests, state education board

"LANSING -- The Michigan Department of Education does not have an exact cost for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards, two state Senate committees heard Wednesday, but education officials are limited in what actions they can take under the budget provision blocking funding for the standards."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/10/michigan_senate_hearing_on_com.html#incart_river_default*

Lesson for Detroit? California city struggles after avoiding pensions during bankruptcy

"DETROIT, MI - A California city that filed bankruptcy two years ago is back in financial trouble as pensions, which were left untouched, eat up revenue needed for municipal services."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/10/lesson_for_detroit_california.html#incart_river_default*

Economist sees Metro area growth

"

Detroit – — Despite the latest Washington gridlock, and Detroit's bankruptcy, Michigan and Metro Detroit will likely see slow-to-moderate economic growth next year, forecasts Comerica Inc. chief economist Robert Dye."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/BIZ/310030044/Economist-sees-Metro-area-growth?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Michigan's reps spar on government shutdown

"

Washington — U.S. House Republicans put forth piecemeal legislation Wednesday to reopen national parks and other federal services, but the White House and Democrats pledged to reject the measures as a political ploy and called for a total end of government shutdown."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131002/POLITICS03/310020117/Michigan-s-reps-spar-government-shutdown?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Political insider: Snyder still in running for Hackel's vote

"

*Macomb County Executive **Mark Hackel**, a Democrat, takes heat from his own party for his often effusive praise of Republican Gov. **Rick Snyder**."*

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/POLITICS02/310030050/Political-insider-Snyder-still-running-Hackel-s-vote?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

S&P lowers Detroit's bond rating

"

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services on Wednesday downgraded Detroit's credit rating on general obligation bonds after the city defaulted on a debt payment due Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131002/METRO01/310020125/S-P-lowers-Detroit-s-bond-rating?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

UAW president King out to forge union as ally, not adversary, of carmakers

"

With less than a year left in his term, United Auto Workers President Bob King is still trying to convince foreign manufacturers that his union has changed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/AUTO01/310030054/UAW-president-King-out-forge-union-ally-not-adversary-carmakers?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Detroit bankruptcy weighs down banks around the world

"

Washington— The list of creditors in Detroit's historic bankruptcy filing includes a number of European financial institutions that stand to lose millions, according to reports and banking documents examined by The Detroit News."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/METRO01/310030045/Detroit-bankruptcy-weighs-down-banks-around-world?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Royal Oak Twp. may be nearing financial emergency

"

Royal Oak Township – — Unpaid bills, the projected loss of public safety services and an internal power struggle between officials threaten to make Royal Oak Township the next Michigan community destined to have an emergency manager."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/METRO/310020115/Royal-Oak-Twp-may-nearing-financial-emergency?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Parks closed, Michigan tourism takes a hit as government shutdown begins

*"**MUNISING** — Michigan's tourism industry was damaged today as a federal government shutdown began."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131001/NEWS06/310010087/Michigan-tourism-takes-a-hit-as-government-shutdown-begins

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Common Core information stays on Michigan agency website

*"**LANSING** — Information about new education standards will stay on a state agency's website while Michigan lawmakers debate whether to lift a restriction on spending money to implement the standards."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131002/NEWS06/310020114/Michigan-Department-of-Education-Common-Core*

Michigan Democratic group uses federal shutdown in election ads

*"**WASHINGTON** — To no one's surprise, the federal shutdown is being greeted as grist for the political mill, even the next general election more than a year away."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131002/NEWS06/310020130/federal-government-shutdown-Democratic-Congressional-Campaign-Committee*

Oakland County lawyer raises more than $425,000 in a month in bid to unseat Bentivolio

*"**WASHINGTON** — An Oakland County lawyer and businessman who is planning to take on an incumbent congressman from his own party said he has raised more than $425,000 toward that effort in his first month on the campaign trail."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131002/NEWS15/310020178/Oakland-County-Trott-campaign*

Lawmakers not likely to miss paycheck during shutdown

*"**WASHINGTON** — All three Springfield, Mo.-area House members have asked for their congressional pay to be withheld during the government shutdown."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131003/NEWS15/310030070/Government-shutdown-Lawmakers-not-likely-to-miss-paycheck*

Michigan Republican U.S. Rep. Rogers criticizes GOP strategy in federal shutdown

*"**WASHINGTON** — Suggesting Republicans may have picked a fight with Democrats they can't win, U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers of Howell — head of the U.S. House intelligence committee — expressed frustration with the strategy that helped lead to a government shutdown."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131003/NEWS06/310030030/federal-shotdown-michigan-u-s-rep-mike-rogers-furlough*

Advocacy/Opinion

Michigan's bike cities shift gears and commuting cultures

"For a place that calls itself the Motor City, there was a whole lot of non-motoring going on in Detroit this summer."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2013/10/michigans-bike-cities-shift-gears-and-commuting-cultures/*

Private Group Helps Fill Gap During Slowdown

"As part of the federal government's slowdown, the Library of Congress has been pulled offline. Users hoping to browse the Library's digital collections or search its online catalogue were greeted with the following message this week:"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19190*

Detroit Still Sending Tax Notices 15 Years After Company Closed

"Most business owners regret that time of year when taxes are due. But how would you feel if the government was still requesting money more than a decade after the company had closed?"

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19193*

Tim Skubick: Majority of citizens have little faith in media

"“Media Bounces Back From All-Time Low,” the headline screamed."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/10/tim_skubick_majority_of_citize.html#incart_river_default*

With Iran, America can't afford to be war-weary

"

“I assure you nobody ends up being more war-weary than me.” — President Barack Obama, Aug. 30, 2013."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/OPINION01/310030008/With-Iran-America-can-t-afford-war-weary?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Time to modernize voter registration

"

A few years ago, I was waiting in line to vote when a young woman in front of me ran into a problem: She wasn't registered."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/OPINION01/310030004/Time-modernize-voter-registration?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Wanted: Leaders

"

Of all the crises facing America, the greatest is its dearth of leadership. Washington is missing the strong, principled and effective leaders the nation needs to bring it out of the current chaos. The leadership vacuum is on acute display this week with the partial shutdown of the federal government, triggered by the failure of Congress to pass a continuing spending resolution."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/OPINION01/310030006/Wanted-Leaders?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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A female CEO in Detroit's Big 3 automakers?

"

Dan Akerson recently said at an industry conference, "Someday, there'll be a Detroit Three [automaker] that's run by a car gal.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/OPINION01/310030003/A-female-CEO-Detroit-s-Big-3-automakers-?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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The bloated federal government shuts down

"For a closer look at the "non-essential" federal workers that have been laid off due to the government shutdown, check out this summary from the Dykema law firm. The big take away is just how far we have come in growing government to the point of absolute bloat."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2013/10/02/bloated-government-shutdown/*

Sharing the good news about global warming

"You'd think that the possibility that global warming has been stopped in its tracks would be proclaimed in huge headlines and calm the doom and gloom predictions of rising oceans and shrinking polar caps."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/nolanfinley/2013/10/02/sharing-good-news-global-warming/*

Obamacare exchange: Truth or fiction?

"With the online launch of the Obamacare Health Insurance exchanges, HealthCare.gov, this week came a predictable flurry of news stories about signup problems."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2013/10/02/obamacare-exchange-truth-fiction/*

Read my lips, you can keep your insurance

"

The words "If you like the health insurance plan you have now, you can keep it" will be etched in political infamy along with "Read my lips, no new taxes," "Mission Accomplished" and "In five years, you'll be blown away.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/OPINION01/310030002/Read-my-lips-you-can-keep-your-insurance?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Clueless Detroit officials reject reality

"

Three months into the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history and they still don't get it."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131003/BIZ/310030041/Clueless-Detroit-officials-reject-reality?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Amber Bickford Cox: No end to shutdown roadblocks

"How does this shutdown affect me? So acutely, and so directly, that I'm not actually sure how the rest of this month is going to go, much less the rest of the year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131002/OPINION05/310020112/shutdown-student-loans-research-grants

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Is Rep. Mike Rogers getting cold feet about GOP brinksmanship?

"Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, joined his eight Republican colleagues in Michigan's congressional delegation earlier this week in refusing to fund the government unless Democrats agree to postpone implementation of the Affordable Care Act."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-03-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131002/BLOG25/310020202/Is-Rep-Mike-Rogers-getting-cold-feet-about-GOP-brinksmanship-

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Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2013 7:03 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Pharmacy bill 'bitty Band-Aid'

"A bill said to increase oversight of compounding pharmacies would let those pharmacies volunteer to be regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, then charge them a fee for the oversight."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20131008/NEWS01/310080009/Pharmacy-bill-bitty-Band-Aid-*

Grand Rapids school board talks to Dems: What's the true cost of educating a child?

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Democratic state Reps. Brandon Dillon and Winnie Brinks told the school board on Monday why education reforms laid out by the House Democrats School Reform Task Force are in the best interest of Grand Rapids students and those across the state."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/10/grand_rapids_school_board_disc_4.html#incart_river_default*

State Sen. Jim Ananich to receive Excellence in Education Award

"FLINT, MI -- State Sen. Jim Ananich will receive an Excellence in Education Award later this month in Lansing."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/10/state_sen_jim_ananich_to_recei.html#incart_river_default*

Darnell Earley returns to Flint, this time as emergency manager

"FLINT, MI – Darnell Earley will return to a familiar spot when he walks into Flint City Hall on Tuesday as the city's third emergency manager this year."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/10/darnell_earley_returns_to_flin.html#incart_river_default*

U.P.'s national parks remain closed

"As the peak of fall color tourism season arrives, the federal government shutdown has forced the closure of national parks and wildlife refuges from Pictured Rocks to the Huron Islands to Isle Royale in the Upper Peninsula."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/544278/U-P--s-national-parks-remain-closed.html?nav=5003*

LANSING — Hundreds of Michigan National Guard members and some civilian employees affected by the partial government shutdown are being called back to work.

*"**LANSING** — Hundreds of Michigan National Guard members and some civilian employees affected by the partial government shutdown are being called back to work."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20131008/NEWS/310080006/Michigan-Guard-technicians-some-others-called-back*

LANSING — Hundreds of Michigan National Guard members and some civilian employees affected by the partial government shutdown are being called back to work.

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Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20131008/NEWS/310080006/Michigan-Guard-technicians-some-others-called-back*

Government shutdown poll results: Most say daily life in the Great Lakes Bay Region has not yet been affected by the shutdown

*"**BAY CITY, MI** — As the federal government's shutdown of non-essential services enters its second week, some effects already are felt in the Great Lakes Bay Region, and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley says more will be felt across the state if the shutdown persists."*

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/bay-city/index.ssf/2013/10/government_shutdown_poll_resul.html#incart_river_default*

Michigan proposal would mandate beer pints include at least 16 ounces

"LANSING — Michigan lawmakers want to make sure beer drinkers in the Mitten State get their fair share of ale."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2013/10/michigan_beer_perfect_pint.html#incart_river_default*

Will Justin Amash have a GOP primary foe? See who's mulling a run for Congress

"EAST GRAND RAPIDS, MI – U.S. Rep. Justin Amash may have at least one foe standing between him and another Republican nomination to represent Michigan's Third District in Congress."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/10/justin_amash_has_a_gop_primary.html#incart_river_default*

Michigan delegation hunkers down in shutdown

"

Washington— As the federal government shutdown began its second week Monday, Republicans and Democrats in Michigan's congressional delegation remained firm in their positions with only a little erosion in the GOP ranks."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131007/METRO/310070127/Michigan-delegation-hunkers-down-shutdown?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Crittendon could be on Napoleon's ticket in Detroit mayor race

"

Detroit— Mayoral candidate Benny Napoleon told members of the National Action Network he's reached out to former Detroit Corporation Counsel Krystal Crittendon to be his deputy mayor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131007/METRO01/310070033/Crittendon-could-Napoleon-s-ticket-Detroit-mayor-race?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Feds want $9.6M in restitution from Kilpatrick, Ferguson

"

Detroit— Kwame Kilpatrick and Bobby Ferguson should repay more than $9.6 million in restitution to the bankrupt city for various crimes stemming from the city hall corruption scandal, federal prosecutors said Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131007/METRO01/310070119/Feds-want-9-6M-restitution-from-Kilpatrick-Ferguson?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Judge to decide whether Snyder must disclose EM candidates

"

Detroit — Labor union attorneys agreed Monday not to ask Gov. Rick Snyder and two top aides for the names of the Detroit emergency manager candidates during sworn depositions later this week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131007/METRO01/310070100/Judge-decide-whether-Snyder-must-disclose-EM-candidates?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

EAA schools get tough on gangs in Detroit

"

Detroit— Relatively few young people join gangs in Detroit. Yet their presence has a tremendous impact inside the city's high schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/SCHOOLS/310080036/EAA-schools-get-tough-gangs-Detroit?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Ford lets cars find parking spots

"

Ford Motor Co. says it has developed a car that can sniff out open parking spaces ahead — and then park itself in that space, even without a driver behind the wheel."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/AUTO0102/310080019/Ford-lets-cars-find-parking-spots?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Michigan business, labor leaders call for Keystone pipeline OK

"Michigan's business and labor leaders are calling on the Obama administration to approve the Keystone pipeline."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131008/BUSINESS06/310080053/Michigan-business-labor-leaders-call-for-Keystone-pipeline-OK*

Consumers struggle to sign up for health care on Michigan exchange

"After more than a year revving up for the Oct. 1 launch of the Michigan Health Insurance Marketplace only to face error messages and other computer glitches during the first few days, field workers charged with assisting consumers are reworking plans and urging patience."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/NEWS06/310070158/health-care-exchanges-Michigan*

Feds seek $9.6 million in restitution from Kilpatrick, Ferguson

"Federal prosecutors want former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and his contractor friend Bobby Ferguson to pay more than $9 million in restitution connected to the public corruption scandal that rocked City Hall."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/NEWS01/310070170/Kilpatrick-corruption-restitution*

Attorneys for Detroit employees, retirees agree not to ask Snyder about other EM candidates

*"**LANSING** — Attorneys for city of Detroit unionized employees and retirees have agreed not to ask Gov. Rick Snyder to identify unsuccessful candidates for Detroit's emergency manager job when they question the governor under oath at his Lansing office on Wednesday."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/NEWS06/310070102/emergency-manager-candidates-snyder*

Benny Napoleon proposes $3-billion neighborhood revitalization plan

"Detroit mayoral contender Benny Napoleon unveiled an ambitious, multibillion-dollar neighborhood redevelopment and economic growth plan Monday night that includes a combination of get-tough policies on abandonment and neglect and tapping the public and private sectors for billions in investment in new shopping, dining and entertainment centers."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/NEWS01/310070179/Detroit-mayoral-race-Benny-Napoleon*

Detroit council could put forth own plan for Belle Isle

"The Detroit City Council would reject the state lease of Belle Isle and then present an alternative lease later this month, if the council's second-ranking member has his way."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/NEWS01/310070166/Detroit-Belle-Isle-lease-Kevyn-Orr*

Advocacy/Opinion

Gov. Snyder says school closures such as Buena Vista aren't widespread issue

*"**KOCHVILLE TOWNSHIP, MI** — Although two Michigan school districts closed this year, Gov. Rick Snyder doesn't think the state will see more such situations."*

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2013/10/gov_snyder_says_school_closure.html#incart_river_default*

JACK SPENCER: Obamacare: One blind bet after another

"Back in 1971, a racehorse named Canonero II pulled a big surprise by winning the Kentucky Derby. Prior to the race almost no one was talking much about Canonero II. A few so-called experts suggested he might have an outside chance because he'd been racing in Venezuela. At times racehorses do well in the U.S. shortly after being shipped in from South America because the altitude change can have a positive effect. Prior to the race that seemed to be the only angle Canonero II had in his favor."

Source: *Big Rapids Pioneer* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2013/10/07/jack-spencer-obamacare-one-blind-bet-after-another/*

State Tax Chief Encourages Inspectors To Enter Homes; Refusal Could Lead To Higher Assessment

"When someone comes to your door, you can let them in — or not."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19203*

Potential default on US debt seen as new, 'catastrophic' threat as Congress bickers over budget

"WASHINGTON -- A possible national default loomed closer on Monday as the partial government shutdown lingered, rattling markets in the U.S. and overseas. A gridlocked Congress betrayed little or no urgency toward resolving either of the threats."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2013/10/potential_default_on_us_debt_s.html#incart_river_default*

Tim Skubick: MEA President, Gov. Rick Snyder have never met; who will reach out 1st?

"

Having honked on the tenor sax in his high school band, Gov. Rick Snyder is no stranger to good music, which is why he lists the Sound of Music as one of his favorite Broadway shows.
"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/10/tim_skubick_mea_president_and.html#incart_river_default*

Closing tax loopholes could fix budget crisis

"

While a budget battle led to a government shutdown, and a debt ceiling fight looms ahead, Congress has seemingly forgotten about one fair and timely budget solution: Closing the offshore tax haven abuse that costs taxpayers an estimated $150 billion in federal revenue every year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/OPINION01/310080005/Closing-tax-loopholes-could-fix-budget-crisis?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Shut down the welfare-warfare state

"

The GOP is attempting to defund Obamacare by holding the federal government hostage. Congressional Republicans say: Cut the spending or Uncle Sam will have to stay home."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/OPINION01/310080006/Shut-down-welfare-warfare-state?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

End standoff with broad budget deal

"

One thing everyone in a divided Washington should agree on is the government shutdown standoff can't end now, only to resume in 10 days in a new battle over the debt ceiling."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/OPINION01/310080003/End-standoff-broad-budget-deal?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

The destabilization of Detroit

"A few weeks ago I traveled to Chicago, President Barack Obama's hometown, at the invitation of the Illinois Policy Institute. I took part in a panel discussion (along with Politics editor Henry Payne) about Detroit's path to bankruptcy and whether the Windy City was far behind."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2013/10/08/destabilization-detroit/*

Obama repeats Granholm's government shutdown

"

Before President Barack Obama won re-election with a negative assault on Mitt Romney's wealth, former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm's 2006 class warfare campaign earned her a second term over businessman Dick DeVos."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/OPINION01/310080008/Obama-repeats-Granholm-s-government-shutdown?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s*

Governor's credibility hinges on openness

"

Gov. Rick Snyder's bias for speed may be headed for a collision with transparency."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/BIZ/310080027/Governor-Snyder-s-credibility-hinges-openness?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Rashida Tlaib: Help fuel Michigan's turnaround by raising minimum wage

"With the worst recession in a generation still causing pain across the nation, raising the minimum wage should be part of an economic recovery agenda if state and federal leaders are truly committed to kick-starting our economy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131008/OPINION05/310080020/minimum-wage-Michigan-raise

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Editorial: GOP's hostage-taking continues with debt ceiling

"This is what happens when you indulge the idea of negotiating with the unhinged."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/OPINION01/310070094/Editorial-GOP-s-hostage-taking-continues-debt-ceiling

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Tom Walsh: Westland, its mayor shine in the shadow of Detroit, county debacles

"William Wild is not a household name."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-08-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131007/COL06/310070154/Tom-Walsh-Westland-William-Wild

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Michigan delays heat assistance

"LANSING (AP) - Michigan residents needing help with their utility bills as the weather cools must wait until November to apply, a change that coincides with an effort to keep customers from waiting to ask for assistance until facing a service shutoff."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/544298/Michigan-delays-heat-assistance.html?nav=5003

As Amash gains footing in Calhoun County, a GOP challenger emerges

"Someone has picked a fight with Justin Amash."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20131008/NEWS01/310080025/As-Amash-gains-footing-Calhoun-County-GOP-challenger-emerges

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Michigan National Guard 'going down uncharted waters' with government shutdown, general says

"LANSING, MI — Standing before hundreds of guards under his command, Major General Gregory J. Vadnais had a difficult time explaining the exact impact the government shutdown would have if it continued."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/10/michigan_national_guard_going.html#incart_2box

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Cyberbullying prohibition sails through Michigan Senate committee with bipartisan support

"LANSING -- A measure that would add cyberbullying to the state's anti-bullying law is headed to the floor of the state Senate after a committee vote Tuesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/10/cyberbullying_prohibition_sail.html#incart_river_default

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Michigan business and labor groups call on President Obama to authorize Keystone XL Pipeline

"LANSING, MI -- Business leaders, labor groups and lawmakers came together Tuesday at the Michigan Capitol and called on President Barack Obama to authorize construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/10/michigan_business_and_labor_gr.html#incart_river_default

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Flint's new Emergency Manager Darnell Earley: 'I'm supposed to be here

"FLINT, MI – The city's third emergency manager this year said he's in it for the long haul and doesn't plan to leave until the city's finances are stable."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/10/flints_latest_emergency_manage.html#incart_river_default

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Businessman will challenge U.S. Rep. Amash in Republican primary

"

Washington — U.S. Rep. Justin Amash, a young libertarian lawmaker, will face a Republican primary challenger in August who argues the Cascade Township congressman's independent streak has put him out of touch with his west Michigan constituents"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/POLITICS02/310080042/Businessman-will-challenge-U-S-Rep-Amash-Republican-primary?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Terri Lynn Land has $2 million for U.S. Senate campaign

"

Washington — Republican U.S. Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land said Monday she has raised more than $2 million since launching her campaign for the 2014 election."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/POLITICS02/310070036/Terri-Lynn-Land-has-2-million-U-S-Senate-campaign?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

Napoleon: Plan would attract $3B to redevelop Detroit

"

Detroit— Mayoral contender Benny Napoleon is calling for a partnership between private developers and the city for major retail projects that he said would generate more than $3 billion in redevelopment in the city."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/METRO01/310080094/Napoleon-Plan-would-attract-3B-redevelop-Detroit?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Chief Craig makes sweeping changes to Detroit police staff

"

Detroit— In a major shake-up of the Detroit Police Department, Chief James Craig on Tuesday announced changes to his executive team he said will help lower crime and save taxpayers $1 million in salary."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/METRO01/310080071/Chief-Craig-makes-sweeping-changes-Detroit-police-staff?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Historic day: Unions to grill Michigan governor under oath

"

Lansing— Gov. Rick Snyder has waded into Detroit's decades-long financial problems in ways no other governor in modern history has — and this morning, he'll be grilled under oath about why he did it."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131008/METRO01/310080075/Historic-day-Unions-grill-Michigan-governor-under-oath?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Fed's blight fighters to get started in Detroit

"

A federally appointed task force that includes Quicken Loans founder Dan Gilbert will meet for the first time today to figure out how to deal with Detroit's 78,000 abandoned structures."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131009/BIZ/310090023/Fed-s-blight-fighters-get-started-Detroit?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Michigan studies plan to ease rules on air emissions

"

Gov. Rick Snyder's administration is considering major changes to the way Michigan regulates air emissions — a potentially cost-reducing initiative that pleases industry but has some environmental groups concerned about the potential health impact on residents."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131009/METRO/310090028/Michigan-studies-plan-ease-rules-air-emissions?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Grand Rapids' listing as a top city to retire gives it another win

"A few years ago, Rick Baker moved to Grand Rapids to take a job. The 49-year-old CEO of the local chamber of commerce loves the city so much, now he plans to retire there."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131009/BUSINESS06/310090026/grand-rapids-aarp-list-retire

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Detroit bankruptcy judge gives city 35 days to develop plan to clear lawsuits

"Attorney Bill Goodman has a bad feeling about the pile of lawsuits facing the City of Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131008/NEWS01/310080105/

Gov. Snyder to testify about Detroit bankruptcy today

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder will take questions under oath today as labor unions and other creditors in Detroit's bankruptcy try to understand why he signed off on the largest public filing in U.S. history."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20131009/NEWS01/310090061/Gov-Snyder-to-testify-about-Detroit-bankruptcy-today

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Advocacy/Opinion

WATKINS: Invest In quality mental health care and pass the Excellence In Mental Health Act now

"U.S. Sen Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan) has called again for new mental health legislation after a woman was shot to death Thursday outside the U.S. Capitol."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2013/10/08/opinion/doc525465ecbebcc787516330.txt*

Who's the Freeloader? MEA Spends More On Benefits Than Bargaining

"Ravenna Public Schools teacher Dusty Fairfield estimates he's given $25,000 in union dues to the Michigan Education Association over his career. In August, he used the state's right-to-work law to leave the MEA."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19201*

Mounting Detroit bankruptcy tab sparks predictable outrage from usual places

"It shouldn't be a surprise that Detroit is three months into the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history, and the bills are coming due. The city already has been billed for $19.1 million in professional fees, The New York Times reports today, just the first wave in what are likely to be many more before the Chapter 9 case is completed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/danielhowes/2013/10/08/mounting-detroit-bankruptcy-tab-sparks-outrage/*

Nancy Kaffer: Detroit city government remains a mess under Kevyn Orr

"If you thought Detroit city government couldn't get more dysfunctional, well, it may be time to reconsider."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *10-09-2013* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20131009/COL43/310090014/*

Press Releases

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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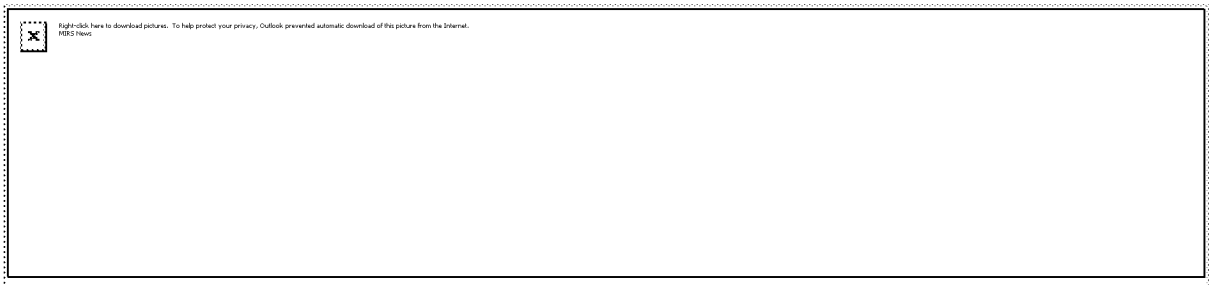

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2 Dems file for candidacy in 38th Senate district race

"MARQUETTE - As spring finally arrives in the Upper Peninsula, two Democratic candidates for the 38th district state senate seat are readying their campaigns for the months ahead."

Source: *Mining Journal (Marquette)* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/596711/2-Dems-file-for-candidacy-in-38th-Senate-district-race.html?nav=5006*

Michigan enrolls nearly 27,000 in expanded Medicaid program in first 6 days

"LANSING — Michigan has received more than 46,000 applications for the state's expanded Medicaid program in less than a week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/04/michigan_enrolls_nearly_27000.html#incart_river_default*

Bill could fetch more money for townships

"Townships could get more state-shared revenue under an allocation bill headed to the state House Appropriations Committee. But the new funding for townships would mean a smaller increase in funding for cities and villages."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140408/NEWS01/304060003/Bill-could-fetch-more-money-*

townships

Rogers picks Bishop over Hune

"U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Howell, on Monday endorsed former state Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop of Rochester to be his replacement in Congress next year."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140408/NEWS01/304080013/Rogers-picks-Bishop-over-Hune*

Flint City Council approves emergency manager's transition plan during heated meeting

"FLINT, MI – The much debated seven-point transition management plan from Emergency Manager Darnell Earley has been approved by the Flint City Council followed by an uproar from residents in the audience."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/04/7-point_transition_plan_approv.html#incart_river_default*

Snyder calls road fund plan constructive

"LANSING (AP) - Gov. Rick Snyder praised Republican House leaders' plan to spend $500 million annually on roads as a proactive move toward long-term funding changes, but said it falls short of his spending target."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/546901/Snyder-calls-road-fund-plan-constructive.html?nav=5003*

U.P. tribe sues for recognition by feds

"ESCANABA - A lawsuit by the Mackinac Tribal Nation seeking federal recognition has been filed against the Secretary of the Interior in Washington, D.C."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/546900/U-P--tribe-sues-for--recognition-by-feds.html?nav=5003*

Hackel to run for re-election, doesn't rule out future gubernatorial bid

"Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel filed paperwork today seeking re-election to the county's top post, putting to bed questions — for now — about whether he is going to run for governor."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140407/NEWS04/304070123/Mark-Hackel-to-run-for-re-election-as-Macomb-County-executive*

Ex-first lady Rosalynn Carter to honor Betty Ford today

"Rosalynn Carter is scheduled to visit Grand Rapids to honor the 96th anniversary of the birth of fellow former first lady Betty Ford."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140408/NEWS06/304080038/Rosalynn-Carter-to-honor-Betty-Ford-in-Grand-Rapids-today*

Detroit city workers, pensioners could face cut in retirement savings, too

"Detroit's workers and retirees who put money in to the General Retirement System are being told they're likely to face cuts to their savings, too, as well as their pension checks, as part of the bankruptcy process, according to sources familiar with the plan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140408/NEWS01/304080017/Detroit-city-workers-pensioners-could-face-cut-retirement-savings-too*

Many GM dealers still without replacement switch, but customers not worried, some dealers say

"General Motors dealers were to start replacing defective ignition switches Monday, but many dealers said they did not have parts yet and car owners were not beating down their doors demanding the fix."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140408/BUSINESS0101/304080023/GM-recall-General-Motors-ignition-switch*

Online K-12 courses in Michigan get mixed grades

"

High school for Houston Hemphill is a hybrid of face-to-face instruction and online learning."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/SCHOOLS/304070021/Online-K-12-courses-Michigan-get-mixed-grades*

Supreme Court to hear class-action dispute involving Michigan energy company

"

Washington — The Supreme Court will consider the requirements for transferring class-action lawsuits from state courts to federal courts."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/POLITICS03/304070067/Supreme-Court-hear-class-action-dispute-involving-Michigan-energy-company*

Third Republican declares candidacy for Rep. Camp seat

"

Retired Saginaw-area businessman Paul Mitchell Tuesday became the third Republican to declare his candidacy for U.S. Rep. Dave Camp's 4th Congressional District seat."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/POLITICS03/304070103/Third-Republican-declares-candidacy-Rep-Camp-seat*

Rogers endorses Mike Bishop in 8th Congressional District race

"

Former Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop has been endorsed by U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers to fill the congressman's seat in Michigan's 8th Congressional District. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/POLITICS02/304070052/Rogers-endorses-Mike-Bishop-8th-Congressional-District-race*

Land reports raising $1.5M so far in 2014 in campaign for Senate

"Lansing— Republican Terri Lynn Land raised $1.5 million in the first three months of this year in her

bid for the U.S. Senate against presumptive Democratic opponent Gary Peters."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140408/POLITICS02/304080027/Land-reports-raising-1-5M-far-2014-campaign-Senate*

Feds: Ex-Ficano lieutenant stole from poor to bankroll luxury lifestyle

"

Detroit — Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano's former political lieutenant is a remorseless thief who raided $700,000 from a health-insurance program for the poor and blew the cash on a Louis Vuitton shopping spree, airplane tickets and $10,000 worth of "hair plugs" before his wedding, prosecutors wrote Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/METRO01/304070069/Feds-Ex-Ficano-lieutenant-stole-from-poor-bankroll-luxury-lifestyle*

Crime and poverty will grow if Detroit pensions are slashed, union argues

"

Detroit — The city's largest labor union predicted Monday that Detroit would be beset with more crime, poverty and further social decay if the city is allowed to slash pensions for nearly 34,000 retirees and municipal workers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/METRO01/304070093/Crime-poverty-will-grow-Detroit-pensions-slashed-union-argues*

Icebreaking crews work to open Great Lakes to business

"

Indianapolis — U.S. and Canadian Coast Guard crews kept up their battle Monday to clear pathways for vessels hauling vital raw materials on the ice-clogged Great Lakes, where a shipping logjam forced a weeklong shutdown of the nation's largest steel factory."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140407/METRO06/304070113/Icebreaking-crews-work-open-Great-Lakes-business*

Fate of pensions, DIA hangs on vote

"

Objections are mounting to Detroit's historic Chapter 9 case, but the ones likely to matter most are those tied to ballots soon to be issued to the city's retirees and active employees."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140408/BIZ/304080021/Fate-pensions-DIA-hangs-vote*

Advocacy/Opinion

Tim Skubick: 7 women have run for Michigan Lt. Governor's job; will Lisa Brown be 3rd to win?

"Six women have run for Lieutenant Governor in this state. Two won. The rest lost but the candidacy looked nice on their resumes. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/04/tim_skubick_7_women_have_run_f.html#incart_river_default*

Tom Walsh: How Detroit's crucial bankruptcy might still come unraveled

"How might Detroit's Chapter 9 municipal bankruptcy, the city's ticket to a fresh start, come unraveled?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140407/COL06/304070138/Tom-Walsh-Detroit-bankruptcy-Kevyn-Orr*

JACK SPENCER: Road funding: Getting the priorities right

"Michigan has it backwards. Our state government spends $300 million annually on corporate welfare, or as those in government prefer to call it, "economic development," then it debates how to pay for fixing the roads. It should be the other way around; fix the roads first and then have a debate over whether or not government should dabble in "economic development.""

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2014/04/07/jack-spencer-road-funding-getting-priorities-right/*

To combat child obesity, Michigan needs more phys ed

"Nearly one in three children in Michigan are overweight or obese, threatening the health of many young Michigan residents and the healthy future of our state. In the past 35 years obesity in Michigan children aged 6 to 11 has increased almost five-fold."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/04/to-combat-child-obesity-michigan-needs-more-phys-ed/*

Grand Rapids is addressing legacy costs

"An unfortunate guest commentary written by Jacob Ignatoski first appeared in Bridge Magazine on March 20, 2014 – all without seeking current and correct facts about the City of Grand Rapids' transformation efforts since 2010. It was later picked up by MLive."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/04/grand-rapids-is-addressing-legacy-costs/*

Press Releases

Levin statement on emergency unemployment benefits

"WASHINGTON – Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., today spoke on the Senate floor regarding the Senate bill to extend emergency unemployment benefits through the end of May, and he urged House Speaker John Boehner to bring the bipartisan bill up for a vote in the House. Levin's remarks follow:"

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396903991_Levin.pdf*

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the SAE International World Congress Opening Ceremony

*"**Tuesday, April 8 at 8:30 a.m.***
Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the SAE International World Congress Opening Ceremony.
Location:
Cobo Center
1 Washington Blvd.
*Detroit, MI **Tuesday, April 8 at 9:40 a.m.***
Snyder will offer remarks on autonomous vehicles and other technologies at the National Center for Manufacturing's Michigan Robotics Day. Media attending please RSVP to the General Dynamic Communications Office at stealr@gdls.comor 586-825-4661."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396903773_Snyder.pdf

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Michigan Women: Women are not worth-less, it's time for equal pay

*"LANSING – On **Tuesday, April 8**, Equal Pay Day will be recognized across the country. The day marks how far into 2014 a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned in 2013. The gap between the wages of men and women is even greater for women of color. According to AAUW's Graduating to a Pay Gap, sex-based wage disparities start with a college-educated woman's first job and increase over time. Since more women than ever before are the sole or primary source of household income, the wage gap is a serious issue for the economic security of families."*

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396902146_Pay Equity.pdf*

Two Grand Rapids Women Join the 100 Woman, 48-Hour Fast in Washington D.C. for Immigration Reform

"GRAND RAPIDS/WASHINGTON D.C.- The group We Belong Together continues to press congress on immigration reform needed to protect millions of families across the nation. In Michigan, Gema Lowe and Ana Isabel Hernandez of the Micah Center, Grand Rapids have joined a national 48-hour fast. They will be joining hundreds of others on the National Mall to call for immigration reform as the nation surpassed 2 million deportees over the weekend. Lowe plans to fast longer than 48 hours. "

Source: *We Belong Together* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396901989_We belong Together.pdf

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Agriculturally Speaking – Michigan Maple Syrup flowing for sweet success

"As you drive through rural Michigan you will see smoke rising from the sugar houses throughout our state. With the warmer temperatures finally here, Michigan's maple syrup producers have started boiling sap. Typically, the maple season starts in February in the southern counties of Michigan's Lower Peninsula and runs into April in the Upper Peninsula. With the colder temperatures this year, the maple syrup season has been pushed back to now. "

Source: *MI Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396901829_Agriculturally Speaking -- Michigan Maple Syrup flowing for sweet success.pdf

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Governor Snyder stresses importance of financial literacy to children at Detroit Library

"DETROIT – Gov. Rick Snyder today served as a guest reader the Money Smart Kids Read event at

the Detroit Public Library Campbell Branch, bringing to life the financial education book The Berenstain Bears' Trouble With Money to an audience of children and their families."

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396900523_Governor.pdf*

State Police encourage Michiganders to prepare before severe weather strikes this spring and summer

*"**LANSING.** With Gov. Rick Snyder proclaiming April 6-12 as Severe Weather Awareness Week, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is encouraging Michiganders to prepare before severe weather strikes this spring and summer."*

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396900444_State Police encourage Michiganders to prepare before severe weather strikes this spring and summer.pdf*

Michigan Women: Women are not worth-less, it's time for equal pay April 8 is National Equal Pay Da

*"LANSING – On **Tuesday, April 8**, Equal Pay Day will be recognized across the country. The day marks how far into 2014 a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned in 2013. The gap between the wages of men and women is even greater for women of color. According to AAUW's Graduating to a Pay Gap, sex-based wage disparities start with a college-educated woman's first job and increase over time. Since more women than ever before are the sole or primary source of household income, the wage gap is a serious issue for the economic security of families.*

"

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396900342_Michigan Women Equal Pay.pdf*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2015 AUTOMOBILE THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY GRANTS

*"**LANSING** – The Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA) is currently accepting applications from law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judicial agencies, and community/neighborhood organizations for enforcement, prosecution, community awareness, and prevention programs aimed at reducing automobile theft."*

Source: *MI State Police* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396900205_ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2015 AUTOMOBILE THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY GRANTS.pdf

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Michigan's Path to Educational Recovery: What We Can Learn From

Leading Education States Around the

"Michigan can recover from the "education recession" and learn much from higher achieving states across the country, according to The Education Trust-Midwest's new 2014 State of Michigan Education report. "

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396900135_Michigan's Path to Educational Recovery.pdf

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Conservative Job-Creator Paul Mitchell Launches Bid for Congress Mitchell: Washington is a mess and

"Thomas Township, MI—Conservative job-creator Paul Mitchell announced his campaign for Michigan's 4th Congressional District. Citing his credentials as an effective businessman and Washington outsider, rather than career politician, Mitchell is committed to solving our nation's problems and fixing the culture in Washington. "

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396899994_paul mitchell for congress release 4 7 14.pdf*

MDOT releases 2013 crash data, promotes safety during National Work Zone Awareness Week

*"**April 7, 2014** -- Statewide work zone crash statistics released today by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in observance of National Work Zone Awareness Week suggest an alarming trend: the number of serious injuries in Michigan work zones went up from 57 in 2012 to 107 in 2013, even while the number of overall crashes declined. "*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396895098_MDOT work.pdf

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Senator Mike Green named 2013 'Legislator of the Year' by Michigan Agri-Business Association Agribus

"BAY CITY – The Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA) has awarded its 'Legislator of the Year' honor to Senator Mike Green, who represents Michigan's 31st Senate District and serves as Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee. MABA presented the award Friday at a Bay City meeting focused on rail and water transportation for agriculture. "Sen. Green has really set himself apart in Lansing as someone who's willing to lead on tough issues," said Jim Byrum, president of MABA."

Source: *MI Agribusiness Association* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396894883_Sen Mike Green.pdf

Former National Republican Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land is now dismissing Right to Life's offensiv

"Late Friday, Land responded to a Detroit News post about her refusal to sign a common-sense pledge to keep both candidates' children out of negative political attacks. Currently Right to Life, one of Land's special interest backers, is attacking Gary's two teenage daughters and refuses to take down their attack from their website."

Source: Date: *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396894810_Former National Republican Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land is now dismissing Right to Life.pdf*

STATE SENATORS CALL FOR RENEWED COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR MICHIGAN FAMILIES

"SOUTHGATE – State Senators Virgil Smith and Hoon-Yung Hopgood will join policy experts from Michigan League for Public Policy, Mothering Justice and minimum wage mothers in Southgate to discuss the challenges faced by low-paid workers."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396891943_STATE SENATORS CALL FOR RENEWED COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR MICHIGAN FAMILIES.pdf*

Law Enforcement Group Lines Up Behind Knezek in 5th Senate Race

*"**Dearborn Heights, MI –** The Wayne County Deputy Sheriffs' Association has announced their endorsement of State Representative David Knezek as he seeks to become the next 5th District State Senator."*

Source: *David Knezek for State Senate* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396898016_WCDSA Press Release.pdf*

Midland roundabout construction to begin in Late April, weather permitting

"MDOT will invest $1.1 million in safety improvements at this intersection. - Roundabouts are easy to navigate and safer than traditional intersections. - Motorists can expect decreased traffic delays and congestion after the roundabout is installed."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396887889_Mdot Update.pdf*

Monday, April 07, 2014: 211 days until election

"Last month, we announced our Rick for Michigan campaign team. This week, we are launching the first of regular updates from Comeback Central, which we've titled "Call It A Comeback." These will be fun informal dispatches with news, notes, and tidbits that hopefully you find interesting throughout the campaign. As we get closer to election day, we will ramp up the regularity. "

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396887742_Rick for Gov.pdf

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Miller to File to Run for State Representative Assistant Prosecutor to focus on economy, education,

"WARREN – Macomb County Assistant Prosecutor Derek E. Miller has announced his run for State Representative for the 28th District of the Michigan House of Representatives. "I'm running for State Representative to ensure that communities like Warren and Center Line are not forgotten about in Lansing and that our state government is working for the people, not special interests," Miller declared."

Source: *Campaign of Derek E Miller* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396887217_Derek E. Miller Press Release.pdf

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Gov. Snyder Again Dodges $41 Million Question

"DETROIT - This morning at Pancakes and Politics at the Detroit Athletic Club, Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson asked Republican Gov. Snyder why he doubled his cousin's furniture contract with the state to $41 million, while cutting education and placing new taxes on middle-class families and seniors. "

Source: *MI Democrats* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396887084_41 Million Dollar_.pdf

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NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION HONORS PASSPORT PIZZA AS 2014 RESTAURANT NEIG

*"**LANSING, MI – April 7, 2014** – The National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) announced today its 2014 Restaurant Neighbor Award winners, who will be recognized at a gala on April 29, 2014, during the National Restaurant Association's Public Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C. Passport Pizza, based in Clinton Township, MI, will be honored as one of four national restaurant operators for its outstanding charitable service."*

Source: *MI Restaurant Association* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396886915_Adriane De Ceuninck.pdf

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Application deadline for the 2014 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 31, 2014

"Lansing, MI - Since 2000, the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund (MYLSF) has awarded more than $350,000 in scholarships and educational awards to outstanding youth who have exhibited at the premier livestock events in the state of Michigan. "

Source: *MI Dept. of Agriculture* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396886164_Application deadline for the 2014 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 31.pdf

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I-194 ramp improvements start Monday in Battle Creek

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repaving and widening the southbound I-194 ramp to M-96 (Columbia Avenue). Included in the construction are drainage and sign upgrades, as well as new pavement markings."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396882629_I-94 Ramp Battle Creek.pdf

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M-53 (Van Dyke Avenue) resurfacing in Macomb County begins in mid-April

*"**April 7, 2014 --** Preliminary work is expected to begin in mid-April on a project to resurface approximately 3 miles of M-53 (Van Dyke Avenue) between Helen Street and Chicago Road in the communities of Warren and Centerline. All work on this $10 million investment is scheduled to be completed in October."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396881502_MDOT M-53 VanDyke Hwy.pdf

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Changes coming to ongoing I-94/I-69 interchange project in St. Clair County

"- Prep work starts Wednesday for upcoming I-94 traffic shift from Griswold to Lapeer roads.
- Westbound I-94 will be reduced to one lane for placement of temporary barrier wall.
- Eastbound I-94 reconstruction is expected to begin the week of April 14."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396881372_

Sierra Club Endorses Dian Slavens for Michigan Senate

"Canton, Mich. – The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter, a non-partisan environmental protection organization, today announced its endorsement of State Representative Dian Slavens in her candidacy for the 7th District of the State Senate."

Source: *Sierra Club of Michigan* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396878798_Rep Slavens.pdf

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Poll: Michigan voters favor the cherries over the berries as state fruit

*"**Lansing, Mich.** – More than 68 percent of Michigan voters believe the cherry should be the official state fruit, according to the latest statewide survey conducted by Marketing Resource Group (MRG) of Lansing. The question was asked as a response to the debate that has been ongoing in the legislature this session.*
"

Source: *MRG* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396878706_Cherries vs. Berries.pdf

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Camp Statement on Passing of Ranny Riecker

"Washington, DC - Today, Congressman Dave Camp (R-MI) issued the following statement on the passing of Midland community leader and friend, Ranny Riecker. "

Source: *Office of Dave Camp* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396878376_For Immediate Release .pdf

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Tom Cochran to Kick Off His 67th House District Re-Election Campaign

*" MASON – State Rep. **Tom Cochran** (D-Mason), the representative of the 67th District of the Michigan House of Representatives, will kick off his re-election bid at an event to be held at **Delhi Veterans Memorial Park, 2074 Aurelius Road in Holt, on Monday, April 7, at 3 p.m.** Cochran is currently in his first term at the state House, where he has fought for tax relief for Michigan's middle-class families and introduced a bill to protect the bank accounts of seniors."*

Source: *Office of Rep Tom Cochran* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396877460_Rep. Tom Cochran.pdf

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Year's first Adopt-A-Highway litter pickup begins April 12

*"**April 7, 2014 --** Highway roadsides in lower Michigan get their first cleanup of the year beginning Saturday. Volunteers participating in the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Adopt-A-Highway program will pick up litter from April 12 to 20."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396877315_MDOT Adopt a Highway.pdf

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Projects on M-32, I-75 in Otsego and Crawford counties start mid-April

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be upgrading traffic signals and sidewalk ramps at several locations on M-32 from Murner Road to Center Street in the city of Gaylord, and installing message signs, pavement sensors and new guardrail on I-75 from County Road 612 in Crawford County to the Vanderbilt Rest Area in Otsego County."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396877216_MDOT New Projects.pdf

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The Environmental Quality Company and US Ecology Announce Acquisition Agreement

"Wayne, MI – April 7, 2014 – US Ecology (NASDAQ: ECOL) today announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire EQ -The Environmental Quality Company (EQ), a fully-integrated environmental services company."

Source: *U.S. Ecology* **Date:** *04-08-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1396876746_EQ.pdf

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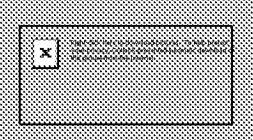
From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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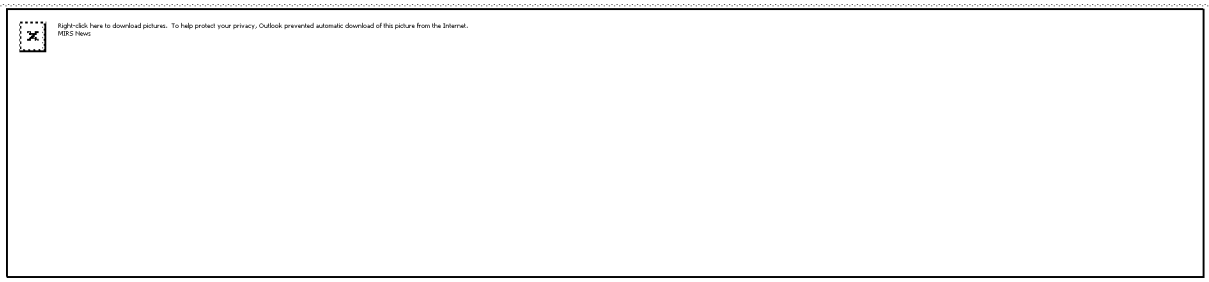

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Michigan Senate passes bill easing regulations on charitable gambling

*"**LANSING** — The Michigan Gaming Control Board intends to put new rules in place in the next week or two that will have a distinct impact on charity gaming by tightening rules for the charities putting on the events."*

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20140424/NEWS05/304240013/Michigan-Senate-passes-bill-easing-regulations-charitable-gambling*

Gov. Rick Snyder: Get politics out of education, embrace Common Core and skilled trades training

"EAST LANSING -- Michigan's public education system needs to focus on helping children prepare for life after school and less on political fighting, Gov. Rick Snyder says."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/04/gov_rick_snyder_talks_common_c.html#incart_river_default*

DNR: No major change in U.P. wolf population

"MARQUETTE - Michigan Department of Natural Resources officials said Wednesday the latest wolf survey results indicate no significant change in the Upper Peninsula population of the animals over the past year."

Source: *Mining Journal (Marquette)* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/597211/DNR--No-major-change-in-U-P--wolf-population.html?nav=5006*

Calley touts state's job growth

"If there's any place that shines as an example of how Michiganders are hustling, working hard and trying to grow the economy, Frontal Lobe is it."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140425/NEWS01/304250015/Calley-touts-state-s-job-growth-video-*

State agency releases March jobless data for West Michigan labor markets

"LANSING, MI – Unemployment fell in West Michigan in March, reflecting a statewide trend in which the number of jobless claims fell while total employment rose, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2014/04/state_agency_releases_march_jo.html#incart_river_default*

ACLU panel in Flint says emergency manager law should be repealed, voters should hold leaders accountable

"FLINT, MI – Michigan's emergency manager law need to be repealed and voters need to stay on top of their civic leaders to ensure measures like it aren't needed, said panelists at the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan Flint Branch annual meeting Thursday evening, April 24."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/04/aclu_hosts_panel_discussion_on.html#incart_river_default*

County requests governor's state of emergency declaration

"ESCANABA - Delta County will submit a request for Gov. Rick Snyder to declare a "state of emergency" in Delta County due to the severe cold weather that has caused many frozen water pipes."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/547143/County-requests-governor-s-state-of-emergency-declaration.html?nav=5003*

GM earns $125M in 1Q, down 85.5%

"

Recalls cost General Motors Co. $1.3 billion in the first quarter, shrinking the automaker's profit to a slim $125 million, and two top GM executives Thursday said it was too early to say if GM would incur more recall costs this year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/AUTO0103/304240061/

GOP lawmaker proposes small minimum wage hike to combat ballot push

"

Lansing — A Republican state senator introduced legislation Thursday that would give minimum wage workers a small raise later this year — in an effort to combat a workers' group's effort to put a larger increase before voters in November."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/POLITICS02/304240085/GOP-lawmaker-proposes-small-minimum-wage-hike-combat-ballot-push

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Snyder: EAA 'moving forward' as Senate adjourns without vote on expansion bill

"East Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said Thursday the Education Achievement Authority is "moving forward" with or without legislation expanding its operational reach beyond persistently failing schools in Detroit"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/POLITICS02/304240079/Snyder-EAA-moving-forward-Senate-adjourns-without-vote-expansion-bill

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County roads group says more than $2B needed for repairs

"

Lansing— The County Road Association of Michigan said Thursday the state needs at least $2.1 billion in additional road funding — nearly $1 billion more than Gov. Rick Snyder has proposed — to adequately cover repairs on state and local roads."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/POLITICS02/304240092/County-roads-group-says-more-than-2B-needed-repairs

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Detroit attorney Dillard to run for state attorney general

"

Lansing— Veteran Detroit lawyer Godfrey Dillard announced Thursday he would seek the Michigan Democratic Party's nomination for attorney general, setting up a contested state nominating convention against Kalamazoo attorney Mark Totten."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/POLITICS02/304240112/Detroit-attorney-Dillard-run-state-attorney-general*

Michigan legislators pile on support to prevent insurance hikes for pothole claims

"

Coming on the hellish heels of pothole season, an interesting bill has recently been introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140425/METRO05/304250036/Michigan-legislators-pile-support-prevent-insurance-hikes-pothole-claims*

SEC, federal grand jury probe GM recalls

"

Washington — The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a federal grand jury are investigating General Motors Co. over its handling of the massive recall, as the government probes into the ignition switch crisis widens."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140424/AUTO0103/304240097/SEC-federal-grand-jury-probe-GM-recalls*

Oakland County sees 77% increase in poverty rates, reports shows

"Poverty in Detroit's suburbs skyrocketed — and rose 77% in affluent Oakland County — during the Great Recession years of 2005-12, key social service executives said at a news conference today in Pontiac."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/NEWS06/304240132/poverty-skyrockets-in-Oakland-County*

Michigan senator proposes alternative minimum-wage hike legislation

*"**LANSING** — The state's minimum wage of $7.40 an hour would go to $8.15, and the minimum wage paid to tipped employees like wait staff and bartenders would go from $2.65 to $2.75 per hour under a bill proposed by state Sen. Rick Jones."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/NEWS06/304240103/Michigan-minimum-wage-Rick-Jones

Michigan senator proposes alternative minimum-wage hike legislation

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Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/NEWS06/304240103/Michigan-minimum-wage-Rick-Jones

Terri Lynn Land tops Gary Peters in 1st-quarter fund-raising in Senate race

*"**WASHINGTON** — Former Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land maintained her financial lead on U.S. Rep. Gary Peters during the first three months of the year in the race for the state's open U.S. Senate seat."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/NEWS06/304240099/Terri-Lynn-Land-Gary-Peters-U-S-Senate-seat

Detroit lawyer Godfrey Dillard announces run for Michigan attorney general

*"**LANSING** — A second Democrat stepped forward Thursday seeking the nomination to challenge Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette in the Nov. 4 election."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/NEWS06/304240172/godfrey-dillard-michigan-attorney-general-bill-schuette-campaign

Republican making Flint Congressional run 60 miles away from his home

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – Republican Allen Hardwick already has an uphill battle trying to unseat an

incumbent Congressman in a heavily Democratic district."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/04/two_republicans_--_one_near_on.html#incart_river_default*

Advocacy/Opinion

Josh Pugh: Michigan schools need a true champion in the governor's office

*"In **attempting to discredit Mark Schauer's plan** to improve community public schools in Michigan, Ingrid Jacques actually exposes the popularity of Schauer's ideas, while conveniently laying out the contradictory Republican talking points on schools in Michigan.*

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/04/24/michigan-schools-need-true-champion-governors-office/*

ModelD: The state of recycling in Michigan

"Along with trash, Michigan has buried dollars and jobs in landfills for years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/OPINION05/304240016/ModelD-state-recycling-Michigan*

Gov. Rick Snyder must rein in Jase Bolger on unions

"Gov. Rick Snyder was being kind, or polite, when he described as "a challenge" House Speaker Jase Bolger's bizarre insistence that Detroit's union leadership pony up with money to help bail out the city's under-funded pensions."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140425/OPINION01/304250015/Gov-Rick-Snyder-must-rein-Jase-Bolger-unions*

Rochelle Riley: Older Detroit retirees deserve more in settlement

"All through Detroit's historic bankruptcy proceedings, pensioners have commanded the most sympathy.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**

http://www.freep.com/article/20140424/COL10/304240197/pensioners-cuts-bankruptcy-kevyn-orr-rick-snyder

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Tom Walsh: Five reasons not to panic about GM (yet)

"A $1.3 billion charge for recalling 7 million General Motors vehicles wiped out most of the automaker's first-quarter profit, which dropped 86% to $125 million, the company reported Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** http://www.freep.com/article/20140425/COL06/304250033/GM-Recall-Tom-Walsh-General-Motors-Marry-Barra

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How Michigan Can Fix Its Pension Problems

"LANSING — There are an estimated $730 billion to $4 trillion in unfunded pension liabilities across the states. These costs are crowding out services, harming communities, and causing public employees to worry that governments cannot keep their promises."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20017

Schauer Calls For Long-Term Solvency Of Pension System; As State Senator Voted To Underfund It

"Gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer says one of his plans if he is elected is to ensure the long-term solvency of the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS)."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20016

Press Releases

Heartland Institute Experts React to FCC's New Net Neutrality Proposal

"The Federal Communications Commission on Thursday proposed new net neutrality regulations that would prevent broadband providers from blocking or slowing access to Web sites or services. The rule, however, also allows broadband providers to enter into "commercially reasonable" deals with some content providers. Those arrangements would be decided by the FCC on a case-by-case basis."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398375051_Net neutrality.pdf

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Governor's Education Summit Keeps Michigan's Future Bright

"The 2014 Governor's Education Summit took place in East Lansing, Mich., today, a program that brings our educators, students and innovators together to collaborate, create and connect. Since day one, Governor Snyder has focused on making sure our education system – from early childhood through college and other secondary trainings – is founded on skills that prepare students for life after the classroom. The Governor's annual summit follows through on that mission by focusing on strengthening educational programs to foster talent and discovering ways to connect students with valuable job opportunities available in the Comeback State after graduation."

Source: *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398374987_Education summit.pdf

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What's On PolitiBomb Tonight?

*"**LANSING, Mich. –** Adrian Hemond, Partner at political consulting firm Grassroots Midwest, joins Jake Davison to run down all the filing deadline drama -- who filed, who failed and who will win on August 5th."*

Source: *Advantage Associates* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398374870_Politibomb.pdf

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Agriculturally Speaking – Michigan Food and Agriculture Industry Spring Update

"As the warm weather arrives, it's a welcome sign for farmers and our agriculture industry here in Michigan. After these past harsh winter months we will all appreciate the orchards in bloom and the fields full of newly emerging crops. Spring is one of the busiest times for our agriculture industry as farmers prepare equipment, complete planting, and gear up for the growing season of Michigan's 300+ different commodities. "

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398374783_Agriculturally speaking.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts React to FDA Regulation of E-Cigarettes

"The Food and Drug Administration Thursday proposed establishing the first federal regulations on electronic cigarettes, banning sales to minors and requiring FDA approval of the products. Electronic cigarette makers would be required to disclose the chemicals used in the nicotine delivery devices – which replace cigarette smoke with vapor – and note on product labels that nicotine can be addictive."

Source: *The Heartland Institute* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398371632_Heartland.pdf

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Breitbart: Gary Peters' "Major Flip-Floppage on ObamaCare"

"Until very recently, MI Congressman Gary Peters was one of ObamaCare's biggest fans. In fact, only last year, he was still gushing about the unpopular, toxic law. "

Source: *Terri Lynn Land* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398371640_Flip flop.pdf*

Singh Praises Proposed FDA E-Cigarette Regulations

"LANSING- State Representative Sam Singh (D- East Lansing) applauded proposed rule changes announced today by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration that would extend its authority to the regulation of e-cigarettes. Important among these new regulations would be a requirement to have warning labels and prohibit sales to minors."

Source: *Representative Singh* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398371573_SINGH.pdf*

Statement from Michigan State AFL-CIO President Karla Swift on Sen. Jones' Minimum Wage Proposal

"Senator Jones' minimum wage bill is an insult to thousands of Michigan workers who are struggling to get by. This proposal is not adequate to lift families out of poverty, and it is intended to stifle any serious attempt to raise wages."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398368361_Minimum Wage Proposal.pdf*

Who is Brian Ellis?

"Brian Ellis has spent half a million dollars (and counting) lying about Justin's principled record, yet he's barely said a word about his own record as a local politician."

Source: *Justin Amash for Congress* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398368261_Who IS Brian Ellis?.pdf*

Gov. Snyder: Regional unemployment drop shows continued statewide improvement

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement after the announcement that the state's seasonally unadjusted regional unemployment rate fell in every Michigan region: "Michiganders all across the state should be proud of the work they have done and the direction we are heading. Today's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates show declines in unemployment throughout every region in

Michigan. The comeback is happening and it's not isolated to one region or industry. It truly is a comeback for all of Michigan. While this reduced unemployment in every regional labor market continues the positive trend, we still have more work to do. These positive job reports prove that we are the Comeback State, but we must continue to build on our successes.""

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398366878_regional unemployment.pdf

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March Unemployment Rates Down in All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in March declined in all of the state's 17 major labor market regions, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels were up in nearly all regions over the month."

Source: *Michigan Dept. of Technology, Management & Budget* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398366788_march unemployment.pdf

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Mark Schauer's Failing Grade On Education

""Despite saying it would be his highest priority, Mark Schauer is getting a failing grade on education so far. The brochure he released is being criticized as 'thin on substance,' 'short on details,' and nothing more than a bunch of 'teachers union talking points.' What's worse, his goals actually put Big Labor above Michigan students and would be a 'significant step backward' from the 'tangible reforms' Governor Snyder has made. Michigan deserves a governor with a proven track record of improving education, not someone who's more interested in supporting the Big Labor interests that bankroll his campaigns." – RGA Communications Director Gail Gitcho"

Source: *Republican Governors Association Research* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398366544_failing grade.pdf

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Roscommon students introduced to archery, hunting with help from DNR and partners

"Students from Roscommon Elementary School are learning archery skills after school during an eight-week program presented by the Department of Natural Resources and partners as part of theRecreational Archery Program.

"

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398365544_Archery, hunting.pdf

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CHE Trinity Health Hires Marc R. Corriveau as Director of Michigan Advocacy

"Livonia, Mich., April 24, 2014 –- CHE Trinity Health today announced that former Michigan State Representative Marc R. Corriveau has been hired to serve as the system's Director of Michigan Advocacy. He took the post April 22, 2014."

Source: *MI Advocacy* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398364877_Michigan Advocacy .pdf

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Michigan Supreme Court to hear oral argument in insurance case in Kalamazoo

" High school students from 14 area schools (see list below) to study case with attorney mentors, attend oral argument, participate in debriefing session with counsel for parties, meet Supreme Court justices as part of "Court Community Connections" program. More than 4000 students have participated in this program since 2007.

"

Source: *MI Supreme Court* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398364733_Kalamazoo Media Advisory.pdf

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Levin statement on Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day

"Today, April 24, people around the world will pause to observe Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day. We will pause to reflect on the historical facts of the Armenian genocide – the deaths of more than 1.5 million men, women and children as part of a campaign of deportation, starvation and violence against an ethnic minority by the rulers of a collapsing Ottoman Empire in 1915. "

Source: *Senator Carl Levin* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398360823_Remembrance Day.pdf

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Multiple openers kick fishing season into high gear

"The Department of Natural Resources would like to remind anglers to get ready for the opening of three fishing seasons Saturday, April 26"

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398358352_Fishing season into high gear Saturday.pdf

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Workers and Community Members to Honor Michigan Workers Who Died

on the Job

"(Lansing, MI)– On Monday, April 28 at noon, working families and local officials will gather at Wentworth Park for a ceremony to commemorate those who have perished or suffered injuries or illness on the job and to call on Congress to create safe jobs for all working people."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398358049_MI Workers Who Died on the Job.pdf*

Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park reopens

"Department of Natural Resources officials today announced that the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park has been reopened. Portions of the trail (which runs from Comstock Park to Cadillac) had been temporarily closed due to downed trees, flooding and debris from recent severe storms. "

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398357944_Park reopens to public.pdf

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I-75 reconstruction scheduled to begin in Bay County

"MDOT will reconstruct 3.5 miles of I-75 from Pinconning Road north to the Bay/Arenac county line. This $14.7 million project is weather-dependent."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398357866_I-75 Reconstruction to begin in Bay County.pdf

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Senate approves bills to protect gun owners' privacy

*"**LANSING**—The Michigan Senate on Thursday passed legislation to protect gun owners' privacy by making firearms records confidential."*

Source: *Senators Casperson, Pavlov and Hansen* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398357233_Gun owners' privacy.pdf

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New public campaign spotlights how business tax reform has benefited the state's economy

"Small Business for Michigan today launched a public information campaign designed to remind the state's citizens that the overhaul of Michigan's business tax code has allowed small businesses to thrive and create jobs. "This communications effort is designed to help counter the misinformation and outright lies that have been spread about the impact of business tax reform," said Small Business for Michigan President Rob Fowler."

Source: *Small Business Association of MI* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398357098_State's economy.pdf

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MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS INDUSTRY CHAMPION AWARDS

"LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce the winners of the inaugural Michigan Restaurant Industry Champion Awards. The awards were presented at the Association's Dinner with the Champions event, held on April 21 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids."

Source: *MI Restaurant Association* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398356697_Oak. and Grand Rapids.pdf

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San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro to Address ACS Convention

"

Washington, D.C. - The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy announced today that San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro will provide featured remarks at its 2014 National Convention. The convention will also feature a conversation between Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and longtime civil rights attorney and leader Theodore M. Shaw."

Source: *American Constitution Society* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398354145_Address ACS Convention.pdf

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CORRECTED: Long Awaited FDA Proposal to Regulate E-Cigarettes, Cigars and Other Tobacco Products is

"

NOTE: This corrects "6-12 year olds" in paragraph 12 to read 6-12th graders. ***Washington, D.C. (April 24, 2014)*** *– Today, the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products issued its long-awaited proposal to regulate e-cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, hookah, pipe tobacco and other tobacco products. The proposed regulation would give FDA basic oversight authority over these unregulated products and require manufacturers to register with FDA; disclose their products' ingredients to the agency; and would prohibit tobacco companies from making health claims without FDA review. The proposed regulation would also establish 18 as the nationwide minimum age for the legal purchase of tobacco products."*

Source: *American Lung Association* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398352372_Cigar Regs Announcement.pdf

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Michigan conservation officers offer safe boating tips for National Safe

Boating Week May 17-23

"As the weather warms up and thoughts turn to summer recreation in Michigan, boating comes to the minds of many Michigan residents and visitors. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources' conservation officers remind Michigan residents to practice safety when boating."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398349420_Safe Boating Week.pdf

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Amash Now Denying His Own Votes Against Right to Life Agenda

*"**Grand Rapids, MI (3rd Congressional District)-** Congressman Justin Amash was the only Michigan Republican to vote against the ban on gender selection abortions and he stood alone by twice refusing to stop our tax dollars from funding America's largest abortion provider. When questioned on the Justin Barclay radio show on April 16th, Justin Amash"*

Source: *Ellis For Congress* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398348431_Right to Life Agenda.pdf

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U.P. roadside parks opening late this year

*"**April 24, 2014** – All roadside parks operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in the Upper Peninsula will remain closed until remaining snow melts, facilities thaw and water recedes. The parks are tentatively set to open May 12."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398347377_opening late this year.pdf

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Long Awaited FDA Proposal to Regulate E-Cigarettes, Cigars and Other Tobacco Products is an Importan

*"**Washington, D.C. (April 24, 2014)** – Today, the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products issued its long-awaited proposal to regulate e-cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, hookah, pipe tobacco and other tobacco products. The proposed regulation would give FDA basic oversight authority over these unregulated products and require manufacturers to register with FDA; disclose their products' ingredients to the agency; and would prohibit tobacco companies from making health claims without FDA review. "*

Source: *American Lung Association* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398347163_Step for Health.pdf

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Schuette Urges Drug Abuse Prevention, Promotes Safe Disposal of Prescription Drugs

*"**LANSING –** Attorney General Bill Schuette today encouraged Michigan citizens to participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. In partnership with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, various state and local law enforcement agencies will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. "*

Source: *Office of Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398347059_Prescription Drugs.pdf

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TODAY: Evangelical Leaders to Call for a Vote on Immigration Reform

*"**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. —** Top **Grand Rapids area evangelical leaders** will meet for a **press conference Thursday** to highlight the biblical call to welcome the stranger and urge Congress to move forward with a vote on immigration reform."*

Source: *Evangelical Immigration Table* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398346921_Immigration Reform.pdf

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Midland roundabout construction to begin April 28, weather permitting

*"**April 24, 2014 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is constructing a modern roundabout in Midland just east of Washington Street along M-20/US-10 Business Route (BR) at the Patrick Road crossover. MDOT is investing $1.1 million in safety improvements at this intersection to increase motorist safety. Work, originally scheduled in early April, was delayed due to frost and now starts Monday, April 28."*

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *04-25-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398346589_Midland roundabout weather permitting.pdf

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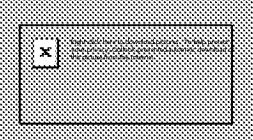
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 7:06 AM
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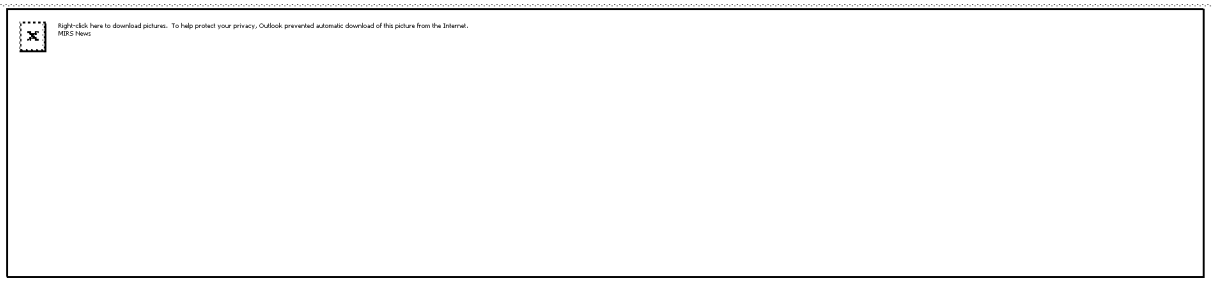
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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Another petition signature flap could shake up Metro Detroit race for congress

"DETROIT, MI -- In 2012, former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter resigned from office after failing to get on the ballot for re-election because staff members filed fraudulent petition signatures."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/04/another_petition_signature_fla.html#incart_river_default

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Michigan officials seek assurances from Enbridge on safety of Straits oil pipeline

"LANSING, MI — In the the wake of growing concern about the risk to the Great Lakes from an oil spill, Michigan officials are seeking assurances that twin 61-year-old pipelines running under the Straits of Mackinac are being properly maintained by the Canadian company responsible for the 2010 Kalamazoo River spill."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2014/04/michigan_officials_seek_assura.html#incart_river_default#incart_m-rpt-2

Flint emergency manager's budget proposal would cut 36 cops, 19 firefighters

"FLINT, MI – The city's police and fire departments would lose 36 police officer positions and 19 firefighter jobs under a new $55-million budget proposed today, April 30, by emergency manager Darnell Earley.

"

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/04/new_flint_budget_proposal_woul.html#incart_river_default

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Flint's emergency manager proposes police, fire cuts

"Flint's state-appointed emergency manager is proposing a $55 million budget that would cut 36 police officer positions and 19 firefighter jobs."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140501/NEWS06/305010069/Flint-police-fire-cuts

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Major state companies want to ban LGBT discrimination against workers

"Whirlpool, Dow Chemical, Google, Consumers Energy, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Herman Miller and Steelcase are among the founding members of the newly formed organization lobbying to make it illegal for employers to discriminate against workers based on sexual orientation and gender identity."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140501/BUSINESS06/305010042/lgbt-discrimination-jobs-gay-rights

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Morouns tell judge it's 'end of the race' if he won't block rival bridge

*"**WASHINGTON** — Matthew Moroun, whose family owns the Ambassador Bridge to Canada, told a federal judge Wednesday that if a Coast Guard permit is awarded to a rival span, it may all but guarantee its construction and end his family's decade-long effort to twin their 85-year-old Detroit River bridge."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140501/NEWS06/305010036/ambassador-bridge-NITC-moroun-lawsuit-coast-guard-michigan

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Panel to vote next week on bills to create teacher evaluation system in Michigan

"

Lansing — A committee of state lawmakers approved changes to two bills that would create Michigan's first statewide teacher evaluation system, delaying a final vote until next week."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140430/POLITICS02/304300037/Panel-vote-next-week-bills-create-teacher-evaluation-system-Michigan

Bill Clinton: Detroit hasn't always been 'basket case'

"

Washington — Former President Bill Clinton said Wednesday a federal empowerment zone designation that the city of Detroit received helped lower the unemployment rate, arguing that the city can turn around."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140430/METRO01/304300105/Bill-Clinton-Detroit-hasn-t-always-been-basket-case-

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Conyers' place on ballot may hinge on backdated registrations

"

Washington — An attempt to get Democratic Detroit Congressman John Conyers kicked off the August ballot is focusing on whether backdated voter registrations of two of his petition collectors invalidates their more than 300 collected signatures."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140430/POLITICS03/304300089/Conyers-place-ballot-may-hinge-backdated-registrations

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Execs want Michigan anti-bias laws for gays

"

Some of Michigan's top business leaders are launching a campaign to expand the state's workforce discrimination protections to include sexual orientation and gender identity."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/POLITICS02/305010046/Execs-want-Mich-anti-bias-laws-gays

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Michigan airport fixes in holding pattern

"

Michigan airport executives are asking for the first aviation fuel tax increase in 85 years to make improvements and repairs at the state's 235 public airports — an effort that has stalled after taking flight late last year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/BIZ/305010045/Michigan-airport-fixes-holding-pattern

GM CEO Mary Barra to speak before graduates at University of Michigan's commencement Saturday

"Commencement for University of Michigan Class of 2014 is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, May 3, and the graduates in Michigan Stadium that day will be addressed by GM CEO Mary Barra."

Source: *Ann Arbor News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/05/commencement_u-m.html#incart_river_default*

Advocacy/Opinion

The price Michigan pays for its intolerance toward gay people (guest column)

"I have lived in Michigan all 22 years of my life. I love its breweries, its sublime lakes, and I have even been patient with the Detroit Pistons."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140501/OPINION05/305010024/The-price-Michigan-pays-its-intolerance-toward-gay-people-guest-column-*

Tom Walsh: Michigan studying talent gap in bid to retain, attract auto jobs

"Michigan got good automotive news this week from Toyota, which is moving 250 purchasing jobs from Kentucky to its technical center near Ann Arbor — even as the Japanese auto giant shifts its U.S. headquarters and 3,000 other jobs from southern California to Plano, Texas."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140501/COL06/305010033/Tom-Walsh-Toyota-Volkswagen-BorgWarner*

Exposing the myth of male/female wage gap

"

Truly empowered women do not need new laws or executive orders to guarantee our success. We are making our own way."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/OPINION01/305010003/Exposing-myth-male-female-wage-gap*

Equal pay for equal work

"

Equal pay for equal work — it only makes sense, right? No matter if you're a man or a woman, if you're doing a job, then that job should be paid fairly. Unfortunately, in Michigan and the rest of our country, that's not the case. Nearly 50 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, women continue to pay the consequences of inequitable wage differences."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/OPINION01/305010004/Equal-pay-equal-work

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Bolger should allow grand bargain

"

Jase Bolger has a strong case for why Detroit's municipal labor unions should participate in the grand bargain that hopefully will resolve the city's bankruptcy. But what the Republican House speaker doesn't have is leverage to force the unions to put up the money, or the time to amend a deal that's the product of months of mediation and is about to go to creditors for a vote."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/OPINION01/305010010/Bolger-should-allow-grand-bargain

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Kaitlyn Buss: Never a better time to open up natural gas exports

"There are 25 applications for natural-gas exports sitting in some stack at the Energy Department, untouched. In the meantime, Russia holds Europe's supply of gas, and Putin continues to creep in on Ukraine, suffocating and threatening its gas supply, too."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/04/30/kaitlyn-buss-gas-exports/*

Peters, Reid court Calif. billionaire

"

More evidence is surfacing of Gary Peters' hypocrisy about money in politics."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/OPINION01/305010002/Peters-Reid-court-Calif-billionaire

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Bankruptcy deals' aid comes with strings attached

"

Accountability, that elusive ideal prized by whoever writes the checks, is all the rage in the accelerating talks to get Detroit through its historic bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140501/BIZ/305010034/Bankruptcy-deals-aid-comes-strings-attached*

More Good News for Michigan

"Over the past decade, Mackinac Center for Public Policy analysts have pointed out that the Great Lake State ranked at the bottom of a number of economic measures and indicators."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20010*

SEIU Membership Drops 80 Percent After Dues Skim Ends

"More than 44,000 home-based caregivers no longer are part of the SEIU Healthcare Michigan, according to federal reports filed by the union."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20032*

How to Pass a Detroit Bailout the Majority Party Opposes

"Notwithstanding some mixed poll results, outside of Detroit most Michigan voters probably regard a proposed partial state bailout for the city as unfair, given they played no role in the fiscal malpractice that landed the city in federal bankruptcy court."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20030*

Which Michigan School Districts Pay The Most?

"The average teacher salary in Michigan's top 10 highest paying districts for 2013 was over $81,000 per year. But there appears to be no correlation between higher paid educators and student outcomes."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20039*

Specialized support for at-risk students is effective

""Ms. Lewis invested time in her students and leveraged community resources from businesses, churches and even people in her personal circle. With the opportunities she presented me, Ms. Lewis opened my eyes to see that there was so much more to life than the neighborhood I lived in. Ms. Lewis was not just another high school counselor or another person with a title or position. She was a friend, a mother and a community developer. Ms. Lewis could relate to my peers in a way that other school staff could not, and more importantly, she was willing to advocate for students. I found myself referring my peers to the program all of the time."

"

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/05/specialized-support-for-at-risk-students-is-effective/*

Study to measure cost of education unlikely in election year

"With stark divisions in Michigan over how to best fund public schools, one solution adopted by most states is to fund an "adequacy study." Such studies are intended to determine how much it costs per pupil to offer all students a quality education."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/05/study-to-measure-cost-of-education-unlikely-in-election-year/*

Long-term fixes to Michigan school funding unlikely this year

"At DeWitt Junior High, it's not uncommon to see kids wearing trendy North Face jackets and the coolest gym shoes as they tromp around campus, nestled in this bedroom community just north of Lansing's vaulted halls of power. They come from middle-income families for the most part."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/05/long-term-fixes-to-michigan-school-funding-unlikely-this-year/*

Press Releases

AARP files amicus brief in Detroit bankruptcy case

"AARP filed an amicus brief late this afternoon with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in each of seven appeals filed in the Detroit bankruptcy case. "

Source: *AARP* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398894065_aarp.pdf*

NWF Supports Michigan Effort to Get More Information on Straits of Mackinac

Pipeline

"Ann Arbor, Mich. (April 30, 2014) – Michigan officials yesterday publicly pressed Enbridge Inc.—the company responsible for the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history—to answer questions about its plans to expand its decades-old pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac."

Source: *National Wildlife Federation* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398893911_nwf.pdf

Coldwater Man Wins Poker Lotto's Top Prize: $100,000!

*"**LANSING**, April 30, 2014 – A 33-year-old Coldwater man, Gregory Wicker, is the latest $100,000 winner in the Michigan Lottery's Poker Lotto game. Wicker's $1 ticket matched all five winning cards -- Jack of Diamonds, King of Spades, 10 of Hearts, 7 of Diamonds and 5 of Spades – in Monday evening's drawing."*

Source: *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398893838_lottery.pdf

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Huizenga Legislation To Preserve Environment, Protect Taxpayers Passes Out of Committee

*"**Washington, DC** – Today, the House Committee on Natural Resources passed H.R. 4318, The Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act, introduced by Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) by a vote of 27-15. H.R. 4318 prioritizes resources for species protection by placing reasonable caps on attorney's fees and making the Endangered Species Act (ESA) limits consistent with other federal law. Congressman Huizenga released the following statement on H.R. 4318:"*

Source: *Congressman Huizenga* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398888208_Passes Out of Committee.pdf

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Rep. Peters Welcomes Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson to Michigan to Discuss th

"Detroit, MI - U.S. Representative Gary Peters and United States Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson will convene a roundtable discussion to discuss prioritization of Northern Border infrastructure in Michigan this Friday morning, May 2, 2014, at the Detroit Regional Chamber."

Source: *Gary Peters for Senate* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398888107_Northern Border.pdf

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Granting 30 Wishes In 30 Days for Michigan Foster Children and Parents

"Lansing, Mich. May 1, 2014 – As a single father, Antoine Hudson of Harper Woods has his hands full with six

boys between the ages of 9 and 15, plus a full-time job. This does not keep Hudson from being a devoted and compassionate foster parent who's taken 17 children into his home since 2005 – adopting three of them."

Source: *MI Dept. of Human Services* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398888005_30 Across Michigan.pdf

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No weight restrictions on lower peninsula state roads beginning May 5; still in effect for U.P.

"April 30, 2014 – Effective 6 a.m. Monday, May 5, weight restrictions will no longer be in effect on state trunkline highways from the southern Michigan border north to the Mackinac Bridge. However, weight restrictions will remain imposed and enforced on all state trunkline highways in the Upper Peninsula. State routes typically carry M, I, or US designations."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887872_till in effect for U.P..pdf

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A 30-second TV spot sponsored by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce

*"**A 30-second TV spot sponsored by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce** is now airing in select markets around the state in support of Terri Lynn Land for US Senate. The TV spot may be viewed on the Michigan Chamber's YouTube Channel here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqr6b-lDHrk&list=UUGrxKpVQtu3RJJ6luPW1hiw"*

Source: *Michigan Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887807_Choice for US Senate.pdf

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Bills would allow use of hazardous materials without landowner's consent

"Property owners could have hazardous industrial byproducts placed on their land without their consent under legislation being considered this week in the Michigan House of Representatives. HB 5400, 5401 and 5402 would allow expanded use of industrial byproducts including fly ash from coal-fired power plant smokestacks, foundry sands and sludge from pulp and paper mills."

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887462_out landowner's consent.pdf

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Levin remarks at Anne Frank traveling exhibit ribbon cutting

"WASHINGTON – Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., today participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for a traveling exhibition of the Anne Frank Center, which will be on display at the Russell Senate Office Building through May 9. Following are Levin's remarks:"

Source: *Office of Carl Levin* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887336_exhibit ribbon cutting.pdf

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Republicans and their special interest allies are at it again, telling outright lies to hold on to p

"In a recent mail piece, Americans for Prosperity attacked Theresa Abed for working in a bipartisan effort to provide quality, affordable health insurance to almost 500,000 working families and children, at no cost to Michigan taxpayers."

Source: *MI Democrats* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887213_Against Theresa Abed.pdf*

AgriPac endorses Cole's bid for 105th House district

*"**LANSING** — AgriPac, Michigan Farm Bureau's (MFB) political action committee, broke with tradition this week in announcing its early endorsement of Triston Cole's candidacy to represent District 105 in the Michigan House of Representatives. The Antrim County farmer and truck driver is seeking to succeed current Rep. Greg MacMaster, who is making a run for the 37th state Senate district."*

Source: *MI Farm Bureau* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398887145_04-29 AgriPAC endorsement - Triston Cole.pdf*

MICHIGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENDORSES TERRI LYNN LAND FOR U.S. SENATE

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Chamber of Commerce today announced its endorsement of Terri Lynn Land for US Senate, noting that Michigan's working families and job providers need to send someone new to Washington, DC, who will fight for Michigan families and businesses and drive business to Michigan."

Source: *MI Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886976_Land for U.S. Senate.pdf

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MICHIGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENDORSES TERRI LYNN LAND FOR U.S. SENATE

"(LANSING, MI) April 30, 2014—Today, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce endorsed Republican candidate Terri Lynn Land over Congressman Gary Peters in the race to replace retiring U.S. Senator Carl Levin. "

Source: *Terri Lynn Land for Senate* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886884_Lynn Land for Senate.pdf

Camp Hosts 4th District Congressional Art Competition

"Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland) and 4th District students participating in the 2014 Congressional Art Competition. "

Source: *Congressman Camp* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886796_Art Competition.pdf*

National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day to take place May 3

"The Department of Natural Resources encourages residents to participate in National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, which will be held Saturday, May 3. The day of preparedness is in partnership with the wildfire safety experts from the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Fire Adapted Community."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886718_Preparedness Day, May 3.pdf*

MIOSHA Invites Employers and Workers to Share a Cup of Coffee and Learn about the Benefits of Workpl

*"**April 30, 2014 –** The **Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA)** is holding a "Coffee with MIOSHA" information session to promote the benefits of workplace safety and health in protecting workers and improving the business bottom line. On **May 1, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** MIOSHA and the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA) are sponsoring the coffee to reach out to construction employers and employees to help "Connect MIOSHA to Industry". This event will be located at The MITA Building, 2937 Atrium Dr., Okemos, MI 48864. "*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886636_Safety and Health.pdf*

Land Would Choose Tea Party & Special Interests Over Michigan; Block Minimum Wage Increase

"LANSING - Today, the same Tea Party Republicans who helped shut down the government continued their irresponsible agenda by helping to block a measure to raise the minimum wage to $10.10 an hour. Former Republican National Committeewomen Terri Lynn Land already chose the Tea Party in Washington and her special interest benefactors the Koch Brothers over Michiganders when she signed Sen. Ted Cruz's pledge to shut down the government and opposed paycheck fairness. Land has given no indication that she would support today's proposal to raise the federal minimum wage."

Source: *MI Democratic Party* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398886511_Minimum Wage Increase.pdf*

Website breaks down $623 million in Snyder's cuts on each university, college

"EAST LANSING – A new online tool shows the impact of Gov. Rick Snyder's $623 million in budget cuts on each of Michigan's universities and community colleges. According to www.kidsnotceos.com, using publicly available data, all 15 public universities and 61 percent of Michigan's 33 community colleges have lost state funding since 2011, when Snyder slashed higher education funding by 15 percent."

Source: *Michigan Education Association* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398875776_website.pdf*

UPDATED W/DATE: Mothers, Elected Officials Come Together for Third Annual Mamas' March

"Third Annual Mamas' March calling for legislative action on increasing the the minimum wage, access to paid sick days, affordable childcare, programs for domestic violence survivors, and infant mortality reduction programs "

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398875415_update_mothers.pdf*

Dr. Benishek Pleased FDA to Reconsider Harmful "Spent Grain" Rule

"WASHINGTON, DC: Today, Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) assisted with an effort opposing proposed regulations by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that rule that would prevent companies like local breweries that produce "spent grain," from providing this resource to area farmers at minimal cost. As a result of the concerns raised by a variety of stakeholders and officials, the FDA recently indicated that they would reconsider the new rule."

Source: *Dr. Benishek* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398875298_fda.pdf*

Camp: The Status Quo Isn't Working

"Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Dave Camp (R-MI), Ways and Means Committee Chairman, issued the following statement in reaction to the news that the economy grew 0.1 percent in the first quarter of 2014. "

Source: *Congressman Dave Kamp Press Office* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874914_camp.pdf*

Mothers, Elected Officials Come Together for Third Annual Mamas' March

"Third Annual Mamas' March calling for legislative action on increasing the the minimum wage, access to paid sick days, affordable childcare, programs for domestic violence survivors, and infant mortality reduction programs "

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874836_mothers.pdf*

Detroit Free Press, Wall Street Journal on Terri Lynn Land and equal pay for women

"If a politician favors policies that are harmful to you, does it matter if that politician happens to be male or female?

If you live in Michigan and own a TV, you've seen the commercial in which Republican U.S. Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land attempts to convince female voters that because she's a woman herself, she couldn't possibly favor policies that might be less-than-beneficial to women."

Source: *Michigan Dems* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874739_free press.pdf*

Schuette, Wyant Request Details on Status of 61-Year-Old Mackinac Straits Enbridge Oil Pipelines

*"**LANSING** — Attorney General Bill Schuette and Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant today announced they are seeking detailed information on the current status of two Enbridge oil pipelines laid in the Mackinac Straits more than sixty years ago. The formal request to Enbridge Inc. and Enbridge Pipelines Inc., asks for detailed information to ensure the Great Lakes are protected from a catastrophic spill in the event of a pipeline failure. "*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874602_protecting.pdf*

Eastbound I-196 reconstruction scheduled to start May 12 in Allegan County

*"**April 30, 2014** – On Monday, May 12, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is scheduled to begin reconstructing more than 7 miles of eastbound I-196 in Allegan County, from the split with US-31 to the Ottawa County line in Holland."*

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874388_I196.pdf*

State Of Michigan Soft Launches MiSACWIS;New Child Welfare Data System

"Lansing, Mich. April 30, 2014 – The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) implemented the soft launch of its new Michigan Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (MiSACWIS) this morning at 8 a.m."

Source: *Michigan Department of Human Services* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398874098_misa.pdf

CORRECTION: Schuette Charges - Defendant's name has been corrected in first paragraph.

"

The correct name of defendant is Joe Novak.

"
Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398873607_correction.pdf

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Sparrow honors 'Physician of the Year,' names new members to Physician Hall of Fame

"LANSING, Mich. – Michael H. Zaroukian, M.D., Ph.D., MACP, FHIMSS, a Primary Care Physician and renowned Medical Information Specialist, is Sparrow's 2014 Physician of the Year.
Husband and wife James DeMuth, M.D. and Robin DeMuth, M.D., share the honor of receiving the Sparrow Physician Leadership award."

Source: *Sparrow Hospital* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398873483_sparrow.pdf

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Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 4/29/2014

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 4/29/2014.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release,
see http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx"

Source: *Michigan Appellate Courts* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398873248_court of appeals.pdf

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MDOT's Reality Check: "Roads like Ohio"

*"**April 30, 2014** – "We need to find out how Ohio builds roads that are so much better than Michigan's." The latest "Reality Check" video and fact sheet from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) examines why*

Ohio's roads are in better shape than Michigan's: greater investment."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398873082_roads.pdf*

Schuette Charges Michigan Construction Co. Owner With MIOSHA Violation Resulting in Employee's Death

*"**LANSING** – Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that his Criminal Division has filed felony charges against Paul Novak, 40, of Holland. Novak is President and Owner of Black River Builders, LLC of Sparta, Michigan and has been charged with one count of Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSHA) Violation Causing Death in connection with the death of 38-year-old Brian Tarachanowicz on July 2, 2012. "*

Source: *Attorney General Bill Schuette* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872982_schutte.pdf

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Northbound M-10 closed between I-75 and I-94 in Wayne County this weekend

"April 30, 2014 – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is closing northbound M-10 (John C. Lodge Freeway) this weekend between I-75 and I-94 for construction. The closurebegins 9 p.m. Friday, May 2, and will remain closed until 5 a.m. Monday, May 5, weather permitting. The posted detour includes southbound I-75 to westbound I-96, then eastbound I-94 tonorthbound M-10."

Source: *MDOT* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872872_M10.pdf*

AFP Launches Mail Campaign on Rep. Abed's ObamaCare Support

"LANSING – The Michigan chapter of Americans for Prosperity announced the launch today of an educational effort regarding Representative Theresa Abed's stance on ObamaCare. Michiganders in Eaton County are receiving mail pieces that highlight Abed's support for the law. "

Source: *Americans for Prosperity* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872745_AFP.pdf

Congressman Dan Kildee Endorses Curtis Hertel Jr. for the Michigan Senate

"We are pleased to announce today that Congressman Dan Kildee, from the Michigan 5th District, has officially endorsed Curtis Hertel Jr. for the Michigan State Senate's 23rd district. Congressman Kildee is in his first term of Congress and, like Hertel, served on his county commission and in a county-wide position before seeking higher office. "While we come from different counties, the concerns and problems we faced are very similar," Kildee said. "Curtis, like myself, has taken the opportunity to utilize the full extent of his office to help people, and that is a great accomplishment.""

Source: *Curtis Hertel Jr.* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**

http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872645_hertel.pdf

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Experts to Discuss Why Raising the Minimum Wage is Still a Bad Idea

"(Washington, D.C.) – On Wednesday, April 30th, at 10:30 a.m., the Independent Women's Forum (IWF) will host a press call to discuss why raising the federally-mandated minimum wage to $10.10 an hour is an ineffective tool against poverty and would hinder low-income workers' prospects. Participants will detail the problem with a higher mandatory minimum wage, explain why Democrats' pledge to boost the federally-mandated wage nearly 40 percent is an inefficient way to help families on the brink and what it would mean for businesses, the labor market, and the economy at large."

Source: *Independent Women's Forum* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872551_experts.pdf

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Heartland Institute Experts React to Supreme Court Ruling on EPA Air Pollution Rule

"The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled 6–2 to affirm the Environmental Protection Agency's ability via the so-called "Cross-State Air Pollution Rule" to regulate power-plant emissions when those emissions have the potential to hurt downwind air-quality. The ruling in EPA v. EME Homer City Generation will affect about 1,000 power plants in 28 states."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *05-01-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1398872460_heartland.pdf

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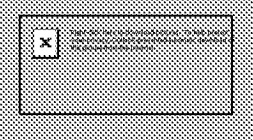
MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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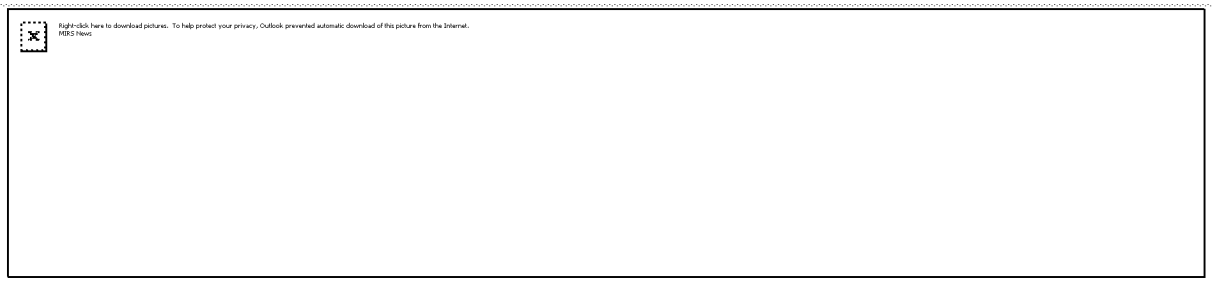

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State money for Detroit? New Michigan panel to consider 'grand bargain' legislation, oversight

"LANSING, MI -- A pending proposal to send at least $195 million in state money to Detroit as part of a "grand bargain" bankruptcy settlement will work its way through a new committee in the Michigan Legislature."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/05/state_money_for_detroit_new_mi.html#incart_river_default*

Stamp sand bill draws concern

"HOUGHTON - State Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, has authored a bill, which if approved by the Legislature, would remove stamp sands from Michigan environmental law restrictions with some exceptions."

Source: *Houghton Daily Mining Gazette* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/534069/Stamp-sand-bill-draws-concern.html?nav=5006*

Flint emergency manager to council: Offer ideas but don't change budget's bottom line

"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Darnell Earley says hisproposed budget isn't written in stone, but there is one thing he's not going to change."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/05/hearings_start_on_flint_emerge.html#incart_river_default

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Fed study: Climate will get wilder in Michigan

"

Washington — Michigan is already seeing the effects of climate change, and the weather extremes will get worse, a federal scientific panel said in a report released Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140506/SCIENCE/305060039/Fed-study-Climate-will-get-wilder-Michigan

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Proposed fund would aid Michigan victims in meningitis outbreak

"

Boston — Michigan residents affected by a deadly nationwide meningitis outbreak in 2012 linked to a Massachusetts pharmacy could share in some $100 million in a proposed settlement that would create a fund to compensate victims, lawyers said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140506/NATION/305060130/Proposed-fund-would-aid-Michigan-victims-meningitis-outbreak

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Michigan may tap rainy day fund to settle Detroit bankruptcy

"

Lansing — The state of Michigan could dip into its $580 million rainy day fund to make a one-time infusion of $194.8 million into Detroit's pension funds and help settle the city's bankruptcy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140506/POLITICS02/305060106/Michigan-may-tap-rainy-day-fund-settle-Detroit-bankruptcy

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Detroit bankruptcy bill for 6 months: $36M

"

Detroit — Lawyers and consultants have billed taxpayers $36.3 million in fees and expenses for six months of work on Detroit's landmark bankruptcy case, according to documents filed Tuesday in federal court."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140506/METRO01/305060131/Detroit-bankruptcy-bill-6-months-36M

Michigan law limits temporary motorcycle permits

*"**LANSING** — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a law limiting the ability of motorcyclists to obtain temporary training permits as opposed to a full operating endorsement."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140506/NEWS06/305060170/Michigan-temporary-motorcycle-permits

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Lawmakers split on upfront payment to help settle Detroit bankruptcy

*"**LANSING** — The City of Detroit's latest bankruptcy exit plan, released Monday, calls for the State of Michigan to contribute $194.8 million upfront toward the settlement, rather than $350 million over 20 years, as originally proposed."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140506/NEWS06/305060144/detroit-bankruptcy-legislature-grand-bargain

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Second ballot proposal to stop gray wolf hunt in U.P. approved

*"**LANSING** — A second ballot proposal to try to stop the hunt of gray wolves in the Upper Peninsula was deemed to have enough valid signatures today and will appear on the Nov. 5 general election ballot."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140506/NEWS06/305060109/gray-wolf-wolves-hunt-upper-peninsula-michigan-ballot

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$194 million to help Detroit could come from state's rainy day fund

*"**LANSING** — If the state chooses to make an up-front $194.8-million contribution to help the City of Detroit exit its historic bankruptcy, the money likely would come from the rainy day fund, according to Rep. John Walsh, who was appointed Tuesday to head a special committee to govern the process."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20140506/NEWS06/305060157/michigan-committee-grand-bargain-detroit-bankruptcy

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Could U.S. Rep. John Conyers win a write-in fight? Don't count him out

*"**WASHINGTON** — If U.S. Rep. John Conyers doesn't make the Democratic primary ballot in the race for his 26th two-year term in office, it will be a major embarrassment, to say the least."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140507/NEWS06/305070040/john-conyers-petition-write-in-election-ballot-signatures-sheffield*

State reps call for EPA oversight of Dearborn Severstal plant

"State representatives George T. Darany, D-Dearborn, and Rashida H. Tlaib, D-Detroit, are asking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to oversee the air permitting process and compliance for the Severstal Dearborn steel plant, known as one of Michigan's worst air polluters."

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2014/05/06/news/doc53691a507420d719639670.txt*

Michigan Legislature advances budget bills

"The Michigan House passed a $36.5 billion omnibus budget bill Tuesday as the Senate approved parts of its spending plan that would increase higher education funding by 6.8 percent."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20140506/NEWS/305060038/Michigan-Legislature-advances-budget-bills*

Split House votes to let coal ash be used in roads

*"**LANSING** — Divided Michigan lawmakers on Tuesday voted to allow for the use of coal ash and other industrial byproducts in cement and asphalt, approving legislation that would reclassify certain hazardous wastes for "beneficial use.""*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20140506/NEWS/305060039/Split-House-votes-let-coal-ash-used-roads*

Advocacy/Opinion

Voters can push lawmakers to address road crisis

"Like a face full of sunshine, for most of us an income tax cut is something you just don't turn your back on."

Source: *Escanaba Daily Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/547321/Voters-can-push-lawmakers-to-address-road-*

crisis.html?nav=5052

Rep. Kildee: So-called free trade is not in Michigan's best interests

"

When on the brink of collapse, Congress and the Obama administration bet on American workers. Since that time, tens of thousands of good-paying automotive manufacturing jobs have been created or saved, fueling our nation's manufacturing growth. In April, 12,000 manufacturing jobs were created — 10,900 alone by the automotive industry. Since 2010, 647,000 manufacturing jobs have been added nationwide. Every day, American companies are making world-class automobiles, creating jobs and selling more cars here and across the globe."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140507/OPINION01/305070011/Rep-Kildee-called-free-trade-not-Michigan-s-best-interests

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Editorial: Michiganians want better roads, education

"

Candidates on the campaign trail in Michigan this season ought to be whittling their messages down to these basics: How they'll fix the state's miserable roads, and how they'll get students the job skills they need to make a decent living."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140507/OPINION01/305070004/Editorial-Michiganians-want-better-roads-education

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Howes: Tough questions loom, but don't count out Fiat Chrysler

"

Auburn Hills— Italy's Fiat SpA rescued Chrysler from bankruptcy in 2009, and Detroit's No. 3 automaker is returning the favor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140507/BIZ/305070024/Howes-Tough-questions-loom-don-t-count-out-Fiat-Chrysler

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Editorial: Michigan lawmakers are divided - but voters aren't

"The Michigan electorate is hopelessly divided.

"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20140506/OPINION01/305060136/michigan-voters-priorities-candidates-house-senate-congress-legislature*

Attorney General: School District Violating State Law By Automatically Deducting Union Dues

"The Wayne-Westland Community Schools district automatically deducts union dues from employee paychecks, which the Michigan Attorney General's office says is a violation of state law."

Source: *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20051*

No consensus for raising – or cutting – taxes in 2014

"Michigan residents are well aware of problems facing the state – rising college costs, declining quality of K-12 education and the dilapidated shape of the state's pockmarked road system."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/05/no-consensus-for-raising-or-cutting-taxes-in-2014/*

Public to politicians: Fix our roads!

"Michigan residents want better roads, and a majority are willing to pay for it."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://bridgemi.com/2014/05/public-to-politicians-fix-our-roads/*

Press Releases

Senate panel approves 'cyber revenge' bills

*"**LANSING—**Bipartisan legislation sponsored by Sens. Rick Jones and Steven Bieda to criminalize "cyber revenge" was approved on Tuesday by the Senate Judiciary Committee."*

Source: *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399409596_panel.pdf*

Senate Republicans Continue to Raid School Aid Fund, Push Conservative

and Divisive Agenda in Budget

"LANSING — Michigan Senate Democrats continued to fight to protect public school funding today as Senate Republicans passed budgets that took $263 million away from K-12 schools. Senate Democrats also criticized Senate Republicans' use of budget bills to push a discriminatory and socially conservative agenda."

Source: *Michigan Senate Democrats* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399409545_senate.pdf

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Michigan Appeals Court to Hear Arguments in Highland Park "Right to Read" Lawsuit Tomorrow

"DETROIT – The Michigan Court of Appeals will hear arguments Wednesday, May 7 at 10 a.m. on the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan's lawsuit against the state of Michigan and the Highland Park School District for failing to take effective steps to ensure that students are reading at grade level as set forth by state law and Constitution. In June 2013, a Wayne County judge ruled the lawsuit on behalf of eight students may proceed and set a trial date. This decision was then appealed by the state and school district. "

Source: *ACLU Michigan* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399409490_appeals.pdf

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Conyers: "Extending Unemployment Insurance Is the Least Congress Can Do"

"(WASHINGTON) – Today, Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13) issued the following statement regarding Congress's continuing failure to extend emergency Unemployment Insurance (UI). On December 28, 1.3 million Americans immediately lost access to UI, with the expiration of the program. Every week, an average of 72,000 more Americans are cut off from assistance.

"

Source: *Congressman John Conyers* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399409433_conyers.pdf

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Legislature Puts Corporate Polluters Over Public Health, Again

"LANSING – Today, the Michigan Legislature passed a package of bills that once again put corporate polluters over public health and our Great Lakes. The bills allow utilities that burn coal to spread coal ash, a toxic byproduct produced by coal-fired power plants, across the state in road foundations and under parking lots. The legislation also exempts the companies that create and use the coal ash from liability if the ash contaminates drinking water supplies."

Source: *Engage Michigan* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399409376_legislature.pdf

Gov. Rick Snyder: Teachers inspire, motivate and provide the foundation for the rest of our lives

"LANSING, Michigan – Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement about Teacher Appreciation Week and National Teacher Day."

Source: *Gov Newsroom* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399407565_teacher.pdf

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Heartland Institute Climate Experts Respond to Obama Administration's Climate Assessment Report

"The Obama administration today released its third National Climate Assessment (NCA) predicting a series of calamities and urging action on the president's climate agenda."

Source: *Heartland Institute* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399405641_Assessment Report.pdf

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Immigration Policy Discussion with Rep. Luis Gutiérrez and Mayor Rahm Emanuel

"

- *Welcome:* ***Sarah Rosen Wartell****, president, Urban Institute*
- *Moderator:* ***Jim Avila****, senior national correspondent, ABC News, and White House correspondent, ABC News/Fusion*

"

Source: *URBAN INSTITUTE* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399403744_immigration policy.pdf

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Alcoa Howmet, Whitehall Operations Receives MIOSHA's Highest Recognition Award of their Workplace Sa

*"**May 6, 2014 – Alcoa Howmet, Whitehall Operations** located in Whitehall was awarded the **MVPP Star Award**, the state's highest workplace safety and health award, from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA). The MIOSHA program is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

Source: *LARA* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399403846_Recognition Award.pdf

Change Agent Consortium Calls for Teacher Re-Instatement After EAA Violence

*"**(DETROIT)** – Last week a Detroit teacher was fired after breaking up a physical altercation between two students in her Pershing High School classroom with a broom. While teachers have been instructed to call for security on their walkie talkies during situations such as these, this teacher's device was malfunctioning. Pershing is a part of the Educational Achievement Authority (EAA), the state's school turnaround district. The reasoning set forth for the teacher being fired is that the school district does not tolerate child abuse."*

Source: *Change Agent Consortium* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399402733_After EAA Violence.pdf

VIDEO: Marisa: Really, Land Would Ban Birth Control Like the Pill Michigan women speak out against L

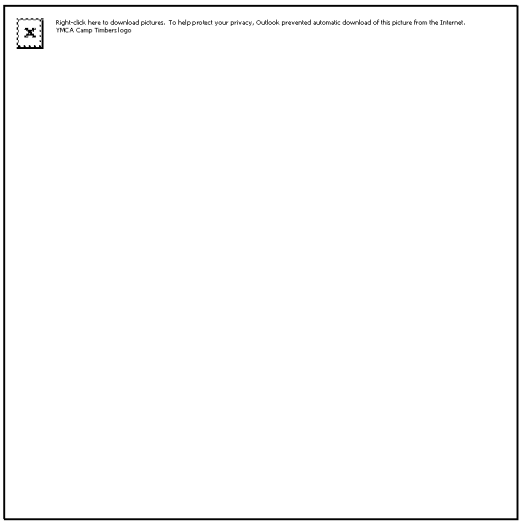
"LANSING - Today the Michigan Democratic Party is featuring Marisa, a student, who can't believe that former National Republican Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land would ban birth control, like the pill. "

Source: *MI Democrats* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399402590_Control Like the Pill.pdf

'Camp Kitigin' offers summer camp nostalgia, outdoor fun for adults

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) have created a unique Michigan experience to help adults disconnect from their busy lives and reconnect with nature. "Camp Kitigin" at the YMCA Camp Timbers is set for Aug. 15-17 and Sept. 12-14."

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399402386_nostalgia for adults.pdf



State and Local Chambers Meet in Lansing For Chamber Day

"Lansing, Mich. – Today the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and 31 local Chambers from around the state are meeting in Lansing to coordinate their efforts and strategies foraccomplishing their combined goals in 2014."

Source: *MI Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399401498_ChamDay.PR.pdf*

Snyder signs bill improving motorcycle safety standar

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation encouraging motorcycle operators to apply for a full operating endorsement rather than a temporary permit."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399401424_*

Snyder signs bill improving motorcycle safety standar

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation encouraging motorcycle operators to apply for a full operating endorsement rather than a temporary permit."

Source: *Office of Governor Snyder* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399401255_*

SEE MICHIGAN NATIONAL BRIDGE INVENTORY LINK BELOW FOR ORIGINAL DATA WITH LISTINGS OF INDIVIDUAL BRID

"FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 6, 2014 Contact: Mike Nystrom Executive Vice President Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association 517-896-1493 Statewide Bridge Rankings Released Wayne County Ranks #1 for Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete Bridges Okemos, Mich. – Wayne County has the worst bridges in the entire state, according to an extensive statewide analysis of nearly 11,000 state and local bridges released today by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA)."

Source: *MITA* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399401086_Released-Original Data.pdf*

Schuette Denied Full Appellate Court Review of Marriage Equality Case

"The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has denied Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's motion to have a full bench hear his appeal in Michigan's landmark gay marriage case. Schuette had petitioned for an "en banc" hearing — which means full bench — instead of the standard three-judge panel, but the court determined Monday evening that no judge "favored" the suggestion and denied the petition."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399400978_The ladies to par-tee.pdf*

Michigan to host North American Conference on Elderly Mobility in Detroit May 11-14

*"**- Michigan will host the North American Conference on Elderly Mobility May 11-14. - Conference will bring transportation professionals to Detroit to explore best practices in older adult mobility and learn about new developments in the field.***

"

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399927_Detroit_May_11-14.pdf

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Sen. Jones bags a wild turkey

*"**LANSING—**Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, shows off the result of a successful wild turkey hunt on Sunday, May 4. The senator encourages Michigan residents to take advantage of one of the nation's longest wild turkey seasons."*

Source: *Office of Senator Jones* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399824_Jones_bags_a_wild_turkey.pdf

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"Michigan GOP leaves Justin Amash to fend for himself"

""Not one fellow Michigan congressional Republican has donated money to U.S. Rep. Justin Amash in his competitive GOP primary race against Grand Rapids area businessman Brian Ellis.""

Source: *Brian Ellis Campaign* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399714_To_fend_for_himself.pdf

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State Board Approves Petitions for Second Wolf Referendum

*"**LANSING, MICH.** - The Board of State Canvassers certified a second referendum for the November 2014 statewide ballot, giving Michigan voters the opportunity to protect wolves from trophy hunting and protect their right to vote on wildlife policy issues. With two petition drives totaling nearly 500,000 voter signatures, Michiganders have made it clear to their politicians and bureaucrats that facts and not falsehoods should dictate wildlife management."*

Source: *Keep Wolves Protected.com* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399516_Second_Wolf_Referendum.pdf

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CONSTRUCTION ALERT: I-94 (Washtenaw County)

"Starting Wednesday, May 7, sound wall repair is expected to begin along I-94 between US-12 and

Rawsonville Road. "

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399391_I-94 in Washtenaw County.pdf

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Evening reception with Dr. Edward Canfield, candidate for the 84th House District

"Please join us for an evening reception with Dr. Edward Canfield, candidate for the 84th House District. We will be gathering tomorrow, ***Wednesday, May 7th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on,*** *at Kris Nicholoff's home at* ***7930 Ashbrook Drive, Haslett, 48840****. A formal invitation is attached. "*

Source: *Grassroots Midwest* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399399264_Canfield Evening Reception.pdf

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"Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" A free seminar presented by the Oakland County Probate Co

*"****Oakland County, MI*** *(May 6, 2014) – The Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" at the City of Novi Older Adult Services (Novi Civic Center) on Thursday, May 15, 2014, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. This program is designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process. The Novi Civic Center is located at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road in Novi. "*

Source: *Oakland County* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399389368_Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court - Novi - 5-15-14.pdf

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Dr. Benishek Applauds Educators on National Teacher Day - Congressman Cites Local Teacher as Key

"WASHINGTON, DC: Today, Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) recognized National Teacher Day and the impact that educators have on the community and future generations. The First District of Michigan is home to thousands of teachers who labor day in and day out to provide high quality instruction to Northern Michigan students."

Source: *Congressman Benishek* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399389232_Michigan Information & R...on National Teacher Day.pdf

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News conference to unveil major study of impact of 20 years of tax cutting policies in Michigan

*"**Who:** Doug Drake, former director of Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis, Michigan Department of Treasury"*

Source: *Martin Waymire* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399369142_state budget, economy.pdf

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DNR honors Michigan Tree City USA communities; utilities, colleges also recognized for tree care

"The Department of Natural Resources and the Arbor Day Foundation today announced that 125 Michigan communities have been awarded "Tree City USA" certification for their promotion of community forestry in 2013. (A full list of communities certified is available in the PDF file available for download below.) "

Source: *MI Dept of Natural Resources* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399368473_colleges also recognized.pdf

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Last week I introduced legislation to repeal SB 636

"Many of you have contacted my office regarding Senate Bill 636, which would allow Michigan phone companies to eliminate land-line telephone service beginning in 2017. "

Source: *Representative Stacey Irwin Oakes* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399386285_Stacey Irwin Oakes.pdf

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M-55 roadwork begins Monday, May 12

"This $990,000 project includes 5 miles of pavement improvements from the I-75 Business Loop in West Branch east to the M-33 junction."

Source: *MI Dept. of Transportation* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399386088_begins Monday, May 12.pdf

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Steam Railroading Institute (SRI) to Receive Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

*"**OWOSSO, Mich.** – The **Steam Railroading Institute** will receive the **2014 Governor's Award for Historic Preservation**, according to Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan State Housing Development Authority Executive Director Scott Woosley. "*

Source: *Steam Railroading Institute* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385808_steam.pdf

Cooley Law School Tampa Bay Adds Three Faculty Members and Now Offers All Courses for Gradutation

"RIVERVIEW, Fla. – (May 6, 2014) – Starting with the May term, the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Tampa Bay campus will add three professors and the classes necessary for students to fulfill requirements for graduation at the law school, which opened in 2012."

Source: *Thomas M. Cooley Law School* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385766_cooley.pdf

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U.S. Congressman Dan Kildee declares Rudy Hobbs the best choice for MI 14th Congressional District

*"**Detroit, MI (Tuesday, May 6, 2014) –** Today, **Rep. Rudy Hobbs (D-Southfield)** announced he has earned the support of another member of Michigan's Democratic Congressional delegation, U.S. **Representative Dan Kildee (D-Flint)**."*

Source: *Rudy Hobbs for Congress* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385693_kildee.pdf

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Senator Hopgood to Host Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration at State Capitol

"LANSING — State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D – Taylor) will co-host the 12th Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration at the state Capitol on Tuesday, May 6, 2014. The annual celebration commemorates the culture, history and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in Michigan and the United States. The celebration will begin with a program in the Capitol Rotunda from 2:00 until 3:00 p.m. An awards recognition ceremony and reception will follow from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of Rooms 402/403 of the Capitol Building. The reception will provide an opportunity for attendees to meet leaders within Michigan's Asian Pacific American community."

Source: *Senator Hopgood* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385578_hopgood.pdf

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Statewide Bridge Rankings Released

"Okemos, Mich. – Wayne County has the worst bridges in the entire state, according to an extensive statewide analysis of nearly 11,000 state and local bridges released today by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA)."

Source: *Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385529_statewide.pdf

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Moms to gather at Capitol to demand action on clean air, children's health

"LANSING— Calling on lawmakers to support children's health, moms, dads, grandparents and kids from across the state will demand action to clean up the air children breathe by increasing our use of renewable energy and energy efficiency."

Source: *Byrum & Fisk* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385457_moms.pdf

MFB Statement Regarding Changes to Right to Farm GAAMPs

"Recent changes to some of the farming guidelines that underpin Michigan's Right to Farm law have created a whirlwind of confusion and misunderstanding about that law, including what it does and doesn't do, who it does and doesn't pertain to, and what it does and doesn't protect. That confusion and misunderstanding has been amplified by some media reports that have grossly misrepresented the changes' potential effects—particularly for small and urban farmers."

Source: *Michigan Farm Bureau* **Date:** *05-07-2014* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1399385354_mfb.pdf

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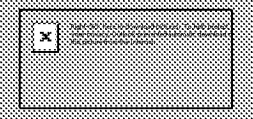

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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www.mirsnews.com

From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 10:15 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Friday, May 30, 2014
Attachments: 140530dayplan.htm; Jun2Schedule.htm; Jun2014cal.htm; May30.htm

Michigan Report for Friday, May 30, 2014

As Orr Urges Senate Action, Committee Meeting Set

Newsmaker Friday: AT&T's Murray Key Architect Of Expanding Civil Rights Act

Subcommittee Chairs Get Targets, Ramp Up Negotiations

Court Grants Injunction In Charitable Gaming Case

Conyers To Be On Ballot As State Declines To Appeal Ruling

Snyder: Work On Water Issues Outside Detroit Grand Bargain

PSC Offers 30 Recommendations For BWL Post-Ice Storm

State Looking For Up To $50M In Investments Through EB-5 Visas

New Orleans Mayor: Detroit Can Be Great Again

Snyder: Added Troopers Making A Difference On Crime

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook

Calendars

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

Agency Calendar

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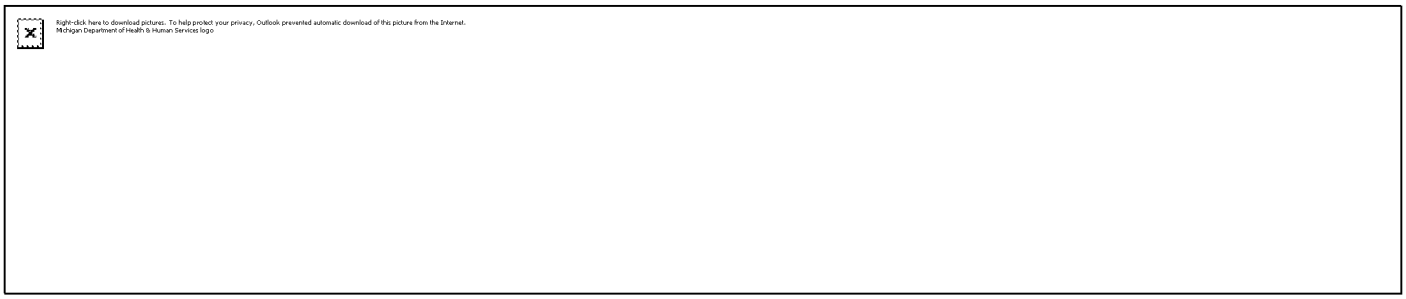
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 4:09 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday

LANSING, Mich. – Free water filters will be available to current Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients and Flint residents at four locations beginning Tuesday, October 6, at 9 a.m. through a partnership between the MDHHS and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. Free National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters are being provided to Flint residents as part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area.

Current MDHHS clients are encouraged to visit either the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office location to obtain a free, certified home water filter. Residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs should visit the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices located at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be onsite at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation.

"Ensuring that families in the Flint area have access to resources that will help reduce the potential for lead exposure is our top priority," said Nick Lyon, director of the MDHHS. "I want to thank our partners who have mobilized to make water filters available – a point that highlights the importance of continued collaboration at the local, state and federal level as we move forward."

MDHHS clients in the city of Flint who are active Family Independence Program (FIP), Food Assistance Program (FAP), Child Development and Care (CDC), State Disability Assistance (SDA), or Social Security Insurance (SSI) recipients should bring valid identification and a copy of their water bill to their local MDHHS office to receive their filter free of charge. Flint residents who are not active MDHHS clients should bring identification and their water bill to the GCCARD location.

Although blood lead levels throughout the city of Flint have remained steady, last week, MDHHS data was found to be consistent with a recent Hurley Children's Hospital study indicating increased blood lead levels in children residing in two Flint ZIP codes after a 2014 change in water source. While lead paint remains the number one cause of lead poisoning in Michigan, the recent data prompted MDHHS to take action to reduce potential lead exposures through water sources.

MDHHS is urging parents in Flint and throughout the state to do their part in preventing elevated blood lead levels in children. For more information about steps you can take now, visit www.michigan.gov/lead, or contact your local health department. For updates on Flint water and available resources, visit www.michigang.gov/flintwater.

###

- Flint Filters Press Release 10515.pdf

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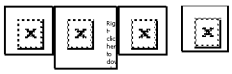

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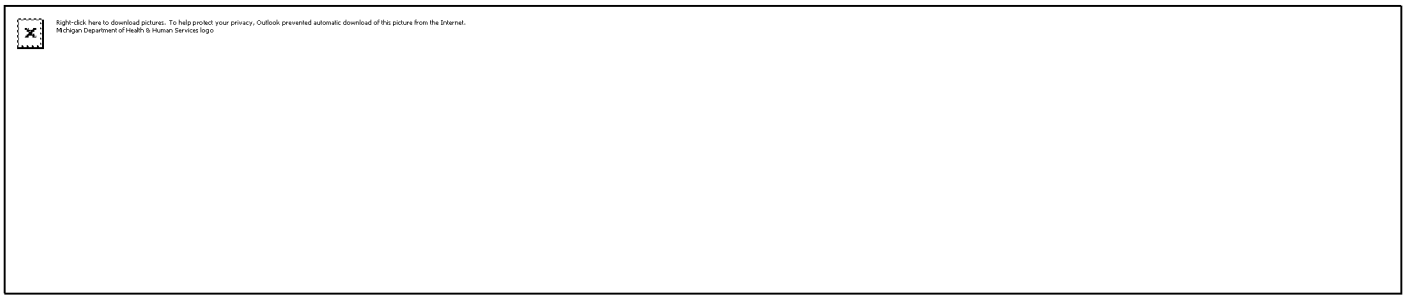
From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 2:32 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS releases latest data outlining blood lead levels in Flint; Follow-up care, case management resources continue for families



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 3, 2015

CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

MDHHS releases latest data outlining blood lead levels in Flint

Follow-up care, case management resources continue for families

LANSING, Mich. – Preliminary data indicates that 30 of 1,361 adults and children tested in Flint since October 1 had elevated blood lead levels, according to a report issued today by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

This marks the first summary report on lead testing called for in the state's action plan related to health concerns about Flint's water infrastructure.

"Our goal is to help families reduce their exposure to lead sources," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "We have made progress in testing and identifying those with elevated blood lead levels, and the department will continue to work closely with the Genesee County Health Department to reach these families. We will remain diligent in our ongoing outreach and education efforts."

Information comes from tests administered citywide to 1,361 children and adults since October 1. Tests showed that 21 of 969 children age 17 or younger and 9 of 392 adults over the age 18 were identified with elevated blood lead levels.

The report covers test results reported to MDHHS since the state action plan was put in place Oct.

2. It includes the number of tests and number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter, and captures both capillary and venous blood tests that have been reported to MDHHS since the beginning of October. People who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Five micrograms per deciliter is the level that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers elevated and triggers health care professional follow up with families.

The full report is posted online at www.michigan.gov/flintwater and will be updated as more data becomes available.

When reviewing historical trend data, the risk of lead exposure is highest during the third quarter of each year – July through September. Seasonal variation is the result of a number of factors including increased exposure to lead in dust and soil in the summer months.

In the third quarter of 2010, 8.3 percent of Flint children 6 and under showed elevated blood lead levels. The figure gradually decreased to 4.1 percent in the third quarter of 2013. During the same months in 2014, the figure increased to 7.5 percent and decreased to 6.4 percent in the third quarter of 2015.

Last month, MDHHS collaborated with the county health department and local partners to distribute educational resources and informational letters to Flint parents regarding lead testing. The state is providing funding for GCHD nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level has been detected. During these follow-up visits, nurses coordinate with environmental health investigators to meet with families in their homes to identify lead exposures, address questions and provide water filters. People can be exposed to lead from paint, soil, plumbing and other sources.

MDHHS continues to provide free water filters and replacement cartridges to Flint residents at four locations, including the MDHHS Flint offices and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

###

- Flint Blood Lead Level Summary Report December.pdf
- Flint EBL Data Press Release.pdf

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From: Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:38 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FW: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

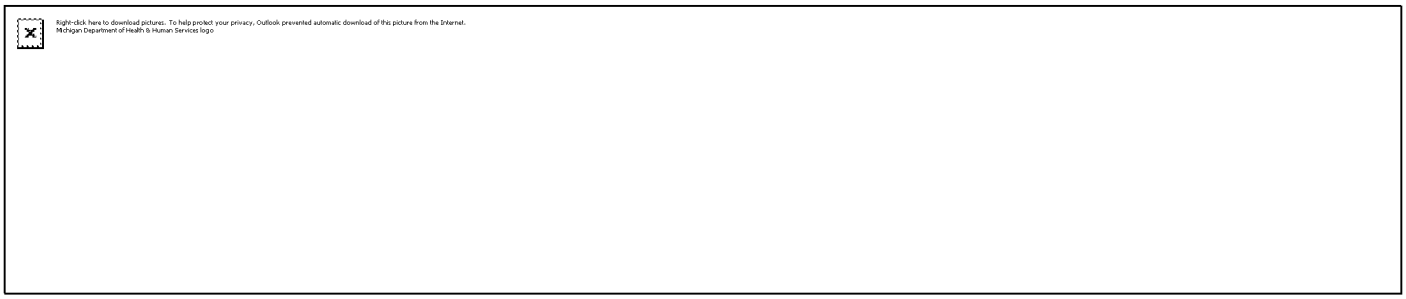
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/12/15/toxic-water-soaring-lead-levels-in-childrens-blood-create-state-of-emergency-in-flint-mich/?tid=pm_national_pop_b

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:37 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Subject: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions: "The risks are addiction and death, and the benefits are unproven."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2015/12/14/hoping-to-curb-the-prescription-opioid-epidemic-cdc-proposes-new-guidelines-for-doctors/?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_daily202

From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services <MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 3:01 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available



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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 23, 2015

CONTACT: Angela Minicuci, 517-241-2112

Updated summary report on Flint blood lead level data now available

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its bi-weekly summary report on lead testing in Flint. Preliminary data indicate that 43 of 2,182 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1.

"In partnership with the Genesee County Health Department, we are working to engage and provide resources to residents to reduce all potential exposures to lead," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "Case management and home lead analysis are available for families in which an elevated blood lead level has been detected."

The first MDHHS summary report on blood lead levels in Flint was issued Dec. 3, 2015. Updated reports are posted on a bi-weekly basis on the www.michigan.gov/flintwater website. After refining our methods to identify age, some people are now counted in a different age group than on previous reports. The total counts for each year have not changed.

The report includes both capillary and venous blood tests, and people who have had multiple tests are counted only once. Tests and their results cover the time since the state action plan was put in place on Oct. 2, and capture the number of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 micrograms per deciliter.

MDHHS, together with the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD), is working with local partners to distribute educational information around lead testing and prevention. Supplemental state dollars are funding GCHD nurses to work with families when an elevated blood lead level is detected.

Families with an elevated blood lead level can also choose to have a nurse coordinate an environmental health investigation in their home to help identify lead exposures, which could be lead from paint, soil, plumbing, and other sources. Families with questions about their blood lead levels or test results are also encouraged to contact their primary care physician or local health department.

In addition to mandated testing at ages one and two for the Medicaid population, MDHHS is coordinating with its Medicaid health plans and provider communities to recommend blood lead testing for any child younger than six years of age in Flint who has not previously been tested. The state, in coordination with GCHD, developed and issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) notification for local providers to help ensure consistent messaging and protocols among primary care providers.

Free water filters and replacement cartridges are available to Flint residents. For a full list of locations and hours of distribution, or to view the full blood lead level report, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater. The summary will be updated as more data becomes available.

To help residents properly install water filters, and to demonstrate how to replace the original when it expires, MDHHS has created an instructional video on its YouTube channel. For this and other updates, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

###

- Flint Blood Testing Report 23Dec15 .pdf
- Flint EBL Data Press Release 122315.pdf

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 2:30 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Tuesday, November 8, 2011
Attachments: Nov8House.htm; Nov8Senate.htm; 111108dayplan.htm; Nov8.htm

Michigan Report, Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Genesee Voters Make Second-Term Legislator First To Be Recalled Since 1983 In Huge Win For M.E.A., Setback For Snyder, G.O.P.

House Moving Forward With Its Version Of Bullying Bill

Greimel Wins 29th House Dem Primary

Health Exchange Takes First Step Forward

Millage Requests, Detroit Charter Successful

Snyder Wants Legislative Solution On Home Heating Fund

Snyder Declares Financial Emergency In Flint

Ohio Voters Reject G.O.P.'s Collective Bargaining Restrictions

National Eyes Turn To Michigan With Presidential Debate

Senate Panel Reports Chemo Drug Bills

Senate Tees Up Supplementals

Flag Bill Advances To Senate Floor

Capital Notebook

Committee Roundup

Appointments By The Governor

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2011 6:35 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

The Wait Is Over

"Sometimes the impossible takes a little longer. Just ask former Gov. John Engler, who sixteen years ago, yes sixteen years ago, pleaded with lawmakers to lift the 150 cap on charter schools."

Source: *Skoops Blog* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://skoopsblog.blogspot.com/*

Unions concerned about Korean workers

"Local unions are raising concerns about Korean workers installing equipment at the Dow Kokam Midland Battery Park."

Source: *Midland Daily News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_b0c08628-2672-11e1-9634-0019bb2963f4.html*

Another GOP hopeful to challenge Sander Levin

"A relative unknown in Republican politics — Greg Dildilian of Royal Oak — is the second 2012 GOP candidate to file for congressional office in the district represented by Democratic Rep. Sandy Levin."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/12/14/news/doc4ee93d805ef2e556207111.txt*

Senate committee's changes may slow Ingham road board's dissolution

"LANSING - A bid by Ingham County commissioners to restructure the Road Commission would become a much longer process under amended legislation now in the Michigan Senate."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20111215/NEWS04/112150329/Senate-committee-s-changes-may-slow-Ingham-road-board-s-dissolution?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Michigan lawmakers OK change to jobless benefits

"LANSING - The Republican-led Michigan Legislature on Wednesday approved legislation aimed at stabilizing the state's unemployment benefits fund, including a bill that could make it tougher for some to get and keep jobless benefits."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20111215/NEWS04/112150334/Michigan-lawmakers-OK-change-jobless-benefits?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Lansing finance chief taking job in Flint

"Jerry Ambrose will leave Lansing next month to become financial adviser to Michael Brown, Flint's emergency manager."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20111215/NEWS01/112150327/Lansing-finance-chief-taking-job-Flint?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

The 2011 Detroit News Car and Truck of the Year

"With the wide assortment of vehicles introduced in 2011, it was the powertrains that separated the best from the rest."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/OPINION03/112150330/1148/auto01/The-2011-Detroit-News-Car-Truck-Year*

State of Michigan employees to get back 3% of pay withheld

"Lansing— The Michigan Supreme Court has unanimously decided not to render a decision on the 3 percent state employee contribution for future retirement costs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111214/POLITICS02/112140411/1022/politics/State-Michigan-employees-get-back-3-pay-withheld*

Reps. Camp, Levin slam China over duties on U.S. auto imports

"Washington— The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the senior Democrat criticized the Chinese government's retaliation against U.S. automakers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/AUTO01/112150348/1022/politics/Reps-Camp-Levin-slam-China-over-duties-U-S-auto-imports*

Republican-led House paves way to open more charters schools in Michigan

"A bill to allow more public charter schools in Michigan neared completion in the Republican-controlled Legislature late Wednesday over bitter objections from Democrats and teachers unions."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/POLITICS02/112150414/1022/politics/Republican-led-House-paves-way-open-more-charters-schools-Michigan*

Working for Michigan

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In a year-end interview with The News, Gov. Rick Snyder said he's happy with the progress the state has made but there's plenty more to accomplish in 2012 and beyond.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/OPINION01/112150337/1022/politics/Working-Michigan*

Rapid buses 'darn close' to light rail

"The dream was light rail. The reality seems to be bus rapid transit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/METRO/112150377/1409/metro/Rapid-buses-darn-close-light-rail*

Woodward line isn't derailed yet

"Detroit —A change of course on federal transportation funding won't knock plans for a light rail system off its proposed Woodward Avenue tracks, according to a group of backers that include some of Detroit's biggest business names."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/METRO01/112150422/1409/metro/Woodward-line-isn-t-derailed-yet

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Light rail backers to battle on

"Washington— Several Michigan congressional representatives signed on to a bus rapid transit system for Metro Detroit on Wednesday while supporters of a proposed light-rail system along Woodward Avenue are pressing on."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://detroitnews.com/article/20111215/METRO/112150423/1409/metro/Light-rail-backers-battle-on

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Detroit, Grand Rapids among nation's strongest-performing areas, Brookings Institution study finds

"In yet another sign of the turnaround in the state's economy, Detroit and Grand Rapids rank among the 20 strongest-performing metropolitan areas in the country, according to a report being released today from the Brookings Institution."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/BUSINESS06/112150483/Detroit-Grand-Rapids-among-nation-s-strongest-performing-areas-Brookings-Institution-study-finds

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Agriculture Commission approves amendments to state farm regulations

"The Michigan Agriculture Commission today approved amendments to state farm regulations aimed at promoting commercial agriculture in Detroit and other cities of over 100,000 in population."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111214/NEWS06/111214036/Agriculture-Commission-approves-amendments-to-state-farm-regulations

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Michigan jobless rate dips below 10% for first time in 3 years

"Michigan's unemployment rate has finally dropped below 10% for the first time in three years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111214/BUSINESS06/111214029/Michigan-unemployment-rate

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Sen. Carl Levin slams Bing for discarding light rail plan too quickly

"Washington -- U.S. Sen Carl Levin criticized Detroit Mayor Dave Bing this morning for not working more closely with a group of private investors before deciding to embrace a rapid bus system in lieu of a full light rail system."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111214/NEWS15/111214016/Light-rail-bus-Carl-Levin-Bing

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Michigan Senate passes bill allowing Oakland County Republicans to redraw district lines

"The state Senate just passed a bill that will cut down the number of Oakland County Commissioners and allow Republicans to redraw the district lines."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111214/NEWS15/111214055/Michigan-Senate-passes-bill-allowing-Oakland-County-Republicans-redraw-district-lines

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State workers to get back 3% taken from pay

"The Michigan Supreme Court declined Wednesday to hear the Snyder administration's appeal of a lower court ruling that said requiring state employees to put 3% of their paychecks toward retiree health care is unconstitutional."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS06/112150446/State-workers-to-get-back-3-taken-from-pay

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For less than $500M, a bus rapid transit system could cover nearly 110 miles

"Here are answers to some common questions about regional transit issues:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS05/112150519/For-less-than-36-500M-a-bus-rapid-transit-system-could-cover-nearly-110-miles

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Wayne County officials approve up to $150,000 to deal with federal probe

"Wayne County officials on Wednesday approved spending up to $150,000 to deal with the federal investigation of county government -- and to do a little investigating themselves."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS02/112150503/Wayne-County-officials-approve-up-to-36-150-000-to-deal-with-federal-probe

Canada may pass legislation to thwart legal attacks on bridge

"LANSING -- The Canadian government may pass legislation to protect the New International Trade Crossing project from legal action by the owners of the Ambassador Bridge, a Toronto newspaper reported Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS05/112150444/Canada-may-pass-legislation-to-thwart-legal-attacks-on-bridge

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Michigan emergency manager opponents closing in on signature goal

"Local members of a statewide coalition working to repeal Michigan's emergency manager law say they have nearly the number of signatures required to freeze the law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS01/112150491/Michigan-emergency-manager-opponents-closing-in-on-signature-goal

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State Senate OKs plan to let GOP redraw Oakland County maps

"The state Senate passed and sent to the governor Wednesday a bill to reduce the number of Oakland County commissioners and let Republicans redraw the county's district lines."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS06/112150571/State-Senate-OKs-plan-to-let-GOP-redraw-Oakland-County-maps

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State move to help Detroit, other cities with urban farming

"LANSING -- Detroit and other cities in Michigan exceeding 100,000 in population got a break from a state commission that could open the door to more urban farming."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS06/112150507/State-move-to-help-Detroit-other-cities-with-urban-farming

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House vote moves Michigan a step closer to unlimited charter schools

"The state House narrowly approved legislation Wednesday night that was long sought by Michigan charter school advocates: removal of the cap on their number."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS06/112150573/House-vote-moves-Michigan-a-step-closer-to-unlimited-charter-schools

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Wealthy private investors hold out hope for light rail in Detroit

"Metro Detroit leaders sought Wednesday to reassure a region stung by the failure of a plan to build a 9.3-mile light-rail line on Woodward Avenue that the alternative -- a network of speedy, modernized buses covering much more territory at a lower cost -- is more than a consolation prize."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111215/NEWS05/112150515/Wealthy-private-investors-hold-out-hope-for-light-rail-in-Detroit

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New study gives Michigan a D+ for not creating quality jobs with corporate giveaways

"GRAND RAPIDS - A new study out today reports states are spending billions of dollars per year on corporate tax credits, cash grants and other economic development subsidies that often require little if any job creation and lack wage and benefit standards covering workers at subsidized companies."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/new_study_gives_michigan_a_d_f.html

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U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg votes to extend payroll tax holiday, unemployment benefits with reforms

"A demonstration on Thursday urging lawmakers to extend unemployment insurance benefits might not have gone completely unnoticed."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/12/post_237.html

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Michigan lawmakers OK Oakland County district bill

"LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A bill that would reduce the number of Oakland County commissioners and give power to Republicans to redraw district boundaries in the southeast Michigan county has passed the GOP-led state Legislature."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/michigan_lawmakers_ok_oakland.html

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Environmental group calls out Michigan waterways and lakes for mercury pollution

"GRAND RAPIDS – A statewide environmental group is publicizing mercury warnings for lakes and streams throughout Michigan in an effort to promote new air pollution standards the Environmental Protection Agency is considering."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/12/environmental_group_calls_out.html*

Michigan House approves charter school expansion

"LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A proposal designed to allow more public charter schools in Michigan is nearing final approval in the Republican-controlled state Legislature."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2011/12/michigan_house_approves_charte.html*

Controversy in state contract for office supplies

"LANSING — The state of Michigan canceled an office-supply contract with a major company after a purchasing official quit during the bidding process to help the eventual winner."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/12/controversy_in_state_contract.html*

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero's chief of staff to join Flint emergency manager team

"LANSING -- Jerry Ambrose, who has served as Chief of Staff to Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero and as director of the city's Finance Department, is joining the team of Michael Brown, the newly named emergency manager in Flint."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2011/12/lansing_mayor_virg_berneros_ch.html*

House passes U.S. Rep. Dave Camp's legislation on payroll tax cuts extension, unemployment benefits

"WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Defiant Republicans pushed legislation through the House Tuesday that would keep alive Social Security payroll tax cuts for some 160 million Americans at President Barack Obama's request — but also would require construction of a Canada-to-Texas oil pipeline that has sparked a White House veto threat."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2011/12/house_passes_us_rep_dave_camps.html

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Michigan House strips out 'Obamacare' grant from spending bill

"The Michigan House on Tuesday stripped out a provision in a spending bill that Republicans said would have been an endorsement of what they call "Obamacare." "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/michigan_house_strips_out_obam.html

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Ford to shift some Fusion production from Mexico to Michigan, develop Wixom alt-energy park

"The Michigan Economic Growth Authority on Tuesday gave Ford Motor Co. the green light to refashion its shuttered Wixom Assembly plant as an alternative energy park and shift some production of the Fusion from Mexico to Michigan."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2011/12/ford_to_shift_some_fusion_prod.html

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Despite Woodward Light Rail's demise, plans for Detroit-Ann Arbor commuter rail move forward

"Though Woodward Light Rail plan was scrapped, rail remains part of metro Detroit's long-term transit initiative."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/despite_woodward_light_rails_d.html

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First look: Behind the scenes of the 2012 North American International Auto Show in Detroit

"The 2012 North American International Auto Show is a month away and crews have been working since October to get Cobo Center in downtown Detroit ready for the annual Motor City tradition."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/naias/index.ssf/2011/12/first_look_behind_the_scenes_o.html

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Snyder signs fireworks bill intended to spark state economy

"LANSING – Michigan skies could be brighter this Independence Day without requiring enthusiasts head to Ohio or Indiana, as Gov. Rick Snyder announced the signing of a law allowing the sale bigger fireworks in the state."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/snyder_signs_fireworks_bill_in.html*

MEGA tax incentive offered to Suniva Inc. to build $250 million solar plant in Great Lakes Bay Region

"THOMAS TWP. — Suniva Inc. has an extra tax incentive to open a $250 million solar cell manufacturing facility in the Great Lakes Technology Solar Park."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2011/12/mega_board_offers_tax_incentiv.html*

Michigan unemployment rate in November falls to 9.8 percent, lowest in 3 years

"Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November fell by eight-tenths of a percentage point to 9.8 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB)."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/jobs/index.ssf/2011/12/post_42.html*

Lawmaker proposes drug tests for Michigan welfare recipients

"LANSING — A Michigan lawmaker wants to link welfare benefits to a clean drug test."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/lawmaker_proposes_drug_tests_f.html*

Mackinac Bridge tolls will increase on Jan. 1

"MACKINAW CITY – Crossing the Mackinac Bridge will cost more starting Jan. 1."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/12/mackinac_bridge_tolls_will_inc.html*

Gov. Snyder OKs bill to end some Michigan drivers' fees

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation that will eliminate some extra fees that are imposed on drivers for certain traffic offenses."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/gov_snyder_oks_bill_to_end_som.html*

Bus Rapid Transit: A real alternative to light rail, or just a lovely parting gift?

"Woodward Light Rail is dead, but is the proposed bus rapid transit (BRT) system a superior alternative or a second-rate consolation prize?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/bus_rapid_transit_a_real_alter.html*

Cell phone crashes total more than 9,000 in past decade in Michigan, MLive.com analysis shows

"More than 9,000 traffic crashes in Michigan involved cell phone use in the past decade, an analysis by MLive.com shows, and experts believe the number is even higher."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/12/cell_phone_crashes_total_more.html*

Reports: Wayne State tweaks admissions rules, but some argue that minorities may be shut out

"The Detroit Free Press reports that Wayne State University will be changing its admission policies in order to improve its graduation rate, which is the lowest among the state's universities."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/reports_wayne_state_tweaks_adm.html*

Ex-state Republican chief McLaughlin dead at 79

"NORTHVILLE, Mich. (AP) — Ex-Michigan Republican Chairman William McLaughlin has died. He was 79."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/ex-state_republican_chief_mcla.html*

House lifts cap on charters schools, with GOP members saying move empowers parents

"LANSING – State House members erased the cap on charter schools in Michigan, a move backers said empowers parents with more educational choices but by derided by critics who said the real goal is dismantling public schools in favor of corporate profits."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/house_lifts_cap_on_charters_sc.html*

Press Releases

MAPSA Praises House for Passage of SB 618: 'A historic day for parents in Michigan'

"LANSING, Michigan (December 14, 2011) – The Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA), the state's united voice for charter schools, offered support today to the Michigan House of Representatives for passing SB 618, which eliminates the cap on university-authorized chartered schools, among other provisions."

Source: *Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA),* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323916630_MAPSA.pdf*

House votes to put students, parents first; lifts arbitrary cap on charter schools

"

***LANSING**--As students across Michigan end the fall semester and prepare to break for Christmas, the state House of Representatives on Wednesday approved Senate Bill 618, legislation to lift the arbitrary cap on charter schools in Michigan, empowering parents and putting children first.*

"

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323916576_PAVLOV1.pdf*

Camp Hails Passage of 50th National Defense Authorization Act

"

Washington, D.C. – The U.S. House of Representatives today passed H.R. 1540, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2012. The bill passed on a bipartisan vote of 283-136. The Senate is expected to pass the bill later this week, clearing the way for the President's signature. As a House-appointed conferee, Congressman Camp (R-Midland, MI) helped draft and approve the final version of H.R. 1540.

"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323914749_CAMP3.pdf

Statement from State Representative Ellen Cogen Lipton (D-Huntington Woods) on the GOP voting down r

"

Statement from State Representative Ellen Cogen Lipton (D-Huntington Woods) on the GOP voting down returning funds to schools:"

Source: *Rep. Ellen Cogen Liption* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323912131_LIPTON1.pdf

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Sen. Hunter Helps Pass Mortgage Assistance Legislation to Protect Homeowners Facing Foreclosure

"

LANSING –Senate Democratic Floor Leader Tupac A. Hunter (D-Detroit) voted today to pass House Bills 4542-4544, a bill package to extend Michigan's 90-Day Pre-Foreclosure Negotiation Law for one year. This important law to enable residents to stay in their homes and stave off foreclosure stay was extended six months in July and was set to expire at the end of December without these new bills."

Source: *Sen. Tupac A. Hunter* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323912095_HUNTER1.pdf

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STATEMENT FROM MAUREEN STAPLETON ON TODAY'S SUPREME COURT RULING

"

(LANSING) – "This afternoon's unanimous ruling by the Michigan Supreme Court to deny leave to appeal in the case to eliminate the 3% salary tax on state employees means thousands of Michigan families will receive their income tax refund within the next pay cycle.""

Source: *Rep. Maureen Stapleton* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323911802_Stapleton3.pdf

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Senate Republicans Continue Selective Rejection of Snyder Agenda

"

LANSING--Senate Democrats gave their Republican counterparts yet another opportunity to support Governor Snyder's work- sharing proposal today, and the Senate majority again failed to support their own Governor's plan that would keep people on the job"

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323909736_SENATE1.pdf

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House Dems to Give End of the Year Report Card on House Republicans

"

*LANSING – House Democratic Leader **Richard Hammel** (D-Mt. Morris Township), House Democratic Floor Leader **Kate Segal** (D-Battle Creek) and their Democratic colleagues will hold a press conference on Thursday, Dec. 15, in the Democratic caucus room off of the House Chamber, during a break in House session to discuss the harmful legislation Republicans have passed in the last year."*

Source: *Rep. Richard E. Hammel* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323909671_Hammel2.pdf

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Statement from House Democratic Leader Richard E. Hammel (D-Mt. Morris Township) on Senate Bill 806

"

Statement from House Democratic Leader Richard E. Hammel (D-Mt. Morris Township) on Senate Bill 806, which drastically cuts unemployment opportunities and benefits:"

Source: *Rep. Richard E. Hammel* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323909558_Hammel1.pdf

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Congress Orders Navy to Take Steps to Bring Navy Commandos Home from Libya after 207 Years

"

The House has passed the "National Defense Authorization Act of 2012" (NDAA), which includes a provision authored by U.S. Congressmen Mike Rogers (MI-08) and Frank LoBiondo (NJ-02). It requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to begin the process of identifying and returning 13 Navy commandos buried in mass graves in Libya to the United States. They were killed in Tripoli, Libya in 1804."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323909512_Rogers2.pdf

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Senator Gregory Fights Partisan Gerrymandering of Oakland County Commission Districts

"

LANSING – Senator Vincent Gregory (D-Southfield) stood in strong opposition today to House Bill 5187, legislation to redraw the Oakland County Commission lines. The legislation was passed by the Republican majority, affirming Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville's comments that the bill could be seen as "a brazenly partisan move.""

Source: *Sen. Vincent Gregory* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323909455_Gregory1.pdf

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Governor's signature removes road blocks to regional cooperation

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a package of bills that remove longstanding obstacles for local governments who may wish to share or consolidate services."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323904028_Gov3.pdf

Governor's signature removes road blocks to regional cooperation

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a package of bills that removes longstanding obstacles for local governments working to consolidate services."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323899813_Gov2.pdf

Statement of Representative Jim Ananich (D-Flint) on House Vote to Weaken Unemployment Insurance

"

"Too many politicians in Lansing and Washington are viewing our unemployment system as a zero sum game, where the only way businesses can win is if workers lose. If we strengthened unemployment insurance, we could help families survive while being retrained and local businesses that rely on these consumers to purchase goods and services. Michigan's economy has started to take a step forward, but I fear that moves like this force us two steps back.""

Source: *Rep. Jim Ananich* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323898276_Ananich1.pdf

RAID ON THUMB AREA COMPASSION CENTERS LEAVE PATIENTS AND OWNERS WONDERING WHY

"'TOYS FOR TOTS' DONATIONS SEIZED BY POLICE; NEWEST ACTION AGAINST PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT PROCEDURES, SEIZURES, INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES "

Source: *Blue Water Compassion Center* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323896795_BWCC1.pdf*

Joint Statement on Chinese Retaliation against U.S. Autos

"

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI) as Ways and Means Committee Chairman, Ranking Member Sandy Levin (D-Royal Oak, MI), Trade Subcommittee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX), and Trade Subcommittee Ranking Member Jim McDermott (D-WA) issued the following joint statement:"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323896743_CAMP2.pdf*

Statement by Michigan AFL-CIO President Karla Swift on House Passage of HB 5002

"

Michigan's workers compensation laws were designed to protect workers injured on the job, but HB5002 only hurts those injured workers and gives more political payback to CEOs and corporate special interest groups.

"

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323895642_AFL.pdf*

Statement from Rep. Gary Peters on the end of the war in Iraq

"

Washington, D.C. - Today Rep. Gary Peters issued the following statement after President Obama's announcement that the war in Iraq has ended."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323895035_Peters.pdf*

Stabenow: Challenge Illegal Tariffs on American-made vehicles

"

Washington- U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow today issued the following statement regarding China's announcement it will begin placing duties on imported American-made vehicles tomorrow:"

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323892314_Stabenow1.pdf

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Groups Call on State of Michigan to Shake Up Agriculture Practices

"

East Lansing, MI – A diverse group of faith, farming, conservation, community and food organizations today called on the Michigan Agriculture Commission to reassess and revamp some of the state's most controversial livestock farming practices. "

Source: *Sierra Club Michigan Chapter* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323892266_Sierra1.pdf

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Michigan House Passes Haugh Bill That Reduces Unnecessary Administrative Burden to Locals

"

LANSING - The Michigan House unanimously passed legislation on Tuesday, sponsored by State Representative ***Harold L. Haugh*** *(D-Roseville), that reduces some of the unnecessary regulatory burdens it requires local governments to meet by a 108-0 vote. "*

Source: *Rep. Harold L. Haugh* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323889805_Haugh2 .pdf

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State Sen. Jones encourages legislators to take Polar Plunge

"

LANSING*—State Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, reported that the Michigan Special Olympics is planning a special legislative "Polar Plunge". The event is held annually across the state to raise money for the athletes to participate in the summer and winter games. "*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323887814_JONES1.pdf

Statewide coalition to repeal emergency manager law to hold press conference this afternoon

"

Organizers of the grass roots coalition Stand Up for Democracy that are working to repeal of emergency manager law from around Michigan. Brandon Jessup, Brit Satchwell, Jonathan Drake and Herb Sanders will attend."

Source: *Stand Up for Democracy* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323886965_*

Snyder signs driver responsibility, fireworks bills

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder signed late Tuesday bills that repeal some of the state's driver responsibility fees and allow the sale of certain consumer-grade fireworks in Michigan."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323886736_GOV1.pdf

Whitmer Applauds $1.4 Million Tax Capture for Downtown Lansing Project

"

LANSING – Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer (D-East Lansing) praised the Michigan Economic Growth Authority's (MEGA) approval yesterday of the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority's use of $1.4 million in local and school tax capture to raze the old YWCA building in downtown Lansing and construct a new four-story mixed-use development."

Source: *Sen. Gretchen Whitmer* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323886696_Whitmer1.pdf

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Winter Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Program Set for Upper Peninsula Feb. 24-26

"

Women seeking the opportunity to improve their outdoor skills are invited to register for the 12th annual Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) winter program in the Upper Peninsula. The program will be held in Big Bay on Feb. 24-26."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323879273_DNR1.pdf*

Column: The 12 Days of Christmas, Health Reform Style

"

Please see the column that is attached and pasted below from Know Your Care State Director, John Freeman. I hope you will share this Holiday classic that has been remade to educate the public about health reform, with your readers/viewers. I have also included a headshot of John in case you need it. Please let me know if you will be running this column."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323877428_KYC1.pdf*

U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-2) to Hold Conference Call on the Middle Class Tax Relief

"

***WASHINGTON, D.C.** –U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-2) and the RNC will hold a conference call **TODAY, December 14th at 10:30 AM ET** to talk about the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act."*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *12-15-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1323876443_Huizenga1.pdf*

<a href='http://mirsnews.co

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2011 8:02 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Avoid charity scams, state Sen. Joe Hune warns

"State Sen. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg Township, is encouraging Livingston County residents to visit a state Web site aimed at avoiding charity scams during the holiday season."

Source: *Ludington Daily News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20111228/NEWS01/112280326/Avoid-charity-scams-state-Sen-Joe-Hune-warns?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Frontpage|p*

Judgeship in Manistee eliminated

"A bill signed by Gov. Rick Snyder will eliminate one judgeship from Benzie and Manistee counties, while another bill still in the state legislature would reduce the number of judgeships in Mason and Lake, and Oceana and Newaygo counties."

Source: *Ludington Daily News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.ludingtondailynews.com/news/62817-judgeship-in--manistee-eliminated*

New bill could exempt farm machinery from personal property taxes

*"**LANSING** - Improving farmland could be cheaper for famers if personal property tax exemptions expand."*

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2011/12/28/news/politics/doc4ef655d7c0fca031693442.txt*

Are you a Cracker Barrel Republican or a health food Democrat?

"David Wasserman, a political writer for The Cook Report, recently put together an engaging and humorous piece about the cultural connections shared by Republicans and, on the other side, by Democrats."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://macombpolitics.blogspot.com/2011/12/are-you-cracker-barrel-republican-or.html*

More Northern Michigan residents turning to food assistance

"An increasing number of households are depending on food assistance to survive, a new report shows."

Source: *Petoskey News-Review* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/news/featured/pnr-more-northern-michigan-residents-turning-to-food-assistance-20111227,0,4333440.story*

Cyber school cap could go

"Another education-altering bill could go before the house in the next few weeks."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20111228/NEWS01/112280307/-1/7daysarchives/Cyber-school-cap-could-go*

Calley signs latest Michigan business tax bills

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley has signed the final package of new Michigan laws for 2011."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20111228/NEWS05/111228002/Calley-signs-latest-Michigan-business-tax-bills-?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Mr.Money Bags

"If you didn't know who he was and you saw him walking down the street, you would never guess that Rick Snyder has made a boat load of money."

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://skoopsblog.blogspot.com/*

The Strangest Campaign Ads of 2011

"BOSTON (MainStreet) -- Campaign ads were once a staid affair. A candidate might lay out their opinion on a given matter, maybe slam an opponent, then declare they "approve this message.""

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://business-news.thestreet.com/morning-sun/story/the-strangest-campaign-ads-of-2011/11356177*

Really? Little known facts about the Detroit Three

"The history of Detroit's auto industry is pretty much an open book – from Ford Motor Co.'s early models in the 1900s to the bankruptcies of General Motors Co. and Chrysler Group LLC in 2009 – the industry has always been a hot topic."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2011/12/really_little_known_facts_abou.html

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Educators hope 2012 brings a slower pace for legislated reforms

"Legislators had a busy year in 2011, and that means educators will have a busy new year."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2011/12/educators_hope_2012_brings_a_s.html

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School reforms for 2012 -- from all-day kindergarten to teacher tenure

"A whirlwind of legislative reforms and directives approved in 2011, means educators will be busy implementing them in 2012."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2011/12/school_reforms_for_2012_from_a.html

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Cities struggle to control sewer overflows

"TRAVERSE CITY — Twice in recent summers, visitors to parts of Michigan's western coast were greeted by mounds of garbage strewn along miles of sandy beach: plastic bottles, eating utensils, food wrappers, even hypodermic syringes."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://record-eagle.com/statenews/x1235094395/Cities-struggle-to-control-sewer-overflows*

Game on: Detroit casinos on track for record year, more than $1.4B in annual revenue

"Detroit's three casinos are expected to set a new annual revenue record in 2011."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/game_on_detroit_casinos_on_tra.html

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Snyder administration calls talk of spending budget surplus 'premature'

"Lansing— Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's administration said Tuesday it's too early to start making plans to spend what appears to be a budget surplus from the recently completed fiscal year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111227/POLITICS02/112270392/1022/POLITICS/Snyder-administration-calls-talk-spending-budget-surplus-premature-

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Michigan shaping new youth hunting guidelines

"Lansing— Michigan officials are making rules to guide the state's new hunting program for children"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111227/POLITICS02/112270360/1022/POLITICS/Michigan-shaping-new-youth-hunting-guidelines

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State-appointed emergency managers make six figures at local community's expense

*"**FLINT, Michigan** — Cash-strapped communities and school districts in Michigan are paying six-figure salaries to the governor-appointed emergency managers who are supposed to rescue them from financial ruin."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/12/state-appointed_emergency_mana.html*

Ron Paul building a solid Michigan base

"With U.S. Rep. Ron Paul topping recent Republican presidential polls in Iowa, supporters in Michigan are revving up campaign efforts anticipating Paul will emerge successful from the early contests and ready to compete in the Wolverine State."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111227/POLITICS02/112270353/1022/POLITICS/Ron-Paul-building-solid-Michigan-base

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Romney campaign defends Volt criticism, says slow sales suggest its 'time has not come'

"Presidential hopeful Mitt Romney says slow sales motivated his criticism of the Chevrolet Volt, and his campaign says politics motivated the visceral response in Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/romney_campaign_defends_volt_c.html*

U-M vs. MSU rivalry: Romney no longer going blue

"Is Mitt Romney a Spartan or a Wolverine?"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://blogs.detroitnews.com/thebackroom/2011/12/21/u-m-vs-msu-rivalry-romney-no-longer-going-blue/*

Hansen Clarke: 'Light rail in Detroit is not dead'

"Bus rapid transit is coming to Metro Detroit, but hope for light rail isn't going away any time soon."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/hansen_clarke_light_rail_in_de.html*

Michigan voters to experience change in process starting this presidential primary

"As the 2012 presidential primary elections kick off next week with the Iowa caucuses, Michigan voters will face a change in their voting process when they go to the polls Feb. 28."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/12/post_236.html*

Northern Michigan prosecutor accused of prescription fraud

"Rogers City— Attorney General Bill Schuette has announced a fraud charge against a northern Michigan prosecutor accused of doctor shopping to illegally get prescriptions for painkillers, allegations that were quickly disputed by the prosecutor."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111228/METRO/112280377/1409/metro/Northern-Michigan-prosecutor-accused-prescription-fraud*

Iran seeks death for Flint grad accused of spying

"TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — A Flint Central High School graduate accused by Iran of working for the CIA could face the death penalty, the semiofficial Fars news agency reported Tuesday."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/12/iran_seeks_death_for_flint_gra.html

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Report: Michigan could hit $100 million in campaign spending in 2012

"LANSING -- A campaign finance expert says spending in Michigan's upcoming Congressional and state Supreme Court elections could approach $100 million in 2012."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/12/report_michigan_could_hit_100.html

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Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Andy Dillon, retired Police Chief Ike McKinnon, others to Detroit financial review team

"Michigan Treasurer Andy Dillon won't simply observe the formal review of Detroit's finances from afar, he'll be a part of the 10-member team tasked with determining whether the city is facing a financial emergency that requires state intervention."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_appoi.html

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Kilpatrick sought $25 million from SkyTel over text message scandal

"Detroit— Kwame Kilpatrick demanded $25 million to settle his civil lawsuit against SkyTel Inc., the city's former text-message provider."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111228/METRO/112280368/Kilpatrick-sought-25-million-from-SkyTel-over-text-message-scandal?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Fiscal review panel has deep Detroit ties

"Detroit— Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday named a carefully balanced and respected team of Detroiters and Lansing officials to review the city's troubled finances."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111228/METRO/112280362/Fiscal-review-panel-has-deep-Detroit-ties?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Report: Kilpatrick sought $25M from text-message provider in wake of 2008 scandal

"Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was looking to get paid big bucks in wake of his 2008 text message scandal with his then chief of staff Christine Beatty."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/12/report_kilpatrick_sought_25m_f.html

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2011 year in review: Metro and state

"Detroit faces financial crisis Years of financial instability came to the fore in Detroit in December, when the city confronted the possibility of running out of money by spring and Gov. Rick Snyder sent a team to conduct a financial review of the city."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20111228/METRO/112280312/

State Rep. Mark Meadows sounds off on Snyder administrations claims of bipartisanship

"In an email news alert to constituents, state Representative Mark Meadows (D-East Lansing) aired his grievances with Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2011/12/state_rep_mark_meadows_sounds.html*

Michigan officials caution against budget plans

"Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's administration said Tuesday it's too early to start making plans to spend what appears to be a budget surplus from the recently completed fiscal year."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/12/michigan_officials_caution_aga.html

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Rick Snyder: Hands off surplus -- for now

"Gov. Rick Snyder's administration says it would be premature to make plans to spend a likely surplus from the budget year that ended Sept. 30."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS05/112280350/-1/7daysarchives/Rick-Snyder-Hands-off-surplus-now*

Consumers, DTE making progress on 10% renewable energy requirement by 2015

"Solar, wind, landfill gas and power derived from Michigan's flowing rivers all are contributing to the electricity needs of the state's residents."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS06/112280363/-1/7daysarchives/Consumers-DTE-making-progress-10-renewable-energy-requirement-by-2015*

'The Simpsons' pokes fun at claims that Dearborn, Michigan are under sharia law

""The Simpsons" TV show has poked fun at the idea that Dearborn and Michigan are under sharia, or Islamic law."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS02/112280441/-1/7daysarchives/-Simpsons-pokes-fun-claims-Dearborn-Michigan-under-sharia-law*

AG to charge Steiger with 'doctor shopping'

"LANSING - Attorney General Bill Schuette announced in a press release Tuesday his office will charge Presque Isle Prosecutor Richard Steiger with one count of obtaining a prescription for controlled substances from a health care provider by fraud. The felony charge carries a maximum four-year sentence."

Source: *Alpena News* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/519854/AG-to-charge-Steiger-with--doctor-shopping-.html?nav=5004*

State review team for Detroit is met with praise

"LANSING -- The makeup of a panel that will review Detroit's finances under the emergency manager law received some positive reviews Tuesday, even from those opposed to state intervention into Detroit's finances."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS01/112280400/State-review-team-for-Detroit-is-met-with-praise?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Norovirus circulating in Washtenaw County, Public Health Department warns

"Norovirus, a gastrointestinal illness, is circulating in Washtenaw County, the county Public Health Department warned."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS05/111228003/Norovirus-circulating-in-Washtenaw-County-Public-Health-Department-warns?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Listeria found in Dearborn dairy's cheese products

"Michigan authorities have announced the recall of two cheese products of Green Cedar Dairy in Dearborn because of possible contamination with Listeria bacteria and say they know of two people becoming infected."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20111228/NEWS05/111228002/Listeria-found-in-Dearborn-dairy-s-cheese-products?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Press Releases

Corporate Income Tax cleanup bills signed

"

LANSING, Mich. – With the new year approaching and a new Corporate Income Tax scheduled to replace the unpopular and confusing Michigan Business Tax on Jan. 1, 2012, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley today signed 20 bills into law, including several pieces of cleanup legislation needed to clarify and properly implement the new, dramatically simplified tax."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1325021926_Gov3.pdf

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STAPLETON: Detroiters can Solve Detroit's Financial Issues

"

*STATE CAPITOL – State Representative **Maureen L. Stapleton** (D-Detroit) issued the following statement today regarding Governor Snyder's appointees to the Detroit Financial Review Board."*

Source: *Rep. Maureen Stapleton* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1325018800_Stapleton1.pdf

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wrapping up

"

We've reached the final days. Just over 5 months have passed since we began this campaign, and in that time we've achieved a lot. But, we still have a lot to accomplish."

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1325013253_Hoekstra2.pdf

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DO NOTHING DEBBIE: Obama Returns Corzine Cash, Stabenow Still Holds On

"

On Friday, President Obama returned the $70,000 former MF Global CEO and former Sen. Jon Corzine had donated. Still, Sen. Stabenow is holding on to Corzine's contributions - a total of $5,000."

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324999589_Hoekstra1.pdf

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MLCC Warns Parents of Underage Drinking Dangers

"

(December 27, 2011) *The Michigan Liquor Control Commission urges parents and guardians who will be hosting holiday parties to think and be safe this season. According to recent research, one typical way for underage youth to obtain alcohol is at parties where parents and other adults have left them unsupervised."*

Source: *MI Liquor Control Commission* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324999155_LARA1.pdf

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PHP president and CEO named to Michigan's new Talent Investment Board

"

LANSING, Mich. – Scott Wilkerson, president and CEO of the Lansing-based Physicians Health Plan, has been appointed to a new state board that will focus on job creation and developing and connecting the state's talent.

"

Source: *Sparrow Health System* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324999119_Sparrow1.pdf

Seasons Greetings

"

From my family to yours, have a very happy and healthy Holiday season. "

Source: *Taj for Congress* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324999031_TAJ1.pdf

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Governor signs bills to ban partner health care coverage

"

***Yesterday, Governor Snyder ignored the thousands of voters who contacted him** urging him to support public employees and their families. He signed House Bill 4770, which will eliminate health care coverage for unmarried domestic partners of public employees."*

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998992_Gov2.pdf

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Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/22/2011."

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998956_COA1.pdf

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Camp Bill Ensures Employers & Workers Not Harmed By Flawed Senate Bill

"

Washington, D.C. –Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI) will introduce a bill today that, when passed, would extend for two-months the payroll tax holiday, unemployment benefits, reimbursements to doctors treating Medicare patients and the nation's primary welfare program – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998920_Camp1.pdf

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Wishing you a Merry Christmas

"

It is hard to believe that it is already the holiday season. At Team Hoekstra we are busy wrapping up what we believe has been a very successful year. "

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998881_Hoekstra1.pdf

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Statement from Rep. Gary Peters on House agreement

"

Pontiac, MI - Following the announcement that the House has reached an agreement, Rep. Gary Peters issued the following statement:"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998839_Peters1.pdf

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Snyder signs bill package to help homeowners avoid foreclosure

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a series of bills that clarify and improve the pre-foreclosure and foreclosure process and will help keep Michigan residents in their homes. This bipartisan legislative package passed both chambers unanimously."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998801_Gov2.pdf

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Updates to crime victims compensation programs among bills signed by governor

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation that clarifies definitions and strengthens compensation requirements and programs for crime victims."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *12-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1324998404_Gov1.pdf

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 8:01 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

Your $10 Mil at Work

"Never before has so much ink been used over $10 million and here comes some more."

Source: *Skoops Blog* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://skoopsblog.blogspot.com/*

Council reverses decision, approves revised Troy Transit Center

"Following some heated discussion, during which Councilmen Dave Henderson and Doug Tietz voiced concerns about the plan, the vote passed in a split decision."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/01/18/news/local_news/doc4f1628d0ac2ab951557225.txt*

State of the state: Don't hold your breath

"There are plenty of issues that local city and county officials would like to hear about from Gov. Rick Snyder when he gives his State of the State speech Wednesday night, but they aren't holding their breath that he will address them."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/01/17/state-of-the-state-dont-hold-your-breath/*

Hoogendyk to challenge Upton

"Jack Hoogendyk gave U.S. Rep. Fred Upton a run for his money — despite a lack of money — in the 2010 primary for the 6th District Congressional seat."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/01/17/hoogendyk-to-challenge-upton/*

Camp, Upton sign letter opposing HHS 'bulletin'

"The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has issued a bulletin outlining proposed state policies to implement the "essential health benefits" of the federal health care overhaul."

Source: *Midland Daily News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_8b89850e-84e4-5e81-b66e-34ff2780f21b.html*

Effort to kill Michigan emergency financial manager law extends its own deadline

"LANSING — A group collecting signatures in an attempt to repeal Michigan's toughened emergency financial manager law has pushed back its target date for submitting its petition to the Department of State."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120118/NEWS01/201180304/Effort-kill-Michigan-emergency-financial-manager-law-extends-its-own-deadline?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Stabenow optimistic about clean energy, job growth

*"**BAD AXE —** U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow is optimistic about the opportunities surrounding new clean energies, though the Michigan Democrat cautioned it will take time and legislative changes to ease the nation's reliance on foreign oil and create new jobs."*

Source: *Huron Daily Tribune* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.michigansthumb.com/articles/2012/01/17/news/local_news/doc4f1568aeba6fc710634576.txt*

78th hopeful: I will fight for schools

"BUCHANAN - He may be new to politics, but Jack Arbanas has definite ideas of how government should work."

Source: *Herald Palladium (St. Joseph/Benton Harbor)* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.heraldpalladium.com/articles/2012/01/17/local_news/8200031.txt*

Political group to host Senate candidates forum

"The Ottawa County Patriots will host a town hall-style forum with candidates for the U.S. Senate seat on Tuesday, Jan. 24."

Source: *Grand Haven Tribune* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.grandhaventribune.com/content/political-group-host-senate-candidates-forum*

U.S. Senate candidates to debate at Marsh Ridge

"GAYLORD — There will be a debate and meet and greet featuring four of the eight Republican candidates vying for a seat in the U.S. Senate from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at Marsh Ridge Resort, Bergen Room, 4815 Old 27 South, Gaylord."

Source: *Gaylord Herald Times* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/gaylord/news/ght-n-debate-011812,0,2890432.story*

Ford Fusion wins top Detroit News' Readers Choice awards

"The 2013 Ford Fusion was named the North American International Auto Show's overall winner in the annual Detroit News-Detroit Auto Dealers Association "Readers Choice" contest."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/AUTO01/201180323/1148/auto01/Ford-Fusion-wins-top-Detroit-News-Readers-Choice-awards*

Metro Detroit up in job growth

"After ranking 192 out of 200 metropolitan areas around the world for growth, Metro Detroit has rebounded to 72nd on the list, thanks to the strength of the region's restructured manufacturing economy."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/BIZ/201180327/1001/Metro-Detroit-up-job-growth*

Stabenow adds $1.2M to campaign fund

"U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Lansing, raised more than $1.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2011, putting her campaign war chest to fend off a GOP challenger in November at $5.9 million, according to her campaign."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/POLITICS02/201180357/1022/POLITICS/Stabenow-adds-1-2M-campaign-fund*

Conservatives targeting Upton in 6th District battle

"Lansing— Former state Rep. Jack Hoogendyk launched his second challenge to U.S. Rep. Fred Upton on Tuesday, hoping to beat the longtime incumbent in August's Republican primary and getting help from a new Club for Growth ad disparaging Upton as a "liberal.""

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/POLITICS02/201180354/1022/POLITICS/Conservatives-targeting-Upton-6th-District-battle*

Snyder lobbied on eve of speech

"Lansing— The Michigan Chamber Tuesday asked Gov. Rick Snyder for another tax break for businesses and a coalition of unions and citizen groups demanded more be spent on schools."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/POLITICS02/201180348/1022/POLITICS/Snyder-lobbied-eve-speech*

County execs offer support to Detroit

"Detroit— The region's top elected officials agreed Tuesday a state takeover of Detroit would be bad for the suburbs as well as the city and offered support for Mayor Dave Bing as he fights off a fiscal meltdown."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/METRO01/201180358/1409/METRO/County-execs-offer-support-Detroit*

Troy OKs smaller transit center

"

Troy— It looks like Troy will have a transit center after all.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120118/METRO02/201180361/1409/METRO/Troy-OKs-smaller-transit-center*

CAFE midterm review sought

"There is widespread auto industry support for a single fuel economy regulation, but at a public hearing Tuesday in Detroit there were repeated calls for a midterm review to assess the cost and effectiveness of the new standards."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/BUSINESS01/201180360/CAFE-midterm-review-sought?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Auto%20news

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As auto industry rebounds, metro Detroit sees economic gains

"Metro Detroit moved sharply higher in an index of economic growth last year in a worldwide ranking of big-city regions -- thanks to the rebounding domestic auto industry."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120117/BUSINESS06/301170005/As-auto-industry-rebounds-metro-Detroit-sees-economic-gains

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Compuware falls most in 3 years

"Compuware, a Detroit-based software company, fell the most in more than three years after issuing a forecast for fiscal 2012 and a preliminary third-quarter profit that both trailed analysts' estimates."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/BUSINESS06/201180361/Compuware-falls-most-in-3-years

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UAW speaks up for 54.5-m.p.g. national fuel-economy rule at Detroit hearing

"U.S. Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., said today he is "strongly in favor" of a single, viable fuel economy regulation after years of fighting similar measures he felt were not easily understood."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120117/BUSINESS01/120117022/EPA-CAFE-fuel-economy-standards-hearing-Detroit

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Debbie Stabenow reveals she raised $5 million in 2011

"WASHINGTON – U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow's campaign said Tuesday she raised $1.2 million during the last three months of 2011, meaning she raised about $5 million during the year."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120117/NEWS15/120117035/Debbie-Stabenow-fund-raising-cash

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A Q&A about Detroit Public Schools future 'system of schools'

"More than halfway through his one-year contract as emergency manager of Detroit Public Schools, state appointee Roy Roberts talked about challenges, goals and the future of the smaller, "system of schools" that DPS soon will become."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/NEWS01/201180426/A-Q-38-A-about-Detroit-Public-Schools-future-system-of-schools-*

Detroit's funds, Wayne Co.'s federal probe are main topics at Big Four discussion

"Detroit Mayor Dave Bing said Tuesday that he is open to state assistance in steering Detroit out of its financial crisis, but an emergency manager is not the answer to the city's fiscal woes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/NEWS05/201180392/Detroit-s-funds-Wayne-Co-s-federal-probe-are-main-topics-at-Big-Four-discussion*

University of Michigan grad student says she was fired over effort to unionize

"The wording of the e-mail Jennifer Dibbern received from the University of Michigan professor supervising her research was ambiguous, but Dibbern says the meaning was clear -- give up her efforts to unionize graduate student research assistants (GSRAs) or else."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/NEWS06/201180372/University-of-Michigan-grad-student-says-she-was-fired-over-effort-to-unionize*

Detroit Public Schools emergency manager willing to stay longer, if asked

"Every family has one. The go-to person who brings stability when something serious happens -- a funeral, an accident, an emergency."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/NEWS01/201180424/Detroit-Public-Schools-Emergency-manager-willing-to-stay-longer-if-asked*

Embattled transit center wins OK in Troy

"With last month's endorsement by Gov. Rick Snyder of a proposed transit center filed in their briefing packets, members of the Troy City Council voted Tuesday night to approve a scaled-down version of the controversial project they blocked last month."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120118/NEWS03/201180446/Embattled-transit-center-wins-OK-in-Troy

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FARRAND: Judge shows Matty Moroun that nobody is above the law

"Have you ever been the victim of "soycumstance" (as the great Curly of "Three Stooges" fame used to put it)?"

Source: *Dearborn Press and Guide* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2012/01/18/opinion/doc4f15b6c034db7793010108.txt

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Southeastern Michigan's Big Four discuss future of region

*"**DETROIT** — Carol Cain wasted no time in breaching the issue of what she later called the "900-pound elephant" on a stage with four elected officials representing metro Detroit's population centers."*

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/01/18/news/doc4f162ae0e5043027060805.txt

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Snyder speaks Wednesday

"Critics hope but don't expect policy changes from governor's second State of the State address."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/01/18/news/doc4f1610359d3fc259254502.txt

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Caswell highlights property tax form

"State Sen. Bruce Caswell, R-Pittsford, wants homeowners to be aware of an important property tax form that regards home maintenance, repairs and the replacement of certain items in homes."

Source: *Coldwater Daily Reporter* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.thedailyreporter.com/newsnow/x1987747153/Caswell-highlights-property-tax-form

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Michigan business group wants continued tax reform

"LANSING — Eliminating a tax that businesses pay on machinery and other equipment is a top legislative priority this year for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120117/NEWS01/301170009/Michigan-business-group-wants-continued-tax-reform*

Competing stats from pollster Gallup say unemployment is lower than feds believe

"Pollster Gallup, which offers a monthly measurement of U.S. unemployment that competes with that of the federal government, says that joblessness is at 8.3 percent in mid-January on an unadjusted basis."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/jobs/index.ssf/2012/01/post_61.html*

New Club for Growth Action TV spot blasts Congressman Fred Upton again for his 'liberal' votes

"In Michigan's Sixth Congressional District, Club for Growth Action is launching a new 30-second TV advertisement today that slams the district's Republican Congressman Fred Upton again for what it calls his 'liberal' voting record."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/01/new_club_for_growth_action_ad.html*

Should the government give tax credits for electric vehicles? West Michigan group says yes

"GRAND RAPIDS — Nicholas Occhipinti acknowledges recent ventures by auto companies in the "plug-in" vehicle market have hit some speed bumps."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/01/should_the_government_give_tax.html*

MSU researchers find path to treat Parkinson's disease at outset

*"**EAST LANSING** -- A group of Michigan State University researchers have identified a route in which to treat Parkinson's disease at the illness' outset."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/01/msu_researchers_find_path_to_t.html*

MSU releases Energy Transition Plan, calls for campus powered entirely by renewable energy

*"**EAST LANSING** -- Michigan State University on Monday unveiled its Energy Transition Plan, a strategic plan aiming to guide the institution to a more energy-efficient future."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/01/msu_releases_energy_transition.html*

Michigan Film Office: Applications dropped nearly two-thirds as state debated, limited incentives

"A report from the Michigan Film Office says there's been less interest recently in the state's film incentives."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/01/michigan_film_office_applicati.html*

Federal fuel efficiency hearing in Detroit extended after more than 90 people sign up to testify

"It's standing room only for a federal hearing on the 2017-2025 Corporate Average Fuel Economy regulations -- better known as CAFÉ -- in downtown Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/01/more_than_90_people_to_speak_a.html*

State of the State contrasts: Where others agonized, Gov. Rick Snyder works without script

"LANSING – Michigan governor John Engler carefully considered every word, leaving nothing to chance."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/state_of_the_state_contrasts_w.html*

Progressive groups say Gov. Rick Snyder can use State of the State address to mark an end to 'wrong priorities'

"LANSING – Michigan lawmakers had the wrong priorities that took the state in the wrong direction, said leaders from several progressive organizations."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/progressive_groups_say_gov_ric.html*

Pure Michigan tops all state tourism web sites in page views, Facebook love

"LANSING – For the 5th consecutive year, michigan.org - the state's official travel and tourism website - had the most visits of any state tourism website in the country, according to the independent online measurement company Experian Hitwise."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/travel/index.ssf/2012/01/pure_michigan_tops_all_state_t.html

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UAW President King, environmentalists tout CAFE standards as economic stimulator in Detroit

"United Auto Workers President Bob King stood united with high-ranking environmentalists and U.S. Rep. John Dingell Tuesday in Detroit to support the federal government's proposed 2017-2025 Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/01/uaw_president_king_environment.html

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Detroit Mayor Dave Bing meets with state review team, expects union deal this month

"Mayor Dave Bing says there are no quick fixes for Detroit's financial crisis, but the city is moving quickly on a long-term solution that will include significant union concessions."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/01/detroit_mayor_dave_bing_meets_1.html

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State bills target collection of union dues, operations

"Employees would have to annually renew their written consent allowing union dues to be deducted from their paychecks under legislation pending in the Republican-led Michigan House."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/state_bills_target_collection.html

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Congressman Bill Huizenga encouraged after Afghanistan visit, but disagrees with President Obama on one point

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga says he's encouraged by the progress he saw during a long weekend trip to Afghanistan."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/congressman_bill_huizenga_enco.html

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Troy City Council may increase transit center's operating cost per square foot to symbolically 'cut' federal spending

"Tonight, Troy City Council will vote on a revised proposal for a federally-funded intermodal transit center."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/01/spiting_ones_face_troy_city_co.html

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In case of strange bedfellows in politics, Tea Party leader talks of working with teachers union to recall Sen. Randy Richardville

"A leader from the conservative tea party movement is suggesting that members statewide join with the left-leaning Michigan Education Association to try to recall Sen. Majority Leader Randy Richardville."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2012/01/in_case_of_strange_bedfellows.html

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Video: 'Ragging Grannies' sing to federal officials during 54.5 mpg CAFE hearing in Detroit

"A group of Metro Detroit women added some colorful commentary to the 2017-2025 Corporate Average Fuel Economy public hearing today in the Motor City."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/01/ragging_grannies_sing_to_feder.html

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Flint emergency manager Michael Brown releases financial plan for city predicting $11.3M deficit

*"**FLINT, Michigan** — Flint emergency manager Michael Brown this evening released his financial plan for the city, which projects an $11.3 million deficit for the current budget year and provides an early look at his plans for getting the city out of debt."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/01/flint_emergency_manager_michae_8.html

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Sen. Randy Richardville spokeswoman responds to recall talk, says he won't block right-to-work debate

"A spokeswoman for Senate Majority Randy Richardville said today he will not stop legislative debate about whether Michigan should become a right-to-work state."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2012/01/sen_randy_richardville_spokesw.html

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Flint union contracts under review, according to emergency manager's financial plan

*"**FLINT, Michigan** — The city of Flint's employee union contracts are currently under review for possible renegotiation, according to emergency manager Michael Brown's financial plan for the city."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/01/flint_union_contracts_under_re.html

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AP: Debbie Stabenow has $6M on hand for race

"U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow has raised more than $1.2 million in the last three months of 2011, leaving her with a $5.9 million campaign chest to ward off a Republican rival this fall, according to information obtained Tuesday from the Michigan Democrat's campaign by The Associated Press."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/ap_debbie_stabenow_has_6m_on_h.html

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Groups not shy about offering Gov. Rick Snyder ideas

"As Snyder readies for his Wednesday night address, there's been no shortage of proposals for what needs attention."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/groups_not_shy_about_offering.html

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Troy City Council passes revised transit center plan by 4-3 vote

"The Troy City Council approved a revised plan this evening to build a federally-funded, multi-modal transit center."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/01/troy_city_council_passes_revis.html

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State of the State: Pomp, circumstance and a lot of moving desks for Gov. Rick Snyder's speech

"LANSING – The State of the State is Lansing's biggest night of the year, kind of like Oscar night in Hollywood – without the red carpet."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/01/state_of_the_state_pomp_circum.html

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Press Releases

Peckham and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow congratulate Kyle Maynard on Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro

"

On Sunday, January 15, 2012, Kyle Maynard became the first quad amputee to climb to the 19,341-foot summit of Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa. Maynard is part of a team of nine people, including two veterans with disabilities. Their mission is to raise awareness for veterans with disabilities and children with disabilities to show they can do whatever they set their minds to."

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326836156_Peckham1.pdf

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Peckham and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow congratulate Kyle Maynard on Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro

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On Sunday, January 15, 2012, Kyle Maynard became the first quad amputee to climb to the 19,341-foot summit of Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa. Maynard is part of a team of nine people, including two veterans with disabilities. Their mission is to raise awareness for veterans with disabilities and children with disabilities to show they can do whatever they set their minds to."

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326836155_Peckham1.pdf

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VOLUNTEER TOUR LEADERS NEEDED TO SHARE ENTHUSIASM AND KNOWLEDGE IN MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT LEARNING

"LANSING, MI, January 17, 2012 – The Michigan Supreme Court is seeking volunteers to serve as docents for the Court's Learning Center."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326833896_MSP1.pdf

Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds Bill Bullard Jr. Announces "Deeds Express"

"

(Pontiac, January 17) As of today, Oakland County residents and others involved in real estate transactions will no longer have to leave valuable documents at the Oakland County Register of Deeds Office, Clerk/Register of Deeds Bill Bullard Jr. announced today."

Source: *Oakland County Clerk* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326833180_Oakland1.pdf

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Announces Specialty Crop Grant Opportunity

"

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Keith Creagh today announced new opportunities for Michigan businesses thanks to the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Ag Marketing Services. The program is designed to enhance the competitiveness of Michigan's specialty crops. Grant proposals must be received by MDARD no later than March 9, 2012."

Source: *MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326833120_MDA1.pdf*

Leaders Urge Governor to Reverse "Wrong Priorities, Wrong Direction" in 2012

"

LANSING – Ahead of the Governor's State of the State address on Wednesday, Michigan leaders are urging the Governor and Legislature to change direction in order to help our students and workers succeed, protect our families and revitalize our economy."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326832422_Progress4.pdf*

STARTING NOW: Huizenga to host call at 3 p.m. Today on Visit to Troops in Afghanistan

"

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga, MI-02, who just returned yesterday from a trip to Afghanistan to visit troops on the ground, will host a conference call for media ***at 3 p.m. today*** *to discuss his trip. "*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326830850_Huizenga2.pdf*

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Recognizes 75 Years of Wildlife Conservation and Partn

"

The Michigan DNR shares the following news release on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and other partners celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program:"

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829783_DNR2.pdf

State Police Offers School Liaison Training for Law Enforcement

"

LANSING. *The Michigan State Police (MSP) is offering its Teaching, Educating, and Mentoring (T.E.A.M.) School Liaison Training to law enforcement officers. Three, five-day training sessions will be held at the MSP Training Academy on February 27-March 2, May 21-25, and September 17-21."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829735_MSP1.pdf

Sen. Robertson is available for comments following State of the State address

"

Roberstson, R-Grand Blanc Township, will be available following the State of the State address for comments on state issues mentioned by the governor during his presentation. "

Source: *Sen. Dave Robertson* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829702_Robertson1.pdf

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Huizenga to Host Conference Call at 3 p.m. Today on Visit to Troops in Afghanistan

"

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga, MI-02, who just returned yesterday from a trip to Afghanistan to visit troops on the ground, will host a conference call for media ***at 3 p.m. today*** *to discuss his trip. Please reply to this e-mail to RSVP if you will be able to make the call. If you cannot make that call, please call Lauren Phillips to set up an alternate time."*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829641_Huizenga1.pdf

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Expert Panel at Auto Show to Highlight Advanced Autos, Fuel-Efficient Cars

"

DETROIT – A panel of national experts in the automotive and consumer sectors will gather at Cobo Center on ***Thursday, Jan. 19****, to discuss Michigan's growing advanced auto manufacturing sector and the next generation of fuel-efficient vehicles."*

Source: *Byrum Fisk Communications* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829598_Byrum1.pdf*

NetCoalition Ad Campaign Urges Michigan Residents to Oppose Onerous Internet Regulations

"

National technology group highlights damage SOPA and PIPA will have on thriving technology sector"

Source: *NetCoalition* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829526_NC1.pdf*

Detroit Tigers 2012 Winter Caravan Set to Visit Lansing

"

Detroit Tigers players and coaches will visit the State Capitol as part of the 2012 Winter Caravan. Governor Rick Snyder and Lt. Governor Brian Calley will be in attendance to meet and greet the Tigers."

Source: *Marketing Resource Group, Inc.* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326829482_MRGMI1.pdf*

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on the road

"

Thanks so much to our grassroots supporters around the state for all the invites to events as of late. We are looking forward to attending the Lapeer County Executive Committee Meeting this Thursday, meeting with the Oceana Tea Party on February 1st, and the SE Michigan 9.12 Tea Party on February 21st."

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326817840_Hoeskstra2.pdf*

Michigan embracing "no-wait Secretary of State" and new, convenient online services

"

DETROIT, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today that the 500,000th transaction was successfully completed on the department's new online services portal at ExpressSOS.com."

Source: *MI Department of State* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326817799_SOS1.pdf

Michigan CPAs More Optimistic About Business Growth in 2012

*"**TROY, Mich., January 16, 2011)** According to a new multistate survey, certified public accountants in Michigan and surrounding states are slightly more optimistic about business growth in their respective states for 2012 than the nation as a whole. "*

Source: *Michigan Association of CPAs* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326815703_CPAs.pdf

2012 Lake Sturgeon Season on Black Lake (Cheboygan County) Announced

"

The Department of Natural Resources has announced that the 2012 lake sturgeon season on Black Lake (Cheboygan County) will begin Saturday, Feb. 4. All lake sturgeon anglers must register to participate in the lake sturgeon season. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326814417_DNR1.pdf

RESTORE FISCAL SANITY TO WASHINGTON

"

"The fiscal catastrophe facing much of Europe is a stark warning of what lies ahead if Barack Obama gets four more years to move us toward a European-style welfare state." – Mitt Romney"

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326813340_Romney6.pdf

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New Club for Growth Action Ad Blasts Upton For Stimulus Spending

"

Club for Growth President Chris Chocola: "Only a liberal would vote to keep $350 billion worth of spending in Obama's stimulus.""

Source: *Club for Growth Action* **Date:** *01-18-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1326813302_CFG1.pdf

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GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2012 8:29 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Michigan House committee OKs union dues bill

"A legislative showdown between Republicans who control the Michigan Legislature and labor unions escalated Tuesday, as a House committee approved a bill that would require employees to annually renew their written consent allowing certain union dues to be deducted from their paychecks."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120201/NEWS04/202010310/Michigan-House-committee-OKs-union-dues-bill?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Pro-union group says Indiana right-to-work legislation should be wake-up call for Michigan

"Passage of right-to-work legislation in Indiana should be a wake-up call for Michigan workers, We Are the People Michigan, a pro-union organization, said in a statement Wednesday."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120202/NEWS01/202020305/Pro-union-group-says-Indiana-right-work-legislation-should-wake-up-call-Michigan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Legislation introduced to memorialize Sgt. Priestap

"WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek has authored legislation to name the circle drive at the Oscar G. Johnson Veterans Center in honor of the late Sgt. First Class James Priestap of Foster City."

Source: *Iron Mountain Daily News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/532896/Legislation-introduced-to-memorialize-Sgt--Priestap.html?nav=5002*

Opinion: Volt probe not a conflict of interest for Obama

"Congressional Republicans are apparently willing to blame President Barack Obama for almost anything they think has gone wrong."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/02/02/opinion/srv0000018348475.txt*

Local lawmakers oppose online lottery

"State Sen. Mike Green announced his intention to introduce legislation prohibiting online lottery sales."

Source: *Huron Daily Tribune* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.michigansthumb.com/articles/2012/02/01/news/local_news/doc4f29334b67fe1945505885.txt*

Pscholka to the rescue

"BENTON TOWNSHIP - The doors of Orchard Grove Extended Care Centre are still open because of the intervention of state Rep. Al Pscholka, the management says.
"

Source: *Herald Palladium (St. Joseph/Benton Harbor)* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.heraldpalladium.com/articles/2012/02/01/local_news/8413113.txt*

Hunting, snowmobiling preserved in Michigan forest

"The U.S. Forest Service said this week it will continue to allow firearm hunting and snowmobiling in certain areas within the Huron-Manistee National Forest after a federal appeals court ruling required it to revise its plan."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.grandhaventribune.com/content/hunting-snowmobiling-preserved-michigan-forest*

Report: Auto thefts continue to drop in Michigan

"The number of auto thefts in Michigan is down 9.35 percent from 2009 to 2010, according to a report from the Michigan Automobile Theft Prevention Authority released Tuesday."

Source: *Grand Haven Tribune* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.grandhaventribune.com/content/report-auto-thefts-continue-drop-michigan*

Secretary of state paid $1,325 in campaign fines

"LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, whose job includes enforcing Michigan's campaign finance laws, paid $1,325 in fines last year for failing to file her campaign's own information in a timely manner."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/02/01/news/politics/doc4f2933b5aac72500736055.txt*

Farm labor rule revisited

"WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sen. Debbie Stabenow, chairwoman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, applauded the U.S. Department of Labor's move to return to the drawing board on a controversial farm labor rule that would have prevented many young people from working on family farms."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/02/01/farm-labor-rule-revisited/*

Schuette assesses Romney efforts after Florida primary win

"Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney will be spending a lot of time in Michigan in the run-up to the state's Feb. 28 primary after his big win Tuesday in Florida, his Michigan campaign chairman said Wednesday."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/02/02/news/politics/doc4f29df20b82cd813443985.txt*

Former Detroit lawmaker among those indicted in large drug ring

"A former state lawmaker and three Macomb County residents were among a dozen persons indicted Wednesday for their roles in what federal authorities called a "major" drug trafficking organization that operated in southeast Michigan."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/02/02/news/doc4f29f260bed30659179014.txt*

ADP says U.S. employment rose 170,000 in January, 122,000 less than December's increase

"Employment in the U.S. nonfarm private business sector increased by 170,000 from December to January on a seasonally adjusted basis, according to the monthly National Employment Report released this morning by payroll firm ADP."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/jobs/index.ssf/2012/02/post_75.html*

Mid-Michigan unemployment rises in December

"Isabella County had Michigan's fourth-lowest unemployment rate during December, but that's cold comfort to nearby Clare County, which suffered through its 49th consecutive month of double-digit unemployment."

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.themorningsun.com/articles/2012/02/02/news/srv0000018162376.txt

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Detroit schools to be added to statewide school district will be announced this month

"Detroit Public Schools emergency manager Roy Roberts will announce next week recommendations for certain schools in the district to be turned over to the Educational Achievement Authority, a newly formed statewide district targeting the state's lowest-performing schools."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/02/detroit_schools_to_be_added_to.html

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Chrysler continues momentum from 2011 with 44 percent increase in U.S. January sales

"Chrysler Group LLC is continuing its success from last year into 2012."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/02/chrysler_continues_momentum_fr.html

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Dave Camp, Debbie Stabenow call for action against Asian carp

"U.S. Rep. Dave Camp, R-Midland and Sen. Debbie Stabenow are calling on the Army Corps of Engineers to move quickly in their quest to stop Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/midland/index.ssf/2012/02/dave_camp_debbie_stabenow_call_for_action_against_asian_carp.html

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Commentary: More information needed before no-fault is changed

"The insurance industry claims Michigan's auto insurance system will go broke if lawmakers don't drastically change our state's nearly 40 year-old auto no-fault law. House Bill 4936 would slash health care coverage insurers provide for victims of catastrophic accidents, potentially shifting millions of dollars onto the taxpayer-funded Medicaid system. The legislation would also dictate how much private health care providers receive for their services, regardless of real costs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/OPINION01/202020341/1008/opinion01/Commentary-More-information-needed-before-no-fault-changed

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Editorial: Let auto insurers compete on repair choice

"Owners of small and independent auto glass repair shops appear to have a case for modest state intervention to maintain fairness within their industry here in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/OPINION01/202020338/1008/opinion01/Editorial-Let-auto-insurers-compete-repair-choice

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GM experiences 6 percent sales loss in January

"General Motors Co. reported today a year-over-year U.S. sales loss of 6 percent in January."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/02/gm_experiences_6_percent_sales.html

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Editorial: Michigan schools should keep kindergarten choices

"New legislative rules shaping how the state funds its kindergarten programs will force public schools to rethink their current operations. In that process, parents shouldn't lose important choices when it comes to their child's first official foray into elementary education."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/OPINION01/202020339/1008/opinion01/Editorial-Michigan-schools-should-keep-kindergarten-choices

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Ford posts 7 percent U.S. sales gain in January

"Ford Motor Co. experienced a modest U.S. sales gain of 7 percent in January compared to last year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/02/ford_posts_7_percent_us_sales.html

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Commentary: Meddling Dems urge a vote for Paul

"Mischief-making Democrats would like to turn Republican Ron Paul into the latest Michigan primary quirk."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/OPINION03/202020335/1008/opinion01/Meddling-Dems-urge-vote-Paul

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Emergency manager links: State takeovers debated as more cities fall into financial trouble

"The concept of state-appointed emergency managers is igniting a firestorm of debate as more school districts and cities are threatened with a state takeover."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/02/emergency_manager_links.html

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Commentary: Crushing the dream

"After half a century of observing discussions about public policy in this state, what I find amazing is not that people have different views — it's that they so often seem to be living in different universes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/OPINION01/202020334/1008/opinion01/Commentary-Crushing-dream

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Paying for Michigan's roads: Gas tax? Higher auto fees?

"LANSING - Gov. Rick Snyder says spending $1.4 billion a year would be a good start at fixing them and last week lawmakers introduced legislation that would raise $1 billion a year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/how_do_we_pay_for_michigan_roa.html

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Michigan lawmakers count on study to boost bill to block Asian carp

"Two senior Michigan lawmakers are counting on a new report outlining ways to protect the Great Lakes from Asian carp and other invasive species to provide fresh impetus in Congress for a bill mandating urgent action."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120201/SCIENCE/202010373/1022/politics/Michigan-lawmakers-count-study-boost-bill-block-Asian-carp

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Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence to officially announce campaign for Congress

"Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence is preparing to formally announce her run for Congress in Michigan's 14th district."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/02/southfield_mayor_brenda_lawren_2.html

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Snyder soon to endorse GOP candidate

"Washington— Gov. Rick Snyder says he expects to make an endorsement in the GOP presidential race "as early as this week.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/POLITICS01/202020371/1022/politics/Snyder-soon-endorse-GOP-candidate

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Former state Rep. among 12 charged in massive drug bust in Metro Detroit

"Federal authorities say they've broken up an international drug ring operating in Metro Detroit, calling the bust one of the largest ever in the region."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/02/massive_metro_detroit_drug_bus.html

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Lawmakers study sales tax hike as alternative to Snyder's roads proposal

"Lansing— Michigan would swap its 19-cent gasoline tax for a penny increase in sales tax under plan reviewed by the House Transportation Committee today."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120201/METRO05/202010434/1409/METRO/Lawmakers-study-sales-tax-hike-alternative-Snyder-s-roads-proposal

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Rep. McMillin: Districts don't oppose virtual learning, they just don't want charter schools offering parents choices

"LANSING – Traditional K-12 districts don't oppose virtual schools, they just don't want charter school operators to be able to run them, state House Education Committee chairman Thomas McMillin said today."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/02/rep_mcmillin_districts_dont_op.html

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Biden attacks outsourced jobs in Grand Rapids speech

"Grand Rapids— Vice President Joe Biden is bullish on the U.S. economy and he made that clear Wednesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/METRO/202020370/1409/METRO/Biden-attacks-outsourced-jobs-Grand-Rapids-speech

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Romney, Obama preparing for election fight in Michigan, AG Bill Schuette says

"With a primary victory in Florida apparently reinstating the inevitability of Mitt Romney's Republican presidential nomination, his campaign is setting its sights on the general election."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/romney_obama_preparing_for_ele.html

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Judge could halt state's exam of Detroit finances

"Detroit — A judge today is expected to weigh a request to halt meetings of the state-appointed team reviewing Detroit's finances amid allegations the group is violating the state's Open Meetings Act."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/METRO01/202020380/1409/METRO/Judge-could-halt-state-s-exam-Detroit-finances

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Indiana Senate passes Right to Work legislation

"Gov. Rick Snyder said it's not on his agenda this year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/02/indiana_senate_passes_right_to.html

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Officials to announce plans next week for DPS schools

"Detroit— Officials plan to announce next week which Detroit schools will be moved to a new statewide educational system, turned over to charter operators or closed."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/SCHOOLS/202020377/1409/METRO/Officials-announce-plans-next-week-DPS-schools

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Gov. Snyder to feds: Use Michigan as model for fiscal reform

"LANSING -- Michigan's efforts to right its financial ship could serve as a model for the federal government, and other states could learn from its innovation, Gov. Rick Snyder told a U.S. House committee on Wednesday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/gov_snyder_to_feds_use_michiga.html

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42.5 percent of all unemployed have been jobless for more than six months

"While the number of jobless has shrunk, there are been little reduction in the share of the unemployed who have been out of work for more than six month, points out the Economic Policy Institute, which is a nonpartisan think tank primarily financed by unions."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/jobs/index.ssf/2012/02/425_percent_of_all_unemployed_have_been.html

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Feds charge alleged leader of Metro Detroit drug ring, former state rep.

"Detroit— An accused drug kingpin from Macomb County hobbled into federal court on crutches Wednesday after prosecutors said they hobbled his heroin, cocaine and marijuana ring."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/METRO/202020392/1409/METRO/Feds-charge-alleged-leader-Metro-Detroit-drug-ring-former-state-rep-

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GM blames lackluster Volt sales on media, federal investigation; looks to revamp reputation

"General Motors Co. is blaming "exaggerated" media reports and the federal government's investigation into Chevrolet Volt batteries catching fire for the vehicle's lackluster sales in January."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/02/gm_blames_lackluster_volt_sale.html

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How Metro Detroit helped shape Mitt Romney

"Long before Mitt Romney became a candidate for president of the United States, he was a lanky teenager in Bloomfield Hills with a penchant for practical jokes rather than for politics."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120202/METRO/202020409/1409/How-Metro-Detroit-helped-shape-Mitt-Romney

Drop in Michigan auto thefts will not bring instant change to insurance rates

*"**FLINT, Michigan --** Auto thefts are on the decline in Michigan but that doesn't guarantee your car insurance rates will follow suit right away, insurance industry officials say."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/02/drop_in_michigan_auto_thefts_w.html

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Ind. is Rust Belt's 1st right-to-work state

"INDIANAPOLIS -- Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels made Indiana the Rust Belt's first right-to-work state on Wednesday, signing legislation that prohibits labor contracts requiring workers to pay union representation fees."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120202/NEWS07/202020464/-1/7daysarchives/Ind-Rust-Belt-s-1st-right-work-state

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U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg's campaign dollars include money from leading conservative donors

"U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg received more than $601,000 in contributions from individuals and more than $340,000 from political action committees and other political groups through the end of 2011, according to documents filed with the Federal Elections Commission."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2012/02/us_rep_tim_walbergs_campaign_d.html

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Highland Park parents, students face new emergency manager

"About 75 parents and students gathered Wednesday night at Highland Park Community High School to voice their worries with Michigan's newest emergency manager."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120202/NEWS02/202020652/-1/7daysarchives/Highland-Park-parents-students-face-new-emergency-manager

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Kids can keep working on family farms under the old rules -- for now -- U.S. Department of Labor says

*"**KALAMAZOO —** It's still not clear what kind of farm work youngsters will be allowed to perform under new rules proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/02/kids_can_keep_working_on_famil.html

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Report: Poorest families hit 1000 times harder than rich by Michigan tax changes

"LANSING - As tax season starts in full swing, a new report says low income families will be hardest hit by a state tax reform package passed last year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/michigans_poorest_families_hit.html

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Wayne State board OKs tougher admissions requirements

"The Wayne State University Board of Governors voted Wednesday to toughen the admissions process, a move aimed at boosting the university's graduation rate"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120202/NEWS06/202020538/-1/7daysarchives/Wayne-State-board-OKs-tougher-admissions-requirements

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4-way battle in 14th Congressional District expected to be expensive

"The race for the new 14th Congressional District seat that stretches from southwest Detroit through the Grosse Pointes and all the way to Pontiac is shaping up as the most competitive -- and expensive -- race in the state."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120202/NEWS06/202020540/-1/7daysarchives/4-way-battle-14th-Congressional-District-expected-expensive

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Michigan's most interesting primary? Southfield mayor joins crowd in 14th congressional district

"It will take place in a diverse district malformed by partisan politics."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/02/the_most_interesting_primary_i.html

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Press Releases

Proos: Michigan should consider right-to-work

"

***LANSING** – In response to the Indiana Senate's approval of right-to-work legislation, which is expected to be signed by Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels later today, Michigan Sen. John Proos issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Sen. John Proos* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328133956_Proos1.pdf

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Michigan Democrats Celebrate Black History Month

*"**LANSING** - Michigan Democratic Party Chair Mark Brewer issued the following statement on the celebration of Black History Month in February:"*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328129261_MDP3.pdf

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Democrat Adam Zemke outraises all opponents in bid for 55th District House seat

"Adam Zemke, Democratic candidate for State Representative in the 55th District, raised more money in 2011 than his Democratic and Republican challengers combined, according to campaign finance reports."

Source: *Adam Zemke, Democratic candidate for State Representative in the 55th District* **Date:** *02-02-2012*
Link: *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328126983_Zemke1.pdf*

Michigan Citizens Agree: Improving Housing Market is Important to Michigan's Overall Economic Recov

*"**Lansing, MI)** – A new statewide poll shows that most Michigan citizens agree that improving the state's housing industry is important to Michigan's overall economic recovery. The EPIC MRA poll of 600 Michigan citizens revealed that 74 percent of those surveyed agree that a stable housing market would have a major or important impact on improving Michigan's economy. The EPIC MRA poll was conducted from January 17, 2012 through January 21, 2012."*

Source: *Michigan Association of Homebuilders* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328126270_MAHB1.pdf

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Statement from Todd Cook on passage of controversial "Right to Work" legislation in Indiana

"

LANSING - Todd Cook, State Director for We Are the People, issued the following statement today following final passage of the controversial "Right to Work" bill in Indiana."

Source: *We Are the People Coalition* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328125945_WTPM2.pdf*

Chairwoman Stabenow Applauds Reversal of Farm Labor Rule

"

Washington, DC *– Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today applauded the U.S. Department of Labor's move to go back to the drawing board on a controversial farm labor rule that would have prevented many young people from working on family farms."*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328125862_Stabenow3.pdf*

Huizenga to Host Tele-Town Hall TOMORROW Night

"

2nd District - U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga, MI-02, will host a tele-town hall TOMORROW, Thursday at 6 p.m. to hear from constituents across the 2nd District on current events in the district or D.C"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328125814_Huizenga3.pdf*

Senator Stabenow Hosts Michigan Business Leaders at National Job Creation Roundtable

"

President of Holland Battery Component Manufacturer Trans-Matic and CEO of Detroit IT Company GalaxE.Solutions Provide Insight on Job Creation"

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328123064_Stabenow2.pdf*

US Labor Department and National Equal Pay Task Force launch equal pay application development

"

WASHINGTON *– Seeking novel ways to eliminate the gender gap in pay, the U.S. Department of Labor and its federal agency partners on the National Equal Pay Task Force today announced a contest for creating software applications that use the department's data to promote equal pay for men and women. "*

Source: *Michigan Women's Commission* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328122901_MWC1.pdf*

In Congressional testimony, Snyder declines to say whether Right to Work creates jobs

"

Snyder, asked whether he supported adopting Right to Work legislation for Michigan, repeated a long-standing position that the issue is "not on my agenda.""

Source: *We Are the People Coalition* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328121892_wtpm1.pdf*

U.S. Representative Gary Peters Statement on Black History Month

"

Washington, D.C. – In honor of February being Black History Month, U.S. Rep. Gary Peters released the following statement:"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328121854_Peters2.pdf*

MPSC Releases Annual Electric Competition Report

"

February 1, 2012 – *The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today released its annual report on electric competition in Michigan. The year 2011 marked the 10th full year of electric customer choice in Michigan."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328121809_LARA2.pdf*

House Dems to Unveil Ethics, Campaign Reform and Corporate Accountability Package

"

LANSING – The Michigan House Democratic caucus will hold a press conference on ***Thursday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m. in Room 426 of the Capitol*** *to announce the introduction of their ethics, campaign finance reform and corporate accountability package. "*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328121741_House1.pdf

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Hoekstra to Speak to Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce

"

HOLLAND, Mich. *- Pete Hoekstra, former Michigan congressman and candidate for the U.S. Senate, will speak at the Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Meeting on February 2 at 11:30 AM. Hoekstra will discuss the economic implications of government spending and debt."*

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328120013_Hoekstra1.pdf

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MPSC: Annual Video Services Competition Report Shows Increase in the Number

"

February 1, 2012 *– The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today issued its fifth annual report on the status of competition for video services in Michigan. The report is required by the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act (Public Act 480 of 2006)."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328119966_LARA1.pdf

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MPSC: Annual Video Services Competition Report Shows Increase in the Number

"

February 1, 2012 *– The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today issued its fifth annual report on the status of competition for video services in Michigan. The report is required by the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act (Public Act 480 of 2006)."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328119965_LARA1.pdf

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Rep. Byrum Named Legislator of the Year by the Michigan Optometric Association

"

*LANSING – State Representative **Barb Byrum** (D-Onondaga) today was named Legislator of the Year by the Michigan Optometric Association for her work promoting comprehensive eye care for all children beginning at birth."*

Source: *Rep. Barb Byrum* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328119125_Byrum1.pdf

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Conyers, Governor Snyder, Rev. Williams Discuss Emergency Managers Law

"

(WASHINGTON) – Today, House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) and Reverend Charles E. Williams II, President of the Detroit chapter of the National Action Network, met Governor Rick Snyder to discuss Michigan's Emergency Managers law, Public Act 4. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. John Conyers* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328118362_Conyers1.pdf

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Stabenow Hosts Michigan Business Leaders at National Job Creation Roundtable

"

President of Holland Battery Component Manufacturer Trans-Matic and CEO of Detroit IT Company GalaxE.Solutions Provide Insight on Job Creation"

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328118200_Stabenow1.pdf

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Membership Deadline for Endorsement Convention

"

*The Michigan Democratic Party **Endorsement Convention** will take place on **March 10, 2012 at Cobo Center in Detroit.** At this convention, we will **endorse eight** candidates for Education Boards and **three candidates** for Michigan Supreme Court - an unprecedented action that will give our Democratic candidates the opportunity to meet voters, travel throughout the state, and raise the money needed to defeat Republicans in November."*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328117844_MDP2.pdf

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U.S. Rep. Gary Peters Introduces Outsourcing Accountability Act

"

Washington, D.C. - This morning, as reported by the Washington Post, U.S. Rep. Gary Peters (MI) introduced the Outsourcing Accountability Act with lead cosponsors U.S. Rep. Tim Bishop (NY) and U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (CA)."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328117043_Peters1.pdf

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Second Meeting of the Conference Committee May be Viewed at C-SPAN.org

"

Washington, D.C. –Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI) will lead the 20-member conference committee tasked with resolving differences between the House and Senate versions of H.R. 3630, today, Wednesday, February 1 at 10:00 a.m."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110517_Camp1.pdf

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Huizenga, Freshmen to join Bicameral Press Conference on Honest Budget Act

"

Washington, D.C. - In a bicameral effort, U.S. Rep. Huizenga and members of the freshmen class today join U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions and Senate co-sponsors in a joint press conference to announce the Honest Budget Act of 2012, H.R. 3844, a bill that would end the use of nine budget tricks that deceive the American people and run up spending."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110480_Huizenga2.pdf

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Study minimizes segregation + Institutions of higher (bracket) learning (cartoon) + Detroit series

"

Feb. 1, 2012 — Universities are increasingly arguing that they should adapt to help students compete in a globalized world, and often cite increased diversity as a side benefit. Matt Davies takes a look."

Source: *Remapping Debate* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110436_RD1.pdf

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SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Wednesday, Feb. 1 through Saturday, Feb. 4

"

Gov. Rick Snyder will testify before the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce. He will offer a state perspective and policy recommendations for job creation. WATCH LIVE AT 10 A.M."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110270_Gov2.pdf

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Amash: No Tracking Chips in Driver's Licenses

"

Washington, D.C. – Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) urged Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano to reverse a new policy that requires some states to implant radio frequency identification (RFID) chips into the states' driver's licenses. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. Justin Amash* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110221_Amash1.pdf

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Primary Campaign, Attacks on Auto Industry and Middle Class Take Toll on Romney in Michigan

"

As Mitt Romney has moved further and further to the extreme right in an attempt to court Tea Party voters, he has doubled down on his cynical attacks on the American auto industry and its workers who have helped pave the way for Michigan's economic recovery, made it clear he would not take any action to restore economic security for the middle class and wants to go back to the policies that led Michigan into a recession in the first place – and Michigan voters have taken notice."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110173_MDP1.pdf

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Mich. study: New Tax Doesn't Touch Top 1%

"

Michigan's wealthiest households -- the top 1 percent -- will be barely touched by income tax changes approved last year by Gov. Rick Snyder and the Michigan Legislature, while all other groups will pay substantially more in income taxes, a new analysis released today from the Michigan League for Human Services concludes."

Source: *Michigan League for Human Services* **Date:** *02-02-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1328110121_MLHS1.pdf

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 8:07 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Romney speaks to full house in Midland

"After Mitt Romney lost the 2008 presidential primary nomination to John McCain, his wife said no more. But, after making one promise to his wife of 42 years, Ann Romney had a change of heart."

Source: *Midland Daily News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_1977351c-615c-11e1-b2ca-0019bb2963f4.html*

Mid-Michigan braces for late-winter ice storm

"Central Michigan is preparing for what could be a pretty nasty ice storm."

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.themorningsun.com/articles/2012/02/28/news/doc4f4c195748f19896648687.txt*

Kid Rock for Romney: A Michigan connection

"Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney wants to rock the vote."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/02/28/news/politics/doc4f4c4aa1c8f68965561457.txt*

Hartland woman remembers Romney as 'kind of a regular kid' from school days

"The year was 1964, and students at Oakland County's prestigious private academies and neighboring public schools congregated for sporting events as well as the "sock hop" dances and parties that often followed."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120228/NEWS01/202280314/Hartland-woman-remembers-Romney-kind-regular-kid-from-school-days?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Ann Romney seen as husband's secret weapon

"Ann Romney joked before a Troy audience recently that if there's another Republican debate, she'll take the stage."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120227/POLITICS01/202270366/1022/politics/Ann-Romney-seen-husband-s-secret-weapon*

Michigan primary vote could be GOP game changer

"There's one day left before Michigan voters make their preference known for the GOP nomination for president, and the stakes couldn't be higher for the two leading candidates."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120227/POLITICS01/202270344/1022/politics/Michigan-primary-vote-could-GOP-game-changer*

Santorum appeals to tea partiers, evangelicals at Kalamazoo rally

"Kalamazoo— GOP hopeful Rick Santorum reached out to west Michigan tea partiers and evangelicals with references to the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and religious freedom the on the eve Michigan's Republican presidential primary."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120227/POLITICS01/202270382/1022/politics/Santorum-appeals-tea-partiers-evangelicals-Kalamazoo-rally*

Metro Detroiters voting on several tax proposals

"Detroit— Voters across Metro Detroit heading to the polls Tuesday for the Republican Presidential Primary Election will also decide the fate of tax proposals in several communities."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280372/1022/politics/Metro-Detroiters-voting-several-tax-proposals*

Dems may dally in GOP primary

"Detroit— Democratic Party leaders say crossing over at the ballot box in hopes of thwarting the outcome of the Republican primary isn't sanctioned, but it's inevitable."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120227/POLITICS01/202270335/1022/politics/Dems-may-dally-GOP-primary*

The who, what and where of Michigan Republican primary

"Residents can vote from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, except in four westernmost counties in the Upper Peninsula that are in the Central time zone. Their voting times are pushed back an hour."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280364/1022/politics/The-who-what-where-Michigan-Republican-primary*

Macomb County judge upholds his own ruling about medical marijuana dispensary

"A Macomb County judge upheld his own previous ruling Monday, leaving the owners of a Chesterfield Township medical marijuana dispensary to face a misdemeanor criminal charge rather than civil contempt of court charge."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/02/28/news/doc4f4be6833c163207447772.txt*

Santorum robocall makes appeal to Michigan's Democrats for votes

"GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum hopes Michigan Democrats can help him earn a victory in Tuesday's primary."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280365/1022/politics/Santorum-robocall-makes-appeal-Michigan-s-Democrats-votes*

Bing tells troubled city: 'Let's stop the madness'

"Detroit— Mayor Dave Bing called on Detroiters to take back the city as a wave of violence featuring youthful victims and perpetrators continued Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/METRO01/202280366/1409/metro/Bing-tells-troubled-city-Let-s-stop-madness-*

Snyder wants open look at Pentagon plan for Mich.

"HARRISON TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder says he wants an open and transparent look at the Pentagon's plan to eliminate a squadron of fighter jets at a Detroit-area base."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/02/28/news/doc4f4cc9bccd5f2587502716.txt

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Crime at DPS schools drops

"Detroit— Felony assaults, armed robberies and concealed weapons crimes are down across campuses in Detroit Public Schools, compared with the same period in the last academic year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/SCHOOLS/202280358/1409/metro/Crime-DPS-schools-drops

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Detroit running out of cash

"Detroit— The city is fast running out of money, with only $76 million reported on hand last month, and could be headed toward payless paydays this spring unless union concessions and other cuts are implemented soon, new financial numbers show."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120227/METRO01/202270342/1409/metro/Detroit-running-out-cash

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Obama welcomes TransCanada plan for new pipeline

*"**WASHINGTON** — The White House on Monday welcomed a Canadian company's plan to build an oil pipeline from Oklahoma to Texas after President Barack Obama blocked the larger Keystone XL pipeline from Canada."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120227/NEWS01/302270042/Obama-welcomes-TransCanada-plan-new-pipeline

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School teacher takes on Oakland County commissioner for vacant state House seat

"Pontiac — A Republican school teacher is battling a longtime Democratic county commissioner at the polls Tuesday to fill a vacant state House seat."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280373/

Romney, Santorum make nearby stops on eve of primary

"Area voters, some still undecided, took advantage of the chance Monday to see the two top contenders in today's presidential primary."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120227/NEWS01/302270023/Romney-Santorum-make-nearby-stops-eve-primary

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Michigan gas price jumps, still below national norm

"The price of gas increased almost 25 cents in the past week to an average of $3.69 a gallon in Michigan on Monday, AAA Michigan reported. But the impact is not expected to be as severe as gas spikes last year and in 2008"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/METRO05/202280342/Michigan-gas-price-jumps-still-below-national-norm?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Michigan relevant again in U.S. race

"The epicenter of the "Lost Decade" is relevant again."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/OPINION03/202280341/Michigan-relevant-again-U-S-race?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Snyder says losing A-10s from Selfridge could cut 600 jobs in state

"Washington— Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said the state could lose more than 600 full- and part-time military jobs if the Air Force moves A-10 fighter planes from Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Macomb County."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/METRO/202280360/Snyder-says-losing-10s-from-Selfridge-could-cut-600-jobs-state?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

School teacher takes on Oakland County commissioner for vacant state House seat

"Pontiac — A Republican school teacher is battling a longtime Democratic county commissioner at the polls Tuesday to fill a vacant state House seat."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280373/*

Lansing's Purple Carrot Food Truck among nation's best, Smithsonian Magazine says

"LANSING – The Lansing-based Purple Carrot Food Truck was named one of the 20 best food trucks in the United Stated by Smithsonian Magazine."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/02/lansings_purple_carrot_food_tr.html*

Consumer Reports stomps on Jeep, praises Chevrolet Corvette Z06

"The Chevrolet Corvette Z06 is the best vehicle on the road from Detroit's Big Three, according to Consumer Reports."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/02/consumer_reports_road_test_sco.html*

Monday polls split on Michigan winner, 2 percent margin shows state is up in the air

"GRAND RAPIDS – The 2 percent margin of win in three recently released Republican primary polls is the same."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/02/monday_polls_split_on_michigan.html*

GOP candidates make final appeal

"From Rockford to Albion to Detroit, it was a mad dash across the state Monday for three GOP candidates for president."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280363/*

Michigan matters: Experts say candidates are eyeing a prize bigger than delegates

"Delegates are nice, but the real prize in the Michigan Republican primary is the momentum the winning candidate gets to carry into "Super Tuesday" and beyond, experts said."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/michigan_matters_experts_say_c.html

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It's up to Michigan voters to pick in GOP race as polls open

"After weeks of campaigning, attack ads and robocalls, it's now time for Michigan voters to decide who will be the state's favorite for the GOP nomination for president."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120228/POLITICS01/202280374/It-s-up-Michigan-voters-pick-GOP-race-polls-open?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Editorial: Expand the role of state's community colleges

"To meet the educational needs of Michigan students and the economic development interests of the state, legislators and Gov. Rick Snyder must expand the role of community colleges. They are critical to the state's efforts to train and retrain workers, and to the prospects of a lot of young people on the margins."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/OPINION01/202280316/-1/7daysarchives/Editorial-Expand-role-state-s-community-colleges

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Free Press endorsements for Feb. 28 Michigan GOP primary

"The Detroit Free Press made two endorsements for this year's primary election."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/OPINION01/120227068/-1/7daysarchives/Free-Press-endorsements-Feb-28-Michigan-GOP-primary

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GOP candidates who lean so far right now must find their center come the fall election

"Regardless which candidate wins the Michigan GOP primary on Tuesday, rest assured the eventual winner of the nomination will have to invest in a sturdy pair of track shoes in order to beat Barack Obama."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/when_gop_candidates_who_lean_s.html

Signed home deals near a 2-year high

"WASHINGTON -- The number of Americans who signed contracts to buy homes rose in January to the highest level in nearly two years, supporting the view that the housing market is gradually coming back."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/BUSINESS04/202280344/-1/7daysarchives/Signed-home-deals-near-2-year-high*

Oil prices dip but gas keeps rising to hit $3.68 in state

"NEW YORK -- Oil prices took a breather on Monday, falling slightly as investors booked some profits after a seven-day surge."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/BUSINESS07/202280357/-1/7daysarchives/Oil-prices-dip-gas-keeps-rising-hit-3-68-state*

Flagstar's settlement goes to FHA

"The $133-million settlement reached Friday in a mortgage fraud lawsuit filed against Troy-based Flagstar Bank may be a victory for the U.S. government, but none of the money will go to Susan Nelson or any of the bank's other customers who have lost their homes."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/BUSINESS06/202280346/-1/7daysarchives/Flagstar-s-settlement-goes-FHA*

Bill Ford: Cooperation urged to prevent global gridlock

"Bill Ford sees a future when communication technology in vehicles will do more than simply sync an iPhone or play music from the Internet."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/BUSINESS01/202280341/-1/7daysarchives/Bill-Ford-Cooperation-urged-prevent-global-gridlock*

In Detroit, Ron Paul pitches publicly-funded Caterpillar plant in Texas as evidence of free market success

""Facts are stubborn things," John Adams once said. "And whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/in_detroit_ron_paul_pitches_pu.html*

FBI to test white powder sent to Levin

"The FBI is planning to test a white powdery substance to determine what it was after the powder was found in an envelope delivered Monday to U.S. Sen. Carl Levin's office at the federal building in downtown Detroit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/NEWS05/202280365/-1/7daysarchives/FBI-test-white-powder-sent-Levin*

Financial review team gets 30-day extension in Detroit, but will emergency manager law be suspended before they finish?

"The 10-member review team investigating Detroit's finances will have until March 28 to decide whether the city needs an emergency manager, but a petition drive may suspend the law before that can happen."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/02/detere.html*

State Rep. Bob Genetski slurred his speech, smelled of alcohol, according to police testimony

*"**LANSING TOWNSHIP** -- State Rep. Bob Genetski, R-Saugatuck, exhibited slurred speech, smelled of alcohol and failed a field sobriety test when he was pulled over in the early hours of Jan. 19, according to testimony from the arresting officer."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/02/state_rep_bob_genetski.html*

Flint residents part of petition drive against emergency manager law

*"**FLINT, Michigan --** A contingent of Flint residents is part of a statewide coalition expected to turn in petitions Wednesday to put a referendum of Michigan's emergency manager law on the ballot."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/02/flint_residents_joining_effort.html*

Snyder plan to cut agency for blind people stirs anger

"LANSING -- Advocates for blind people are unhappy with a shake-up in services for disabled people announced last week by Gov. Rick Snyder, including elimination of the Michigan Commission for the Blind."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/NEWS15/202280330/-1/7daysarchives/Snyder-plan-cut-agency-blind-people-stirs-anger

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Mitt Romney says Michigan presidential primary will help nation 'restore greatness'

"PARMA TOWNSHIP – Mitt Romney underscored the importance of Michigan's Republican presidential primary during a Monday appearance at a Jackson County manufacturing facility."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2012/02/mitt_romney_says_michigan_pres.html

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Rising storm of violence hits hard at Detroit's kids

"In northwest Detroit, a grandmother clung to the casket of her 9-month-old grandson, who was killed by gunfire."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/NEWS01/202280417/-1/7daysarchives/Rising-storm-violence-hits-hard-Detroit-s-kids

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Judging by Rick Santorum's Michigan crowd, don't rule out importance of abortion, gay marriage and other social issues in 2012 primary

"DELTA TOWNSHIP – Rick Santorum's supporters energetically cheered his conservative positions on social issues at a rally near Lansing Monday afternoon."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/santorum_michigan_social_issue.html

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Republican Presidential hopeful Ron Paul speaks to 4,000 at MSU

"EAST LANSING – Republican Presidential candidate Ron Paul took the stage at Michigan State University's Auditorium Monday afternoon to the thumping drumbeats of his campaign theme song."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/republican_presidential_hopefu.html

Pollster says Mitt Romney's Mormon faith could make a difference if election is close

"GRAND RAPIDS – Mitt Romney's position on the Detroit auto bailout and health care plan have been blasted, but a pollster suggests one issue not often discussed on the campaign trail this year could end up costing him the Michigan primary victory: his Mormon faith."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/pollster_says_mitt_romneys_mor.html

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Santorum campaign asks Democrats to vote for him; Romney campaign calls it desperate

"In what the Mitt Romney campaign called a desperate move, Rick Santorum's campaign asked Michigan Democrats today to cross party lines and vote for him in Tuesday's Republican presidential primary."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120227/NEWS15/120227072/Santorum-campaign-asks-Democrats-vote-him-Romney-campaign-calls-desperate

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Government charges Bank of America with discrimination

"The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development charged Bank of America Corp. on Monday with discriminating against three disabled borrowers in Michigan and Wisconsin."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/02/government_charges_bank_of_ame.html

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Michigan primary today; it's a make-or-break day for Romney, Santorum

"After two weeks in the headlights of the national hunt for a Republican presidential candidate, Michigan voters go to the polls today, and the outcome could help determine whether the grinding slog continues or Republicans finally start to rally around one candidate"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120228/NEWS15/202280370/Michigan-primary-today-s-make-break-day-Romney-Santorum?odyssey=mod|breaking|text|FRONTPAGE

Supreme Court rejects emergency carp measures

"The U.S. Supreme Court refused Monday to order emergency measures that might prevent Asian carp from reaching the Great Lakes, despite a warning that the exotic fish pose a "dire threat" to the region's environment and economy."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/02/supreme_court_rejects_emergenc.html

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Mitt Romney rocks Kid Rock endorsement at Royal Oak Music Theater (updated with photos)

"Before a packed crowd of more than 1000 supporters, presidential candidate Mitt Romney accepted the endorsement of Kid Rock tonight at the Royal Oak Music Theater. Kid Rock and band then performed his anthem "Born Free," which has become the Romeny campaign theme."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/02/mitt_romney_rocks_kid_rock_end.html

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Press Releases

O'Connell, Henning take on expanded roles at GM

*"**DETROIT** — General Motors today announced the following changes to its state government affairs team in Michigan:"*

Source: *General Motors* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330378538_GM1.pdf

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MEDIA ADVISORY: OFA MICHIGAN TO HOLD STATEWIDE DAY OF ACTION ON PRIMARY NIGHT

"

LANSING – Tomorrow evening, in living rooms and gathering places all across the state, Obama for America volunteers will come together in their communities to plan for the fall campaign, discuss the impact of the President's accomplishments, and engage and recruit new volunteers in an ongoing effort to build the strongest grassroots campaign in Michigan history."

Source: *Obama for America* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330377629_Obama1.pdf

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Detroit Small Businesses To Hold Roundtable on Impact of Health Insurance Tax (HIT)

"

Detroit, Mich. (February 27, 2012) *– On* ***Tuesday, February 28, 2012****, small business owners and economic experts will participate in a health care roundtable to discuss the impacts of the looming Health Insurance Tax (HIT) and how Washington can take action to repeal the tax that will take $87 billion from the pockets of small businesses."*

Source: *Stop The HIT Coalition* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376788_STH1.pdf

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MDOT puts railroad crossing safety video on YouTube

"

February 27, 2012 -- *The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has posted a safety video to its YouTube channel on www.youtube.com/michigandot. The video urges motorists to pay close attention when approaching a railroad crossing. "*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376746_MDOT1.pdf

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Governor makes appointments to Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan

"

LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today appointed Ignacio David Acevedo-Polakovich, Carlos Alvarado-Jorquera and Maria Oxholm to the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376701_Gov4.pdf

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Public Sector Consultants Releases FY 2012–13 Budget Analysis

"

LANSING *– Gov. Rick Snyder's FY 2012–13 budget recommendations are much less dramatic than last year's, representing largely a continuation of the policies laid out in his first year of office, according to an analysis by Public Sector Consultants (PSC) released today. Gov. Snyder presented his recommendations to the Michigan Legislature on Feb. 9."*

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376673_TR1.pdf

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Equality Michigan Pride PAC Endorses Tim Greimel in Tuesday's Pontiac Special Election

"

Equality Michigan Pride PAC Endorses Tim Greimel in Tuesday's Pontiac Special Election and Asks Voters to Consider Supporting Republican Candidate Fred Karger in Primary"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376636_EM1.pdf

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Camp Named Champion for Children, Marriage, and Family

"

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The National Association for Relationship and Marriage Education (NARME) recently named Congressman Dave Camp a "Champion for Children, Marriage and Family," for his support of programs that promote healthy, safe, and stable families benefiting all children."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376592_Camp1.pdf

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Groups Support E.P.A. Mercury Rule to Protect Great Lakes, Public Health

"

LANSING – Officials representing Michigan conservation, environmental and voter groups lent their voices of support Monday to a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency effort to protect the public health by requiring that power plants significantly cut back on their mercury emissions."

Source: *Byrum Fisk Communications* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376516_Byrum1.pdf

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Snyder appoints Sally Laukitis to Michigan Travel Commission

"

LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today appointed Sally Laukitis, of Holland, to the Michigan Travel Commission. "

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376484_Gov3.pdf

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S&P: County 'AAA' bond rating anticipated good for next two years

"

Standard & Poors has so much confidence in how Macomb County handles its budget, the company not only issued another 'AAA' bond rating for 2012, but it does not foresee changing that rating for the next two years."

Source: *Macomb County Executive Office* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376346_Macomb1.pdf

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SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Tuesday, Feb. 28

"

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will keynote the Michigan Economic Developers Association Capitol Day."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376256_Gov2.pdf

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2012 Michigan Poetry Out Loud Championship Coming to Saginaw

"

LANSING – Don't miss this amazing opportunity to see poetry recitation at its finest. The 2012 Michigan Poetry Out Loud Championship, a captivating display of youth poetry recitation, will be held at Saginaw Valley State University's Rhea Miller Recital Hall on March 9 and 10."

Source: *Michigan Humanities Council* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330376040_MHC1.pdf

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Ron Paul Talks Detroit's Revival at Town Hall Meeting

"

***ANN ARBOR, Michigan** – 2012 Republican Presidential candidate Ron Paul engaged voters in Detroit's North End at an intimate town hall meeting where he discussed the rule of law and macroeconomic reforms that promise to renew Motor City, Michigan, and the nation. "*

Source: *Ron Paul for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330368745_Paul4.pdf

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MITT ROMNEY ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF WEST MICHIGAN LEADERS

"

Boston, MA – *Mitt Romney today announced the support of additional West Michigan leaders."*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330367813_Romney7.pdf

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Newt 2012 Announces Women with Newt Coalition

"

Atlanta, GA- *Several prominent female leaders and activists from across the country have signed on to lead the official Women's Coalition for Newt Gingrich's Presidential Campaign."*

Source: *Newt 2012* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330367345_Newt1.pdf

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Mitt Romney Campaigns in Michigan Ahead of Primary

"

Boston, MA – *On Tuesday, Mitt Romney will visit the Michigan headquarters of Romney for President in Livonia, Michigan before holding a primary night event in Novi, Michigan. The following events are open to the press:"*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330365776_Romney6.pdf

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Over 100 Local Citizens Pack Garden City VFW for Knezek Campaign Kickoff

*"**Garden City, Michigan** – David Knezek officially announced his campaign for State Representative of Michigan's 11th District Friday night in Garden City. The event took place at VFW 7575 and raised $12,445 for the local Marine's campaign as Knezek continues to reach out to voters and connect with them on the most pressing issues they're faced with."*

Source: *David Knezek for State Representative* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330363692_Knezek1.pdf

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Michigan Townships Association offers scholarship to future local leaders

"

Delta Charter Township (Eaton Co.), MI – *The Robert R. Robinson Scholarship, awarded annually by the Michigan Townships Association (MTA), seeks to offer financial assistance to students aspiring to leadership roles in their community. "*

Source: *Michigan Townships Association* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330361141_MTA1.pdf*

Meadows Announces Winners of February Citizenship Award

"

LANSING – State Representative ***Mark Meadows*** *(D-East Lansing) today announced the February winners of the 69th District Citizenship Award. The monthly award is given to local high school students who exhibit strong leadership within their schools and communities, demonstrate a mutual respect for others, and exemplify hard work and responsibility in the classroom."*

Source: *Rep. Mark Meadows* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330361096_MEadows1.pdf*

William Hallan leads government affairs

"

William J. Hallan has been named Michigan Retailers Association vice president government affairs and general counsel, placing him in charge of the Association's legislative advocacy."

Source: *Michigan Retailers Association* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330361058_MRA1.pdf*

Farmington Hills Physician Summarily Suspended

"

FEBRUARY 27, 2012 *- The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), has immediately suspended the medical license of Edwin C. Blumberg, D.O., of Farmington Hills based on his convictions in the 6th Judicial Circuit Court, Oakland County, Michigan. "*

Source: *MI Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354544_LARA1.pdf*

Citizens Against Government Overreach Calls on Denise Graves to Recuse Herself from Husband's Elect

*"**Grand Blanc** – Local organization Citizens Against Government Overreach is calling on Denise Graves, wife of republican state house candidate, Joe Graves, to recuse herself from Tuesday's election to fill the seat vacated by recalled republican State Representative Paul Scott. Denise Graves serves as the Argentine Township Clerk."*

Source: *Citizens Against Government Overreach* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354441_CAGO1.pdf*

Ron Paul Attracts More Than 1,400 Michigan Voters to Small Business Owner Gathering

"

***ANN ARBOR, Michigan** – 2012 Republican Presidential candidate Ron Paul drew another large crowd to one of his campaign events, this time attracting more than 1,400 Michigan voters to a speech to small business owners."*

Source: *Ron Paul for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354380_Paul3.pdf*

Governor Michael Leavitt Attends Grassroots Rallies with Mitt Romney in Michigan

"

***Boston, MA** – On Monday, Governor Leavitt will attend grassroots rallies in Rockford and Albion with Mitt Romney. The following events are open to the press:"*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354335_Romney4.pdf*

Mitt Romney Campaigns in Michigan Ahead of Primary

"

***Boston, MA** – On Monday, Mitt Romney will hold grassroots rallies in Rockford, Albion, and Royal Oak, Michigan. The following events are open to the press:"*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354302_Romney3.pdf*

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS: "ROMNEY KNOWS A FEW THINGS THAT WE BELIEVE WILL HELP THE ECONOMY

"

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS: "ROMNEY KNOWS A FEW THINGS THAT WE BELIEVE WILL HELP THE ECONOMY GET BACK ON TRACK""

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354162_Romney2.pdf

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MICHIGAN TEA PARTY LEADER CALLS MI4CS "STRAW POLL" ENDORSEMENT PROCESS "EXTREMELY FLAWED"

"

In the original presser, the Southwest Patriots were identified as NOT participating in MI4CS. This was an error. "

Source: *Lapeer County Republican Party* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354128_Tea2.pdf

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Ron Paul Attracts More Than 1,450 Supporters at CMU Rally

"

Capacity crowd plus more drawn to 'Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors for Ron Paul' rally to see the sole GOP candidate to have served in the military"

Source: *Ron Paul for President* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354073_Paul2.pdf

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Clark Durant Reacts to MIC4S Convention Results

"

"It is commendable that MI4CS sought to create a voice for one candidate; but ultimately, Tea Party activists across the state have decided to support all of the candidates in different ways. I'm grateful to the thousands of Tea Party activists who have already joined the Durant campaign, and the thousands who will be on board by Election Day in November. " "

Source: *Clark Durant for Senate* **Date:** *02-28-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1330354026_Durant1.pdf

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Governor Mitt Romney to visit the Jackson Area Monday!

"

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2012 8:14 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Inkster, and possibly Detroit, get consent agreement instead of emergency manager -- why not Flint?

*"**FLINT, Michigan --** On Friday, Gov. Rick Snyder approved a consent agreement for the city of Inkster, meaning the financially troubled city will avoid the appointment of an emergency manager, at least for now."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/inkster_and_possibly_detroit_g.html

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MSU graduate-level education programs rated best in nation for 18th straight year by U.S. News & World Report

"

***EAST LANSING** -- Several of Michigan State University's graduate programs are ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate Schools list.*
"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/msu_graduate-level_education_p.html*

Poll: Flint one of nation's least optimistic cities

*"**FLINT, Michigan --** The city of Flint is one of the country's least optimistic cities, according to a Reuters article on a Gallup poll released Tuesday."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/poll_flint_one_of_nations_leas.html

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Smith looks to take low-income, low-cost auto insurance proposal statewide

"State Sen. Virgil Smith of Detroit says low-income Michigan residents need access to cheaper auto insurance or many will continue to willfully violate the state's stringent no-fault law."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/smith_looks_to_take_low-income.html

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U.S. Senate set to pass bill to help states improve roads, bridges

"WASHINGTON -- The Senate is poised to pass long-delayed legislation overhauling America's highway and transit systems today, with lawmakers steering past partisan fights that kept it sidelined."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS07/203140338/-1/7daysarchives/U-S-Senate-set-pass-bill-help-states-improve-roads-bridges

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Michigan Senate committee adopts resolution calling on Congress to restore funding for FRIB at MSU

*"**LANSING** -- The Michigan Senate Committee on Energy and Technology on Tuesday adopted a resolution calling on Congress to restore funding for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams at Michigan State University."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/michigan_senate_committee_adop.html*

Bing disagrees with governor on control

"Less than one week ago, Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and Gov. Rick Snyder were in agreement: an emergency manager was not the best option for fixing the city's finances."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS05/203140462/-1/7daysarchives/Bing-disagrees-governor-control

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Andy Dillon: State would help Detroit borrow $137M as part of consent agreement

"Michigan Treasurer Andy Dillon says the state will help Detroit borrow up to $137 million dollars as part of a proposed consent agreement but will not make any direct loans to the cash-strapped city."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/andy_dillon_state_working_with.html

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Official: Auto industry perfect platform to help diversify Michigan's economy

"Diversifying Michigan's economy doesn't mean giving a cold shoulder to the automotive industry, according to Sandy K. Baruah."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/03/official_auto_industry_perfect.html

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Reaction to the proposal: Politicians

""This is tough, tough medicine the city is facing. But the financial problems go back to the '40s. This has got to be a start, but it's just part of the discussion.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140466/-1/7daysarchives/Reaction-proposal-Politicians-

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City Council, citizen groups criticize consent agreement, say it's basically a state takeover

"Saying crucial services are at risk, the Detroit City Council joined a chorus of voices Tuesday in opposing Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed consent agreement, likening it to a hostile state takeover."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140419/-1/7daysarchives/City-Council-citizen-groups-criticize-consent-agreement-say-s-basically-state-takeover

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Rep. Benishek officially kicks off re-election bid

"The Crystal Falls physician won the 1st District congressional seat in 2010 with tea party support after longtime Democratic incumbent Bart Stupak stepped down. Benishek defeated Democrat Gary McDowell, who's hoping for a fall rematch."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.sooeveningnews.com/topstories/x299876181/Rep-Benishek-officially-kicks-off-re-election-bid

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Consent deal's legality debated

"A financial review team appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder -- ordered by a judge to halt its closed-door meetings -- had no role in drafting a proposed consent agreement made public Tuesday, officials said."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS15/203140407/-1/7daysarchives/Consent-deal-s-legality-debated

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Congressman Benishek hits re-election campaign trail

"Freshman Congressman Dan Benishek, R-Crystal Falls, launched his campaign Monday for re-election to a second term."

Source: *Petoskey News-Review* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/news/featured/pnr-congressman-benishek-hits-reelection-campaign-trail-20120313,0,938673.story*

Gov. Rick Snyder: Advisory board saved New York from bankruptcy

"EAST LANSING -- Gov. Rick Snyder denied Tuesday that the state is attempting to take control of the city of Detroit and said his proposed solution to the city's financial crisis is similar to what revived New York in the 1970s"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS15/203140421/-1/7daysarchives/Gov-Rick-Snyder-Advisory-board-saved-New-York-from-bankruptcy*

Mayor Bing harshly attacks Snyder consent proposal

"DETROIT (AP) — Detroit Mayor Dave Bing says he's "tremendously disappointed" at what he says are the harsh terms in Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed consent agreement to provide state oversight of the financially struggling city."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/14/news/state/doc4f5fe94979d2f587162505.txt*

Bill opens more career paths for students to choose

"Sen. John Proos recently co-sponsored legislation introduced in the Michigan Senate to allow options for students to count additional career and technical education courses toward the state's high school graduation requirements."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/03/13/bill-opens-more-career-paths-for-students-to-choose/*

Bing disappointed with Snyder's plans for Detroit

*"**DETROIT** — State officials aiming to put cash-strapped Detroit on a strict financial diet delivered an ultimatum Tuesday with a plan to shift political power, consolidate public utilities and shrink city staff and salaries."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/14/news/politics/doc4f5fe4a7a5c48678227614.txt

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Secretary of State Johnson wants to close voting loopholes VIDEO

"Closing loopholes in Michigan's photo identification laws for voting is one of the reforms Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson wants the Michigan Legislature to address."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/14/news/politics/doc4f5f52ab687f0876727402.txt

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Snyder signs bill to bar U-M union

"Gov. Rick Snyder signed legislation Tuesday that bars the unionization of graduate assistants at Michigan's public universities, a move prompted by an attempt to form a union by grad assistants at the University of Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS05/203140385/-1/7daysarchives/Snyder-signs-bill-bar-U-M-union

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State names Detroit schools for takeover

"A longer school day, a longer school year and individualized instruction will be some of the changes coming to 15 Detroit Public Schools that will be transferred to a new state school district for low-performing schools."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140397/-1/7daysarchives/State-names-Detroit-schools-takeover

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MEDC CEO: Businesses will grow

"The elimination of Michigan's tax credits and the overhaul of its business tax were crucial to job creation and long-term business partnerships, Michigan Economic Development Corp. CEO Michael Finney said Tuesday."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140308/MEDC-CEO-Businesses-will-grow?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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Bing closing graft-filled Detroit Department of Human Services

"In a move designed to improve services for struggling Detroiters, Mayor Dave Bing is forfeiting more than $72 million in federal money intended to help poor people because a city department showed it can\'t handle the funds effectively, his administration said Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140395/-1/7daysarchives/Bing-closing-graft-filled-Detroit-Department-Human-Services*

Michigan Senate approves autism coverage proposals

"Michigan took a key step Tuesday toward joining a growing number of states requiring insurance coverage for autism."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/303140031/Michigan-Senate-approves-autism-coverage-proposals?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

More work to do: Benishek announces bid for re-election

"IRON MOUNTAIN - Congressman Dan Benishek announced on Monday that he is seeking a second term in the United States House of Representatives."

Source: *Iron Mountain Daily News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/533619/More-work-to-do--Benishek-announces-bid-for-re-election.html?nav=5002*

Gov. Rick Snyder's Detroit plan puts board in charge

"Detroit Mayor Dave Bing was shocked when he first saw what Gov. Rick Snyder was proposing: a rescue plan that would strip Bing and the City Council of much of their power and put a financial advisory board in charge of the city's future."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120314/NEWS01/203140405/Gov-Rick-Snyder-s-Detroit-plan-puts-board-in-charge?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley promotes relief from tax on industrial equipment at chamber of commerce event

"

Holland —
Speaking at a Holland event this morning, Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley spoke in favor of slashing the Michigan personal property tax for the industrial sector."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/topstories/x299876269/Lt-Gov-Brian-Calley-promotes-relief-from-tax-on-industrial-equipment-at-chamber-of-commerce-event*

Andy Dillon: State would help Detroit borrow $137M as part of consent agreement

"Michigan Treasurer Andy Dillon says the state will help Detroit borrow up to $137 million dollars as part of a proposed consent agreement but will not make any direct loans to the cash-strapped city."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/andy_dillon_state_working_with.html*

No more iPods or paid parking tickets; DHS updates rules on how it'll help foster kids

"LANSING — Michigan has made several changes to its Foster Youth in Transition Program in light of an audit that found it spent thousands of dollars on iPods, prom dresses, senior trips and a traffic ticket."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/post_12.html*

State Senate to vote Thursday on cellphone ban for teen drivers

"LANSING — State senators will vote Thursday on legislation banning cellphone use by teen drivers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/state_senate_to_vote_thursday.html*

Casino investor Jerry Campbell "very optimistic" City Council will approve plans

"LANSING – Lansing casino investor Jerry Campbell said Monday evening's public hearing on the proposed Lansing Kewadin casino had the atmosphere of a town hall."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/casino_investor_jerry_campbell.html*

Lansing City Councilwoman Jessica Yorko: Someone's going to be disappointed by our vote

"LANSING – Lansing City Councilwoman Jessica Yorko hasn't decided how she will vote on plans to bring a proposed $245 million tribally-owned casino to downtown Lansing, but she's sure she'll disappoint someone with her vote."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/lansing_city_councilwoman_jess.html*

Amash touts independent record

"As he works to build support in Calhoun County, expect Congressman Justin Amash to repeatedly go back to two things: his Facebook page and his reputation, good or bad, as an independent conservative."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120313/NEWS01/303130033/Amash-touts-independent-record*

Senate ready to pass bipartisan highway bill

"Washington— In a rare display of deal-making between Republicans and Democrats in a bitterly partisan election year, the Senate was poised to pass an overhaul of highway and transit programs that would give states more flexibility in how they spend federal money and would step up the pace of road construction by shortening environmental reviews."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/POLITICS03/203140319/1022/politics/Senate-ready-pass-bipartisan-highway-bill*

EAA set to take over six Detroit high schools, nine elementary-middle schools

"Board members of the statewide Education Achievement Authority unanimously approved the takeover of 15 Detroit Public Schools in a meeting today."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/eaa_set_to_take_over_six_detro.html*

Macomb OKs final ethics panel appointee

"Mount Clemens — The fifth and final member of the Macomb County Board of Ethics was confirmed Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/METRO03/203140320/1409/metro/Macomb-OKs-final-ethics-panel-appointee*

Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills on criminal background checks for elderly care workers

"Senate Bills 787 and 788 amend existing statute to require that criminal background checks are done through the FBI for owners, operators, and certain other workers in adult foster care homes and homes for the elderly."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/gov_rick_snyder_signs_bills_on_1.html

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Choice is the lesson for charter-school parents

"Once upon a time in public education, when all schools were neighborhood schools and attendance was a matter of which side of the boundary lines you lived on, families like Marilyn Williams' would have been rare indeed."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/03/choice_is_the_lesson_for_chart.html

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Trailer debuts for upcoming 'The Real Kwame Kilpatrick' documentary

"He did the crime, he did the time, and now he's done the movie."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/METRO01/203140336/1409/metro/Trailer-debuts-upcoming-Real-Kwame-Kilpatrick-documentary

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Bing: Snyder's consent plan 'will not solve our problems'

"A consent agreement proposed by Gov. Rick Snyder to fix Detroit's fiscal crisis got a hostile reception Tuesday at City Hall, with Mayor Dave Bing calling the governor "disingenuous" and declaring the document "will not solve our problems.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/section/metro*

State to take over 15 Detroit Public schools

"Detroit — Year-around public schools are coming to Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/SCHOOLS/203140338/State-take-over-15-Detroit-Public-schools?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Editorial: Detroit should sign the agreement

"Gov. Rick Snyder has carved for Detroit a pathway out of its financial crisis that allows Mayor Dave Bing and the City Council to remain in power and play an active role in reviving the city. It's a generous offer, and one that officials who've been unable to resolve the mess themselves should seize."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/OPINION01/203140316/

Snyder: Forever is not an option

"A sore forehead led Gov. Rick Snyder to break off negotiations with Mayor Dave Bing on a consent agreement for Detroit: He got tired of beating it against the wall."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/OPINION03/203140318/

How the proposed consent plan would work

"The Financial Advisory Board would have the authority to hire and fire a chief financial officer, chief operating officer and human resources director."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/METRO01/203140364/

Big cities' ex-mayors, experts favor proposal

"Gov. Rick Snyder's draft consent agreement with Detroit won early support Tuesday from those whose business is pulling municipalities out of financial crisis."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/METRO01/203140343/

2nd subpoena in Michigan mortgage processor probe

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette has issued a second criminal investigative subpoena against a national mortgage servicing support provider."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/2nd_subpoena_in_michigan_mortg.html

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Debbie Stabenow among politicians targeted by anti-health care law ads

"Democratic senators up for re-election in five states are being targeted by issue ads run by the conservative 60 Plus Association, but one senator being hit says the ads are full of false claims already debunked by independent fact-checkers."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/debbie_stabenow_among_politici.html

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Michigan House approves bills for abortion screening

"The Republican-led Michigan House has approved bills that would require a doctor or an assistant to do some screening before an abortion to make sure a pregnant woman isn't being forced or coerced to end the pregnancy against her will."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/michigan_house_approves_bills.html

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Bing: Snyder's consent plan 'will not solve our problems'

"Detroit — A consent agreement proposed by Gov. Rick Snyder to fix Detroit's fiscal crisis got a hostile reception Tuesday at City Hall, with Mayor Dave Bing calling the governor "disingenuous" and declaring the document "will not solve our problems.""

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120314/METRO01/203140349/Bing-Snyder-s-consent-plan-will-not-solve-our-problems-?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Press Releases

Right to Life of Michigan hails passage of bills protecting women

"

Right to Life of Michigan applauds the passage of legislation in the Michigan House of Representatives designed to prevent women from being coerced to have an abortion against their will. Passing with strong, bi-partisan votes of 72-37, the 5-bill package represents the most comprehensive abortion anti-coercion policy in the country."

Source: *Right to Life of Michigan* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331671435_RTLM1.pdf

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Natural Gas Vehicle Feasibility Study

"

Traverse City, MI – *The Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce has announced its participation in a Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) Feasibility Study with Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) and The Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA). "*

Source: *Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331671102_Traverse1.pdf*

Snyder signs bills requiring background checks of workers who care for elderly

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation ensuring thorough background checks of workers who care for the elderly."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331671052_Gov2.pdf*

Gov. Snyder announces MBA to partner with Merit Network to expand Internet service in Michiga

"

March 13, 2012 -- *Gov. Rick Snyder announced today an agreement between the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) and Merit Network to create and enhance Internet service throughout Michigan. The deal allows Merit Network to purchase strands of cable crossing the Mackinac Bridge for use in the REACH-3MC fiber-optic broadband project."*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331671015_MDOT2.pdf*

CONSENT AGREEMENT UNDERMINES DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

"

STATE CAPITOL – State Representative ***Maureen L. Stapleton*** *(D-Detroit) issued the following statement today after reading the terms of the forced Consent Decree agreement released by Governor Snyder for the city of Detroit."*

Source: *Rep. Maureen Stapleton* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331668151_Stapleton1.pdf*

Byrum Hosts Town Hall on Michigan's New Tax Laws

"

*HOLT – State Representative **Barb Byrum** (D-Onondaga) hosted an informative town hall Monday evening on Michigan's new tax laws changes. Residents were given the opportunity to ask questions on the recent changes to the state tax structure, connect with resources that might be helpful as they prepare for the new tax system, and share their thoughts on this new tax burden on Michigan families."*

Source: *Rep. Barb Byrum* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331666867_BYRUM1.pdf

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HUD Awards Nearly $5 Million for New Homeless Programs in Michigan

"

CHICAGO – U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan today awarded $4,985,681 to support 21 new local homeless programs in Michigan. "

Source: *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331666835_HUD1.pdf

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Physicians Ask State Lawmakers to Approve Health Care Reform that Cuts Wait Times, Improves Access

"

***LANSING** – Physicians with the Michigan Osteopathic Association, representing nearly 5,000 member physicians from across the state, testified today in the Senate Insurance Committee in support of legislation that will improve efficiencies at the doctor's office by streamlining the process used to verify prescription drugs are covered by a patient's health care insurance company or heath plan."*

Source: *Michigan Osteopathic Association* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331665490_MOA1.pdf

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DNR Reminds Public to Leave Wildlife in the Wild

"

Unseasonably warm weather may have Michigan's black bears and recently born cubs out roaming earlier than usual. Great-horned owl chicks are already hatched and will be out of the nest before long. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331665412_DNR1.pdf

Members of the Detroit Caucus to Discuss Detroit Consent Agreement

"

LANSING – The House Democratic Detroit Caucus will be available for the media on ***Tuesday, March 13, immediately after session in the House Democratic Caucus Room*** *to speak with reporters about the recent consent agreement reached between the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan regarding the city's new financial advisory board."*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331665367_House1.pdf

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STATEMENT FROM SENATOR VIRGIL SMITH REGARDING DETROIT CONSENT DECREE

"

"It is clear that the Snyder administration is trying to circumvent the legislative process by any and all means. The Governor's Emergency Manager Law is undemocratic and this agreement is also undemocratic." "

Source: *Sen. Virgil Smith* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331665155_Smith1.pdf

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ICYMI: House Republican calls anti-teacher bill "provocative"

"

In case you missed it, in today's edition of the Port Huron Times Herald, state Rep. Paul Muxlow (R-Brown City) called the recent passage of a bill banning payroll dues deduction for public school employees, "provocative.""

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331665107_KYC1.pdf

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Senate Passes Hunter Bill to Provide Insurance Coverage for Autism Treatment

"

LANSING—The Michigan Senate passed a package of legislation today to require insurance coverage for autism treatment, including Senator Tupac A. Hunter's (D-Detroit) bill, Senate Bill 415. Senate Bill 414 introduced by Senator Mike Green (R-Mayville) and Senate Bill 981 introduced by Senator Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) were also passed today."

Source: *Sen. Tupac A. Hunter* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331659956_Hunter1.pdf

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OPSOMMER APPLAUDS GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE ON GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT LEGISLATION

"

State Rep. Paul Opsommer praised Gov. Rick Snyder's signature today on legislation that puts into Michigan law the decision that university research assistants cannot have union dues deducted from the money they receive to offset the cost of tuition. Opsommer also thanked House Speaker Jase Bolger and Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville for their leadership on the issue."

Source: *Rep. Paul Opsommer* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331659753_Opsommer1.pdf

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Stabenow Applauds U.S. Challenge to China's Illegal Restrictions on Rare Earth Elements

"

U.S. Trade Representative Takes Action Against China's Illegal Hoarding of Materials Vital to Advanced Vehicle Technologies and other High Tech Products"

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331656095_Stabenow3.pdf

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Hundreds of Mich. Nurses to March on Capitol Wednesday to Advocate for Patients

"

500 RNs, nursing students from across Michigan to rally for Safe Patient Care Act, send message to Lansing politicians about fixing priorities"

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331654658_MNA1.pdf

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Stabenow to Hold Conference Call on Amendment She Authored to Cut Taxes for Clean Energy Businesses

"

WASHINGTON, D.C. *– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow will hold a conference call* ***today, Tuesday, March 13th at 12:30 p.m.*** *"*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331654625_Stabenow2.pdf*

MDOT announces 400th MichiVan vanpool in Michigan

"

The MichiVan Commuter Vanpool Program's 400th vanpool was delivered on March 12, 2012, to the U.S. Army's Detroit Arsenal in Warren. Employees there enjoy hassle-free vanpooling, with 133 vanpools already in service."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331654591_MDOT1.pdf*

MDP Lauds Court Decision to Continue Prevention of RNC Intimidation of Minority Voters

"

LANSING *– The Michigan Democratic Party applauds the Third Circuit Court of Appeals recent decision in DNC v. RNC which will continue to prevent "the intimidation and suppression of minority voters" by Republicans."*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331649562_MDP1.pdf*

MPSC Updates Consumer Tips Sheets on Natural Gas Choice

"

March 13, 2012– *The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today issued two updated consumer tips sheets on natural gas choice."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331649532_LARA2.pdf*

Office of Regulatory Reinvention Issues Recommendations for Modernizing Insurance and Finance Regula

"

Office of Regulatory Reinvention Presents 46 Recommendations to Governor Snyder to Improve Michigan's Insurance and Finance Regulatory System"

Source: *Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation (OFIR)* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331648063_LARA1.pdf*

Carpenters Endorse David Knezek in 11th District State House Race

*"**Dearborn Heights, Michigan** – March 12, 2012 – Last week, the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters endorsed lifelong Dearborn Heights resident and two-time Iraq War veteran David Knezek in his bid for State Representative in Michigan's 11th House District. The M.R.C.C. represents and advocates on behalf of more than 20,000 carpenters in Michigan."*

Source: *David Knezek for State Representative* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331647409_Knezek1.pdf*

Transit workers union backs Michigan renewable energy ballot proposal

"

*LANSING – The **Amalgamated Transit Union**, a statewide organization representing Michigan public transit workers, has endorsed a Michigan ballot initiative that would raise the use of renewable energy to 25 percent by 2025."*

Source: *Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331647322_MEMJ1.pdf*

Senator Stabenow to Hold Conference Call on Amendment She Authored to Cut Taxes for Clean Energy Bus

"

Measure Will Stop Tax Increase on Clean Energy Innovators and Reduce Dependence on Foreign Oil "

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331647143_Stabenow1.pdf*

Governor signs bill clarifying role of graduate student research assistants

"

LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation clarifying that graduate student research assistants are not public employees as recognized by the state Public Employment Relations Act."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331647080_Gov1.pdf*

Michigan Senate Energy and Technology Committee to consider Senate Concurrent Resolution 28

"

SCR 28 memorializes Congress to fully fund the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams at Michigan State University."

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331647048_Jones1.pdf*

Highlights from the House: Camp's Committee Leading the Way

"

Last week, Congressman Dave Camp joined his colleagues in the House in passing the Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act by a vote of 390-23. The bill removes regulatory barriers for small businesses looking to access capital to expand their business. "

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *03-14-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331646969_Camp1.pdf*

Macomb County farmers are invited to meet with school food service directors

"

The Farm to School Program helps connect farmers and school food service staff to bring local fresh food into schools and other institutions. Purchasing local fresh produce can create new markets for Michigan farmers, stimulate growth in Michigan agriculture, encourage the development of nearby food systems and increase access to good food."

Source: *Macomb County Exec*

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 8:42 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Party switch, coming up?

"He feels like a man without a home — a political home, that is."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120315/COL05/120315073/Party-switch-coming-up-

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Fiat pays CEO Sergio Marchionne $18.9M in 2011

"Fiat paid CEO Sergio Marchionne, the man orchestrating the merger of Fiat and Chrysler, $18.9 million in 2011, the Italian automaker said Thursday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120316/BUSINESS0103/203160329/Fiat-pays-CEO-Sergio-Marchionne-36-18-9M-in-2011?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Rochelle Riley: Detroit giving Gov. Rick Snyder no choice

"Two things are now true:"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120316/COL10/203160435/Rochelle-Riley-Rochelle-Riley-Detroit-giving-Gov-Rick-Snyder-no-choice?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Biden: Critics 'dead wrong' on auto bailout

"Washington— Vice President Joe Biden offered the Obama administration's toughest critique of Republican opposition to the $85 billion auto bailout, saying Thursday at a UAW hall in Toledo that GOP rivals were willing to turn their backs on hundreds of thousands of workers."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120316/POLITICS03/203160369/1022/POLITICS/Biden-Critics-dead-wrong-auto-bailout

Fed program helps Detroit cut red tape

"Washington — Detroit Mayor Dave Bing said the Obama administration is committed to working with cities such as Detroit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120316/METRO/203160372/Fed-program-helps-Detroit-cut-red-tape?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Stakes are high for GM to revive Opel

"Adam Opel AG is broken."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120316/OPINION03/203160378/Stakes-high-GM-revive-Opel?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Alternate consent proposal gives Bing more power

"Detroit— Negotiations over a proposed consent agreement for Detroit are under way as Mayor Dave Bing seeks to retain powers that would be stripped under a version favored by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120316/METRO01/203160375/Alternate-consent-proposal-gives-Bing-more-power?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Financial woes cast shadow on Book Cadillac

"Detroit— The Westin Book Cadillac avoided defaulting on a $15 million loan this month after a city pension fund intervened, raising questions about the health of a landmark hotel and symbol of the city's economic redevelopment."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120316/BIZ/203160376/Financial-woes-cast-shadow-Book-Cadillac?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

U-M hires project manager to follow up on internal audit of 6-month child porn reporting lapse

*"**University of Michigan** has appointed a project manager to implement the changes recommended by an internal audit of the six-month reporting lapse of child pornography discovered in an employee area of University Hospital."*

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/u-m-hires-project-manager-to-implement-changes-outlined-in-internal-audit-of-6-month-child-porn-repo/#incart_hbx*

U.S. Supreme Court to Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette: Denied; cannot join juvenile lifer arguments

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette will be on the outside looking in when the U.S. Supreme Court hears arguments Tuesday on the nation's juvenile lifers."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/us_supreme_court_to_michigan_a.html

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East Lansing city budget could include public safety cuts

"EAST LANSING – A worst-case scenario budget would cut nearly $1.2 million from police and fire services in East Lansing."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/east_lansing_city_budget_could.html*

Judge issues restraining order against Flint emergency manager

*"**FLINT, Michigan --** A judge has granted a temporary restraining order against Flint emergency manager Michael Brown today, preventing him from taking "any action with regard to the city of Flint," according to Lawrence Roehrig, secretary-treasurer of AFSCME Council 25."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/judge_issues_restraining_order.html#incart_hbx

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Detroit's state Senate delegation opposes proposed consent agreement

"Detroit's five state senators said today they oppose Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed consent agreement planto correct the city's finances."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/detroits_state_senate_delegati.html

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Michael Moore: Here's what to do next in Occupy Wall Street movement

"Filmmaker and Flint native Michael Moore is laying out the next steps for the Occupy Wall Street movement, including a call to occupy repossessed homes and "nonviolently blocking the bank from tossing the family out to the curb.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/michael_moore_heres_what_to_do.html

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New Shiawassee County law enforcement partnership highlights push toward cooperation

*"**CORUNNA, Michigan --** An old facility in Corunna given a new purpose has put Shiawassee County at the forefront of the push to increase cooperation among agencies and streamline law enforcement operations."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/new_shiawassee_county_law_enfo.html

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Kent County extends comment period for plan that upset waste haulers

"GRAND RAPIDS – The Kent County Board of Public Works has extended by 90 days the public comment period for input on a controversial amendment to the county's solid waste plan some trash haulers fear might increase prices by forcing them to use county-owned landfills and recycling facilities."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/kent_county_extends_comment_pe.html*

Juvenile lifers pursue their own appeals, even as the U.S. Supreme Court tackles life without parole

"When the U.S. Supreme Court hears argument next Tuesday on whether life without parole is unconstitutional for juveniles, even in death cases, it will focus on two 14-year-olds."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/juvenile_lifers_pursue_their_o.html#incart_river_default

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Federal bailout for Detroit? Go ahead and try, Snyder says, but city still needs structural fix

"U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke on Thursdaycalled on Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder to delay state intervention in Detroitas he prepares to introduce legislation early next week that would provide emergency financial relief for the cash-strapped city."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/federal_bailout_for_detroit_go.html#incart_river_default

No) bridge over the Grand River

*"**LANSING** — It will be another challenging summer for motorists and businesses along Saginaw Street while traffic is rerouted for construction."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120316/NEWS01/303160020/-No-bridge-over-Grand-River?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Federal funds boost Pontiac neighborhoods

"Potential homeowners are being courted to move to Pontiac as work continues to allocate federal dollars on rebuilding a local neighborhood without missing deadlines."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/16/news/local_news/doc4f6278ea975a3723348539.txt

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Silverdome tax break request given cold shoulder

"PONTIAC — Emergency Manager Lou Schimmel didn't say no to giving a tax break to the Silverdome's owners."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/16/news/local_news/doc4f62720815218850650323.txt

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Hackel blasts lack of transparency in committee granting pay raises

"Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel today criticized the actions of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners for granting large pay raises to the county public works commissioner and others without any formal public notice."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/16/news/doc4f624c425d747098225163.txt

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Press Releases

Michigan Small Businesses To Hold Roundtable on Impact of Health Insurance Tax (HIT)

"

Troy, Michigan (March 15, 2012) *– On* ***Friday, March 16, 2012****, small business owners and economic experts will participate in a health care roundtable to discuss the impacts of the looming Health Insurance Tax (HIT) and how Washington can take action to repeal the tax that will take $87 billion from the pockets of small businesses."*

Source: *Stop The HIT Coalition* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331844052_STH1.pdf

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AFP to release poll, launch education effort focused on Sen. Stabenow

"

LANSING, Mich.—On Wednesday, Americans for Prosperity-Michigan will release a new poll covering key voter concerns that demonstrates how Sen. Debbie Stabenow's legislative record is out-of-touch with the attitudes and opinions of average Michigan citizens. The poll rolls out the group's "Thanks A Lot, Debbie…" citizen education effort, which will turn up the grassroots heat on Sen. Stabenow through a mix of new media tactics, paid media and grassroots activities."

Source: *Americans for Prosperity-Michigan* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331842404_AFP1.pdf

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Deportation Profiteers Stand to Benefit from Proposed Private Prison

"

Lansing – The Senate approved legislation on Wednesday that would allow private firms to run prisons in Michigan, but one of the companies that stands to profit from the legislation is connected to repeated human rights abuse cases and complaints, and has been accused of purposefully pushing immigration reforms that increase detentions, thereby increasing their profits."

Source: *Michigan Immigration Reform* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331841169_MIR1.pdf

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Commission-approved salary increase "provided no transparency"

"

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel today called into question the actions of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners who voted on March 14 to give large pay increases to an elected official and other public workers without any notice to the public or to other county employees or departments."

Source: *Macomb County Executive Office* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331841130_Macomb2.pdf

Michigan Cyber Schools Failing to Meet State Learning Goals

"

LANSING, Mich. *– As Michigan legislators continue to debate whether to expand the number of for-profit cyber schools in our state, a new analysis finds cyber schools are failing to meet learning goal standards adhered to by state public schools."*

Source: *Tri County Alliance for Public Education* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331841074_TR1.pdf*

Commission-approved salary increase "provided no transparency"

"

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel today called into question the actions of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners who voted on March 14 to give large pay increases to elected officials and other public workers without any notice to the public or to other county employees or departments."

Source: *Macomb County Executive Office* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331839179_Macomb1.pdf*

Michigan Commission for the Blind Board To Meet in Kalamazoo

"

Meeting Site is Newly-Reopened Michigan Commission for the Blind (MCB) Training Center After Year-Long, $3.5 Million Renovation Including New State-of-the-Art Technology Center"

Source: *MI Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331838179_LARA1.pdf*

MDP Announces Top Obama Advisor and Strategist Robert Gibbs as Jefferson-Jackson Keynote Speaker

"

LANSING *- The Michigan Democratic Party is pleased to announce that Robert Gibbs will deliver this year's keynote address at the annual Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner in Detroit. Jeff-Jack will take place at Cobo Center in Detroit on Saturday, April 28, 2012."*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331837862_MDP1.pdf

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National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week March 18-24, 2012

"

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Education, education organizations, and private agencies around the nation will celebrate Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week from March 18-24, 2012. "

Source: *MI Department of Education* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331837820_MDE1.pdf

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Stabenow, Agriculture Committee Members: No bonuses for MF Global Executives

"

Washington, DC *– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and all members of the Committee today urged Louis Freeh, the trustee overseeing the bankruptcy of MF Global Holding Ltd, to drop his proposal to award bonuses to top executives, "who should be held accountable for the failure of their company.""*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331837788_Stabenow2.pdf

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CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERT P. YOUNG, JR. NAMED "LAWYER OF THE YEAR

"LANSING, MI, March 15, 2012 – Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. has been named "Lawyer of the Year" by Michigan Lawyers Weekly in recognition of his work on court reform"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331836583_MSC1.pdf

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Chairwoman Stabenow Urges Farm Program Reforms

"

Washington, DC *– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today said that reforming farm programs is a top priority for her as the Committee works to reduce the deficit while developing strong risk management tools for farmers."*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331834457_Stabenow1.pdf*

Bill would send yard waste to dumps; 'guaranteed bankruptcy' for composters

"

Bills being considered by the Michigan House of Representatives today would drive the state's composting operations out of business."

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331828727_MEC1.pdf*

Faith Partners Help Increase Foster Parenting and Adoption

"

Lansing, Michigan, March 15, 2012 – The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) today hosted the Faith Based Initiative Summit 2012 at the Michigan State University Kellogg Center in East Lansing, featuring more than 100 religious leaders from across Michigan, as well as private agencies, community organizations and DHS staff and management."

Source: *MI Department of Human Services* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331823770_MDHS1.pdf*

Mackinac Island State Park Commission Meeting to be Held March 23 in Lansing

"Mackinaw City, Mich. — The Mackinac Island State Park Commission will hold a meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 23, 2012 in East Lansing. The meeting will take place in room 104AB of the Kellogg Center, located on the campus of Michigan State University."

Source: *Mackinac Island State Park Commission* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331823489_Mackinac1.pdf*

Teachers Association Announces Support of Berryman

"Teachers Association Announces Support of Berryman"

Source: *Hillsdale-Lenawee County Education Association* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331823330_LEA1.pdf*

No weight restrictions in the Lower Peninsula

"

March 15, 2012 -- *Effective 8 a.m., Monday, March 19, weight restrictions will be lifted on all state trunkline highways north of and including: from Ludington on US-10 east to US-127; then north on US-127 to M-61; then east on M-61 to Standish, north to the Mackinac Bridge. State trunkline highways typically carry M, I, or US designations. "*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331823093_MDOT2.pdf

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Sparrow Breast Clinic receives national honor, boasts new Breast Nurse Navigator for Patients

"

LANSING, Mich. – The Sparrow Breast Clinic has created a new Breast Nurse Navigator position to act as a point person for Patients through the diagnosis and treatment process.

"

Source: *Sparrow Health System* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331821402_Sparrow1.pdf

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Creating opportunity for all in Michigan

"

As Michigan legislators continue work on the Fiscal Year 2013 budget, a new Michigan League for Human Services report shines a light on opportunities to increase equity across the state for a more successful economy."

Source: *Michigan League for Human Services* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331821348_MLHS1.pdf

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Equality Michigan Calls for an End to the "First Do Harm" Counseling Bill

"

LANSING, MI March 14, 2012 – Equality Michigan, the statewide advocacy group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people, yesterday called for the Michigan House of Representatives to denounce proposed House Bill 5040, or the so-called "First Do Harm" bill, which would grant counseling students the ability to refuse patients service based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. "

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331821156_EM1.pdf

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Job Fairs, Town Halls & Expos

"

What a great week working back at home in Michigan. Thank you to everyone who came out for the town halls, Senior Expo, Jobs Fair and coffees. I enjoyed meeting you and for many—getting to see you again."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331821114_Walberg1.pdf

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Human Rights of Children: Sentencing Juveniles to Die in Prison

"

The University of Michigan Law School's Juvenile Justice Clinic will convene a panel on a pivotal but seldom examined human rights issue in criminal justice: how should society deal with children linked to homicide cases?"

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820967_Progress1.pdf

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MDOT makes it easier to share Mi Drive traffic info

"

***March 15, 2012 --** Just in time for construction season, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has introduced a new feature on Mi Drive, the department's popular traffic data Web site."*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820919_MDOT1.pdf

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Detroit Senators to Discuss Consent Agreement Today

"

*LANSING- **TODAY, March 15th**, the Detroit Caucus of the Michigan State Senate will be holding a press conference to discuss the consent agreement handed down to the City of Detroit by Governor Rick Snyder and State Treasurer Andy Dillon. The press conference will take place following Senate session in the State Capitol Building."*

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820871_Senate2.pdf

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UPDATED SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Thursday, March 15

"

Gov. Rick Snyder and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will hold a media roundtable to discuss Detroit's critical financial situation. The event will stream live at www.livestream.com/snyderlive. The embed code is also available on that page."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820765_GOV2.pdf

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SAM SINGH GARNERS EARLY ENDORSEMENTS

"

Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Michigan Laborers' District Council Join Growing List of Support"

Source: *Sam Singh for State Representative* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820724_Singh1.pdf

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SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Thursday, March 15 -- MEDIA ROUNDTABLE

"

Gov. Rick Snyder and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will hold a media roundtable to discuss Detroit's critical financial situation."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820554_Gov1.pdf

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Detroit Senators to Discuss Consent Agreement

"

*LANSING- **Tomorrow, March 15th**, the Detroit Caucus of the Michigan State Senate will be holding a press conference to discuss the consent agreement handed down to the City of Detroit by Governor Rick Snyder and State Treasurer Andy Dillon. The press conference will take place following Senate session in the State Capitol Building."*

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *03-16-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1331820306_Senate1.pdf

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Battle with GOP lawmakers over stem cells could cost U-M state aid

"A battle is heating up between a Republican-led state House panel and the University of Michigan over whether U-M must disclose its number of embryonic stem-cell lines."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120322/NEWS06/203220436/Battle-with-GOP-lawmakers-over-stem-cells-could-cost-U-M-state-aid?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

At contentious meeting, review team finds Detroit in severe financial emergency

"On the same day Detroit officials delivered to the state a new proposal aimed at saving the city from fiscal collapse, Detroit's financial review team declared that a severe financial emergency exists in the city."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120322/NEWS05/203220430/At-contentious-meeting-review-team-finds-Detroit-in-severe-financial-emergency?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

FBI: Ex-Pontiac school official spent stolen funds on cars, shopping spree

"Detroit— A former Pontiac school official accused of stealing $236,000 from the district spent some of the money on luxury vehicles and a Chicago shopping spree and got taxpayers to foot the bill for his law school tuition, according to the FBI."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120322/SCHOOLS/203220378/FBI-Ex-Pontiac-school-official-spent-stolen-funds-cars-shopping-spree?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

'Severe financial emergency' declared

"Detroit— A state-appointed review team unanimously agreed Wednesday that a "severe financial emergency" exists in Detroit, but gave city leaders a short window to forge a consent agreement."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120322/METRO/203220394/-Severe-financial-emergency-declared?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Tribe to vote on Lansing casino project

"Sault Tribe's registered voters will soon find in their mailboxes a referendum election ballot to either approve, or disapprove, the tribe's proposed Lansing casino."

Source: *Soo Evening News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.sooeveningnews.com/topstories/x1704641658/Tribe-to-vote-on-Lansing-casino-project*

Coast Guard issues ballast water rules

"Nearly 30 years after invasive zebra mussels first showed up in Lake St. Clair, new regulations that will take effect at the end of June will require ocean-going vessels to treat their ballast water before entering the Great Lakes."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/303220001/Coast-Guard-issues-ballast-water-rules?odyssey=tab|topnews|img|FRONTPAGE*

Synthetic marijuana hits drug scene

"Hospitalization and a suicide attempt: Synthetic marijuana has moved into Dowagiac in an ominous way in the past month."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/03/21/synthetic-marijuana-hits-drug-scene/*

Superintendent: Emergency manager has power to turn around Muskegon Heights

"An emergency manager was what the Muskegon Heights school board had asked for, but that doesn't necessarily make the prospect of actually getting one any easier.

"

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/superintendent_emergency_manag.html*

Sappi soil test results reported to state DEQ for Muskegon Lake dredge permit

"MUSKEGON – Concerns over the dredging of a large portion of the former Sappi paper mill waterfront are based on what is in the lake-bottom sediment and where those materials would be disposed."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/sappi_soil_test_results_report.html

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Sappi soil test results reported to state DEQ for Muskegon Lake dredge permit

"MUSKEGON – Concerns over the dredging of a large portion of the former Sappi paper mill waterfront are based on what is in the lake-bottom sediment and where those materials would be disposed."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/sappi_soil_test_results_report.html

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House approves $400K to raze Camp Brighton

"The state House on Tuesday approved funding to raze the former Camp Brighton women's prison in Hamburg Township."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/203220313/House-approves-400K-raze-Camp-Brighton?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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Data: County will grow fastest in its region through '40

"Livingston County's population is projected to grow fastest among southeastern Michigan's seven counties through 2040 in new figures released by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/203220306/Data-County-will-grow-fastest-its-region-through-40?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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MSU chief: Governor's higher education formula too narrow

"Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon had a few words of praise for Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed higher education budget Wednesday morning."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/303220040/MSU-chief-Governor-s-higher-education-formula-too-narrow?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

County considering options for employee health insurance

*"**BAD AXE** — The Huron County Board of Commissioners discussed Tuesday changes that will be made to employee insurance plans in 2013."*

Source: *Huron Daily Tribune* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.michigansthumb.com/articles/2012/03/21/news/local_news/doc4f69bf6d7b364115766171.txt*

Michigan firefighters union speaks out against creating public safety dept. in SJ

"ST. JOSEPH - The Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union has come out against St. Joseph's merger of its police and fire departments, predicting higher costs and reduced services, and is asking residents to oppose the move."

Source: *Herald Palladium (St. Joseph/Benton Harbor)* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.heraldpalladium.com/articles/2012/03/21/local_news/9186153.txt*

Record-breaking temperatures start growing season early for local apple orchards, farmers worried (photos)

"SPARTA TOWNSHIP — March's record-breaking warm weather started the growing season weeks in advance and fruit growers are concerned that temperatures may drop."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/record-breaking_temperatures_s.html*

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians could legalize same-sex marriages

"HARBOR SPRINGS -- The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians could become the first tribe in Michigan to legalize same-sex marriages, if a constitutional amendment being considered by its tribal council is passed."

Source: *Gaylord Herald Times* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/gaylord/news/pnr-little-traverse-bay-bands-of-odawa-indians-could-legalize-samesex-marriages-20120321,0,6923696.story*

Special Flint City Council meeting called amid uncertainty following emergency manager ouster

*"**FLINT, Michigan** -- A Special City Council meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/special_flint_city_council_mee_1.html#incart_river_default

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Warm temperatures could have negative impacts on Genesee County's agriculture industry

"

GENESEE COUNTY, Michigan -- While most of us are enjoying the unseasonably warm temperatures, they could have a negative impact on the agricultural industry in the area, according to the National Weather Service.
"

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/warm_temperatures_could_have_n.html#incart_river_default

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Obama campaign touts impact of Affordable Care Act on Michigan residents

"With the Affordable Care Act's two-year anniversary coming up Friday, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign is touting the benefits that health care reform has brought to Michigan residents."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/obama_campaign_touts_impact_of.html#incart_river_default

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Ready to Run? Michigan needs more women in elected office, experts say

"GRAND RAPIDS – When Patty Birkholz began a run for state representative in 1995, Allegan County Republicans openly questioned her ability to replace former House Speaker Paul Hillegonds, who had retired."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/ready_to_run_michigan_needs_mo.html#incart_river_default*

House approves funds for outdoor projects

"Emmet and Cheboygan counties will receive more than $1 million in state grants for local natural resources development and property acquisition."

Source: *Cheboygan Daily Tribune* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.cheboygannews.com/topstories/x394116868/House-approves-funds-for-outdoor-projects

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Dow Chemical Co. named to Fortune's Most Admired Companies list

"The Dow Chemical Co. is among eight Michigan-based companies to be named to Fortune's list of the World's Most Admired Companies."

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2012/03/dow_chemical_co_named_to_fortu.html*

Court weighs U.S. power over states in health case

*"**WASHINGTON** — Congress will help pay for your roads, but your state can't lower its drinking age below 21. There's federal money for colleges, but they can't discriminate against women in the classroom or on the athletic field."*

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120321/NEWS01/303210015/Court-weighs-U-S-power-over-states-health-case*

New Michigan law will promote organ donations

"LANSING, Mich. (AP) — New Michigan laws will allow for a fundraising vehicle license plate that encourages organ donation."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/new_michigan_law_will_promote.html*

Drop in delinquent taxes sign of an improving economy? Washtenaw County treasurer says yes

"For the first time since 2005, Washtenaw County's treasurer is reporting a drop in delinquent taxes, and that could be a sign of an improving economy."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/washtenaw-county-treasurers-report-drop-in-delinquent-taxes-sign-of-an-improving-economy/*

Dexter tornado aftermath: State Rep. Mark Ouimet working on bill to reimburse community costs

*"Local government agencies in Washtenaw County could get some help from the state covering **Dexter tornado** relief efforts if a bill Rep. **Mark Ouimet**, R-Scio Township, is trying to develop becomes law."*

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/dexter-tornado-aftermath-state-rep-mark-ouimet-working-on-bill-to-reimburse-community-costs/*

Waligora gets reps, senators involved in airport bid

"ALPENA - Alpena Mayor Matt Waligora, Sixel Consulting, and other people involved in the process of attracting an airline provider to Alpena have drafted a letter to the United States Department of Transportation to voice concerns over the current bid by Air Choice One."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/520814/Waligora-gets-reps--senators-involved-in-airport-bid.html?nav=5004*

County may need dashboard

"ALPENA - Last year the City of Alpena was forced by the state of Michigan to implement a transparency dashboard in order to receive a larger portion of revenue sharing from the state. The detailed report is a general outline of finance and operations to be made easily available to residents."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/520813/County-may-need-dashboard.html?nav=5004*

Madison school board updates anti-bullying policy

"The Madison school board on Monday unanimously approved an updated anti-bullying policy."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lenconnect.com/newsnow/x394116156/Madison-school-board-updates-anti-bullying-policy*

Press Releases

Rainbow PUSH Michigan and Highland Park NAACP Demand Clean Up of on Toxic Pollution By Chrome Craft

"

(DETROIT) *– D Alexander Bullock, Mayor De Andre Windom and concerned citizens will speak out at a meeting with The Michigan Department of Environment Quality (MDEQ)."*

Source: *Rainbow Push Coalition* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332363269_RPC1.pdf*

Meadows Introduces Michigan- Centered Agriculture Bills

"

*LANSING- State Representative **Mark Meadows** (D-East Lansing) today announced the introduction of legislation designed to support the expansion of local agricultural economies. "*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332362226_House4.pdf

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Calley signs bills creating fundraising license plate to promote organ donation

"

LANSING, Mich. – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley today signed legislation allowing for the creation of a fundraising license plate that encourages organ donation."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332360864_Gov2.pdf

Research universities build argument for greater role for arts, creative thinking

"

ANN ARBOR, Mich.---Confronting the challenge of how to encourage and cultivate innovative thinking in higher education, administrators from some of the most prestigious U.S. research universities have published a report aiming to provoke a national discussion about the ways "arts practice" can be a catalyst for creative thinking in all academic disciplines."

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359710_UM1.pdf

Email Disclosure Prompts Call for Legislature to Come Clean About Mackinac Center's Influence

"

LANSING, MI—Progress Michigan called today on the state Legislature to release all emails and other communications between lawmakers and the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, including those of a lobbying nature, in light of the disclosure this week in Oakland County of damning emails involving Republican state lawmakers."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359638_Progress1.pdf

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Celebrating Two Years of Better Healthcare

"

DETROIT, MI – March 23, 2012 marks the two-year Anniversary of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Michigan is lucky to be represented by Healthcare champions Congressmen Dingell, Conyers and Levin. Joining them on the call will be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services Bill Corr."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359584_KYC1.pdf

Will the Michigan Supreme Court do the Right Thing? Or Will It Permit GOP Corruption?

"

***LANSING** – The Michigan Supreme Court will soon decide whether a blatant Republican power grab is unconstitutional. The question now is, will the Court make the right ruling or will it permit GOP corruption on both the county and state level?"*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359481_MDP2.pdf

Traditional School Community Continues to Criticize Full-Time Cyber Schools

"LANSING, Michigan (March 21, 2012) – Throughout the debate on lifting the enrollment cap on cyber charter schools, officials throughout the traditional school community have leveled a host of charges against full-time cyber schools. "

Source: *Michigan Association of Public School Academies* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332353590_MAPSA1.pdf

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AFT Michigan endorses U.S. Rep. Gary Peters

"

Representing members in the Detroit and Hamtramck Public Schools & Wayne County Community College District, AFT Michigan joins growing list of Organized Labor Unions uniting behind Peters"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352343_Peters1.pdf

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Inland fishing guides reminded of permit required to use state lands

"

The Department of Natural Resources reminds fishing guides who use state-owned lands to access Michigan's inland lakes or streams as part of their commercial operation that they are required to have written permission from the DNR prior to using state-owned lands."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352204_DNR1.pdf*

Teachers union backs renewable energy ballot initiative

"

*LANSING — **American Federation of Teachers Michigan** has joined a growing list of groups endorsing a ballot proposal to increase Michigan's renewable energy standard to 25 percent by 2025."*

Source: *Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352167_MEMJ1.pdf*

Chamber to Address Federal Debt Crisis

"

***Grand Rapids** – Former United States Comptroller and CEO of Comeback America David M. Walker, will be the keynote speaker at Living on Borrowed Time: Solving America's Debt Crisis, a Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon taking place on Tuesday, April 3, 2012."*

Source: *Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332351372_GRACC1.pdf*

Snyder continues investment mission by meeting with German auto suppliers

"

KUNZELSAU, Germany – Gov. Rick Snyder today met with executives of German automotive suppliers whose companies operate in Michigan, seeking to strengthen relationships and attract new job-creating investments."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332350257_Gov1.pdf*

Michigan Voters Optimistic About Direction of State

"

LANSING - For the first time since March of 2003 more Michigan voters believe the State of Michigan is headed in the right direction than believe we are seriously on the wrong track. These optimistic attitudes appear to be led by the voters belief that the economy has turned around in Michigan."

Source: *Marketing Resource Group, Inc.* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332349866_MRG1.pdf

Michigan Residents Say "No Thanks" to Koch Brothers' Front Group

"

***LANSING** – Out-of-state special interest front groups have already started spending big in Michigan by launching false TV ads attacking Senator Stabenow. Independent fact checkers have repeatedly called these ads "just wrong," and also "ridiculous.""*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346430_MDP1.pdf

MITT ROMNEY ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF MICHIGAN CONGRESSWOMAN CANDICE MILLER

"

***Boston, MA** – Mitt Romney today announced the support of Michigan Congresswoman Candice Miller."*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346396_Romney1.pdf

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Rep. Cavanagh Says Rate Hike Demands Passage of Bills Opening MCCA's Books

"

Rep. Cavanagh Says Rate Hike Demands Passage of Bills Opening MCCA's Books"

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346351_House3.pdf

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All hands on deck

"

Have you heard? It looks like legislation to include gay and transgender residents in the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act is set to be introduced soon. This would ensure that no Michigander could be discriminated against, or fired from their job, just because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Great news!"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346314_EM2.pdf*

Senator Warren to Host Press Conference Announcing Anti-Discrimination Legislation

"

LANSING — Senator Rebekah Warren (D – Ann Arbor) will be joined by members of the Unity Michigan coalition and Professor Peter J. Hammer, Director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights at the Wayne State University Law School, on Thursday, March 2"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346273_EM1.pdf*

Sign up now! Take back the U.S. House

"

We're excited about the buzz and excitement that Dr. Taj has brought to this race, but he needs your help! Help us take back the U.S. House of Representatives by joining Dr. Taj for a fundraiser to support his campaign."

Source: *Taj* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346195_Taj1.pdf*

Senate Concurrent Resolution 28 moves to Michigan House of Representatives

"

LANSING— *The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 28, said sponsor Rick Jones."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341739_Jones1.pdf*

Recent Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 3/20/2012. "

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341256_COA1.pdf

Majority trashes yard clippings and women's rights.

"

Welcome again to my e-newsletter. As your state representative for the 53rd House District, I'll continue to send these updates to keep you informed of issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state. Please feel free to visit my website and contact me should you have any questions or concerns."

Source: *Rep. Jeff Irwin* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341214_Irwin1.pdf

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Senator Warren to Host Press Conference Announcing Anti-Discrimination Legislation

"

Press conference announcing legislation to amend the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1976 to include protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Michigan residents."

Source: *Sen. Rebecca Warren* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341172_Warren1.pdf

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ATTORNEY JENNIFER WARNER IS NEW DIRECTOR OF TRIAL COURT SERVICES

"LANSING, MI, March 21, 2012 – Attorney Jennifer D. Warner is the new director of the State Court Administrative Office's Trial Court Services division, the Michigan Supreme Court announced today"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341108_MSC1.pdf

Endangered Species Recovery Champions Announced

"

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced recipients of the 2011 Recovery Champion award, which honors Service employees and partners for outstanding efforts to conserve and protect endangered and threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants."

Source: *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341018_Fish1.pdf

National Bus Tour to Hit East Lansing, Detroit, and Ann Arbor to Meet with Young Adults, Discuss Job

"

Lansing, Michigan – Wednesday, March 21-Friday, March 24, Young Invincibles, a national nonprofit organization, will be bringing our decked out tour bus to East Lansing, Detroit, and Ann Arbor. During our stop, we will be hosting youth roundtables where we will be discussing the issues, stories, and solutions young Michiganders are facing with respect to health care, college affordability, and employment. "

Source: *Young Invincibles* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340978_YI1.pdf

Senator Stabenow Receives Award from Michigan Snowmobile Association

"

***Washington, DC** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow received the Michigan Snowmobile Association's Award of Appreciation for her commitment to the Recreational Trails Program. "*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340938_Stabenow1.pdf

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Senate Democrats Take Governor, Legislature to Task over Ethical Failures, Political Fraud

"

Lansing – Senate Democratic leaders Gretchen Whitmer and Tupac A. Hunter issued the following statement today regarding the release of over 200 pages of leaked documentation that reveal significant ethical and political breaches by Governor Snyder and Oakland County elected officials, both local and legislative. "

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340895_Senate1.pdf

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Reintroducing the free market into Michigan's electric system

"

LANSING – Rep. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) today introduced legislation in the House and Senate designed to address what many see as a critical flaw in Michigan's current energy law -- the 10 percent cap on electric competition. "

Source: *Energy Choice Now* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340856_CCC1.pdf

House Dems Continue Push For "Reform Government Now" Package

"

LANSING – House Democratic Leader ***Richard E. Hammel*** *(D-Mt. Morris Township) and the entire House Democratic Caucus again today called on Republican leaders in the House to move the "Reform Government Now" legislative package through the chamber in the wake of a recent report by State Integrity Investigation that ranked Michigan's government 43rd in the country in terms of accountability and risk of corruption."*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336965_House2.pdf

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Emails Confirm Republican Oakland County Redistricting Motive a Sham

"

LANSING – News sources confirmed today that Republican bills which reduced Oakland County Commission seats from 25 to 21 members were done solely to allow the GOP controlled body to redraw court mandated district lines in their favor. Republicans had insisted that their motives were to save taxpayer money, but emails obtained from the Freedom of Information Act, show that was not the case."

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336930_House1.pdf

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Proos: Corrections 2013 budget stops annual increases; cuts $67.3 million from governor's recommenda

"

LANSING – *After the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of Corrections approved a 2013 budget on Tuesday that protects public safety while spending $67.3 million less than the governor's recommendation, Sen. John Proos, chair of the subcommittee, issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Sen. John Proos* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336883_Proos1.pdf

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Local leaders continue to support Selfridge amid proposed cuts

"

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel today presented a letter of support from himself, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Detroit Mayor David Bing to the Selfridge Base Community Council as a show of support for the base, which is currently fighting personnel cuts at the federal level."

Source: *Macomb County Executive Office* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336846_Macomb1.pdf*

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 9:59 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Shipping growth expected on Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system

"Hulking freighters are again plodding across Michigan's sweeping waterways."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/BUSINESS06/203240333/Shipping-growth-expected-on-Great-Lakes-St-Lawrence-Seaway-system?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Fisker nears $1B funding goal

"Fisker Automotive, a maker of plug-in luxury cars, is working to finish at least $100 million of fund-raising for a total of about $1 billion of private money by the end of the month, according to two people familiar with the matter."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/BUSINESS06/203240337/Fisker-nears-36-1B-funding-goal?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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'60 Minutes' to feature Chrysler turnaround, Marchionne

"The improbable turnaround of Chrysler, along with Chrysler and Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne, will be featured on Sunday by "60 Minutes" reporter Steve Kroft."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/BUSINESS0103/203240331/-60-Minutes-to-feature-Chrysler-turnaround-Marchionne?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Facebook alarmed at requests for passwords

"Facebook, the world's biggest social-networking service, said reports of businesses asking potential employees for passwords are alarming and discouraged users and companies from engaging in the practice."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/BUSINESS07/203240339/Facebook-alarmed-at-requests-for-passwords?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Justice rally for Trayvon Martin planned in Detroit for Monday

"As outrage continues to grow over the shooting death of a Florida teenager, a justice rally is being planned in Detroit on Monday evening."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120323/NEWS01/120323016/Justice-rally-Trayvon-Martin-planned-Detroit-Monday

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Heat pays quiet tribute to Trayvon Martin at Palace Friday night

"LeBron James and his Miami Heat teammates did not make a show of their support of slain teenager Trayvon Martin during the pregame warm-up portion of tonight's game against the Detroit Pistons at the Palace of Auburn Hills."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120323/SPORTS03/120323053/Miami-Heat-planning-tribute-for-Trayvon-Martin-tonight-vs-Pistons?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Greektown casino's history

*"**Nov. 10, 2000:** Greektown Casino, principally owned by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, opens a temporary casino -- the last of Detroit's casinos to do so -- and has since seen its revenue straggle compared with MGM Grand Detroit and MotorCity Casino Hotel."*

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/NEWS01/203240365/Greektown-casino-s-history

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Unhappy investor bets Greektown Casino could make more money

"Greektown Casino-Hotel's lackluster performance since leaving bankruptcy nearly two years ago has prompted a major investor to accuse the casino's board of directors of not doing enough to reverse losses in market share and revenue, according to securities filings."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120324/NEWS01/203240363/Unhappy-investor-bets-Greektown-Casino-could-make-more-money?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

GM's Akerson predicts stronger sales in 2012

"Annapolis, Md.— General Motors Co. CEO Dan Akerson thinks U.S. auto industry sales will be stronger in 2012 than the automaker had expected earlier this year."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/AUTO0103/203240326/GM-s-Akerson-predicts-stronger-sales-2012?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Judge rules Fannie, Freddie owe Oakland County real estate taxes

"Pontiac— A federal judge has ruled in favor of Oakland County in the first lawsuit in the nation filed to recover millions in unpaid real estate transfer taxesfrom Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/METRO02/203240343/Judge-rules-Fannie-Freddie-owe-Oakland-County-real-estate-taxes?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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Judge: Ficano can't block payouts to appointees

"Detroit —More severance payments are on the way in Wayne County after a judge ruled Friday that Executive Robert Ficano can't rescind promised payouts worth as much as $850,000."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/METRO01/203240344/Judge-Ficano-can-t-block-payouts-appointees?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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Judge seeks arrest of couple linked to failed Detroit pension fund loan

"Detroit— A judge Friday asked federal investigators to find a South Carolina couple involved in a failed $10 million Detroit pension fund investment."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/METRO/203240357/Judge-seeks-arrest-couple-linked-failed-Detroit-pension-fund-loan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

No more mooring of boats at road ends

"Each spring, when Sean McGovern's family opens up its Higgins Lake cottage for the summer boating season, they also pull out plastic floating chains to keep visiting boats at bay."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/METRO/203240359/No-more-mooring-boats-road-ends?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Akerson: Detroit crisis hurts GM

"Annapolis, Md. —General Motors Chairman and CEO Dan Akerson says Detroit's financial struggles are making it more difficult for the automaker to recruit talent, and he believes the city needs to make significant changes."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120324/AUTO0103/203240356/*

But will they vote for it? West Michigan lawmakers say they back NITC Detroit-Windsor bridge

"A bipartisan group of west Michigan legislators discussed transportation policy at a Kent County Legislative Lunch at Grand Rapid's New Hope Baptist Church. Most said they would support the proposed New International Trade Crossing Detroit-Windsor bridge."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/but_will_they_vote_for_it_west.html*

Man charged for allegedly damaging Michigan Capitol, Lansing City Hall

*"**LANSING** -- A 26-year-old Lansing man faces a criminal charge after police say he damaged property at the state Capitol and Lansing City Hall."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/03/man_charged_for_allegedly_dama.html*

Bob Lutz gives up 'correcting the wrong-headed right' about Chevy Volt

"Bob Lutz is throwing in the towel when it comes to "correcting the wrong-headed right over the Volt.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/03/bob_lutz_gives_up_correcting_t.html*

Teachers targeted? MEA looks to restore clout after flurry of union-focused legislation

"LANSING – The Michigan Education Association, long among the most powerful forces in Lansing, has endured a devastating run since Republicans assumed control of the Capitol in 2011."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/03/teachers_targeted_mea_looks_to.html*

Flint water rate hikes lead angry resident to beat the system

"Flint, MI -- A lot of work goes into flushing Tom Cummings' toilet -- but the Flint resident says it's well worth the effort."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/flint_water_rates_lead_angry_r.html#incart_river_default*

Cyberschool bill poses question: Is expanding choice or improving academic achievement the greater priority for lawmakers?

*"**KALAMAZOO** — So what's more important: Expanding school choice or improving outcomes?"*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/03/cyberschool_bill_poses_questio.html#incart_river_default*

Michigan Transportation Odyssey: Bikes on local Amtrak trains? It's a definite maybe

"Amtrak Chairman Thomas Carpersays the passenger rail service is considering a request to allow passengers to roll bike onto Michigan trains."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/michigan_transportation_odysse_6.html#incart_river_default*

'Pink Slime' controversy isn't prompting Gordon Food Service to pull any products

"WYOMING, MI - Gordon Food Service, one of the country's largest food distributors, isn't following the lead of major retailers like Meijer Inc. and fast food chains which promised to pull products with a controversial meat byproduct known as "pink slime.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2012/03/pink_slime_controversy_isnt_pr.html#incart_river_default*

Superintendent: Emergency manager process 'in jeopardy' for Muskegon Heights schools

"Time could be running out for an emergency manager to make effective changes in the Muskegon Heights school district."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/superintendent_emergency_manag_1.html

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New self-checkout stands debut at East Lansing library

*"**EAST LANSING** — Those who scan their own groceries, it was reasoned, would be all right with checking out their own library books."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120324/ELANSING01/303240006/New-self-checkout-stands-debut-East-Lansing-library?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Lansing faces $4.7M deficit

"The city of Lansing will face an estimated $4.7 million budget deficit next year - a shortfall smaller than expected due to new millage revenue, an increase in state revenue sharing and a smaller-than-anticipated rise in health care costs, city administrators said."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120323/NEWS01/303230048/Lansing-faces-4-7M-deficit?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

MSU speaker fires up local educators

*"**EAST LANSING** — "Teaching is an art form.""*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120324/NEWS05/303240027/MSU-speaker-fires-up-local-educators?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Ingham County adds parking fee for Lake Lansing Park-North

*"**MERIDIAN TWP.** — Abigail Collin was doing her best to keep up Friday morning as her leashed toy fox terrier and German shorthair pointer led her through Lake Lansing Park-North at a brisk pace."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120324/NEWS01/303240028/Ingham-County-adds-parking-fee-Lake-Lansing-Park-North?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Unions say Detroit city workers agree to pay cuts

*"**DETROIT (AP)** — Unions representing thousands of Detroit city workers said Friday their members have approved 10 percent pay cuts and other changes that are intended to save roughly $100 million a year."*

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/24/news/doc4f6d132219774262611801.txt

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St. Clair Shores decides to permanently close Blossom Heath Beach due to chronic pollution

"After years of pollution problems, St. Clair Shores city officials have thrown in the towel and decided to permanently close the beach at the Blossom Heath Park although the park will remain open year-round for other recreational activities."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/24/news/doc4f6ccab3bca68098125837.txt

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Macomb reaction mixed as health care reform law marks 2nd anniversary WITH VIDEO

"The two-year anniversary of President Obama's health care reform law was marked Friday by celebration – and derision – across the country and in Macomb County, as the nation awaits the U.S. Supreme Court's opening on Monday of oral arguments in the case that will determine if the law is constitutional."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/24/news/doc4f6d08ecec1fc667754313.txt

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Clarkston School District residents split over proposal to borrow $20 million WITH VIDEO

"Residents within the Clarkston School District are split on their opinion of the bond proposal to borrow about $20 million on a special election May 8."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/24/news/local_news/doc4f6cfecd59389137936614.txt

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Press Releases

SADO Wins United States Supreme Court Case

"

On Wednesday March 21, 2012, the United States Supreme Court released the decision in Lafler v Cooper, finding that habeas relief was warranted due to ineffective assistance of counsel during the plea bargaining stage of the proceedings."

Source: *STATE APPELLATE DEFENDER OFFICE* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332536182_SADO .pdf*

YouTube campaign videos more positive than television ads

"

ANN ARBOR, Mich.---YouTube campaign videos are more positive than ads aired on television, a new University of Michigan study shows."

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332534887_UM1.pdf*

Deputy Secretary of HHS and MI Congressmen Celebrate Healthcare Law on 2nd Anniversary

"

Please see the press release that is attached and copied below. Please note that the attached version also contains a fact sheet with Michigan based ACA numbers. I have also attached an MP3 of the entire press call held today with Deputy Director Bill Corr, Congressman John Dingell, Congressman John Conyers and Congressman Sandy Levin. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any other information."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332530260_KYC2.pdf*

FW: Census Bureau News -- Tip Sheet #6

"

1940 Census Records Release — *On April 2 at 8:30 a.m., Census Bureau Director Robert Groves and National Archivist David Ferriero will lead a news conference at the National Archives in Washington announcing the release of 1940 Census records to the public."*

Source: *MI Department of Technology, Management & Budget* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332530210_DTMB1.pdf*

Rogers: Two Years of Broken Promises Under Health Law

"

Friday, March 23, 2012 *– U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, MI-08, issued the following statement on the second anniversary of President Obama's health care law:"*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332530152_Rogers1.pdf

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Legislation Extends Emergency Unemployment Compensation Program through 2012

"

Congress recently passed legislation to extend Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) through the end of 2012. The new legislation has been signed by President Obama and goes into effect on March 23, 2012."

Source: *MI Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332527746_LARA1.pdf

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German company to invest $5 million in new Kalamazoo facility, Snyder says

"

GERMANY – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced that Hark Orchids L.P., an orchid propagation company headquartered in Lippstadt, will invest approximately $5 million to establish its first facility outside of Germany in Kalamazoo."

Source: *MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332527717_MDA1.pdf

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Rep. McCann Earns Praise, Receives ISAAC "Elected Ally of the Year" Award

"

LANSING – State Representative ***Sean McCann*** *(D-Kalamazoo) will be presented with the "Elected Ally of the Year" award by the Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action in the Community (ISAAC) on Saturday, March 24, 2012. ISAAC is a faith-based community organizing group made up of congregations and organizations that united in order to accomplish what could not be done by individuals and single congregations. "*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332527626_House2.pdf

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Michigan's aquatic invasive species plan updated

"

The DEQ today announced the draft Aquatic Invasive Species State Management Plan is available for public comment, and a public meeting is scheduled in April to discuss the draft plan."

Source: *MI Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332527580_DEQ2.pdf

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2yr Anniversary

"

Two years ago the American public watched, helplessly, as a President without concern for the will of the people--aided by a Democrat Senate--signed into law the greatest infringement on American freedom and individual liberty in my lifetime."

Source: *Hoekstra For Senate* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332523021_Hoekstra1.pdf

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German company to invest $5 million in new Kalamazoo facility, Snyder says

"

GERMANY – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced that Hark Orchids L.P., an orchid propagation company headquartered in Lippstadt, will invest approximately $5 million to establish its first facility outside of Germany in Kalamazoo."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522530_Gov2.pdf

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Michigan Black Caucus Members File Motions Against Detroit Redistricting

"

DETROIT - State Representative and Chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus ***Fred Durhal, Jr.*** *(D-Detroit) announced today that they have filed motions in the United States District Court for the Eastern*

District of Michigan in their fight to throw out the new Detroit districts that were drawn by the Republican majority and that disenfranchise Detroit voters. "

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522473_House1.pdf

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Snyder makes appointments to Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board

"

LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointments of Lena Epstein Koretzky, of Bloomfield Hills, and Karl Ieuter, of Sanford, to the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board. "

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522431_Gov1.pdf

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Calling all citizens! Help commemorate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812

"

It may be 200 years after the fact, but Michigan residents can still do their part for the war effort! The Michigan Commission on the Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 is seeking volunteers to help plan local ceremonies in mid-June, marking the 200th anniversary of the declaration of war against Great Britain. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522381_DNR2.pdf

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Snyder and Obama Job Approval and Perception Up

"

LANSING -The improving mood of the Michigan electorate appears to be helping both Governor Snyder and President Obama with their popularity with Michigan voters. "

Source: *Marketing Resource Group, Inc.* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522314_MRG1.pdf

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DNR hosts informational meeting on bear license quotas March 31 in Marquette

"

The Department of Natural Resources will host an informational meeting to discuss proposed changes to bear hunting license quotas on Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to noon in Marquette. The meeting will take place in the Brule Room at Northern Michigan University, located at 2101 University Center, Marquette."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522275_DNR1.pdf

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Senator Whitmer Holds Google Hangout to Discuss Higher Ed Proposals with Students

"

Whitmer asks students about potential impact of Michigan 2020 legislation to send all Michigan kids to college, $10,000 #mi2020 Scholarship Competition"

Source: *Sen. Gretchen Whitmer* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522230_Senate1.pdf

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Huizenga Statement on 2nd Anniversary of President's Health Care Law

"

2nd District, MI - Today marks the two-year anniversary of the Health Care Law's passage. Next week, the Supreme Court will debate the Constitutionality of the Health Care law's individual mandate."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522195_Huizenga2.pdf

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Recent Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 3/22/2012. "

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522161_COA1.pdf

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DEQ opens nominations for Michigan Green Chemistry Governor's Award

"

The DEQ today announced open nominations for the fourth annual Michigan Green Chemistry Governor's Award Nomination."

Source: *MI Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522130_DEQ1.pdf*

U.S. Rep. Gary Peters highlights success of Affordable Care Act on two year anniversary of signing

"

Washington, D.C. - Today is the two year anniversary of President Obama signing the historic Affordable Care Act and, to mark the occasion, U.S. Rep. Gary Peters touted the immediate positive impact it has had on families in his Congressional District."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332522032_Peters1.pdf*

President`s Health Care Law Fails On Promises

"

Today marks the second anniversary of the President's health care law. However, very few people are celebrating because it has failed to live up to its promises and slowed the economic progress of our country."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332521993_Walberg1.pdf*

Renewable energy ballot initiative endorsed by CWA

"

*LANSING — **Communications Workers of America District 4**, representing more than 10,000 Michigan workers, has endorsed a Michigan ballot initiative that would increase the state's renewable energy standard to 25 percent by 2025."*

Source: *Communications Workers of America District 4* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512780_Byrum1.pdf*

Celebrating Two Years of Better Healthcare

"

DETROIT, MI – March 23, 2012 marks the two-year Anniversary of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Michigan is lucky to be represented by Healthcare champions Congressmen Dingell, Conyers and Levin. Joining them on the call will be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services Bill Corr."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512630_KYC1.pdf

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Camp: Bakker Receives Navy Appointment

"

Midland, MI –Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI), announced today that Gerrit Bakker of Alma received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. He was nominated by Camp to the academy."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512579_Camp3.pdf

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Camp Encourages Students to Engage in Congressional Art Competition

"

Washington, D.C. –Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI) is proud to sponsor The Artistic Discover Contest in Michigan's 4th Congressional District."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512546_camp2.pdf

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Camp Encourages Students to Engage in Congressional Art Competition

"

Washington, D.C. –Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland, MI) is proud to sponsor The Artistic Discover Contest in Michigan's 4th Congressional District."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Dave Camp* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512508_Camp1.pdf

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Huizenga Votes to Protect Seniors, Strengthen Health Care Choices

"

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga today joined the House to pass the bipartisan Protecting Access to Healthcare (PATH) Act, which repeals one of the most deeply-flawed creations of President Obama's health care law, the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), and replace it with meaningful and necessary medical malpractice lawsuit abuse reform."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512420_Huizenga1.pdf

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House Judiciary Democrats Encourage Department of Justice to Review Trayvon Martin Shooting Under Fe

"

(WASHINGTON) – Today, Democratic Members of the House Judiciary Committee led by Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) sent a letter to Attorney General Eric Holder encouraging the Department of Justice to review the shooting of Trayvon Martin under a federal hate crimes statute."

Source: *U.S. Rep. John Conyers* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512369_Conyers1.pdf

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Sen. Green offers testimony on autism bills before House committee

"

LANSING— *Sen. Mike Green on Thursday offers testimony to the Michigan House of Representatives Children, Families and Seniors Committee on the health insurance plans providing coverage for autism disorders."*

Source: *Sen. Mike Green* **Date:** *03-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332512326_Green1.pdf

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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'Catastrophic cyberattack' on the horizon, Rogers warns (with video)

"Imagine a personal computer virus attacking and crippling entire financial, energy or electric grid digital networks."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120424/NEWS01/204240309/-Catastrophic-cyberattack-horizon-Rogers-warns-video-?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Sheriff: Waterford Township could save $500,000 per year on dispatch if Oakland County takes over

"If the Oakland County Sheriff's Office took over fire and police dispatching services for Waterford Township, the savings would total approximately $500,000 annually over the next three years."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/04/24/news/local_news/doc4f95ffffa1e3f917922828.txt*

Army Corps releases final draft of options for aquatic nuisance controls

"Last week, the U.S. ArmyCorps of Engineersreleased the final draft of its inventory of available controls for aquatic nuisance species of concern, which includes Asian carp."

Source: *Petoskey News-Review* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/news/featured/pnr-the-us-army-corps-of-engineers-releases-its-final-draft-of-a-paper-outlining-various-controls-for-aquatic-nuisance-species-20120423,0,7614149.story*

Protecting votes ... or preventing them?

"

Michigan legislators are considering a raft of voter law changes

"

Source: *Herald Palladium (St. Joseph/Benton Harbor)* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.heraldpalladium.com/articles/2012/04/23/local_news/8967026.txt*

Supreme Court curbs home invasion rights of police

"The Michigan Supreme Court says people can resist police officers who unlawfully enter their homes."

Source: *Grand Haven Tribune* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.grandhaventribune.com/content/supreme-court-curbs-home-invasion-rights-police*

Bailey seeks Michigan House seat

"TRAVERSE CITY — The cost of a run for Congress halted whatever hopes northwest lower Michigan residents held for breaking the Upper Peninsula's stranglehold on the 1st Congressional District. "

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://record-eagle.com/local/x1199104419/Bailey-seeks-Michigan-House-seat*

Editorial: Get grip on deregulation kick

"Reducing the size and cost of government can be a good thing — when it's done right."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://record-eagle.com/opinion/x1743178931/Editorial-Get-grip-on-deregulation-kick*

Plan would grow marijuana in former Michigan mine

*"**WHITE PINE, MICH.** — A Canadian biotechnology company wants to cultivate medical marijuana in a former copper mine in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where it has been growing plants for more than a decade."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120423/NEWS01/304230017/Plan-would-grow-marijuana-former-Michigan-mine*

Woodward light-rail investors say most of the money to build is raised

"The private-sector group that wants to build a light-rail line on Woodward Avenue from downtown Detroit to New Center said Monday that it has raised most of the money it will need to build it -- and pledged to pay for the bulk of the cost of operating the system for the first 10 years."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120424/NEWS01/204240385/-1/7daysarchives/Woodward-light-rail-investors-say-most-money-build-raised

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Detroit bus riders fear new round of cuts will decimate servic

"Riders and transit advocates said Monday that they are not sure what they will do if Detroit keeps slashing its bus service, as the city proposes to do again by cutting another $12 million from its general-fund bus subsidy."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120424/NEWS01/204240379/Detroit-bus-riders-fear-new-round-cuts-will-decimate-service

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Snyder: Detroit needs more sense of urgency in financial crisis

"Every day Detroit doesn't take action to right its financial ship is a day the city continues to decline."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120424/NEWS06/204240381/Snyder-Detroit-needs-more-sense-urgency-financial-crisis

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Detroit financial crisis: Bing's budget slashes $250M spending, more than 2,500 jobs

"The City of Detroit's work force would be slashed by 25%, transportation and city lighting would be privatized and services to residents would be reduced under a budget proposal aimed at shaving $250 million off the city's 2012-13 budget."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120424/NEWS01/204240377/Detroit-financial-crisis-Bing-s-budget-slashes-36-250M-spending-more-than-2-500-jobs?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Michigan Amtrak routes to feature state-of-the-art cars in 2015 From The Detroit News: http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO05/204240350#ixzz1sxPqOqVd

"Michigan's three Amtrak routes will get state-of-the-art, bi-level cars that will have wireless service, bicycle storage and more comfortable seats starting in 2015.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO05/204240350/1409/metro/Michigan-Amtrak-routes-feature-state-art-cars-2015

Governor rescinds order that would abolish Commission for the Blind

"Gov. Rick Snyder today rescinded an executive order that would have abolished the Commission for the Blind. He is working with advocacy groups on a new plan to reorganize state services for the blind and visually impaired, officials said."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/governor_rescinds_order_that_w.html

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Snyder, governors to focus on economic development in Omaha

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is headed to Nebraska on Tuesday to attend an economic development conference."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120423/BIZ/204230401/1022/politics/Snyder-governors-focus-economic-development-Omaha

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School districts around Michigan worry about impact of personal property tax repeal proposal

"Like many other Michigan public schools, the River Rouge School District is struggling to stay afloat."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/school_districts_around_michig.html

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Businesses would get a tax break and teachers would pay more for retirement as the Senate weighs new reforms

"Personal property tax debate heads to Senate"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/businness_would_get_another_ta.html

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Michigan lawmakers set to tackle budget

"Lansing— The state Legislature today is positioned to begin approving legislation completed last week by appropriations committees on budget bills that are generally thriftier than originally proposed by Gov. Rick Snyder."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/POLITICS02/204240362/1022/politics/Michigan-lawmakers-set-tackle-budget

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Republican Majority Leader U.S. Rep. Eric Cantor: Silicon Valley has nothing on Midland

*"**MIDLAND, MI** — U.S. Rep. Eric Cantor, the Republican House majority leader from Virginia, compared the global reach of technology mecca Silicon Valley to Midland on Monday."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/midland/index.ssf/2012/04/republican_majority_leader_us_rep_eric_cantor_silicon_valley_has_nothing_on_midland.html

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Michigan lawmaker: Post university expenses online

"Michigan's 15 public universities would be required to publish online checkbooks detailing expenditures under a proposed constitutional amendment that will get its first vetting today in a House committee."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/POLITICS02/204240346/1022/politics/Michigan-lawmaker-Post-university-expenses-online

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Time to 'step it up' for improving Detroit, gov says

"Acknowledging major problems exist in Detroit, Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday called for more urgent action to save a city suffering a steady population decline."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO/204240353/1022/politics/Time-step-up-improving-Detroit-gov-says

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Snyder on Detroit crisis: More urgency needed

"As the Detroit City Council deliberated today about a new proposed budget that suggests laying off more than 2,500 people, Gov. Rick Snyder called for more urgency and a collaborative effort to help solve the city's problems."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/snyder_answer_to_detroit_not_j.html

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Gov. Snyder to hold online town hall on Wednesday

*"Michigan residents are getting another chance to question Gov. Rick Snyder during an online town hall meeting.
"*

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/POLITICS02/204240374/1361/Gov.-Snyder-to-hold-online-town-hall-on-Wednesday

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Michigan board of ed leaders: Teachers must innovate as they face 'fire hose of reform'

"EAST LANSING, MI -- Teachers today must feel like they are facing "a fire hose of reform that is knocking you down instead of lifting you up," but the work is needed to strengthen Michigan schools, state Board of Education President John Austin said."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/04/state_board_members_teachers_n.html

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Concealed gun survey 'bought and paid for by a radical gun-control group'

"A poll that found Michigan voters oppose allowing concealed handguns in schools and other places where they are now banned is "suspicious," said the spokesman for a lawmaker pushing the change."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/concealed_gun_survey_bought_an.html

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MDOT: 18 deaths among 4,600 crashes in Michigan work zones in 2011

"LANSING, MI — Eighteen people died in traffic crashes in road- and freeway work zones across the state last year, five fewer fatalities than in 2010, the Michigan Department of Transportation announced Monday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/04/mdot_18_deaths_among_4600_cras.html

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Woodward light-rail group to pay some operating costs, raises cost estimate

"M-1 rail advocates say they will cover some operating expenses for up to 10 years of the planned 3.3-mile streetcar line up Woodward Avenue, which they now estimate will cost $137 million to build."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO05/204240368/Woodward-light-rail-group-pay-some-operating-costs-raises-cost-estimate?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

'Train has left the station' on Michigan business tax reform, cities grapple with replacing lost money

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Grand Rapids City Manager Greg Sundstrom would happily give back every cent the municipality receives under an onerous business property tax that state lawmakers are working to repeal."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/04/train_has_left_the_station_on.html*

Residents speak out on emergency manager's budget plan to raise fees, cut public safety staff

"FLINT, MI -- Many Flint residents were outraged over emergency manager Michael Brown's budget presentation tonight, criticizing the proposed fee increases and public safety layoffs."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/resident_council_members_react.html*

Kalamazoo River oil spill trial may end in settlement

*"**BATTLE CREEK, MI** — The Kalamazoo River oil spill whistleblower lawsuit may end Tuesday with a settlement between SET Environmental Inc. and it's former employee John Bolenbaugh."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/04/kalamazoo_river_oil_spill_trai.html*

Obama, Romney agree on low loan rates for students

"President Barack Obama is stepping up calls on Congress to take action to stop interest rates on student loans from doubling, potentially raising costs for more than 300,000 Michiganians."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/POLITICS01/204240370/Obama-Romney-agree-low-loan-rates-students?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Proposed Detroit budget would cut 2,566 jobs

"Detroit— Nearly a quarter of the city work force would be eliminated, services would be slashed and departments would disappear under the detailed version of Mayor Dave Bing's proposed budget delivered Monday to the City Council."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO/204240369/Proposed-Detroit-budget-would-cut-2-566-jobs?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Emergency manager's Flint budget proposal 'rough,' council member says

"FLINT, MI -- Flint city Councilman Bernard Lawler said the emergency manager's budget will overburden residents who can't afford to pay higher fees for water, waste collection and street lights."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/flint_budget_proposal_rough_co.html

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White House honors Clarkston High, Detroit Edison Academy

"CLARKSTON, Mich. — Clarkston High School and Detroit Edison Public School Academy are among 78 first-ever U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/white_house_honors_clarkston_h.html

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Michigan's feral swine criteria creating a stink

"Enforcement by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to ensure no game preserves or farms in the state possess invasive feral swine has been met with heavy criticism from those inspected."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120424/METRO/204240365/Michigan-s-feral-swine-criteria-creating-stink?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Group wants to make it harder to raise Michigan taxes

"An anti-tax group says it's begun collecting signatures to let Michigan voters decide in November if a supermajority vote should be needed to raise state taxes."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/group_wants_to_make_it_harder.html

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Corps expands list of options for stopping carp

"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has added three options to list of possible measures for preventing Asian carp and other invasive species from migrating between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River watersheds."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/04/corps_expands_list_of_options.html

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Tim Skubick: Next time a pothole blows your tire, curse the Legislature

"Big doings in the state Senate this week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/tim_skubick_roads_revenue_rand.html

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Atlanta denied renewal of 4-day school week

"ATLANTA - After dealing with a variety of federal and state non-compliance issues, the state of Michigan has decided to deny Atlanta Community Schools' request to renew its four-day school week for the 2012-13 school year."

Source: *Alpena News* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/521187/Atlanta-denied-renewal-of-4-day-school-week.html?nav=5004

Press Releases

Daniel White named to Monroe County's 38th Circuit Court

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Daniel White, of Monroe, to the 38th Circuit Court in Monroe County. The appointment fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Joseph A. Costello Jr."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335214014_Gov3.pdf

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Governor, advocates for the blind working to enhance delivery of services

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today rescinded a recent executive order that would have transferred and reconfigured responsibilities of the Michigan Commission for the Blind and Michigan Rehabilitation Services, as he works with advocates to ensure the best possible service for residents who are blind or visually impaired."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335210899_Gov2.pdf

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Michigan DNR honors communities, utilities and campuses with Tree USA program designations

"

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Arbor Day Foundation today announced that 121 Michigan communities have received the "Tree City USA" designation for their promotion of community forestry during 2011. Communities are certified for work accomplished in 2011 and will be presented with their awards materials to coincide with Arbor Week in Michigan (April 22-28)."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335209673_DNR2.pdf

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McLaren Health Plan expands sales team

"

FLINT, Mich. *– McLaren Health Plan welcomes Ron Russman, Patricia Schulte and Jim McCloy to the growing sales team."*

Source: *McLaren Health Plan* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335209561_McLaren1.pdf

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Brown Should Reject Houston Endorsement over Tea Party Comments/Campaign Finance Violations

"

Today Oakland County Clerk Bill Bullard Jr. called on Democratic candidate for Clerk Rep. Lisa Brown to reject the recent endorsement she received from Oakland County Democratic Party Chair Frank Houston."

Source: *Bill Bullard for Oakland County Clerk* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335209523_Bullard1.pdf

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SBM Young Lawyers Section to Host "Think Fast! Boot Camp for New Lawyers" on May 12 in Ferndale

"

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section will host a workshop called "Think Fast! Boot Camp for New Lawyers" at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 12 at Go Comedy! Improv Theatre, located at 261 E. Nine Mile Rd. in Ferndale."

Source: *State Bar of Michigan* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335206274_SBM1.pdf

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First-of-its-kind study reveals per-child savings to taxpayers of early education programs

"

News conference releasing "Detroit's One-Child School Readiness Dividend," the first study to quantify the per-child savings to taxpayers of preparing Detroit's young children for success in school. "

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335206252_TR1.pdf

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Call-in webinar Wednesday to release Michigan road, public transportation survey results

"

Lansing, MI -- A new survey of Michigan voters shows a solid understanding of the connection between public transportation and economic vitality, and indicates residents of different political persuasions are willing to pay more for improvements and upgrades. The survey's findings will be released in a media call-in/webinar this Wednesday."

Source: *Michigan Environmental Council* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335203560_MEC1.pdf

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Voting Rights Advocates to Take Aim at Bills that Create Obstacles for MI Citizens

"

*LANSING – Advocacy groups including the **Michigan League of Women Voters**, **Common Cause**, **Project Vote**, **A. Philip Randolph Institute** and others will hold a press conference on Tuesday, April 24, in the Michigan Capitol to denounce a package of bills that will make it more difficult for Michigan voters to cast their ballots."*

Source: *Project Vote* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335201613_Progress1.pdf

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Voting Begins in the $10,000 #mi2020 Scholarship Competition

"

Lansing – Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer announced today that voting has begun to choose the $10,000 winner of the #mi2020 Scholarship Competition. Since the competition's announcement, it has received an overwhelming response from high school seniors all across Michigan and the 55 semi-finalists are now available online at www.mi2020video.com."

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335196275_Senate2.pdf

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Republican Liberty Caucus of Michigan's 2012 Convention!

"

This is an election year and we have several excellent candidates running for different offices from districts all across our Great State of Michigan. This convention will be an opportunity for them to present themselves and for us to get to know them. It promises to be very a successful convention!"

Source: *Republican Liberty Caucus* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335195046_Rep1.pdf

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STATE SENATORS PLAN URBAN FARMING TOUR OF DETROIT

"

On Friday, April 27, 2012, State Senators Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) and Joe Hune (R-Livingston County) will be hosting a tour of urban agricultural sites throughout Detroit. "

Source: *Sen. Virgil Smith* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335194909_Senate1.pdf

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Report Shows Lower Costs in Medicare Due to the Affordable Care Act

"

Don't miss a new report out today which finds that the Affordable Care Act will save the Medicare program over $200 billion through 2016. Additionally, people with Medicare will save nearly $60 billion thanks to the new health care law. Details below."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335194286_KYC1.pdf

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Census Bureau News -- Tip Sheet #8

"

See email below for information on recent and upcoming data releases from the Census Bureau."

Source: *MI Department of Technology, Management & Budget* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335194244_DTMB1.pdf*

Aerial pesticide applicators to demo skill during "Operation SAFE Fly-in"

"

Members of the media are invited to witness "Operation SAFE Fly-in" performed by Michigan's skilled aerial pesticide applicators. Conducted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD), inspectors will examine the precision, safety, and security of the pesticide spray systems of both planes and helicopters."

Source: *MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335194183_MDA1.pdf*

MDOT releases 2011 crash data and promotes safety during National Work Zone Awareness Week

"

***April 23, 2012** -- While the number of crashes, injuries and fatalities in road construction work zone crashes in Michigan were down from the year before, 2011 statistics released today by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) indicate that workers, motorists and their passengers are still at risk."*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335194122_MDOT1.pdf*

Michigan Families Reject For-Profit Cyber Schools

"

In Lansing on Wednesday, Michigan working people will gather to call on legislators to vote against Senate Bill 619 – a plan to expand so-called 'cyber schools' in the state which would profit American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) members like K12, Inc. and harm our students and teachers. "

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335193952_AFL1.pdf*

ADVISORY: Sam Singh to Host Official Campaign Kickoff

"

EAST LANSING – Sam Singh, the former Mayor of East Lansing, will formally kickoff his campaign for State Representative in Michigan's 69th House District on Wednesday, April 25, 10:30 AM in room 114 at Lansing Community College's East Campus, 2827 Eyde Parkway in East Lansing."

Source: *Sam Singh for State Representative* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335193870_Singh1.pdf*

Michigan Homeowners Can Save Big With New Consumers Energy Home Energy Analys

"

JACKSON, Mich., April 23, 2012 -- Consumers Energy is helping customers save money and improve energy efficiency with its new Home Energy Analysis Program. The analysis provides homeowners with a review of their home's essential heating and cooling systems, as well as current energy usage. "

Source: *Consumer's Energy* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335193787_CE1.pdf*

SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Monday, April 23

"

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at the Governor's Education Summit."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335193651_Gov1.pdf*

MABAS Intra-Regional Fire Services Exercise Tests Michigan's Regional Disaster Response Readiness

"

April 21, 2012 - *Hazardous material response teams from Oakland and Livingston counties along with the Oakland County Incident Management team assembled at the Troy Police and Fire Training Center at 9:00 a.m. today to respond to a simulated train derailment and release of chlorine gas in downtown Holly, and to demonstrate emergency response readiness in time of disaster. "*

Source: *MI Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335191659_LARA1.pdf*

Brian David Hensley Announces His Candidacy for the State Legislature

"

Estral Beach, MI - Brian David Hensley, a Democratic candidate for the Michigan House of Representatives (17th district) announced publicly his candidacy via his website. "

Source: *Brian David Hensley for State Representative* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335191613_Hensley .pdf*

Portion of Fred Meijer White Pine Trail closed due to heavy rains

"

Following recent heavy rains, a small section of the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park was closed Tuesday in Mecosta County due to a culvert washout."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-24-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1335191542_DNR1.pdf*

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To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Poli-Bites Secretary of State dons helmet, proper gear on hog

"Secretary of State Ruth Johnson donned her leather jacket last week and rode her Harley-Davidson Sportster with a group of bikers near Grand Rapids to call attention to May as Motorcycle Safety Month in Michigan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120506/COL05/205060473/Poli-Bites-Secretary-of-State-dons-helmet-proper-gear-on-hog*

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2 Michigan school districts edge closer to consolidation

"Every morning for the last school year, Darian Smith and Johnathon Compau have hopped on a school bus that takes them from Willow Run High School to Ypsilanti High School -- a 4.5-mile trek that became necessary when the two schools merged their Air Force JROTC programs."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120506/NEWS06/205060501/School-districts-edge-closer-to-consolidation?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Rochelle Riley: Bit of good news doesn't solve the Big Problem in Detroit

"Pictures are worth a thousand words."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120506/COL10/205060505/Rochelle-Riley-Bit-of-good-news-doesn-t-solve-the-Big-Problem-in-Detroit?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Turkia Awada Mullin doubles amount she says nonprofit paid her to $150,000

"Turkia Awada Mullin had only one Cadillac, but she had two monthly car allowances to pay for it."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120506/NEWS02/205060545/Turkia-Awada-Mullin-doubles-amount-she-says-nonprofit-paid-her-to-36-150-000?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

51st state? Yoopers are talking up secession from Michigan again

"Would it be called the State of Northern Michigan? How about the State of Superior?"

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120506/NEWS06/205060541/51st-state-Yoopers-are-talking-up-secession-from-Michigan-again?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Experts say Detroit bankruptcy still a possibility

"Detroit —Some experts contend bankruptcy still is possible for Detroit, despite a recently signed agreement with the state to financially restructure the city.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120506/METRO01/205060310#ixzz1u5xIvAM4

Tragedies ratchet up urgency to stop bullying

"Back in March, I received a handwritten letter at work with no return address. The letter said that a student at a local high school had committed suicide the previous Friday night. "Rumor has it that he was being bullied by a kid," the letter read. The letter named the student who died and the alleged bully who went to a different school. It ended with: "The kids want someone to know and to do something. They don't think administration will."
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120504/OPINION03/205040312#ixzz1u5x8j3Rz

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AP surges as tool for schools raising standards

"Not long ago, Advanced Placement exams were mostly for top students looking to challenge themselves and get a head start on college credit. Not anymore."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/05/ap_surges_as_tool_for_schools.html

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The cost of consent: State could end up paying full salaries for new Detroit appointees

"he State of Michigan could be on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars in salaries for new appointees mandated by its recent consent agreement with the City of Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/05/the_cost_of_consent_state_coul.html

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Activist accused of stalking Detroit researcher

"DETROIT — A Florida animal-rights activist has been charged with stalking a Detroit researcher who works with dogs and had obtained a personal protection order against her."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/05/activist_accused_of_stalking_d.html#incart_hbx

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Flint water rate hikes lead to influx of well drilling inquiries

"FLINT, MI -- The latest in a series of water and sewer rate hikes in Flint has more residents asking about well drilling in the city."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/05/drill_baby_drill_flint_water_r.html

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Local groups to throw free party for young children to celebrate their star status in the community

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI - Several local groups are teaming up to throw a free community party Tuesday for children age five and younger to highlight their star status in the area."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/05/local_groups_to_throw_free_par.html*

Fourth Gerald Ford graffiti image found on river side of DeVos Place in Grand Rapids

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — The rogue Gerald R. Ford artist has struck again."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/05/fourth_gerald_ford_graffiti_im.html*

Anti-tax group to help residents in two Kent County cities break free from Rapid bus system

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – A tax hike passed last year to pay for the expansion of Kent County's regional bus system, including the Silverline route that won't enter either Grandville or Walker, has spurred a petition to drop out of the Interurban Transit Partnership."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/05/anti-tax_group_to_help_residen.html*

Why proposal to eliminate Michigan's personal property tax may be a job killer

"Supporters claim eliminating property taxes on computers, copy machines, machinery and other equipment businesses buy would create jobs and boost the economy."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2012/05/why_proposal_to_eliminate_mich.html

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Students mistakenly kicked out of Eastern Michigan University

*"**YPSILANTI** — A Michigan university is apologizing after an email intended for 100 students with bad grades instead went to many more, telling them they had been kicked out of school."*

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20120505/NEWS01/305050024/Students-mistakenly-kicked-out-Eastern-Michigan-University?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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Gov. Rick Snyder speaks at Albion College

*"**ALBION** — Most commencement speakers at a college graduation will be one of a few types of person. They might be businessmen and women, politicians or people from the area who have gone on to big things."*

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120505/NEWS01/305050014/Gov-Rick-Snyder-speaks-Albion-College?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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New law changes school board elections, terms

"Arguably, what is most notable about this Tuesday's ballot is what isn't there."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120505/NEWS01/305060002/New-law-changes-school-board-elections-terms?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CFrontpage&nclick_check=1

MSU graduation rates increase, race gap persists

"No one said the series of racial incidents at Michigan State University last fall was anything out of the ordinary, not the shouted slurs, the racist scrawls on black students' doors, the graffiti in the residence halls."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/proart/20120506/news06/305060104/msu-graduation-rates-increase-race-gap-persists?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|frontpage&pagerestricted=1*

Bloomfield Hills voters to decide on $58M high school bond issue that could renovate Andover High School WITH VIDEO

"Voters in the Bloomfield Hills School District will vote Tuesday on an issue that has embroiled residents in debate for months — and some might argue for years."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/05/06/news/local_news/doc4fa59931448a1592723823.txt*

$20M school bond issue that includes remodeling and possibly an iPad for every student at forefront in Clarkston WITH VIDEO

"Residents within the Clarkston School District will have a decision to make on Tuesday, May 8 — whether to support the $20 million school bond proposal."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/05/06/news/local_news/doc4fa597974936c103799731.txt*

Lake Angelus resident on a mission to improve Michigan's roads WITH VIDEO

"Jim Shea has spent 39 years in the highway construction business. He's owner of P.K. Contracting in Troy, a highway painting and pavement marking company."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/05/06/news/doc4fa3e9dd52789631950725.txt*

Warren assessment appeals board under state review

"Warren's Board of Review is under review by the Michigan Department of Treasury."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *05-06-2012* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/article/20120505/NEWS01/120509638/warren-assessment-appeals-board-under-state-review*

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Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 8:23 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Fireworks complaints skyrocket

"The summer is heating up and so are fireworks complaints in the county."

Source: *Ionia Sentinel Standard* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.sentinel-standard.com/newsnow/x1884285048/Fireworks-complaints-skyrocket*

Thousands turn out to see Romney

"Thousands bused, walked, biked and drove into Holland State Park to watch the presumptive Republican nominee, Mitt Romney, speak."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/news/x836136166/Thousands-turn-out-to-see-Romney*

Van Regenmorter: Compassionate conservative, victims' rights champion

"For more than 20 years, state lawmaker William Van Regenmorter spoke for Ottawa County in Lansing."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/news/x836136059/Van-Regenmorter-Compassionate-conservative-victims-rights-champion*

LAS budget forecasts slim fund balance at year's end

"The Ludington Area Schools' budget for the 2012-13 school year forecasts slightly more spending than revenue and estimates the district will have only about $24,000 left in the bank on June 30, 2013."

Source: *Ludington Daily News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ludingtondailynews.com/news/66001-las-budget-forecasts-slim-fund-balance-at-years-end?newsgroup_id=*

Romney says Michigan win would hand him presidency

"FRANKENMUTH — Now the likely Republican presidential nominee, Mitt Romney was back home in Michigan on Tuesday — where, he says, the "trees are the right height.""

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.dailytribune.com/article/20120619/NEWS03/120619540/romney-says-michigan-win-would-hand-him-presidency

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Hoekstra talks politics, senate seat race

*"CADILLAC — It wasn't his love of Washington, D.C., that compelled Pete Hoekstra to enter the U.S. Senate race.
"*

Source: *Cadillac News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.cadillacnews.com/news_story/?story_id=1801402&year=2012&issue=20120619

Romney tells Lansing-area supporters America can be strong again

*"**DEWITT** — After a 90-minute stopover at a DeWitt bakery, Mitt Romney boarded his campaign bus this afternoon amid jeers from protesters."*

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120619/NEWS01/306190011/Romney-tells-Lansing-area-supporters-America-can-strong-again

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GM pensions: Not all retirees, officials see offer as a 'win-win'

"DETROIT, MI- General Motors Co.'s pension buyout offer to white-collar retirees isn't necessarily the "win-win" situation executives made it out to be, according to some retirees and officials."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/06/gm_pensions_not_all_see_offer.html

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Megabus still working East Lansing into new Michigan route, report says

"EAST LANSING, MI — Megabus, the popular low-cost bus service that in coming weeks will add Grand Rapids to its list of Michigan stops, is still pondering whether to add East Lansing to its new route."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2012/06/megabus_still_working_east_lan.html*

After delays, $6.8 million private air center at Ford Airport shoots for mid-summer take-off

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Construction should begin mid-summer on a $6.8 million private air center on its way to Gerald R. Ford International Airport after some of the final loose ends were tied up this week."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2012/06/after_delays_68m_private_air_c.html*

'Free enterprise made America': Frankenmuth, Great Lakes Bay Region leaders talk business with U.S. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney

*"**FRANKENMUTH, MI** — Wayne Bronner says U.S. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney is a sincere man."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2012/06/frankenmuth_great_lakes_bay_re.html*

Detroit Mayor Bing calls for attorney to resign; Council President Pugh calls request 'bullst'**

*"**DETROIT, MI** — Mayor Dave Bing says he will attempt to fire Detroit's top attorney after she refused to resign in the wake of failed lawsuit challenging the city's recent consent agreement with the state."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/detroit_mayor_bing_calls_for_a.html*

Isabella committee recommends keeping road commission

"A committee looking into dissolving the Isabella County Road Commission is leaning toward keeping it intact."

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.themorningsun.com/article/20120619/NEWS01/120619683/isabella-committee-recommends-keeping-road-commission*

Is Michigan higher ed headed for a shakeout?

"Richard Vedder is a higher ed heretic. At a time when virtually everyone is pushing for more kids to go to college, the director of the Center for College Affordability & Productivity argues the traditional college deal is not what it used to be."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/06/is_michigan_higher_ed_headed_f.html*

Oasis school may go online to save money

"Mt. Pleasant Public Schools expects to come perilously close to using up its reserves to bring next school year's budget into balance."

Source: *The Morning Sun (Mt. Pleasant)* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.themorningsun.com/article/20120620/NEWS01/120619697/oasis-school-may-go-online-to-save-money*

Fruitport casino proposal: Alleged political, beneficial factors debated

"The MLive story about Muskegon-area governmental leaders trying to reach out to Gov. Rick Snyder about the proposed tribal casino in Fruitport Township generated a debate among commenters regarding the pros and cons of casinos and Snyder's alleged position."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/06/fruitport_casino_proposal_alle.html*

Panel: New teachers need more training, but ask who should provide it and pay for it

"LANSING, MI – New teachers need support to improve their craft, lawmakers say, but they're not sure who should provide the additional training – and who should pay for it."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/06/panel_new_teachers_need_more_t.html*

State balks at tribal grant process

"TRAVERSE CITY — Area nonprofit agencies shared in more than $28.1 million worth of tribal gambling proceeds over the past two decades, but state officials contend such charitable groups may not be eligible for that windfall."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://record-eagle.com/local/x1326972263/State-balks-at-tribal-grant-process*

Mitt Romney: Marco Rubio is still being 'thoroughly vetted' for VP slot

"HOLLAND, MI -- In brief remarks before a campaign stop in Holland, Mitt Romney said Tuesday night that Florida Senator Marco Rubio is being seriously vetted for a vice presidential slot."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/mitt_romney_says_senator_marco.html

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Delray residents don't want to be forgotten as Snyder moves forward with Detroit-Windsor bridge

*"**DETROIT, MI** — For some in Delray, a new government-owned bridge can't come fast enough."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/delray_residents_dont_want_to.html

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Editorial: Two giant leaps into uncharted charters

"Michigan is about to take a major gamble with the futures of 2,000 children, and their parents have little say in the matter."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120620/OPINION01/206200390/-1/7daysarchives/Editorial-Two-giant-leaps-into-uncharted-charters

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A 'Vagina Monologues' backstory: Female lawmakers outnumbered in Michigan Legislature

"LANSING, MI - Gender issues in the Michigan Legislature go beyond abortion-related bills and disputes over who has permission to speak on the House floor."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/women_michigan_legislature.html

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Q&A: Gov. Rick Snyder weighs in on public safety, illegal scrapping, water in Flint

"FLINT, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder visited Flint on Monday to meet with community leaders about the governor's Office of Metropolitan and Urban Initiatives, which has an office in Flint."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/06/qa_gov_rick_snyder_on_emergenc.html

State seeks audit of Wayne County's finances

"State Treasurer Andy Dillon wants an audit of Wayne County's books before approving a controversial plan to eliminate the county's deficit."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120620/NEWS02/206200429/-1/7daysarchives/State-seeks-audit-Wayne-County-s-finances*

Could Moroun-backed referendum kill Detroit-Windsor bridge deal? State, professor disagree

*"**DETROIT, MI** — The Detroit-Windsor bridge agreement signed Friday by Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder includes specific language that could allow the $2.1 billion project to move forward regardless of a ballot referendum backed by Ambassador Bridge owner Matty Moroun."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/could_moroun-backed_referendum.html*

Mitt Romney: Don't let U.S. 'become Europe' under Barack Obama

"FRANKENMUTH, MI - Mitt Romney stopped in his native state on the last day of a swing through battleground states won by Barack Obama in 2008, telling Michiganders to give him chance to avoid seeing the United States turn into Europe."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/mitt_romney_campaigns_in_frank.html*

Detroit's top lawyer refuses Mayor Dave Bing's request to resign

"Mayor Dave Bing wants Detroit's top lawyer out of her job, but he almost certainly doesn't have the votes he would need on the City Council to force her out, several council members said."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120620/NEWS01/206200352/-1/7daysarchives/Detroit-s-top-lawyer-refuses-Mayor-Dave-Bing-s-request-resign*

Letter: GM Retirees president tells Akerson to prove execs not 'ethically bankrupt' over pensions

"DETROIT, MI- General Motors Co. offering 42,000 of its 118,000 white-collar retirees voluntary pension buyouts is not sitting well with some retirees."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/06/letter_gm_retiree_president_te.html

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Gary Peters first white House candidate to win Black Slate endorsement in Detroit

*"**DETROIT, MI —** U.S. Rep. Gary Peters continues to pick up significant endorsements in his bid to return to Congress by way of Michigan's new-look 14th District, adding one of Detroit's most influential African American political organizations to his growing list."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/rep_gary_peters_first_white_ca.html

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Photos from Republican Presidential candidate Mitt Romney's rally in Frankenmuth

*"**FRANKENMUTH, MI —** Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney held a rally in front of the Bavarian Inn in Frankemuth during his "Every Town Counts" tour."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2012/06/photos_from_republican_preside.html

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Tim Skubick: Why the 20-week provision in the anti-abortion bills disappeared

"The lobbyist for the Michigan ACLU woke up at 3 a.m. the other morning wondering what was wrong with this picture."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/tim_skubick_why_the_20-week_pr.html

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Detroit streetcar project won't get $25M grant but may still qualify for 'alternative' federal funding

*"**DETROIT, MI --** A group of private businessmen looking to bring streetcars back to Woodward Avenue in Detroit won't get the federal grant they were hoping for, but officials say the 3.3-mile project may still be on track."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/detroit_streetcar_project_wont.html

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With video: Mitt Romney appeals to Michigan\'s small-town voters for support

"FRANKENMUTH -- Presumptive Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney reminisced about growing up in Michigan as he finished his six-state, \"Every Town Counts\" bus tour Tuesday with visits in scorching summer heat to three small towns."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120620/NEWS15/206200350/-1/7daysarchives/With-video-Mitt-Romney-appeals-Michigan-s-small-town-voters-support

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Mitt Romney, on Main Street, says he wants to get private sector thriving

"DEWITT, MI - On a scorching afternoon in mid-Michigan, Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney stopped in downtown DeWitt for apple pie - but not before delivering an 11-minute stump speech to supporters."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/mitt_romney_eats_pie.html

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Editorial: Cut prison terms to save funds

"Michigan could save millions of dollars in its nearly $2 billion Corrections budget by shaving the prison terms of inmates. New research by the Pew Center on the States suggests that the somewhat shorter terms would not pose a major threat to public safety."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/OPINION01/206200314/1008/opinion01/Editorial-Cut-prison-terms-save-funds

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Michigan gets ready to enforce bigger, broader ban on synthetic drugs such as K2

"LANSING, MI - Broader state laws aimed at cracking down on synthetic drugs such as K2 and Spice have been signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder, and Michigan law enforcement officials say they will aggressively enforce the ban when it kicks in July 1."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/synthetic_drugs_michigan_1.html

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Mayor Bing looks to remove Detroit's top attorney after she declines request for resignation

*"**DETROIT, MI —** Detroit Mayor Dave Bing says he has asked for — but not received — the resignation of Corporation Counsel Krystal Crittendon in the wake of her failed suit challenging the legality of the city's consent agreement with the state."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/06/mayor_bing_looks_to_remove_det.html

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Activists want Snyder to veto new voter law

"Civil rights and spiritual leaders on Tuesday called on Gov. Rick Snyder to veto legislative initiatives they say would suppress votes in Detroit and violate women's rights."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/POLITICS01/206200361/1374/politics01/Activists-want-Snyder-veto-new-voter-law

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Stores that accept Bridge Cards need to offer variety of fresh foods, enforcement strengthened in new law

"LANSING, MI — State inspectors will be keeping an eye on stores that accept Bridge Cards to ensure they offer a proper variety and amount of wholesome foods."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/stores_that_accept_bridge_card.html

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Snyder out-maneuvers Morouns, legislators to get critical bridge project going

"So it looks as though Gov. Rick Snyder will get his bridge ... which is to say that the people of Michigan will get their much-needed new bridge across the Detroit River."

Source: *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/snyder_out-maneuvers_morouns_l.html

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HHS' Sebelius to visit community health center in Detroit

"Detroit— U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is expected to discuss the Obama administration's health care law and make an announcement Wednesday at Covenant Community Care."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/METRO01/206200372/1409/metro/HHS-Sebelius-visit-community-health-center-Detroit

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West Michigan Republican lawmakers upset with media coverage of 'vagina' incident, abortion clinic bill

"HOLLAND, MI --West Michigan Republican legislators are upset that a proposed state bill putting strict regulations on Michigan's abortion clinics is being made into a national issue by the media."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/06/west_michigan_republican_lawma.html*

Mitt Romney's Holland rally draws flag-toting fans, protestors dressed like superheroes

"HOLLAND, MI -- Marien Hopman, a Canadian and big fan of American politics, got an unexpected bonus with his vacation stay at Holland State Park this week -- a presidential campaign rally."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/06/mitt_romneys_holland_rally_dra.html*

Troy Mayor Janice Daniels faces criticism after comparing homosexuality to smoking

"Troy —Mayor Janice Daniels, who could face a recall election this fall, was criticized this week by residents after comparing homosexuality to smoking in a radio interview."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/METRO02/206200339/1409/metro/Troy-Mayor-Janice-Daniels-faces-criticism-after-comparing-homosexuality-smoking*

Senior citizen protection bills signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, MI - Gov. Rick Snyder has signed new laws aimed at protecting Michigan senior citizens from abuse and financial exploitation."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/senior_citizen_protection_bill.html*

Grand Rapids moves to silence fireworks that have residents 'scared to death'

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – City officials don't think they can do much about "consumer fireworks" being used on July 3, 4 or 5. But as for July 1 and 2, and any day from July 6 through the end of the summer, the kinds of fireworks newly-legal for purchase in Michigan will be banned from use in Grand Rapids."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/06/grand_rapids_moves_to_silence.html*

Tim Skubick: When the campaign speechifying is done, what will we remember?

"The modern day political stump speech ain't what it use to be."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/tim_skubick_when_the_campaign.html

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Nostalgic Mitt Romney tours Michigan, pushes for 'freedom from government'

"PARK TOWNSHIP, MI - Mitt Romney enjoyed the pleasures of his home state on a scorching Tuesday - visiting a famous German-themed lodge, making pies and stepping into Lake Michigan to cap a swing through six battleground states."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/nostalgic_mitt_romney_tours_mi.html

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One tough geek? 7 tidbits from the Mitt Romney campaign trail

"FRANKENMUTH, MI - Is Gov. Rick Snyder a geek, not a nerd?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/one_tough_geek_that_and_other.html

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Judge to decide Michigan welfare benefits case

"Lansing— Genesee County Circuit Judge Geoffrey Neithercut will decide July 16 whether to hold the state Department of Human Services in contempt for not restoring benefits to more than 11,000 families thrown off cash assistance in November."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/POLITICS02/206200357/1022/politics/Judge-decide-Michigan-welfare-benefits-case

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Mitt Romney in Holland State Park: This is 'defining time'

"HOLLAND, MI -- Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney capped a tour of six swing states along the Lake Michigan shoreline Tuesday night, saying this is a "defining time" for the country."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/06/mitt_romney_in_holland_state_p.html

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Snyder signs bills banning synthetic marijuana

"Lansing— Michigan State Police will begin a statewide crackdown on retailers selling synthetic marijuana July 1 when a new law banning the substance takes effect."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/POLITICS02/206200354/1022/politics/Snyder-signs-bills-banning-synthetic-marijuana

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High Court ruling on health reform will have far-reaching consequences

"In the next two weeks, John Roberts will sit in his high-backed, black leather chair in the U.S. Supreme Court's marble courtroom and tell a hushed crowd that the justices are about to rule on health care."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/BIZ/206200329/1022/politics/High-Court-ruling-health-reform-will-far-reaching-consequences

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Representative vows to keep fighting 'lack of respect' in state Legislature

*"Four days after being banned from speaking on the Michigan House floor, Rep. Barbara Byrum, D-Onondaga, was still reeling. "Don't worry, I've pulled over," Byrum said in a cellphone conversation from her car on Monday morning. "The thing is ... I'm a nice person. I'm an even-keel person. But now I'm just mad."
"*

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/OPINION03/206200344/1022/politics/Representative-vows-keep-fighting-lack-respect-state-Legislature

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Romney's refrain: Jobs, jobs, jobs

"Mitt Romney told Michigan voters Tuesday he can help pull the state out of its economic doldrums and warned that four more years under President Barack Obama would lead the country into the fiscal straits Europe finds itself in."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/POLITICS01/206200369/1022/politics/Romney-s-refrain-Jobs-jobs-jobs

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Bing to ask City Council to fire city's top lawyer

"Detroit — Mayor Dave Bing wants the City Council to fire the city attorney who tried to unravel Detroit's consent agreement with the state, but it doesn't appear he'll get the two-thirds majority he needs."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/METRO01/206200366/Bing-ask-City-Council-fire-city-s-top-lawyer?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

State to hire auditors for review of Wayne County's finances

"Detroit — State officials are calling in outside auditors to scrutinize all of Wayne County's finances amid continued questions about Executive Robert Ficano's plan to shrink the deficit."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120620/METRO01/206200359/State-hire-auditors-review-Wayne-County-s-finances?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Press Releases

Bill to help get synthetic drugs off shelves signed by governor

"

LANSING— *Legislation that establishes a system to ban dangerous new synthetic drugs in Michigan faster was signed into law on Tuesday, said sponsor Sen. Rick Jones."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340138987_Jones2.pdf*

Michigan NOW Announces Its First Round of Endorsements for the August 7, 2012 Primary

"

The Michigan NOW Political Action Committee and the Michigan NOW State Coordinating Council announces its first set of endorsements in advance of the August 7, 2012 primary."

Source: *Michigan National Organization for Women* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340138323_NOW1.pdf*

Bills aimed at protecting seniors signed by governor

"

LANSING *—Gov. Snyder signed legislation into law on Tuesday designed to help increase the reporting of elder abuse in Michigan and strengthen penalties for those convicted of the offense, said Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge. "*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340136630_Jones1.pdf

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Governor signs Marleau health-registry initiative

"

LANSING*--Gov. Rick Snyder signed legislation Tuesday making Michigan residents the first to have their health care wishes accessible wherever they travel in the United States, said the bill's sponsor, Sen. Jim Marleau."*

Source: *Sen. Jim Marleau* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340136599_Marleau1.pdf

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Snyder signs bill to update food safety regulations

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation to ensure better safety standards for Michigan food."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340136569_Gov3.pdf

EMU maintains state leadership role in tuition restraint with 3.95 percent increase

"

YPSILANTI, Mich. *– For the fourth consecutive year, Eastern Michigan University's Board of Regents has taken a statewide leadership position in keeping higher education affordable for Michigan students and their families while still focusing on the strengths and growth of the institution. "*

Source: *Eastern Michigan University* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340134972_EMU1.pdf

Nurses Tell Rep. Liss: Stop Betraying Your Profession!

"

State Rep. ***Lesia Liss*** *(D-Warren) is betraying the nursing profession by supporting the silencing of female legislators, the Michigan Nurses Association said today. Liss, an emergency room nurse, voted for legislation last week that dangerously restricts women's health care options and said today that criticism of House Republicans for banning the two female leaders from speaking is "making women look bad.""*

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340134846_MNA1.pdf*

Snyder signs senior protection legislation

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a 10-bill package to protect Michigan's senior citizens and vulnerable adults. The measures encourage the reporting of elder abuse and strengthen penalties for those who are convicted."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340134801_Gov2.pdf*

Workers Demand Answers for Mitt Romney's Stance on the Auto Bailout and Public Worker Layoffs

"

(Frankenmuth, DeWitt and Holland, MI) Working families rallied outside of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's campaign stops in Frankenmuth, DeWitt and Holland on Tuesday to hold him accountable for his position on the auto bailout."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340133896_AFL1.pdf*

Multi-Agency Coordination Group for the Kalamazoo River Cleanup

"

Marshall, Mich. (June 20, 2012) – Government officials will announce at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 21, the opening of an additional portion of the Kalamazoo River. The news conference will be at the Fort Custer Recreational Area in Augusta, Mich. The link for directions to the site is below."

Source: *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340133063_USEPA1.pdf*

MITT ROMNEY: WE CAN'T AFFORD FOUR MORE YEARS OF BARACK OBAMA

"

Click Here To Watch Mitt Romney Ask Michiganders If They Want Four More Years Of President Obama's Failed Policies"

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340133013_Romney1.pdf

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UPDATED Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, June 19

"

Gov. Rick Snyder will sign four bills to ban K2, Spice and other dangerous synthetic drugs."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130446_Gov1.pdf

Whitmer campaigns for Third District Congressional candidate Pestka

"

GRAND RAPIDS – Michigan Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer traveled to Grand Rapids Tuesday to host a campaign event for Third District Congressional candidate Steve Pestka."

Source: *Steve Pestka for U.S. Congress* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130301_Pestka1.pdf

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New report measures health of Capital-area communities

"

Health leaders from across the region today unveiled a first-of-its-kind report that measures the health of communities in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties."

Source: *Sparrow Health System* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130256_Sparrow1.pdf

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DTE Energy Part of 'Gang of Eight' Utilities Spending Millions Lobbying and Litigating Against EPA

"

WASHINGTON (June 19, 2012) *– As eight leading U.S. utilities spent millions of dollars lobbying and litigating to block, weaken or delay major Clean Air Act safeguards, their coal-fired power plants emitted enough pollution to contribute to nearly 10,400 deaths and as much as $78 billion in health care costs, according to a new analysis from the Natural Resource Defense Council."*

Source: *Natural Resources Defense Council* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130213_NRDC1.pdf*

President Obama, Immigration and Michigan

"

Last week Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced a new policy providing certain eligible young people who were brought to the United States at an early age relief from deportation. "

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130159_EM1.pdf*

Duck Lake Fire landowners invited to June 26 public meeting in Newberry

"

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that all landowners within the communities affected by the recent Duck Lake Fire in the Upper Peninsula's Luce County are invited to attend a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26, at the McMillan Township Hall, at the corner of M-123 and Truman in Newberry."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130120_DNR2.pdf*

Right to Life of Michigan Endorsement

"

Troy, MI – Right to Life of Michigan, the largest and most active pro-life organization in the state of Michigan endorsed Martin Howrylak for State Representative from the 41 st District."

Source: *Martin Howrylak for State Representative* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130063_Martin1.pdf*

It Takes 3 for Women's Voices to be Heard

"

Last week, the Republican leadership of the Michigan House of Representatives shut down two Democratically-elected female legislators from speaking in a legislative debate about women's reproductive rights. "

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340130012_MDP3.pdf

Local Democrats to Respond to Romney Event in DeWitt

"

DEWITT *– Following Mitt Romney's campaign stop in DeWitt, local Democratic officials will be on hand to offer their response."*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340129965_MDP2.pdf

CMU Seeks National Charter Operators in Michigan

"

Lansing, MI – *With a focus on continuing to close the academic achievement gap in urban, suburban and rural areas throughout the state, the nation's leading university authorizer of charter public schools is putting out the welcome mat for innovative charter operators from across the country."*

Source: *CMU Center for Charter Schools* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340120254_CMU1.pdf

New health care law helps more than 3 million young adults get and keep health coverage

"

On Tuesday, June 19, 2012, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius will be joined by Richard Kronick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, to make an important announcement related to the Affordable Care Act.

"

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340120195_KYC1.pdf

New Version of OnTheMap for Emergency Management Web Application

"

New Version of OnTheMap for Emergency Management Web Application *— New features in the Census Bureau's OnTheMap application improve access to workforce and demographic statistics for emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities. "*

Source: *MI Department of Technology, Management & Budget* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340117247_DTMB1.pdf*

Mich. mayors endorse clean energy ballot campaign

"

LANSING – Mayors from across Michigan have come out in support of raising the state's renewable energy standard to attract business investment and create jobs for Michigan workers."

Source: *Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340117007_MEMJ1.pdf*

David Knezek Named VoteVets.Org Emerging Leader

"

Dearborn Heights, Michigan – Tuesday, June 19, 2012 – Yesterday, VoteVets.org – the largest progressive organization of veterans in America – bestowed the title of "Emerging Leader" on U.S. "

Source: *David Knezek for State Representative* **Date:** *06-20-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1340116971_Knezek1.pdf*

Statement from Executive Director, Zack Pohl on Mitt Romney's Michigan Tour

"

""Mitt Romney kicked Michiganders when we were on our knees, and now he wants to throw us under the bus again by cutting thousands of jobs for teachers, nurses and firefighters," said ***Zack Pohl, Executive Director of Progress Michigan. "***

Source: *Progress Michigan* <b style='padding-left:10px;

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 04, 2012 8:33 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Moroun ad aimed at Detroit is blasted

"Ambassador Bridge owner Manuel (Matty) Moroun's latest flyer in support of Proposal 6 arrived in Michigan mailboxes Saturday and drew immediate outrage for trying to inflame anti-Detroit sentiments with inaccurate claims."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20121104/NEWS15/311040322/Moroun-ad-aimed-at-Detroit-is-blasted

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Democrats have a chance to chip at GOP majority in state House

"Republicans hold a significant 64-46 majority in the state House of Representatives, following the GOP wave of 2010, but Democrats have a good shot at eating away at that majority with Tuesday's election."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20121104/NEWS15/311040298/Democrats-have-a-chance-to-chip-at-GOP-majority-in-state-House?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s

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How politics are pulling Americans apart

"W ASHINGTON -- Jeff and Nita Send need Washington to get its act together."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20121104/NEWS15/311040325/How-politics-are-pulling-us-apart?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Most of Congress coming back despite low approval

"Washington — Listen up, voters, you're the boss."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121104/POLITICS01/211040306#ixzz2BGIB8dqB

Michigan's home health care proposal draws support, concern

"Detroit — Michigan voters will have their say on several ballot issues related to collective bargaining, but none comes more specifically tailored to a particular industry than Proposal 4."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121104/POLITICS01/211040310#ixzz2BGI0AkzN

Kia, Hyundai to repay car owners

"Washington — Hyundai Motors Co. and Kia Motors said Friday they will reimburse owners of nearly 1.1 million vehicles in North America after admitting they overstated gas mileage claims on vehicle window stickers.

"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121103/AUTO0104/211030330#ixzz2BGHny5X3

Summit brings Detroit activists together

"Detroit - Before he was battling for the future of young inner city males through his Boys2Books organization, Eddie Connor was battling for his life.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121103/METRO01/211030373#ixzz2BGHbEFi9

Obama, Romney crisscross country in final weekend of campaign

"President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney crisscrossed the nation on the final weekend of the campaign as a closely watched poll in the swing state of Iowa showed the incumbent ahead there.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121104/POLITICS01/211040314#ixzz2BGH7yIjN

Bay County could see party majority shift on county board

"Bay County government has been a Democratic stronghold for as long as anyone can remember, but the board of commissioners could see a shift in party majority in next week's election."

Source: *Midland Daily News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_185bf36d-713f-5fe1-a29e-fee9553f81fd.html*

Midland seen as top performing community in Michigan

"The City of Midland has been identified as one the top performing communities in Michigan at fostering entrepreneurial growth and economic development in a study by researchers at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Center for Innovation Research."

Source: *Midland Daily News* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_bd710975-d755-5fd9-b8cd-473090e3d14c.html*

Genesee County commissioner candidate signed affidavit claiming Bay City house as principal residence

"GENESEE COUNTY, MI -- A candidate for county Board of Commissioners signed an affidavit claiming a home in Bay City was his principal residence while serving as a Flushing Township trustee."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/11/out_of_town_tax_break_genesee.html#incart_river*

Mayor George Heartwell: 'Obamacare' will improve access to healthcare for poor children

"George Heartwell has been mayor of Grand Rapids since 2004, serving his third term. He currently serves as President and CEO of Pilgrim Manor Retirement Community."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/11/mayor_george_heartwell_obamaca.html#incart_river*

Voters in Kalamazoo enjoying the convenience of voting early, chance to study ballot at home

*"**KALAMAZOO, MI** – Election Day isn't until Tuesday, but a lot of people were exercising their right to vote on Saturday at Kalamazoo City Hall."*

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/11/voters_in_kalamazoo_enjoying_t.html#incart_river_default*

Hour by hour: What to watch on Election Night

"WASHINGTON — Stock up on munchies and make sure the batteries in your TV remote are fresh. With this year's presidential election razor-close to the finish, Tuesday could be a long night.

"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/11/hour_by_hour_what_to_watch_on.html#incart_river_default*

State tells Detroit: Make your best and final offer now on selling water to Flint

"FLINT, MI -- The state has given Detroit a last chance to make its best and final offer to continue selling water to the city of Flint."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/11/flint_genesee_county_tells_sta.html#incart_river_default*

Rick Haglund: Self-reliant small towns and welfare-sucking cities? Think again

"This year's presidential campaign has centered on the virtues of small things: small business, small towns and small solutions to economic problems."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2012/11/rick_haglund_self-reliant_smal.html#incart_river_default*

Tim Skubick: Here's why one of these guys is going to win the presidency

"It's dangerous to write history before it unfolds, but there is enough evidence to allow one to wade into the murky waters of why Barack Obama or Mitt Romney won the presidency."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/11/tim_skubick_heres_why_one_of_t.html#incart_river_default*

Attack ads muddy Oakland County Circuit Court races

"The race for five seats on the Oakland County Circuit bench has been the most contentious in recent memory — perhaps ever."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/11/04/news/local_news/doc50958af361d10236556622.txt

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Michigan Supreme Court candidates want to change how they're nominated

"If there are two things the candidates for Michigan Supreme Court agree on, it's these:"

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/11/04/news/state/doc509589d15b0e5963448657.txt

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Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard, pilot, county sued over claims of damage from helicopter at Dream Cruise

"PONTIAC — Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard, the county itself and an Oakland County Sheriff's Office helicopter pilot are named in a lawsuit filed Friday in Oakland County Circuit Court that claims a sheriff's department helicopter injured a man's children and damaged his cars during the Woodward Dream Cruise."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/11/04/news/local_news/doc5095c1be7b764140089649.txt

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Dems try to close the gap in state House

"The Republicans hold a majority in the state House and within Macomb County's nine-member delegation but those numbers could change on Tuesday due to a 2011 redistricting process that reshaped the Michigan political landscape."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/article/20121103/NEWS01/121109851/dems-try-to-close-the-gap-in-state-house

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WHY IT MATTERS: Michigan's ballot proposals

"DETROIT (AP) — Six contentious ballot proposals are before Michigan voters on Nov. 6, including several well-funded measures backed by special interest groups and five that would require amending the Michigan Constitution. Here's a breakdown of each:"

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/article/20121103/NEWS03/121109858/why-it-matters-michigan-s-ballot-proposals

---

Dems, GOP barnstorming the state, county for Obama, Romney

"

Republicans and Democrats in Macomb County and across Michigan shifted their campaigns into a higher gear on Saturday as the final hours before Election Day are devoted entirely to get-out-the-vote efforts."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *11-04-2012* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/article/20121103/NEWS01/121109848/dems-gop-barnstorming-the-state-county-for-obama-romney*

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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http://mirsnews.com. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to info@mirsnews.com

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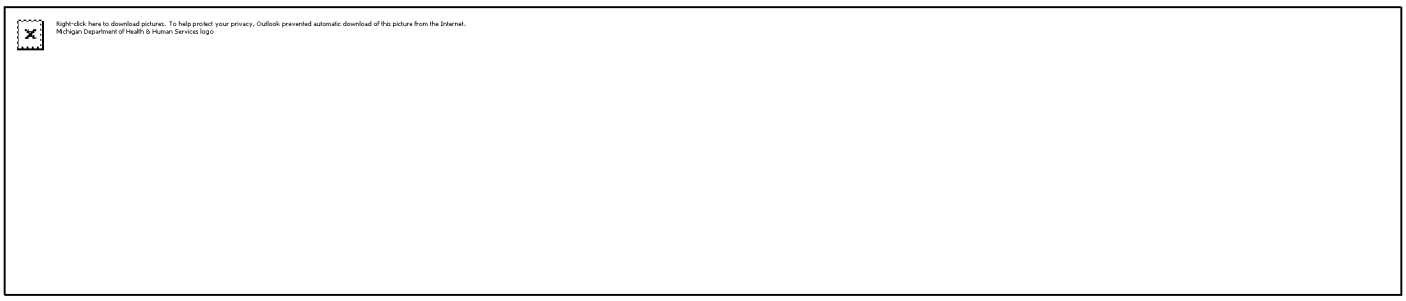
PO Box 19303
Lansing, MI 48915
Phone 517-482-2125 Fax 517-374-0949
www.mirsnews.com

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:00 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Fosdick, David (DTMB)
Subject: FW: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD

From: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services [mailto:MDHHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:51 AM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD



Having trouble viewing this email? View it as a Web page.

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 7, 2015
CONTACT: Jennifer Eisner, (517) 241-2112

State offering extended, weekend hours for water filter distribution at Lippincott GCCARD

Nearly 5,000 NSF certified filters issued by MDHHS to Flint residents since Monday

LANSING, Mich. – Flint residents and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients with a city of Flint water bill will now be able to take advantage of extended hours this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department 2727 Lippincott location. Extended hours will be offered at the Lippincott facility only, and will run until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The other three locations will maintain 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. operating hours, Monday through Friday, for filter pick up.

Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive, reemphasized that the Brita SAFF-100 filters being distributed by the department and GCCARD do meet the NSF/ANSI 53 standards for drinking water treatment units.

“The Brita faucet filtration system that we are distributing to residents are National Sanitation Foundation certified to reduce lead in drinking water,” said Dr. Eden Wells. “When connected

appropriately, these filters improve water quality by filtering out contaminates including lead, chlorine, benzene and other chemicals."

Since Monday when MDHHS announced that free water filters would be distributed at four Flint locations, the state and GCCARD have partnered to issue approximately 5,000 free NSF certified water filters to residents that are on the city of Flint water system. The distribution of filters is part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area. These NSF certified water filters remove lead in the water administered through water taps in homes.

MDHHS clients and residents with a city of Flint water bill may take advantage of the extended hours at the Lippincott GCCARD. During the regular business hours, MDHHS clients are encouraged to visit either the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office location; residents on Flint water who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs should visit the GCCARD offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw. Staff will be onsite at all four locations to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation.

MDHHS clients in the city of Flint who are active recipients should bring valid identification and a copy of their water bill to their local MDHHS office. Flint residents who are not active MDHHS clients should bring identification and their city of Flint water bill to a GCCARD location.

MDHHS is urging all residents do their part to prevent elevated blood lead levels in children. For more information on prevention, visit www.michigan.gov/lead, or contact your local health department. For updates on Flint water and resources, visit www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

###

- Flint Extended Hours Press Release 10715.pdf

Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
DHHS Footer

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.

Questions? Contact Us

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This email was sent to brownm55@michigan.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of: Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services · 235 S. Grand Ave W. · Lansing, MI 48909 · 1-855-275-6424

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 12:15 PM
To: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Horn, Daniel (DTMB)
Subject: Jack Lessenberry on Flint

http://michiganradio.org/post/we-need-thorough-investigation-how-snyder-administration-handled-flint-water-crisis

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:41 PM
To: Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Subject: RE: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2015/12/14/police-chief-resigns-after-fatally-shooting-loose-pitbull-mix-at-firing-range/?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_daily202

From: Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:38 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FW: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/12/15/toxic-water-soaring-lead-levels-in-childrens-blood-create-state-of-emergency-in-flint-mich/?tid=pm_national_pop_b

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:37 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Subject: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions: “The risks are addiction and death, and the benefits are unproven.”

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2015/12/14/hoping-to-curb-the-prescription-opioid-epidemic-cdc-proposes-new-guidelines-for-doctors/?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_daily202

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 2:06 PM
To: Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Subject: RE: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xnbfGXkGMd0&wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_daily202

From: Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:38 PM
To: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Subject: FW: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/12/15/toxic-water-soaring-lead-levels-in-childrens-blood-create-state-of-emergency-in-flint-mich/?tid=pm_national_pop_b

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From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 1:37 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Hovenkamp, Robert (DTMB)
Subject: CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions

CDC urge doctors to curb opioid prescriptions: “The risks are addiction and death, and the benefits are unproven.”

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2015/12/14/hoping-to-curb-the-prescription-opioid-epidemic-cdc-proposes-new-guidelines-for-doctors/?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_daily202

From: Brown, Marlon (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 12:59 PM
To: Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: Flint

Legislative Black Caucus Calls For A State of Emergency In Flint

The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) today joined new Flint Mayor Karen WEAVER and the Flint City Council in urging Gov. Rick SNYDER to issue a State of Emergency to address the continuing health concerns caused by the increased lead levels in their water.

"Water is a basic human right," said Rep. LaTanya GARRETT (D-Detroit) said. “Many of our urban communities have succumbed to various water issues. We have a due diligence to work tirelessly to provide relief to our citizens.”

However, Snyder told Michigan Public Radio that he's not sure that the situation in Flint fits in the "quote-unquote 'established' criteria" of how the federal government would define a natural disaster.

Flint has stopped pulling water from the Flint River and has hooked back onto the Detroit water supply, but there continues to be reports and studies that indicate the presence of coliform bacteria and high levels of lead in the city's drinking water, the caucus argues.

Blood samples of Genesee County children -- taken before and after the city ended its contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) and began using Flint River water -- showed that the number of Flint children with elevated blood-lead levels had jumped from 2.1 percent to 4 percent. Additional tests have disclosed that the blood-lead levels of children living in the poorest Flint neighborhoods have jumped from 2.5 percent to 6.3 percent.

Even low lead levels can affect many different parts of the body. Lead can especially affect a child's mental development, behavior, ability to pay attention, hearing, IQ, kidneys and body growth, the caucus argues.

Rep. Sheldon NEELEY (D-Flint), first vice chairman of the MLBC, said the caucus is working with local, state and federal officials to find solutions and resources. A state-declared heath emergency will allow the city to access federal funding.

"Issuing a health emergency is the most responsible thing to do," Neeley said. "This is a public health crisis, and our children are most at risk. We urge Gov. Snyder to issue the State of Emergency so the city of Flint can get immediate monetary relief."

Snyder spokesperson Dave MURRAY said the Governor and the administration have been working closely with Weaver to focus on health issues affecting children and other city residents, and to flag infrastructure challenges.

The state has given more than $10 million in grants and other financial assistance to cover part of the temporary switch to the Great Lakes Water Authority until Flint's new water source is ready to go online, as well as efforts to improve existing city water infrastructure and purchase water filters for residents, Murray said.

The Governor also appointed a bipartisan task force charged with reviewing all of the city, state and federal government actions and recommending changes looking forward that can address potential challenges in Flint and other cities, he said.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Saturday, January 02, 2016 1:19 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Jameson, Robbie (DTMB)
Cc: Bullion, Beth (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Drinking Water Program Funding Request
Attachments: Flint Supplemental.pdf; FY16 and FY17 DHHS Flint Supplemental Request

We need to make sure that the FY16 and FY17 requests from DEQ and DHHS do not overlap each other.

Also, I'm unsure how the K-12 schools testing that Robbie is working on fits with the DEQ ongoing testing request.

OPPR should take the lead on resolving and on developing a consolidated listing of all of the Flint-related funding (FY16 and FY17)….we'll likely need an issue paper on this issue at some point.

From: Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Drinking Water Program Funding Request

Nancy,

As a follow-up to my voicemail, I am attaching additional information related to the funding request that Director Wyant spoke to John about. The request includes $3.9 million of one-time funding to keep Flint on the Great Lakes Water Authority system until December 2016. The request also includes $3 million of ongoing funding for additional expertise, sampling, and testing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Amy Epkey, Deputy Director of Administration
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Phone: (517) 284-5002

Department of Environmental Quality
Drinking Water Program Budget Request
December 22, 2015

Appropriation	FTEs		Amount
One-Time (2016 Supplemental)			
City of Flint Emergency Water Services		$	3,900,000
• Support half of the cost for Flint to stay on the Great Lakes Water Authority water system for six additional months (July 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016) until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed.			
• This request assumes the other 50% of the costs to stay on the existing system will be supported by funding from local partners.			
• There may be additional costs for Flint to connect to the Karegnondi Water Authority water system. This request assumes those costs will be a local cost and not funded by the state.			
Total One-Time Funding		$	3,900,000
Ongoing			
Drinking Water and Environmental Health			
Staff			
Corrosion Control Specialists	3	$	450,000
Sampling Staff	2	$	300,000
Lab Staff	3	$	450,000
Service Line Verification Staff	2	$	300,000
Total Staff	10	$	1,500,000
Local Health Department Contracts and Testing Fees		$	1,000,000
Lab Equipment		$	300,000
Travel		$	100,000
Other Supplies and Services		$	100,000
Total Ongoing Funding		$	3,000,000
Total Funding Request		**$**	**6,900,000**

Supplemental Boilerplate

Sec. xxxx. From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint Emergency Water Services, the department is authorized to pay $3,900,000 of the water connection service costs to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department or its successor. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the parties. The funds are intended to support half of the connection costs for July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

From: Hanley, Farah (DHHS)
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 4:28 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB)
Cc: Kangas, Susan (DHHS);Masterson, Cindy (DHHS);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Scott, Teri (DHHS);Carlisle, Phyllis (DTMB);Becker, Timothy (DHHS);Granger, Patricia (DHHS)
Subject: FY16 and FY17 DHHS Flint Supplemental Request
Attachments: FY16 and FY17 Flint supplemental.xls

Importance: High

Nancy/Chris – Attached is the DHHS proposed supplemental request related to the City of Flint. We've attempted to provide detailed descriptions of each item requested. The FY16 funding levels are requested in addition to the supplemental dollars already approved in October 2015. The FY17 funding levels proposed assume full year costs, not increases from FY16.

We wanted you to have this as soon as possible. Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Farah

Farah A. Hanley
Senior Deputy Director, Financial Operations Administration
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
320 South Walnut Street
Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 335-6821 direct
(517) 242-5736 mobile

	A	B	C	D
1		**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**		
2		**FY16 and FY17 Supplemental Request**		
3		**December 30, 2015**		
4				
5		**Appropriation**	**Contractual FTEs**	**Amount**
6				
7		**FY16 Supplemental Request - Assume funding recommended from February 1 - September 30, 2016**		
8				
9	1	Cost for epidemiologists	2	$ 115,000
10	2	Cost to abate lead homes in Flint	3.5	$ 1,687,500
11	3	Additional lead investigations	0	$ 100,000
12	4	Increase nurse case management	1	$ 75,000
13	5	Increase community education	2	$ 120,000
14	6	WIC outreach and transportation	1	$ 60,000
15				
16		**Total FY16 Funding Request**	**9.5**	**$ 2,157,500**
17				
18		**FY17 Supplemental Request - Assume full year**		
19	7	Continuation of FY16 Supplemental	8	$ 850,000
20	8	Cost for epidemiologists	2	$ 220,000
21	9	Cost to abate lead homes in Flint	4	$ 2,261,000

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5	**Detailed Description**
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9	Support two epidemiologists to analyze blood lead levels based on zip codes in the City of Flint. Work conducted by the epidemiologists will be new functions not currently conducted. Positions will be supported through contracts with MPHI.
10	Costs reflect contractual and service costs to abate lead from homes in the City of Flint. Contractual funds will support 3.5 contractual staff - 2.5 field consultants to conduct abatement and one to assist with client application and form processing (total $187,500). Funds for the service include the cost to abate 100 homes @ $15,000 each ($1.5 million) which will include internal housing plumbing components where necessary. Current efforts financed in the previous FY16 supplemental did not support lead abatement activities.
11	Additional contractual efforts to support lead investigations in 100 additional homes in the City of Flint. Service will be provided by ETC Consulting.
12	Funds support the increased testing and follow up necessary with the new homes being investigated. Nurse case managers provide follow up with families, provide nutrition counseling, and coordination with Environmental Blood Level (EBL) investigations.
13	Contractual FTEs will work with the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) to build educational efforts in that community to develop a more detailed education plan.
14	One contractual peer educator FTE at Genessee County Health Department to help increase WIC enrollment and retention to assist with lead testing, nutrition education, and overall health of pregnant moms and infants.
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19	Continue the funds from the original FY16 supplemental for existing nurse case management of EBL home investigations.
20	Continue the funds from the FY16 request above and support two epidemiologists to analyze blood lead levels and will address broader areas beyond the City of Flint. Work conducted by the epidemiologists will be new functions not currently conducted.
21	Continue the funds from the FY16 request above and finance contractual and service costs to abate lead from homes in the City of Flint. Contractual funds will support 4 contractual staff - 3 field consultants to conduct abatement and one to assist with client application and form processing (total $311,000). Funds for the service include the cost to abate an increase to 130 homes @ $15,000 each ($1.95 million) which will include internal housing plumbing components where necessary. Current efforts financed in the previous FY16 supplemental did not support lead abatement activities.

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9	Could be work beyond Flint if these positions conduct other lead zip code analysis in other cities.
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	A	B	C	D
22	10	Additional lead investigations		$ 130,000
23	11	Increase nurse case management	1	$ 100,000
24	12	Increase community education	2	$ 180,000
25	13	WIC outreach and transportation	1	$ 90,000
26				
27		**Total FY17 Funding Request**	**18**	**$ 3,831,000**
28				
29		**Total FY16 and FY17 Funding Request**	**27.5**	**$ 5,988,500**
30				
31		Notes:		
32		(1) FY16 supplemental request reflects additional needs above the original supplemental level passed in November 2015.		
33		(2) FY16 levels support work to take place in the City of Flint only.		
34		(3) FY17 amounts are full year funding levels. Should the FY16 supplemental pass prior to the release of the FY17 Executive Recommendation, FY17 levels can be annualized to reflect the revised FY16 base.		

	E
22	Funds support additional lead environmental investigations. This is lead investigations in homes of children with high blood lead levels to determine all of the sources of lead exposure and plan for mitigation of lead. This does not include funding for lead abatement. This is done via contract with ETC Consulting. (No FTEs)
23	Continue the funds from the FY16 request above to support the increased testing and follow up necessary with the new homes being investigated. Nurse case managers provide follow up with families, nutrition counseling, and coordination with Environmental Blood Level (EBL) investigations.
24	Continue the contractual health educators at GCHD to work collaboratively with community agencies on awareness of lead hazards, increase lead testing, and nutrition education.
25	One contractual peer educator FTE at GCHD to help increase WIC enrollment and retention to assist with lead testing, nutrition education, and improve the overall health of pregnant moms and infants. Bus tokens (10,000 at $1 = $10,000), bus signs and other promotion materials for WIC at $5,000.
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From: Harkins, Chris (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:54 PM
To: Hanley, Farah (DHHS)
Cc: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Kangas, Susan (DHHS);Masterson, Cindy (DHHS);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB);Scott, Teri (DHHS);Carlisle, Phyllis (DTMB);Becker, Timothy (DHHS);Granger, Patricia (DHHS)
Subject: Re: FY16 and FY17 DHHS Flint Supplemental Request

Thanks Farah. We will take a look and let you know if we've got follow up questions/concerns.

Chris

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 30, 2015, at 4:27 PM, "Hanley, Farah (DHHS)" <hanleyf@michigan.gov> wrote:

> Nancy/Chris – Attached is the DHHS proposed supplemental request related to the City of Flint. We've attempted to provide detailed descriptions of each item requested. The FY16 funding levels are requested in addition to the supplemental dollars already approved in October 2015. The FY17 funding levels proposed assume full year costs, not increases from FY16.
>
> We wanted you to have this as soon as possible. Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Farah

Farah A. Hanley
Senior Deputy Director, Financial Operations Administration
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
320 South Walnut Street
Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 335-6821 direct
(517) 242-5736 mobile

<FY16 and FY17 Flint supplemental.xls>

From: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Stevons, Pat (CEPI);Fox, Dan (CEPI);Churchman, Dan (CEPI)
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Are we limiting the file to "the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info)" or are we giving them everything?

From: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:25 PM
To: Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>; Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

The team is working to transpose the XML file you provided.

Carol G. Jones
(517) 335-6445 (office)

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> Scott-
> Here is what I received through MDE last week.
>
> Thanks,
> Maggie
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
> **Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
> **To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> > **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
> > **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> > **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
> >
> > See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.
> >
> > Sincerely,
> >
> > Caroline Liethen
> > Legislative Analyst
> > Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
> > Michigan Department of Education
> > Office: (517) 373-1948
> >
> > *Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Cc: Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:

1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
3. Click "Detailed"
4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
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Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

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Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

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Thank you. Good job guys. We'll work through how we can do these kinds of things a little more expediently and talk about what our needs are as an organization to be able to respond better to requests like this as part (or all) of our team meeting on Monday. Please bring thoughts and ideas.

Thanks again!
Mike

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Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <Starr51@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> Scott-
> Here is what I received through MDE last week.
>
> Thanks,
> Maggie
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
> **Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
> **To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> > **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT

To: "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request

See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Cc: Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:

1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
3. Click "Detailed"
4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLBSJ7N.

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From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
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Office: (517) 373-1948

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From: CEPI
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To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

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From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

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From: Handley, Heather (CEPI)
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 11:06 AM
To: Churchman, Dan (CEPI);Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Subject: RE: View Ideas Response

Can you get me a field list?

Thx!

Heather Handley
Longitudinal Data Supervisor
Center for Educational Performance and Information
ph 517-335-7879 handleyh@michigan.gov

Education matters.
Discover what's working in Michigan at mischooldata.org

From: Churchman, Dan (CEPI)
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 2:46 PM
To: Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: View Ideas Response

Greetings,

I have saved an EG Project with a view to fulfill that Flint water request and requests like it. The only caveat is that it has Physical Address only. This is due to also having USCongressional, MISenate and MIHouse district information, which has blanks for those records with mailing address. I thought it was confusing to have both. There are also some buildings with different cities for Mailing vs. Physical address. For this reason I chose Physical, but this can be tweaked if need be.

What's the best way to deliver this 'View Idea' to you guys? It's attached as a SAS code node to this email. Let me know if you'd like it any other way.

Again, the only filter is Mailing Address = Physical. My assumption is that if a data consumer wants it filtered by EntityType or Status, they can filter it themselves using Excel.

Daniel Churchman
Longitudinal Data Analyst
Center for Educational Performance and Information
ph 517-241-1876
churchmand@michigan.gov

From: Churchman, Dan (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 4:08 PM
To: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI);Stevons, Pat (CEPI);Fox, Dan (CEPI)
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Attachments: Flint_Buildings.xlsx

Hello,

Attached is the Flint list of Buildings with the data you've requested below. This data is pulling Open Non-IHE and Non-District Entities.

Let me know of any issues.

Dan

From: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Stevons, Pat (CEPI) <StevonsP2@michigan.gov>; Fox, Dan (CEPI) <FoxD1@michigan.gov>; Churchman, Dan (CEPI) <ChurchmanD@michigan.gov>
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Are we limiting the file to "the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info)" or are we giving them everything?

From: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:25 PM
To: Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>; Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

The team is working to transpose the XML file you provided.

Carol G. Jones
(517) 335-6445 (office)

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
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	A	B	C	D	E
1	EntityId	EntityTypeName	EntityOfficialName	OriginalEntityCode	AuthorizedGradeList
2	267	PSA School	Northridge Academy	08721	KG, 1-8
3	268	PSA School	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	KG,1-12
4	271	PSA School	Linden Charter Academy	08739	KG, 1-8
5	1605	ISD Unique Education Provider	Special Education Services-South	02658	DevK, DevK-Part, KG, KG-Part, 1-5
6	1607	ISD School	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	DevK, DevK-Part, KG, KG-Part, 1-12
7	1611	LEA School	Mott Middle College High School	07576	9-12
8	1616	LEA School	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	7-12
9	1624	LEA School	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	7-12
10	1628	LEA School	Northwestern High School	02777	9-12
11	1629	LEA School	Pierce School	03033	KG, KG-Part, 1-6
12	1630	LEA School	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	KG-Part, 1-6
13	1631	LEA School	Potter School	03108	KG,KG-Part,1-7
14	1632	LEA School	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	KG-Part, 1-6
15	1646	LEA School	Freeman School	01320	KG, KG-Part, 1-6
16	1648	LEA School	Eisenhower School	01098	KG, KG-Part, 1-6
17	1651	LEA School	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	KG-Part,1-7
18	1674	LEA School	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	6-12
19	1682	LEA School	Dye Elementary School	00980	KG, KG-Part, 1-5
20	1683	LEA Unique Education Provider	The Learning Community	01220	KG,KG-Part,1-11
21	1684	LEA School	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	6-8
22	1686	LEA School	Randels Elementary School	03147	KG, KG-Part, 1-5
23	1688	LEA School	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	8-12
24	1690	LEA Unique Education Provider	Stalker Elementary	09054	
25	1698	LEA School	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	KG,1-3
26	1699	LEA School	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	1, 4-5
27	1701	LEA School	Kearsley High School	01993	9-12
28	1704	LEA School	Armstrong Middle School	06282	6-8
29	1741	LEA School	Hamady Middle School	01543	7-8
30	1742	LEA School	Hamady Community High School	06235	9-12
31	1743	LEA School	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	KG,1-6
32	5078	LEA Non-Instructional Ancillary Facility	Carman-Ainsworth Service Center	09053	
33	5079	LEA Non-Instructional Ancillary Facility	Carman-Ainsworth Transportation Building	09052	
34	5278	Nonpublic School	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	KG-Part, 1-8
35	5280	Nonpublic School	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	9-12
36	5283	Nonpublic School	St. John Vianney School	06217	KG-Part, 1-8
37	5289	Nonpublic School	First Flint SDA School	06603	1-8
38	5291	Nonpublic School	St. Pius X School	03991	KG-Part, 1-8
39	5296	Nonpublic School	Holy Rosary School	01737	KG-Part, 1-8
40	5309	Nonpublic School	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	1-2,4-8
41	6333	State School	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	KG, 1-12
42	6561	LEA Unique Education Provider	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	KG,KG-Part,1-8

	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	ActualGradeList	AuthorizedEducationalSettings	ActualEducationalSettings	MainPhoneNumber	MainPhoneExt	MainFaxNumber
2	KG, 1-8	Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107858811	105	8107859844
3	KG,1-12	GenEd,SpecEd	GenEd,SpecEd	8106005000		8106005300
4	KG, 1-8	GenEd,SpecEd	GenEd,SpecEd	8107200515		8107200626
5	DevK, DevK-Part, KG, KG-Part, 1-5	PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105914883		8105914958
6	DevK, DevK-Part, KG, KG-Part, 1-12	SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105914489		8105914415
7	9-12	Alt, GenEd	Alt, GenEd	8102328530		8102328660
8	7-12	AdultEd, Alt	AdultEd, Alt	8107678500		8107606809
9	7-12	Alt, GenEd	Alt, GenEd	8107601400		8107607772
10	9-12	21CCL, Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	21CCL, Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8107601780		8107606809
11	KG, KG-Part, 1-6	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601386		8107607147
12	KG-Part, 1-6	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107605266		8107605118
13	KG,KG-Part,1-7	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601813		8107605156
14	KG-Part, 1-6	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601359		8107605133
15	KG, KG-Part, 1-6	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601797		8107606882
16	KG, KG-Part, 1-6	21CCL, Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601607		8107607457
17	KG-Part,1-7	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	21CCL, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107601594		8107607729
18	6-12	AdultEd, Alt	AdultEd, Alt	8105918220		8105913290
19	KG, KG-Part, 1-5	GenEd,SpecEd	GenEd,SpecEd	8105913229		8105913310
20		PK,SpecEd	PK,SpecEd	8105913890		8105913650
21	6-8	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8105913500		5915913594
22	KG, KG-Part, 1-5	GenEd,SpecEd	GenEd,SpecEd	8105913250		8105913225
23	8-12	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8105915502		8105913215
24		PK	PK	8105918246		8105913323
25	KG,1-3	GenEd,Alt,SpecEd	GenEd,Alt	8105913064		8105912276
26	1, 4-5	GenEd,Alt,SpecEd	GenEd,Alt	8105919925		8105919927
27	9-12	GenEd,Alt,SpecEd	GenEd,Alt	8105915313		8105919888
28	6-8	Alt, GenEd	Alt, GenEd	8105919929		8105919944
29	7-8	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8105910895		8105915140
30	9-12	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8105910890		8105915140
31	KG,1-6	Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8105915145		8105915149
32				8105913220		8105913209
33				8105916225		8105913626
34	KG-Part, 1-8	GenEd, PK	GenEd, PK	8102396733		8102395466
35	9-12	GenEd	GenEd	8105914741		8105910383
36	KG-Part, 1-8	GenEd, PK	GenEd, PK	8102355687		8102352811
37	1-2,4-6,8	GenEd	GenEd	8107320230		5173161559
38	KG-Part, 1-8	GenEd, PK	GenEd, PK	8102358572		8102352675
39	KG-Part, 1-8	GenEd	GenEd	8107364220		8107361064
40	1-2,4-8	GenEd	GenEd	8107854024		8107856207
41	KG, 1-12	PK, SpecEd	PK, SpecEd	8102571467		8102571490
42		PK,SpecEd	PK	8105913585		8105913595

	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	MainFaxExt	MainEMailAddress	MailingAddress1	MailingAddressLine2	MailingCity	MailingState	MailingZip
2		latricia.brown-coates@leonagroup.com	530 W PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053114
3		Kgiles@sabis.net	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708
4		23.dwashington@nhaschools.com	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753
5		cdarling@geneseeisd.org	5089 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909
6		mskunda@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
7		cwagonla@geneseeisd.org	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208
8		ethomas1@flintschools.org	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		FLINT	MI	485051977
9		ctate@flintschools.org	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425
10		tgreen@flintschools.org	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977
11		sbyas@flintschools.org	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840
12		rbueche@flintschools.org	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736
13		gshafer@flintschools.org	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010
14		djacksonnoble@flintschools.org	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507
15		asteward@flintschools.org	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887
16		rturner@flintschools.org	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533
17		sumphrey@flintschools.org	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208
18		ekindle@carmanainsworth.org	G-3493 BEVERIDGE RD		FLINT	MI	48532
19		dfields@carman.k12.mi.us	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323562
20		kmyatt@carman.k12.mi.us	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615
21		ksummey@carman.k12.mi.us	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075699
22		bhaffaje@carman.k12.mi.us	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006
23		ddavis@carmanainsworth.org	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322366
24		ekindle@carman.k12.mi.us	3329 Burnell Ave		Flint	MI	485044303
25		kfisher@kearsleyschools.org	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	48506
26		kverran@kearsleyschools.org	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	48506
27		bwiskur@kearsleyschools.org	G-4302 UNDERHILL DR		FLINT	MI	48506
28		ckilling@kearsleyschools.org	G-6161 HOPKINS RD		FLINT	MI	48506
29		LKEY@HAMADYHAWKS.NET	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504
30		LKEY@HAMADYHAWKS.NET	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504
31		DCOPLIN@HAMADYHAWKS.NET	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757
32		dklinck@carman.k12.mi.us	G3475 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485324700
33		dklinck@carman.k12.mi.us	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613
34		mbuck@stpaulflint.com	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637
35		sbartos@powerscatholic.org	1505 W COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035002
36		ldaniel@sjvkids.org	2319 BAGLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485044613
37		scastanon@misda.org	G4285 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	485322711
38		rjkaplanspx@gmail.com	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132
39		hrschool@comcast.net	5191 RICHFIELD RD		FLINT	MI	485062114
40		knieman@lakeregionsda.org	G-1379 WEST LOUIS AVE		FLINT	MI	48505
41		winklerc1@michigan.gov	1235 W. COURT ST.		FLINT	MI	485035015
42		jakers@kearsleyschools.org	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530

	S	T	U	V	W
1	PhysicalAddress1	PhysicalAddress2	PhysicalCity	PhysicalState	PhysicalZip
2	530 W Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	485053114
3	2820 SOUTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485035708
4	3244 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485041753
5	5089 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909
6	1493 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613
7	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208
8	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		Flint	MI	485051977
9	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425
10	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977
11	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840
12	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736
13	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010
14	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507
15	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887
16	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533
17	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208
18	3493 Beveridge Rd # G		Flint	MI	48532
19	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323533
20	1181 WEST SCOTTWOOD AVE		FLINT	MI	485073615
21	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613
22	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006
23	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322341
24	3329 BURNELL AVE		FLINT	MI	485044303
25	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	485062246
26	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	485061714
27	4302 UNDERHILL DR # G		FLINT	MI	485061534
28	6161 HOPKINS RD # G		FLINT	MI	485061657
29	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247
30	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247
31	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757
32	G3475 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485324742
33	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613
34	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637
35	1505 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035002
36	2319 BAGLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485044613
37	G4285 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	485322711
38	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132
39	5191 RICHFIELD RD		FLINT	MI	485062114
40	G-1379 WEST LOUIS AVE		FLINT	MI	48505
41	1235 W. COURT ST.		FLINT	MI	485035015
42	4235 Crosby Rd		FLINT	MI	485061530

	A	B	C	D	E
43	7403	PSA School	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	3-8
44	7449	LEA Unique Education Provider	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	KG
45	7561	PSA School	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	KG-Part,1-8
46	7634	LEA Non-Instructional Ancillary Facility	Coates Administration Center	09513	
47	7865	ISD School	Special Services - North	09725	KG,KG-Part,1-12
48	7904	ISD Unique Education Provider	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	
49	7913	LEA School	Genesee Early College	09774	9-12
50	8175	Other Non-School Recipient	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	
51	8233	Other Non-School Recipient	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	
52	8317	Other Non-School Recipient	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	
53	8357	Other Non-School Recipient	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	
54	8386	Other Non-School Recipient	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	
55	8418	Other Non-School Recipient	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	
56	8462	Other Non-School Recipient	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	
57	8503	Other Non-School Recipient	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	
58	8542	Other Non-School Recipient	MARY MCGEE	250000038	
59	8562	Other Non-School Recipient	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	
60	8596	Other Non-School Recipient	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	
61	8603	Other Non-School Recipient	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	
62	8794	Other Non-School Recipient	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	
63	8803	Other Non-School Recipient	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	DevK
64	8845	Other Non-School Recipient	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	
65	8882	Other Non-School Recipient	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	
66	8908	Other Non-School Recipient	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	
67	9010	Other Non-School Recipient	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	
68	9083	Other Non-School Recipient	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	
69	9120	Other Non-School Recipient	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	
70	9176	Other Non-School Recipient	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	
71	9190	Other Non-School Recipient	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	
72	9420	Other Non-School Recipient	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	
73	9469	Other Non-School Recipient	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	
74	9511	Other Non-School Recipient	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	
75	9538	Other Non-School Recipient	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	
76	9547	Other Non-School Recipient	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	
77	9580	PSA School	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	KG,1-2
78	9582	ISD Unique Education Provider	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	
79	9639	Other Non-School Recipient	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	
80	9739	Other Non-School Recipient	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	
81	9750	Other Non-School Recipient	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	
82	9857	Other Non-School Recipient	Motherly Intercession	990000918	
83	9903	Other Non-School Recipient	HJ&G LLC, Bright Begnnings	990001001	
84	9936	Other Non-School Recipient	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	

	F	G	H	I	J	K
43	3-8	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107361281		8107362326
44	KG	GenEd, PK	GenEd, PK	8107676141		8107606861
45	KG-Part,1-8	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	Alt, GenEd, SpecEd	8106552949		8106552931
46				8105919201		8105919851
47	KG,KG-Part,1-12	SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105914885		8105914548
48		SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105915017		8105910556
49	9-12	Alt, GenEd, SchlChoice	Alt, GenEd, SchlChoice	8105915115		8105912503
50				8107432117		
51						
52				9898731516		
53				8102394441		
54				8104249649		
55				8107337828		
56				8107367878		
57						
58				8107870004		
59				8102333644		
60				8102571427		
61				8102355613		
62				8102384711		8102386001
63				8107433898		8107439616
64						
65				8104245214		8102376690
66				8104715855		
67				8107873900		
68				8106002725		
69				8107333820		
70				8106000160		
71				2484316081		
72				8102495437		
73				8107339990		8107339991
74						
75				8102352444		
76				8108450131		
77	KG,1-2	BSAS, GenEd, PK, SchlChoice, SpecEd	BSAS, GenEd, PK, SchlChoice, SpecEd	8107361281		8107362326
78		BSAS, FamResCtr, PK	BSAS, FamResCtr, PK	8105915118		8105914940
79				8102329102	116	8102326835
80				8105162392		
81				8108208020		
82				8104249909		
83				8107898848		
84				8102300085		

	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
43		phaldy@richfieldpsa.org	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642
44		mcarroll@flintschools.org	G3284 MACKIN RD		FLINT	MI	485043285
45		tosborne@madison-academy.org	6170 TORREY RD		FLINT	MI	485075954
46		jtailson@beecherschools.org	1020 W COLDWATER RD		FLINT	MI	485054831
47		cwager@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
48		jquinlan@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
49		smorgan@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
50		kberry2036@comcast.net	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507
51			BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504
52		GUS.CHUTORASH@SCOUTING.ORG	1776 WEST WARREN AVE		DETROIT	MI	482082215
53		shierman@feedingamerica.org	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221
54		goloilangels@yahoo.com	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507
55		happyelephant@ameritech.net	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532
56		kiddiekat04@att.net	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521
57			930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519
58		msmarymcgee@aol.com	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505
59		miriam_clemons@sbcglobal.net	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184
60		BOUVYM@michigan.gov	1235 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035015
61		swalker@co.genesee.mi.us	719 Harrison Street		Flint	MI	485021613
62		agrantner@shelteroffint.org	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	48503
63		joy8329@aol.com	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	48507
64			BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507
65		vpowell@umflint.edu	303 EAST KEARSLEY 1313 WSW		FLINT	MI	485020000
66		rstacey1@live.com	4406 LENNON RD		FLINT	MI	48507
67		nesteagles@ymail.com	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740
68		hwinfrey@insightrecocery.org	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923
69		unknown@unknown.unknown	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342
70		bglanagin@waleychidren.org	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312
71		rhayes@jomi.us	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701
72		TCOOL321@AOL.COM	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485032076
73		kscott1327@att.net	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630
74			1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922
75		sunnypatch08@yahoo.com	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217
76		info@moash.org	PO Box 25023		Lansing	MI	489095023
77		phaldy@richfieldpsa.org	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740
78		rvantol@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
79		sheppard.daniel@jobcorps.org	2400 N SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485054442
80		rjbigjack76@yahoo.com	2001 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	48505
81		honeybeepalace@yahoo.com	642 E PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053395
82		Scoc736955@aol.com	817 E KEARSLEY ST	Suite #B	FLINT	MI	485032076
83		tlw2102@yahoo.com	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	48504
84		positivestart4u@aol.com	3500 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042353

	S	T	U	V	W
43	3807 NORTH CENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485062642
44	G2138 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	485051977
45	6170 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075954
46	G5285 SUMMIT ST		FLINT	MI	485051328
47	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	485073429
48	3136 SOUTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485073004
49	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	48507
50	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507
51	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504
52	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	485072404
53	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221
54	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507
55	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532
56	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521
57	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519
58	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505
59	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184
60	1235 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035015
61	719 HARRISON ST		FLINT	MI	485021613
62	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	485033620
63	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	485070008
64	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507
65	509 Harrison St		Flint	MI	485021715
66	4406 Lennon Rd		Flint	MI	485071029
67	6103 Eagle Ridge Ln		Flint	MI	485056740
68	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923
69	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342
70	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312
71	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701
72	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST	SUITE 3C	FLINT	MI	485032076
73	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630
74	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922
75	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217
76	2015 Gold Ave		Flint	MI	485032133
77	4358 Richfield Rd		Flint	MI	485062016
78	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909
79	2400 N. Saginaw St.		Flint	MI	48505
80	2001 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	50479
81	642 E Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	51900
82	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076
83	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	485041894
84	3500 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042353

	A	B	C	D	E
85	9978	Other Non-School Recipient	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	
86	9986	Other Non-School Recipient	Mott Community College	990001218	
87	10151	Other Non-School Recipient	village childcare Academy	990001417	
88	10352	Other Non-School Recipient	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	
89	10356	Other Non-School Recipient	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	
90	10369	PSA School	The New Standard Academy	01402	KG,1-8
91	10501	Other Non-School Recipient	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	
92	10531	LEA School	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	9-12
93	10548	ISD Unique Education Provider	Early On	01804	
94	10549	ISD Unique Education Provider	Early On / Special Education	01810	
95	10559	Other Non-School Recipient	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	
96	10573	PSA School	Greater Heights Academy	01751	KG,1-6
97	10600	LEA School	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	6-12
98	10601	LEA School	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	KG,1-2
99	10602	LEA School	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	3-7
100	10626	PSA School	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	7-12
101	10699	PSA School	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	KG,1-12
102	10770	ISD Unique Education Provider	Genesee Career Institute	02258	11-12
103	10861	Other Non-School Recipient	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	
104	10918	Other Non-School Recipient	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	
105	10944	PSA School	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	KG,1-6
106	11028	LEA Unique Education Provider	Genesee County Jail	02564	9-12
107	11029	LEA Unique Education Provider	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	5-12
108	11039	Other Non-School Recipient	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	
109	11104	Other Non-School Recipient	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	
110	11125	Other Non-School Recipient	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	
111	11150	Other Non-School Recipient	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	
112	11161	LEA School	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	5-8
113	11162	LEA Unique Education Provider	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	
114	11194	LEA School	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	9-12
115	11209	PSA Unique Education Provider	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	DevK

	F	G	H	I	J	K
85				8108757535		
86				8107620200		
87				8102301570		
88				8109363249		
89				8107879019		
90	KG,1-8	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107873330		5867315307
91				8102394689		
92	9-12	Alt,AdultEd	Alt,AdultEd	8107625172		8107684011
93		PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105914883		8105914958
94		PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	PK,SpecEd,SpecEdCtPr	8105914883		8105914958
95				8102350163		
96	KG,1-6	GenEd, SpecEd	GenEd, SpecEd	8107683860		8107683865
97	6-12	AdultEd, Alt	AdultEd, Alt	8105910123		8105910124
98	KG,1-2	GenEd,PK	GenEd,PK	8107601643		8107601538
99	3-7	GenEd,PK	GenEd,PK	8107601968		8107601624
100	7-12	Alt	Alt	8104128655		8108202642
101	KG,1-7	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8106006466		
102	11-12	GenEd	GenEd	8105914462		8102441242
103				7346457548		
104				8106001412		
105	KG,1-4	GenEd, SpecEd	GenEd, SpecEd	8106241266		
106	9-12	AdultEd, Alt, Locked	AdultEd, Alt, Locked	8105914776		8105918052
107	5-12	Alt,JuvDtn	Alt,JuvDtn	8105914776		8105918052
108				8107804890		
109				8107322100		
110				8105915716		
111				8102352531		
112	5-8	GenEd	GenEd	8105919361		8105916190
113		AdultEd	AdultEd	8105919824		8105919852
114	9-12	GenEd	GenEd	8105913620		8105913795
115	DevK	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	GenEd, PK, SpecEd	8107361281		8107362326

	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
85		tcaresdaycarecenter@ymail.com	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	48504
86		dshaink@mcc.edu	1401 E COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485032089
87		hall_rashonda@yahoo.com	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532
88		dianerankins@yahoo.com	6436 BRAY RD		FLINT	MI	485051813
89		northflint@yahoo.com	1185 E FOSS AVE		FLINT	MI	485052324
90		Will@therominegroup.com	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505
91		alphakids@aol.com	310 E 3RD ST		FLINT	MI	485021711
92		sounya.walker@mcc.edu	923 E KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031974
93		cdarling@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
94		cdarling@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429
95		Ljwb@comcast.net	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	48507
96		leimeisterl@greaterheightsacademy.org	3196 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042330
97		ptoal@hamadyhawks.net	3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485041247
98		dgrace@flintschools.org	6302 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041698
99		ajohnson@flintschools.org	6602 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041674
100		info@wayprogram.net	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	48503
101		rita.cheek@gstema.org	310 W OAKLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485033915
102		jply@geneseeisd.org	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073493
103		attorneycotton@gmail.com	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084
104		RHunyady@FlintandGenesee.org	519 S SAGINAW ST STE 200	Ste 200	FLINT	MI	485021815
105		a_diona@hotmail.com	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084
106		scarlson@mtmorrisschools.org	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074
107		scarlson@mtmorrisschools.org	1000 E MOUNT MORRIS ST		MOUNT MORRIS	MI	484582074
108		KIDDIETIME1@GMAIL.COM	915 S DORT HWY STE H		FLINT	MI	485032800
109		uccc2010@hotmail.com	2040 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051908
110		sfleming@geneseeisd.org	5075 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909
111		camp.michigan@scouting.org	507 West Atherton Road		Flint	MI	48507-2404
112		kbrock@beecherschools.org	1020 W COLDWATER RD		FLINT	MI	485054831
113		phillake@beecherschools.org	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485058505
114		cchrist@carmanainsworth.org	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507
115		jrivera@richfieldpsa.org	6103 Eagle Ridge Lane		Flint	MI	48505

	S	T	U	V	W
85	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	485045002
86	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089
87	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532
88	6436 Bray Rd		Flint	MI	485051813
89	1185 E Foss Ave		Flint	MI	485052324
90	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505
91	310 E 3rd St		Flint	MI	485021711
92	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089
93	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909
94	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909
95	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	485072211
96	3196 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042330
97	3400 N Jennings Rd		Flint	MI	485041757
98	6302 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041698
99	6602 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041674
100	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076
101	310 W Oakley St		Flint	MI	485033915
102	5081 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075999
103	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084
104	519 S Saginaw St		Flint	MI	485021815
105	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084
106	1002 S. Saginaw		Flint	MI	485021499
107	4287 W. Pasadena Ave.		Flint	MI	485042342
108	915 S Dort Hwy		Flint	MI	485032800
109	2040 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	485051908
110	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909
111	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	48507
112	G5159 Summit Street		Flint	MI	485051429
113	1020 W. Coldwater Road		Flint	MI	485054831
114	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507
115	6103 Eagle Ridge Lane		Flint	MI	48505

From: Churchman, Dan (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 4:18 PM
To: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI);Stevons, Pat (CEPI);Fox, Dan (CEPI)
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

These are all Open-Active, Open-Under Construction/Remodeling, Open-Vacant/empty, or Close-Pending (technically still open)

Dan

From: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 4:15 PM
To: Churchman, Dan (CEPI) <ChurchmanD@michigan.gov>; Stevons, Pat (CEPI) <StevonsP2@michigan.gov>; Fox, Dan (CEPI) <FoxD1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

These are all Active-Open right?

From: Churchman, Dan (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 4:08 PM
To: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Stevons, Pat (CEPI) <StevonsP2@michigan.gov>; Fox, Dan (CEPI) <FoxD1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hello,

Attached is the Flint list of Buildings with the data you've requested below. This data is pulling Open Non-IHE and Non-District Entities.

Let me know of any issues.

Dan

From: McGroarty, Michael (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Stevons, Pat (CEPI) <StevonsP2@michigan.gov>; Fox, Dan (CEPI) <FoxD1@michigan.gov>; Churchman, Dan (CEPI) <ChurchmanD@michigan.gov>
Cc: Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Are we limiting the file to "the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info)" or are we giving them everything?

From: Jones, Carol (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:25 PM
To: Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>; Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

The team is working to transpose the XML file you provided.

Carol G. Jones
(517) 335-6445 (office)

From: Howell, Thomas (CEPI)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI) <BernoskyR@michigan.gov>; McGroarty, Michael (CEPI) <McGroartyM@michigan.gov>; Jones, Carol (CEPI) <JonesC11@michigan.gov>; Handley, Heather (CEPI) <HandleyH@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Importance: High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM
To: Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) <jamesonr@michigan.gov>; Howell, Thomas (CEPI) <HowellT@michigan.gov>
Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <Starr51@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> Scott-
> Here is what I received through MDE last week.

Thanks,
Maggie

From: Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request

According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
>
> See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Caroline Liethen
> Legislative Analyst
> Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
> Michigan Department of Education
> Office: (517) 373-1948
>
> *Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** CEPI
> **Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
> **To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request
>
> Hi Caroline,
>
> Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:
>
> 1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
> 2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
> 3. Click "Detailed"
> 4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"

5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

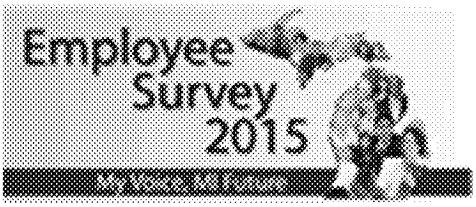
From: Peruchietti, Cindy (Treasury)
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:17 AM
To: LauraCox@house.mi.gov;SenJStamas@senate.mi.gov;Roberts, John (DTMB)
Cc: Brian Shoaf;Rebecca Eckerson;Walsh, Julie (Treasury);Stigall, Jill (Treasury);Gresh, Becki (TREASURY);Cole, Evah (Treasury);Gelisse, Ashley (TREASURY);Wortley, Jay (Treasury);Sarles, Juanita (Treasury);Kolka, Carolyn (Treasury);Cory Savino;Benjamin Gielczyk (bgielczyk@house.mi.gov);Clark, April (DTMB)
Subject: Statutory Report Submission
Attachments: FY 2015 - FDCVT Report Financially Distressed Communities.pdf

Attached please find the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships Report which is required under 2014 PA 252, Section 956(2).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

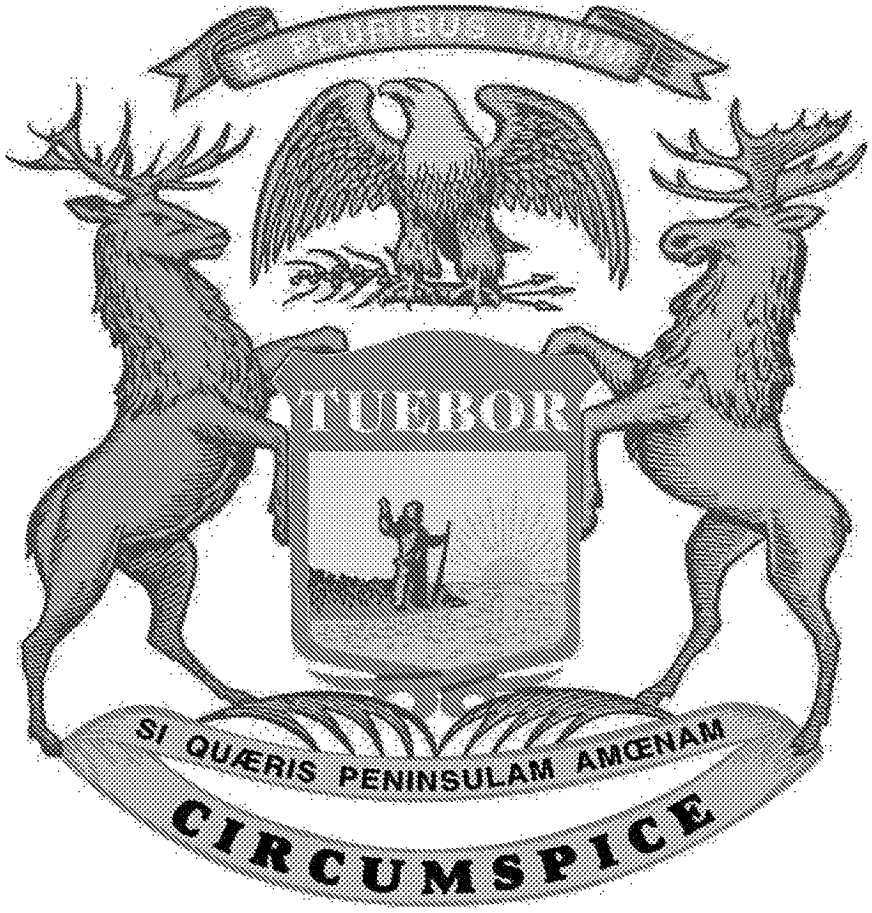
Cindy Peruchietti
Budget Director, Department of Treasury
335-0965



Let your voice be heard!
Take the employee survey between March 9th and March 30th

Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program

FY 2015 Report



Revenue Sharing and Grants Division
Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis
Michigan Department of Treasury
March 2015

Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program

Background

For FY 2015, the Michigan Legislature appropriated $8.0 million for the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) grant program to be granted to cities, villages, and townships that have one or more conditions that indicate probable financial distress, as determined by the Department of Treasury (see 2014 Public Act 252, Section 956).

Purpose

The purpose of the grant program is to provide grants to financially distressed cities, villages, and townships with one or more conditions that indicate probable financial distress. Grant funding is intended to be used to pay for specific projects or services that move the city, village, or township toward financial stability. The grant funded projects or services may include, but are not limited to, payments to reduce unfunded accrued liability; to repair critical infrastructure owned and maintained by the municipality; to reduce general fund debt; or for costs associated with a transition to shared services.

The Michigan Legislature stipulated that the Department of Treasury shall award no more than $2.0 million to any city, village, or township.

Treasury's focus for the 2015 round of grants was on the repair or replacement of obsolete critical infrastructure or equipment, service consolidation(s), improving operational effectiveness and service upgrades.

Criteria

1. Michigan city, village, or township with one or more conditions that indicate probable financial distress.
2. A completed application with detailed information.
3. The city, village, or township must demonstrate how the budgeted costs will lead toward financial stability.
4. Priority will be given to any applicant:
    a. With two or more conditions that indicate probable financial distress,
    b. In which a financial emergency has been declared in the past five years, and/or
    c. That has an approved Deficit Elimination Plan for the General Fund.

Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program

Grant Awards

Applications were made available on September 2, 2014 with a due date of October 31, 2014. The Department of Treasury received 49 applications from 15 municipalities with requested funding totaling approximately $30.5 million.

On February 3, 2015, Treasury announced that 21 applications from 11 municipalities had been awarded for a total of approximately $8.0 million. Table 1 illustrates the grant applicants who received funding, a description of the project, and the amount of grant funding awarded.

Reporting Requirements

The Department of Treasury is required by 2014 PA 252, Section 956(2) to release a report detailing a list by grant recipient of the date each grant was approved, the amount of the grant, the schedule for disbursement, and a description of the project or projects that will be paid by the grant. Disbursements to grantees will be made on a reimbursement basis, not more than once a month, as expenditures are incurred by the grantee. As a result, Table 1 does not include a schedule of disbursement.

The report must be submitted to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, the Senate Fiscal Agency, the House Fiscal Agency and the State Budget Office by March 15, 2015.

TABLE 1

Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program

Grants Awarded

FY 2015

Date Awarded	Grant Recipient	Description of Project	Amount of Grant
February 3, 2015	City of Benton Harbor	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records. Additionally, community enhancement through blight management and sidewalk replacement.	$ 475,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Benton Harbor	Water system enhancement through water main replacements and fire hydrant repairs.	$ 434,960.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Benton Harbor	**$ 909,960.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Ecorse	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	$ 350,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Ecorse	**$ 350,000.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Flint	Water system enhancement through improved waste management.	$ 1,100,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Flint	Water system enhancement through leak detection and pipe assessments.	$ 900,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Flint	**$ 2,000,000.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Hamtramck	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records.	$ 167,860.00
February 3, 2015	City of Hamtramck	Upgrade City Hall security.	$ 50,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Hamtramck	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	$ 404,600.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Hamtramck	**$ 622,460.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Highland Park	Water system enhancement through meter replacement, leak detection, and system repairs.	$ 2,000,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Highland Park	**$ 2,000,000.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records.	$ 73,460.00
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Water system enhancement through fire hydrant repairs.	$ 150,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Provide a backup power source for public safety.	$ 30,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Public safety enhancement through the creation of a multi-jurisdictional narcotic team.	$ 240,000.00
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Public safety enhancement through police officer training.	$ 41,970.00
February 3, 2015	City of Inkster	Public safety enhancement through the deployment of an additional police officer.	$ 320,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Inkster	**$ 855,430.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Lincoln Park	Public safety enhancement through updated technology.	$ 143,490.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Lincoln Park	**$ 143,490.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Melvindale	Public safety enhancement through fleet replacement of police vehicles and updated technology.	$ 88,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Melvindale	**$ 88,000.00**
February 3, 2015	City of Pontiac	Community enhancement through blight management.	$ 125,000.00
		SUBTOTAL City of Pontiac	**$ 125,000.00**
February 3, 2015	City of River Rouge	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting. Additionally, infrastructure replacements to City Hall.	$ 591,508.00
		SUBTOTAL City of River Rouge	**$ 591,508.00**
February 3, 2015	Royal Oak Township	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	$ 86,559.00
February 3, 2015	Royal Oak Township	Public safety enhancement of police services.	$ 217,593.00
		SUBTOTAL Royal Oak Township	**$ 304,152.00**
		TOTAL GRANT FUNDING AWARDED	**$ 7,990,000.00**

From: Clark, April (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 9:23 AM
To: April Clark (clarka2@comcast.net)
Subject: FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 9:00 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For October 19, 2015

News

Michigan bills would ban second-term abortion procedure (Associated Press, 10/19/2015)

Alec Baldwin, Rosie O'Donnell donate to Melissa Gilbert (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Concerns raised about ability to stop Asian carp (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Flint gets EPA help in reconnecting to Detroit water (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Planned Parenthood inspired bill in the Legislature (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Federal task force will advise Flint, Michigan DEQ on city water (Flint Journal, 10/19/2015)

Flint reconnects to Detroit water, may take 3 weeks to clear all pipes (Flint Journal, 10/19/2015)

UAW: Michigan DHHS wants to outsource CPS work (Lansing State Journal, 10/19/2015)

Advocates: Schuette spreading misinformation about parole legislation (Michigan Radio, 10/19/2015)

Senate bill expands community college degree programs (Midland Daily News, 10/19/2015)

4 years after Michigan tenure reform, 'everything in place' for new teacher evaluation law (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Michigan House OKs 3rd grade reading bill to hold back struggling students, boost intervention (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Sports betting could help fix Michigan roads, bill sponsor says (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Three takeaways from U.S. Sen. Gary Peters' Muskegon visit (MLive, 10/19/2015)

GOP opponents seek to quash Courser comeback (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Melissa Gilbert taps Hollywood stars for campaign cash (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Michigan DEQ vows changes in Flint water crisis (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Schools face learning curve with SAT prep (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Two-thirds of Michigan's abortions in Detroit area (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Michigan House bill would give amnesty for prescription drug emergencies (The State News, 10/19/2015)

Editorials

To repair racial wounds in criminal justice, start with language (Bridge Magazine, 10/19/2015)

Time for a new Ambassador Bridge? Maybe (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Why fear-mongers are losing the prison reform fight (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

New pills, better practices can combat Michigan's drug overdose epidemic (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Paying for fetal tissue donations could be a crime in Michigan (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Guest commentary — Built to Last: Line 5 meets or exceeds today's standards for new pipelines (Petoskey News-Review, 10/19/2015)

Column: Boost schools, end prevailing wage (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Jacques: What's next for Detroit schools? (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Mitchell: We need leadership to solve road challenge (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Our Editorial: Impasse on roads not an option (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Pausing paroles (Toledo Blade, 10/19/2015)

Blogs

'Charles Hertel' Debating 'Paul Colbeck' (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/16/2015)

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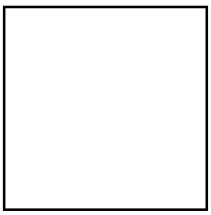
From: Diebolt, Mark (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 8:12 AM
To: Sweatman, Brenda (DTMB)
Cc: Diebolt, Mark (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Michigan Report, Monday, October 19, 2015
Attachments: Oct19.htm; Oct19Rules.htm; 151019dayplan.htm; 151019plan.htm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

More heads looking to role at DEQ.

Mark Diebolt
Project SIGMA
210 N Washington Sq.
Lansing, Mi 48933
(517) 284 7873

From: Gongwer News Service [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 7:51 PM
To: Diebolt, Mark (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, October 19, 2015



Michigan Report for Monday, October 19, 2015

DPS, Debt Rising, At Risk Of Default Without State Action, Snyder Says

Mistakes In Flint Water Change Mean Leadership Change At DEQ

HFA Report: Medicaid Will Need More GF To Meet Match

Veterans, Businesses Tout Support For Prevailing Wage

Hospital Report Says Improved Practices Netted Savings, Improved Lives

Campaign Notes

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Activity Reports

Administrative Rules

Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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Volume #54, Report #207 -- Monday, October 19, 2015

DPS, Debt Rising, At Risk Of Default Without State Action, Snyder Says

It will take $715 million from the state over 10 years to extract public education in Detroit from the debt the Detroit Public Schools has piled up, as well as putting together a new governance structure, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said Monday.

Mr. Snyder unveiled a slightly revised plan to overhaul K-12 public education in Detroit from the one he announced in April, and as was the case then, the proposal faces major challenges in clearing the Legislature. Mr. Snyder said he wants legislative approval by the end of the year to ensure the new structure is ready to launch with the start of the district's next fiscal year in July. He said he anticipated formal introduction of the legislation in about a week.

There were two big differences in the proposal: a voluntary instead of mandatory common enrollment system for both charter and traditional public schools in the city, and a bigger financial ask of the Legislature.

Pegged at $483 million in April, DPS debt is now at $515 million as a result of spending exceeding revenues. Mr. Snyder said the new Detroit district he would recommend to take over running DPS classrooms needs another $100 million for investments and working capital, and then another $100 million to cover operating losses once the district's 2016-17 fiscal year begins July 1, 2016, that are the result of declining enrollment and the need to find cost savings.

Under Mr. Snyder's plan, the district's $715 million in debt would stay with the old district and the 18-mill tax on all property other than principal residences in the district would go toward paying down the debt. The millage raises $70 million a year, so it would take 10 years to pay off the debt, Mr. Snyder said.

The catch is the 18 mills, like all school districts, goes to the state School Aid Fund, so the state would have to make up those funds.

Without state intervention, DPS could default on its debt as soon as February, Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said. Mr. Snyder said the state would have to cover Detroit Public Schools' debt and retiree benefits should the district fall into bankruptcy, and that would cost all school districts much more than $715 million, describing that burden as "billions."

Mr. Snyder said he hoped the Legislature could come together to support the plan much as it did to bring the city of Detroit's government out of bankruptcy.

"Isn't this important to help the kids of Detroit? We're all Michiganders," he said. "Just like we did with the Grand Bargain, we recognized that there's benefit in helping one another when

someone has issues. Look at the benefit to the city of Detroit today, how it's helping the whole state of Michigan by its comeback in terms of perception and business development."

The major components of the plan are the same as what Mr. Snyder proposed in April.

A Detroit Education Commission, appointed by the governor and Detroit mayor, would be established and in charge of hiring a chief education officer. That official would operate a common enrollment system encompassing DPS schools, charter schools and the Education Achievement Authority schools, but in the biggest change from the April plan, it would be voluntary to participate.

Charter schools had criticized the April plan's lumping them in with DPS.

The chief education officer would have the authority to close any school for low performance.

The current Detroit school board would remain with the old school district that only is in charge of paying down debt. A new school board would be created for the new district, jointly appointed by the governor and the mayor but eventually fully elected by Detroit voters by 2021.

In a new piece from the April plan, the city's Financial Review Commission, created as part of the Grand Bargain to bring the city out of bankruptcy, would oversee the district's finances until the debt is repaid. It would have a slightly different membership that does not include city government-specific appointees.

Despite the loss of $70 million a year for 10 years for the School Aid Fund, Mr. Snyder said projected growth in School Aid Fund revenues means that helping reconstruct public education in Detroit will not lead to cuts for other school districts' funding. He said he still anticipated increasing funding to all school districts.

"The amount of that could be somewhat less than it would be, but again, there will be no cuts," he said.

The final plan could look much different than what Mr. Snyder has outlined. He, and others, said bill drafting continues, and top Republicans said it would be a big lift. Additionally, Detroit Democrats raised concerns about returning control of the schools to an elected school board.

Detroit Public Schools has been run by a governor-appointed emergency manager since 2009, with its school board reduced to virtually no role.

Several Detroit Democrats, in a joint statement, said there were some positive aspects to the plan, but concerning pieces as well. They focused on the need for academic improvement and local control.

"The Detroit Caucus and I are committed to finding a solution to improve our Detroit Public Schools so that we can find solutions to improve Detroit's schools," said Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), the Detroit Caucus chair. "The state has controlled DPS for many years, and it has been

a failure. We have to find a better way, and we believe that way lies through local control. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to address all of the issues surrounding DPS."

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: The legislation is expected to start in the Senate. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart), the chair of the Senate K-12, School Aid and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, said he will sponsor some components of the package.

Mr. Hansen said he did not want to discuss specifics in the plan because work continues to develop the legislation, even on the question of whether $715 million is the amount of money the state needs to address. As to Mr. Snyder's goal of passing the legislation before the end of the year, Mr. Hansen hesitated.

"We need to make sure it gets done right," he said. "I'm not going to set an artificial timetable."

But Mr. Hansen also said completing the legislation by the end of the year would be good "because of the complexity of it and the time it would need to get instituted."

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), said the Senate Republican Caucus is eager to review the details of the plan. The $70 million a year for 10 years is "going to be quite a lift," Ms. McCann said.

"It's a big commitment. It's a long-term commitment," she said.

As to the end of the year timetable, Ms. McCann said it is ambitious, but not out of the question.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), the House Appropriations K-12 School Aid Subcommittee chair who called Mr. Snyder's April plan inadequate, sounded the same message Monday.

"I think this is just something that's going to require a little more imagination and a lot more boldness than this," he said. "I think the whole idea of replacing one command and control edifice for another isn't going to get the job done."

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), said Mr. Cotter's comments on the April plan still stand.

In those comments, Mr. Cotter called for "no raids" on the School Aid Fund. He said that fund exists to pay for education for all Michigan pupils, not to pay off the legacy debt of one district.

Until bills are introduced, it is not possible to say whether the Legislature could complete action on them this year, Mr. D'Assandro said.

As to how House Republicans would react to the $715 million figure, Mr. D'Assandro said, "I think everybody knew there was a big problem there and everybody knew it was going to be a pretty substantial fix that was needed."

TEPID REACTIONS: Like the first plan, reaction was tepid. The American Federation of Teachers-Michigan, which represents Detroit teachers, said the plan tends toward too much state control.

Charter school groups had a mixed reaction.

"Based on what we've seen, we have concerns with any plan that takes decisions out of the hands of parents and puts them in the hands of a single, politically appointed person," Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies, said in a statement. "We need to raise student achievement in Detroit and solve DPS's financial situation, and from what we've seen and heard, this proposal does neither. We look forward to seeing the legislation that comes out of this, and having the charter school community continue being an active part of the discussion."

Jared Burkhart, executive director of the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, said only that the organization was happy to see Mr. Snyder's interest in a system of "robust accountability" in Detroit and looked forward to working with the governor and legislators on the issue.

Mistakes In Flint Water Change Mean Leadership Change At DEQ

Department of Environmental Quality officials failed to follow proper treatment and testing protocols when Flint moved from the Detroit water system to drawing from the Flint River and took too long to fix the problem once they discovered their error.

Environmental Quality { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1" } said his staff in the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance thought they were using the right protocols in testing Flint water, but he removed the head of that office in the wake of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } calling for an independent review of the state's actions in the situation.

But legislators from the region, and a water quality expert who has helped to test some of the Flint water, chastised state and federal regulators involved for trying only to preserve their own reputations when trouble with the water system began to emerge.

Mr. Wyant said DEQ staff made honest mistakes in how they handled the water source switch.

"It recently has become clear that our drinking water program staff made a mistake while working with the city of Flint. Simply stated, staff employed a federal protocol they believed was appropriate, and it was not," Mr. Wyant said in a statement announcing he had appointed Jim

Sygo as interim head of the drinking water office. "The water testing steps followed would have been correct for a city less than 50,000 people, but not for a city of nearly 100,000."

Liane Smith, the former head of the drinking water office, has been reassigned within the department.

"It's an issue of leadership going forward given that this is a very difficult issue, and it's an issue of experience with corrosion controls and a recognition that we needed stronger leadership in that role to address both of those," Mr. Wyant told Gongwer News Service.

"Jim has more leadership experience - and this issue is going to require leadership - and we will identify corrosion control expertise that we will bring to the table," he said.

Mr. Wyant said Ms. Smith would remain with the department and be given other duties "as assigned", but also that her long-term duties in the department could depend on the outcome of the third-party after-action review.

Mr. Sygo will lead the office temporarily, with a national search planned to find a new director.

Mr. Wyant said he would also be reviewing his own connections with his management staff.

"I do have to look at my own policies to be sure I've got a mechanism to identify these issues and flag them sooner," he said.

But he said the issue in Flint is being addressed now. "We feel we have an action plan in place that addresses lead exposure both the long term, intermediate and short term," he said.

Mr. Wyant said his staff apparently did not have the experience with corrosion control needed to know how to properly monitor the system, but he also put some of the fault on the federal standards.

"I'm coming to the conclusion there needs to be some changes to the federal rule to allow us to be more protective of public health," he said.

Marc Edwards, a professor at Virginia Tech and an expert in drinking water corrosion controls, said documents he obtained through the Freedom of Information Act showed state officials should have known the city had to implement corrosion controls and instead worked to cover up the issue.

He pointed out several emails from earlier this year where officials said a corrosion study on the system was warranted but should not be started because the city would again change its water source before the study is completed.

"I think it started innocently enough. ... It's possible that they didn't understand the federal rule," Mr. Edwards told Gongwer News Service. "By early 2015, this problem became too big to

ignore. ... Even if they did not understand the rule, they should have taken much more aggressive steps to get this problem fixed."

To Mr. Wyant's offer to work with federal officials to improve the rule, Mr. Edwards said there is room for such improvement, but the current rule should have prevented the issues faced in Flint.

"The rule in fact did require them to have corrosion control," he said. "The rule does require them to take samples and, if they had done that correctly, people would have been told much sooner there was a problem."

Mr. Edwards said he had talked to Mr. Wyant on Monday and had agreed to Mr. Wyant's request for assistance.

"I will do whatever I can to make sure this doesn't happen again," he said.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said recent documents indicate state and federal officials were working more to back up their earlier findings than to ensure the water was safe.

"The latest developments in the Flint water crisis raise more troubling questions. It is clear from several now available documents that certain DEQ and EPA staff chose to put their reputations ahead of the safety and health of Flint citizens," Mr. Ananich said in a statement. "We do not know whether the misapplication of federal rules was intentional or due to negligence. That's why the Legislature needs to have a robust role in any investigation, and in ensuring those responsible for Flint's water crisis are held accountable."

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon called for Mr. Wyant to be replaced.

"This was not an issue of experience and protocol. It is a question of competency and judgment. DEQ employees were not provided with the leadership and training necessary to do their jobs in this situation, and Mr. Wyant clearly lacks the judgment needed to do his," Mr. Dillon said in a statement. "You don't get to learn on the job when it comes to the well-being of Michigan's children and families. You may be able to fix the problem of Flint's drinking water going forward, but the damage done to the health of thousands of Flint's children is irreversible."

Spokespersons for Mr. Snyder could be reached, but { HYPERLINK "http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/snyder-defends-environmental-quality-director-flint-crisis/74229710/" \t "blank" } that Mr. Snyder told its newspaper's editorial board that Mr. Wyant is doing a "great job" responding to the situation and that the initial focus is on the staff who personally handled the issue.

James Clift with the Michigan Environmental Council said his group has concerns over how much autonomy cities have in conducting the water testing. "Financially, the city has an

incentive to not find a problem," he said, even though the protocols call for trying to test the likely worst homes.

Mr. Clift said cities also need to be required to let residents know that they could be at risk. "To the extent that people have these lead leads in their homes, do they know it," he said. The records of those connections should be computerized, he said.

HFA Report: Medicaid Will Need More GF To Meet Match

When the state has to contribute funds to finance the Healthy Michigan Medicaid Expansion program, it will need to use more General Funds, or find another source of revenues, a report by the House Fiscal Agency said.

But if the Healthy Michigan plan is discontinued, then the Legislature will also have to find more money from GF to cover annual savings Healthy Michigan provides the state now and to cover the loss of funds generate by the Health Insurance Claims Assessment as well as the use tax charged against Medicaid managed care organizations.

In addition, the HFA { HYPERLINK "http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/CommunityHealth/Michigan_Medicaid_Program_Oct2015.pdf" \t "blank" } said, the Legislature will need to make some fixes to the act that created Healthy Michigan because "the current statutory formula doesn't work mathematically."

With the addition of Healthy Michigan, which covers about 600,000 people whose incomes are up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level, Medicaid provides health insurance to nearly 20 percent of the state's residents, the report said.

Approving Healthy Michigan was one of the most contentious issues of 2013, and in approving the program, the Legislature chose not to create a reserve program - that { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } had proposed - that could help the state cover the federal cut in funding beginning in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

In addition, the legislative approval created two conditions under which Healthy Michigan could be ended: if the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid does not approve a new waiver the state has submitted by December 31 and if the costs of meeting the federal match exceed savings for the program.

Under the call for states to expand Medicaid enrollment to low-income individuals and families, in the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the federal government promised to pay 100 percent of the cost of the additional coverage for the first three years. The federal match will then be set at 95 percent in calendar year 2017, and be phased down to 90 percent by 2021-22.

In terms of simple cash payments, the General Fund amount needed to meet the match will start at $137 million in 2016-17 to $356 million in 2020-21.

However, including the offset of the some $235 million in net savings, the state will not actually see an expenditure until the 2018-19 fiscal year, a total of $55 million, the House Fiscal Agency report said. By 2021-22, the expenditure would be an estimated $89 million.

That means the Legislature would have to pull more money out of the General Fund to cover the program, unless an alternate revenue source were found.

But there are other technical factors that could affect the overall savings and costs, especially in terms of when the Healthy Michigan costs exceed its savings (the report did not guess at a time when that might happen).

One of the most significant factors is how the level of state retainer savings will be set under the hospital provider assessment the state now charges. The current formula doesn't work mathematically, the HFA said, so the Legislature will need to change that in law, and when it does, it could set those savings at higher levels than currently forecast. The state also had not yet calculated the savings it is seeing by reducing the amount of uncompensated care it was paying for individuals who were uninsured, needed treatment and were unable to pay their expenses, the report said.

Veterans, Businesses Tout Support For Prevailing Wage

Two groups on Monday held separate press conferences opposing repeal of the prevailing wage, calling on legislators to support the policy because it's good for veterans and the state's small businesses.

"When I got out of the military, I looked at a lot of different jobs, but going into the trades is what suited me. Veterans will be hurt more than any other group (by a repeal)," said Jesse Stevens, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and member of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers.

Citizens Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, a group seeking to repeal the prevailing wage law, has submitted some 391,000 signatures in support of its efforts. It awaits a recommendation from the Bureau of Elections as to the validity of those petitions.

Presuming the Board of State Canvassers determines sufficient signatures of registered voters, then the Legislature has 40 days to pass the proposal, which would make a repeal law. Or it could take no action and let the proposal go to the November 2016 ballot. The former is widely expected, but backers of prevailing wage are trying to stop that scenario.

Dave Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, a group in support of maintaining the prevailing wage law, estimated that of the 568,000 veterans in the state, about 10 percent were working construction and skilled trades.

Repealing prevailing wage could also hurt the sustainability of the skilled trades at a time when { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } is seeking to invest even more in those fields to fill the demand for such jobs, one veteran said.

"Our Local 252 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) spends over $1 million a year to train apprentices," said Matthew Charles, an Army veteran who is currently a first-year electrician in an apprenticeship program. "I appreciate people saying, 'Thank you for your service,' but now we have politicians who say they want to thank me for my service by ending prevailing wage. This will cut opportunity, pay and benefits for construction workers who are veterans in Michigan, and that's not right."

Repealing the prevailing wage is also a slight to local businesses that have weathered the Michigan economic storms, said Jim Judd, owner of Master Craft Carpet Services in Plymouth.

"Michigan is coming back from a decades-long decline and this attempted repeal of the prevailing wage does nothing to help our comeback," he said in a press call separate from the veteran's event, both held on Monday. "(It) rewards out-of-state businesses that often don't provide jobs for our friends, family and neighbors."

Another business owner, Donna Pardonnet from Architectural Contractors Trade Association, said she has had first-hand experience that tells her Michigan contractors would face "unfair" competition from out-of-state corporations "that avoid paying taxes by paying workers under the table."

"They will be forced to compete with operations that promote unsafe worksites and with operations that replace skilled Michigan tradespeople with unskilled workers from out of state," she said.

Mr. Judd and Ms. Pardonnet are among { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-businesses.pdf" } who signed and sent a { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-letter.docx" } to the Legislature urging lawmakers to protect Michigan's prevailing wage laws.

Both groups argued that an earlier suspension of the law in the 1990s did not lead to cost savings, as fewer contractors bid on public projects.

But Chris Fisher, president of Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan, said prevailing wage is "decidedly anti-taxpayer."

"Most credible studies prove that prevailing wage kills jobs and wastes tax dollars because it isn't hard to figure out that when you let unions rig the bidding process, prices will go up," he said. "Michigan's one of just six states where prevailing wage is based exclusively on union agreements. It's time to put taxpayers in charge instead of giving big labor a blank check with our tax dollars."

Hospital Report Says Improved Practices Netted Savings, Improved Lives

A report by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association said Monday that ongoing improvements in overall patient care has both saved money and improved overall outcomes for patients, including saving lives.

Significantly, the improvements include a 34 percent cut in deaths from septic shock from 2011 to 2014, the report said.

And in 2014 alone, hospitals saved more than $100 million in overall costs by reducing the number of readmissions by more than 10,000 cases.

The report said from 2010 to 2014, hospitals were able to reduce early elective births by 60 percent, which meant healthier mothers and babies. Approximately 2,900 births were affected.

And from 2012 to 2014, state hospitals were able to cut the use of catheters by 27 percent, which reduced the risk of overall infection.

Campaign Notes

PAC TAUNTS COURSER, GAMRAT WITH BUMPER STICKERS: The Progress Michigan Action Fund is selling bumper stickers in the 80th and 82nd House Districts where special elections are taking place to replace expelled former Rep. Cindy Gamrat and resigned former Rep. Todd Courser. In Ms. Gamrat's district, the bumper sticker says, "Todd's Girlfriend, Republican for State Representative," and in Mr. Courser's district, the bumper sticker says, "Cindy's Boyfriend, Republican for State Representative."

SBAM ENDORSES WHITEFORD; SPLITS ON 82ND DISTRICT: The Small Business Association of Michigan's political action committee has endorsed Republican Mary Whiteford of Casco Township in the special election in the 80th House District where former Rep. Cindy Gamrat was expelled. In the 2014 primary, Ms. Whiteford received the PAC's seal of approval.

In the 82nd District, where former Rep. Todd Courser resigned, the group said it had given stamps of approval to both Republican Jan Peabody of Lapeer and Republican Gary Howell of Lapeer.

GILBERT DONATIONS: Republicans used recent campaign finance filings to again hit Melissa Gilbert, candidate for the 8th U.S. House District as well as former television star, with her tax problems.

Ms. Gilbert has said in prior statements that she is working with the Internal Revenue Service and California tax officials to repay tax debts, but Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel said she should use at least one of her campaign contributions toward that end: the $5,400 she received from actor husband Timothy Busfield.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, October 20

Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Special Meeting)

Administrative Board/Transportation and Natural Resources, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/dnr_agenda_222565_7.pdf" \t "blank" }; { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/tnr_agenda_222572_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

Friday, October 23

Civil Rights Commission, Partrich Auditorium, Wayne State University Law School, 471 West Palmer, Detroit, 12 p.m. (Interviews of director candidates)

Tuesday, October 27

Canceled: ~~Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.~~

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, October 20

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89301&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/local_govt_elec.html" \t "blank" }), **(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" }, 373-5323), 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB403901" } **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301" }) Revises delinquent tax notice by publication. (Testimony Only)

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB403901" } **COUNTY BOARDS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325301" }) Eliminates sunset on the transfer of functions from a county road commission to the county board of

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INK ordinances that prohibit the keeping of carrier pigeons. (Testimony Only)
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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" } **REFUND INTEREST** (modifies timeline for interest claims on refunds.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264301" } REFUND INTEREST Aligns interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446201" } SALES TAX ON GASOLINE Revises provisions for prepaid sales tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.

Wednesday, October 21

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93001&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=331" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1" }, 373-2115), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" } CHILD ABUSE Allows reporting child abuse or child neglect through an online reporting system and waiving a written report under certain circumstances.

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2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.**

{ HYPER LINK "http://w ww.gong wer.com/ index.cf m?link=l egislatio n_billdet ail.cfm& billid=20 15SB349 01" } **DELINQUENT TAXES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Revises delinquent taxes notice provision.

{ HYPE RLIN K "http: **INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" }) Expands tangible personal property eligible for an industrial processing exemption.

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d=201
5SB37
001" }

{ PROPERTY TAX ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" **})** Provides for
LINK adjusting the caps on taxable value, salary and the amount of the credit for inflation.
"http://
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=341" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1" }, 373-
1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- **Tax Increment Financing presentation**

{ REWARDS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=321001" **}**) Increases
RLINK maximum reward authorities of counties can offer for information leading to an arrest
"http:// and conviction. (Voting)
www.g
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=legisla
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15HB4
29201"
}
{ LABOR ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358001" **}**) Prohibits
LINK certain automatic increases in benefits clause in city bargaining agreements. (Testimony
"http:// only)
www.go
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5HB469
601" }
{ PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ({ HYPERLINK
HYPER"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" **}**) Allows
LINK assessor to maintain assessment roll electronically. (Testimony only)
"http://
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89401&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/natlresources.html" \t
"blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" }, 373-5314),
210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- **Presentation by Mark Rudnicki of Michigan Technological University (MTU) on REFORGE, an initiative related to the forest products industry in Michigan.**

{ WATERS AND BOTTOMLANDS ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" **}**) Waives payment
RLIN for occupying waters or bottomlands in certain circumstances.
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Thursday, October 22

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88401&locid=1" }
({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/elections.html" \t "blank" }),
(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" }, 373-1721),
Room 210, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4904 01" } **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides for the presidential primary election as a regular election date and clarifies filing deadlines for candidates for local office and for all local ballot question.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB4904 01" } **AVIATION FEES** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Removes certain restrictions on recovery of costs and fees in an action involving this state.

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{ **PREVAILING PARTY FEES** ({ HYPERLINK
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001" }) Removes certain
ERLI restrictions on the award of costs and fees to prevailing party in a case involving this state.
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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88201&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/econ_dev.html" \t "blank" }), (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" }, 373-5312), 210, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.

{ **COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION** ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" }) Repeals sunset
RLINKon Commercial Rehabilitation Act.
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601" }

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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Profile Elements Grouped by AC1, Sorted by Program/Appn/Fund/PCA, Active for AY- 2016

Print Date: 10/13/2015

Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description									
Blank AC1 Code									
0000 DHS ROLL UP	99890	9888	99888 GASB 34 - CONTINGENCY ENTRIES						
0102: IV-D CHILD SUPPORT INCENTIVES									
7505 OCS OPER EXP FUNDED W INCENTIVES	83100	8300	83103 OCS OPER EXP FUND W/ INCENTVE	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7519 EXPS FUNDED BY INCENTIVES	83200	8300	83213 EXPS FUNDED BY INCENTIVES	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	832000	16	
7545 CSES EXPENDITURES FUNDED BY INCENTIVES	16500	1600	16507 CSES EXPS FUNDED BY INCENTIVE	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	165000	16	
7581 FEDERAL INCENTIVE PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES	83300	8300	83302 FED INCENTIVE PMT TO COUNTIES	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	833000	16	
0116: IV-B PART 2 CASE WORKER VISIT MATCH 0%									
2655 IVB P2 CASEWORKER VISIT GRANT SWBC MATCH	74550	7400	72565 IVB P2 CSEWKR VSIT SWBC MTCH	090386	16	IV-B2 CASE VISITS	745500	16	
0117: IV-B PART 2 CASE WORKER VISITS 75%									
2691 FOSTER CARE WORKLOAD STUDY	72290	0929	72108 FOSTER CARE WORKLOAD STUDY	090386	16	IV-B2 CASE VISITS	722900	16	
8887 CENTER FOR SUPPORT OF FAMILIES CONTRACT	72290	0929	72851 CTR FOR SUPPORT OF FAM CONTR	090386	16	IV-B2 CASE VISITS	722900	16	
0119: IV-B PART 2 FAMILY PRESERVATION 100%									
2116 MEDICAL SUBSIDIES-TITLE IVB P2	74750	7400	72239 MEDICAL SUBS-TITLE IVB P2	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	747500	16	
2531 CTF DIRECT SERVICE ALLOCATIONS	72290	0929	72856 CTF DIRECT SERVICE - IVB P2	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
2/ 5504 FTBS CONTRACTS IVB2 FUNDED	72290	0929	72861 FTBS CONTRCTS IVB2 FUNDED	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5581 SF/SC SERVICE FAMILY PRESERV	72290	0929	72080 SF/SC SVC FAM PRESERVATION	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5581 SF/SC SERVICE FAMILY PRESERV	99940	0819	00934 SF/SC SVC FAM PRESERVATION	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	999400	16	
5583 SF/SC SERVICES FAMILY SUPPORT	72290	0929	72082 SF/SC SVCS FAM SUPP	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5583 SF/SC SERVICES FAMILY SUPPORT	99940	0819	00951 SF/SC SVCS FAMILY SUPPORT	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	999400	16	
5584 SF/SC REUNIFICATION SERVICES FP	72290	0929	72088 SF/SC REUNIFICATION SVCS FP	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5584 SF/SC REUNIFICATION SERVICES FP	99940	0819	00952 SF/SC REUNIFICATION SVCS FP	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	999400	16	
5585 SF/SC ADMINISTRATION LOCAL	72290	0929	72089 SF/SC ADMIN (LOCAL)	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5593 SF/SC ADOPTION PROMOTION/SUPPT	72290	0929	72107 SF/SC ADOPTION PROMO/SUPPORT	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	722900	16	
5593 SF/SC ADOPTION PROMOTION/SUPPT	99940	0819	00953 SF/SC ADOPTION PROMO/SUPPORT	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	999400	16	
0120: IV-B PT2 ALLOWABLE ONLY AS MATCH									
2669 IV-B PT2 STATE WARD BOARD & CARE MATCH	74550	7400	72561 IVB PT2 STATE WRD BD&CA MATCH	090400	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE SUBPART 2	745500	16	
0121: IV-B BOARD & CARE									
2613 SHELTER HOME SERVICE CODE	74550	7400	72220 SHELTER HOME SVC COSTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2613 SHELTER HOME SERVICE CODE	74550	7400	72509 WC SHELTER HOME SVC COSTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2613 SHELTER HOME SERVICE CODE	99940	0819	00988 SHELTER HOME SVC COSTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	999400	16	
2641 STATE WARD BOARD & CARE CERT PAYMENTS	74550	7400	72210 ST WARD BOARD & CARE CERT PMT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2641 STATE WARD BOARD & CARE CERT PAYMENTS	74550	7400	72501 WC ST WRD BRD & CARE CERT PMT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2641 STATE WARD BOARD & CARE CERT PAYMENTS	99940	0819	00347 ST WARD BOARD & CARE CERT PMT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	999400	16	
2653 OVERPAYMENT REFUND CURRENT YEAR SWB&C	74550	7400	72230 OVERPMT REFUND CURR YR SWBC	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2653 OVERPAYMENT REFUND CURRENT YEAR SWB&C	74550	7400	72516 WC OVERPMT RFUND CURR YR SWBC	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
0122: IV-B OTHER SERVICES									
2140 ADOPT POS SWBC YECWS	74760	7400	74778 ADOPT POS SWBC YECWS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
2632 RETURN OF RUN AWAY JUVENILES	72430	7200	72435 RETURN OF RUNAWAY JUVENILES	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	724300	16	
2647 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESMENTS	74550	7400	72215 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2647 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESMENTS	74550	7400	72507 WC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	745500	16	
2647 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESMENTS	99940	0819	00987 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	999400	16	
4137 COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICERS	47280	4700	47281 COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICERS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	472800	16	
4137 COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICERS	99940	0819	01055 COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICERS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	999400	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

AC1 Code and Description / Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0123: IV-B ADMIN									
2633 FC INTERSTATE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	72430	7200	72436 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	724300	16	
2633 FC INTERSTATE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	99940	0819	01060 MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	999400	16	
0130: GUARDIANSHIP ADMINISTRATION IV-E 50%									
2001 GAP DIRECT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS-IVE	74250	7400	72152 GAP DIRECT ADMIN COSTS-IV-E	090362	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP ADMINISTRATION	742500	16	
2008 GUARDIANSHIP NON-RECURRING EXPENSES-IVE	74250	7400	72156 GDNSHP NON-RECURR EXPS-IV-E	090362	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP ADMINISTRATION	742500	16	
0131: NEW SACWIS PROJECT 2									
1/ 2433 SACWIS PROJECT-DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES	16100	1600	16354 SACWIS DEVELOPMENT COSTS	090349	16	IV-E NEW SACWIS PROJECT 2 DEVELOPMNT EXP	161000	16	
2433 SACWIS PROJECT-DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES	74610	7400	74668 SACWIS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT EX	090349	16	IV-E NEW SACWIS PROJECT 2 DEVELOPMNT EXP	746100	16	
2433 SACWIS PROJECT-DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES	99940	0819	00521 SACWIS PROJECT-DEVLPMT EXP	090349	16	IV-E NEW SACWIS PROJECT 2 DEVELOPMNT EXP	999400	16	
2/ 2437 SACWIS PROJECT-DHHS STAFF-DEV	16100	1600	16531 SACWIS PROJ-DHHS STAFF DEV	090349	16	IV-E NEW SACWIS PROJECT 2 DEVELOPMNT EXP	161000	16	
0135: RE-TOOLING MICHIGAN CHILD SUPPORT									
7511 U OF M RETOOLING GRANT	83100	8300	83102 U OF M RETOOLING GRANT	090338	16	RE-TOOLING MICHIGAN CHILD SUPPORT	831000	16	
7511 U OF M RETOOLING GRANT	83200	8300	83215 U OF M RETOOLING GRANT	090338	16	RE-TOOLING MICHIGAN CHILD SUPPORT	832000	16	
0136: IV-D REACH GRANT									
7501 90FD017001 1115 KENT CO REACH GRANT	83100	8300	83101 90FD017001 1115 KNT CO RCH GR	090337	16	IV-D REACH GRANT	831000	16	
0142: IV-D CSES APD @66% FFP									
7502 MICSES EXP FUNDED W RESTR REVENUE	83100	8300	83114 MICSES EXP FUNDED W REST REV	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7543 CSES APD-OPER STANDARD IV-D MATCH	16500	1600	16502 CSES APD-OPS-STND IVD MATCH	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	165000	16	
7544 CSES OFFSET EXPS FUNDED BY INCENTIVES	16500	1600	16506 CSES OFFSET EXPS FND BY INCEN	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	165000	16	
0143: IV-D CSES NO APD									
7548 MICSES MAINTENANCE AUGMENTATION	16500	1600	16505 MICSES MAINT AUGMENTATION	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	165000	16	
0145: IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AFDC									
3195 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-TITLE IVD	32620	3200	32155 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-IVD	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	326200	16	
7503 OCS OPER EXP FUNDED W RESTR REVENUE	83100	8300	83113 OCS OPER EXP FUND W REST REV	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7551 IRS TAX RECOVERY FEES	83100	8300	83104 IRS TAX RECOVERY FEES	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7552 MICHIGAN TREASURY TAX RECOVERY FEE	83100	8300	83105 MI TREAS TAX RECOVERY FEE	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7564 BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT	12070	1200	12286 OFF CHILD SUPP-CENT OFF ADMIN	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	120700	16	
1/ 7564 BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT	12070	1200	12331 CHILD SUPPORT OCCUPANCY CHGS	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	120700	16	
7564 BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT	83100	8300	83107 BUR OF CHILD SUPPORT-CENT OFF	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7564 BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT	83100	8300	83115 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	831000	16	
7564 BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT	99940	0819	00378 BUR OF CHILD SUPPORT-CENT OFF	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	999400	16	
0146: IV-D CHILD SUPPORT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM									
7591 CHILD SUPPORT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM STUDY	83400	8300	83402 CHILD SUPP DISTRIB SYS-STUDY	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	834000	16	
7592 STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT OPERATIONS	83400	8300	83401 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	834000	16	
7592 STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT OPERATIONS	83400	8300	83403 STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT OPER	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	834000	16	
7597 IVD SDU EXPENSE OFFSET	83400	8300	83308 IVD SDU EXPENSE OFFSET	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	834000	16	
0148: IV-D REIMBURSEMENTS									
7518 OFFSET EXPS FUNDED BY INCENTIVES	83200	8300	83212 OFFSET EXPS FUNDED BY INCENT	090330	16	IV-D CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	832000	16	
7521 COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT	83200	8300	83202 COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT				832000	16	
7521 COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT	99940	0819	01069 COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT				999400	16	
7523 FOC MEDICAL SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	83200	8300	83204 FOC MED SUPP ENFORCEMENT				832000	16	
7523 FOC MEDICAL SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	99940	0819	01070 FOC MED SUPP ENFORCEMENT				999400	16	
7529 CRP ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT	83200	8300	83208 CRP ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT				832000	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description									
0149: LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS									
7522 GENETIC TESTING LAB	83200	8300	83203 GENETIC TESTING LAB				832000	16	
7524 BLOOD TEST REIMBURSEMENT	83200	8300	83205 BLOOD TEST REIMBURSEMENT				832000	16	
7524 BLOOD TEST REIMBURSEMENT	99940	0819	01071 BLOOD TEST REIMBURSEMENT				999400	16	
0153: CCDF QUALITY									
1402 CCL PROGRAM	99940	0819	00956 CCL PROGRAM	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	999400	16	
1408 BCAL ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CDC	99940	0819	00941 ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CDC	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	999400	16	
0154: CCDF ADMIN									
0502 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-CCDF	12050	1200	12339 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- CCDF	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	120500	16	
0502 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-CCDF	62040	6200	62117 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- CCDF	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	620400	16	
0502 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-CCDF	62610	6200	62617 AG IAB LGL SERV-CCDF	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	626100	16	
3194 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-CCDF	32620	3200	32154 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-CCDF	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	326200	16	
5215 CDC IDG BILLING ADMIN DIRECT COSTS	11040	1100	11092 CDC IDG BILLING ADMIN DIR CST	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	110400	16	
5215 CDC IDG BILLING ADMIN DIRECT COSTS	99940	0819	00535 CDC IDG BILLING ADMIN DIR CST	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	999400	16	
0155: GUARDIANSHIOP SERVICES IV-E FMAP									
2010 GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROG TITLE IVE	74250	7400	72160 GDNSHP ASSISTANCE TITLE-IVE	090361	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDY	742500	16	
2010 GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROG TITLE IVE	99940	0819	00494 GDNSHP ASSISTANCE TITLE-IVE	090361	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDY	999400	16	
0156: IV-E GAP PAYMENTS (YAVFC)									
2015 YAVFC GUARDIANSHP ASSISTNCE PROG-TTL IVE	74250	7400	74251 YAVFC GRDNSHP ASSIST TITL IVE	090361	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDY	742500	16	
2015 YAVFC GUARDIANSHP ASSISTNCE PROG-TTL IVE	99940	0819	00474 YAVFC GRDNSHP ASSIST TITL IVE	090361	16	IV-E GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDY	999400	16	
0160: IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS									
2212 IV-E PMTS TO COUNTIES EXCLUDING WAYNE	74290	7400	47295 IV-E PMTS TO CO EXCLUDG WAYNE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	742900	16	
2214 BALANCE OF IV-E COST FROM COUNTY	74290	7400	47297 BALANCE OF IV-E COST FROM CO	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	742900	16	
2214 BALANCE OF IV-E COST FROM COUNTY	99940	0819	00977 BALANCE OF IV-E COST FROM CO	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2215 IV-E PAYMENTS TO WAYNE COUNTY	74290	7400	47298 IV-E PAYMENTS TO WAYNE COUNTY	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	742900	16	
2215 IV-E PAYMENTS TO WAYNE COUNTY	99940	0819	00306 IV-E PAYMENTS TO WAYNE COUNTY	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2606 EDUCATIONAL STABILITY TRAVEL IVE ELIGIBL	74550	7400	72555 EDU STABIL TRAVEL IVE ELIGIBL	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2606 EDUCATIONAL STABILITY TRAVEL IVE ELIGIBL	99940	0819	00406 EDU STABIL TRAVEL IVE ELIGIBL	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2643 TITLE IV-E CENRT MAINT PMTS	74550	7400	72211 TITLE IV-E CERT MAINT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2643 TITLE IV-E CENRT MAINT PMTS	74550	7400	72502 TITLE IV-E CERT MAINT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2643 TITLE IV-E CENRT MAINT PMTS	74550	7400	74556 TITLE IV-E CERT MAINT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2646 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	74550	7400	72214 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2646 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	74550	7400	72521 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2646 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	99940	0819	00989 TITLE IV-E NONCERT PMTS	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2654 OVPMT REFUND CURR YR IV-E	74550	7400	72231 OVERPMT REFUND CURR YR IV-E	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2654 OVPMT REFUND CURR YR IV-E	74550	7400	72517 OVPMT REFUND CURR YR IV-E	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2660 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	74550	7400	72242 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2660 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	74550	7400	72519 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2660 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	99940	0819	00341 GOVT BENEFITS IV-E REPT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2667 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	74550	7400	72386 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2667 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	74550	7400	72443 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2667 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	74550	7400	74557 TITLE IV-E CCI MAINT PMT	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2674 YAVFC CERT MAINTENANCE PAYMNTS-TITLE IVE	74550	7400	74558 YAVFC CRT MAINT PYMTS-TTL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2674 YAVFC CERT MAINTENANCE PAYMNTS-TITLE IVE	99940	0819	00464 YAVFC CRT MAINT PYMTS-TTL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2675 YAVFC NON-CERT PAYMENTS-TITLE IVE	74550	7400	74559 YAVFC NON-CERT PYMTS-TITL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	
2675 YAVFC NON-CERT PAYMENTS-TITLE IVE	99940	0819	00451 YAVFC NON-CERT PYMTS-TITL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
2678 YAVFC CCI MAINTENANCE-TITLE IVE	74550	7400	74563 YAVFC CCI MAINTENANCE-TTL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	745500	16	

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AC1 Code and Description / Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0160: IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS									
2678 YAVFC CCI MAINTENANCE-TITLE IVE	99940	0819	00452 YAVFC CCI MAINTENANCE-TTL IVE	090357	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS	999400	16	
0161: IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY PAYMENTS									
2102 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES ADC FC	74750	7400	72249 ADOPT SUBSIDIES ADC FC	090354	16	IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY	747500	16	
2102 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES ADC FC	74750	7400	74755 ADOPT SUBSIDIES ADC FC	090354	16	IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY	747500	16	
2102 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES ADC FC	99940	0819	00311 ADOPT SUBSIDIES ADC FC	090354	16	IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY	999400	16	
2135 YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-TITLE IVE FNDED	74750	7400	74751 YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-TITLE IVE	090354	16	IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY	747500	16	
2135 YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-TITLE IVE FNDED	99940	0819	00488 YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-TITLE IVE	090354	16	IV-E ADOPTION SUBSIDY	999400	16	
0162: IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION									
0503 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-IV-E ADMIN	62610	6200	62618 AG IAB LEGAL SERV-IV-E ADMIN	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
1308 VOL TRAVEL REIMB-TITLE IVE ELIGIBLE	62510	6200	62294 VOL TRAVEL REIMB-TITLE IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	625100	16	
1308 VOL TRAVEL REIMB-TITLE IVE ELIGIBLE	99940	0819	00518 VOL TRAVEL REIMB-TITLE IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
1/ 2038 ATTY FEES NON-PA,CW CASES-IVE ELIGIBLE	74040	7400	72032 ATTY FEES NON-PA,CW CASES-IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	740400	16	
2301 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CONTRACT-TIVE	72870	7200	72310 PROSECUTING ATTY CONT-TIVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	728700	16	
2301 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CONTRACT-TIVE	99940	0819	00939 PROSECUTING ATTY CONT-TIVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2313 EGRAMS FOR PROS ATTY IVE CONTRACTS REIMB	74180	7400	74093 EGRAMS FOR PROS ATTY IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	741800	16	
2602 RELATIVE FC LICENSING	74550	7400	72304 RELATIVE FC LICENSING-PMTS	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	745500	16	
2602 RELATIVE FC LICENSING	99940	0819	00325 RELATIVE FC LICENSING-CSS&M	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2627 CREDIT REPORTS YOUTH 16-18 YRS	74550	7400	74552 CREDIT REPORTS YOUTH 16-18 YR	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	745500	16	
2627 CREDIT REPORTS YOUTH 16-18 YRS	99940	0819	00435 CREDIT REPORTS YOUTH 16-18 YR	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2631 INTERSTATE PLACEMENT	72430	7200	72434 INTERSTATE PLACEMENT	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	724300	16	
2631 INTERSTATE PLACEMENT	99940	0819	00357 INTERSTATE PLACEMENT	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2676 YAVFC PCPA ADMIN RATES-TITLE IVE	99940	0819	00463 YAVFC PCPA ADMN RATES-TTL IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2684 YAVFC COURT FILING FEES- ALL YAVFC CASES	74550	7400	74569 YAVFC CRT FILNG FEES-ALL CASE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	745500	16	
0163: IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN 50%									
0000 DHS ROLL UP	72660	7200	72662 ATTY GEN IA ADOPTION IVE ADM	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	726600	16	
0505 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- IVE ADOPTION ADM	62610	6200	62620 AG IAB LGL SERV-IVE ADOPT ADM	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	626100	16	
2120 NON-RECURRING ADOPTION EXPENSE-0163	74750	7400	72373 NON-RECURRING ADOPT EXP-0163	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747500	16	
2120 NON-RECURRING ADOPTION EXPENSE-0163	99940	0819	00512 NON-RECURRING ADOPT EXP-0163	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	999400	16	
2141 ADOPT POS IVE YECWS	74760	7400	74779 ADOPT POS IVE YECWS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
0164: IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITION									
2707 MYOI YOUTH BOARD FLEX FUNDS-CHAFEE	74420	7400	72426 MYOI YTH BD FLEX FUNDS-CHAFEE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2708 MYOI YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE-CHAFEE	74420	7400	72427 MYOI YTH OP INITIATIVE-CHAFEE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2708 MYOI YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE-CHAFEE	99940	0819	00398 MYOI YTH OP INITIATIVE-CHAFEE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
2709 MYOI IDA MATCH - CHAFEE	74420	7400	72429 MYOI IDA MATCH-CHAFEE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2709 MYOI IDA MATCH - CHAFEE	99940	0819	00547 MYOI IDA MATCH-CHAFEE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
2/ 2712 YOUTH CONFERENCE	74420	7400	74819 YOUTH CONFERENCE	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2716 YOUTH MENTOR CONTRACT	74420	7400	74031 YOUTH MENTOR CONTRACT	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2717 YIT DISCRETIONARY WAYNE COUNTY	99940	0819	01059 YIT DISCRETIONARY WC	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
2722 WAYNE COUNTY YIT CONTRACTS	74420	7400	72422 WAYNE COUNTY YIT CONTRACTS	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2722 WAYNE COUNTY YIT CONTRACTS	99940	0819	00389 WAYNE COUNTY YIT CONTRACTS	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
2725 FOSTER CLUB CONTRACT	74420	7400	74798 FOSTER CLUB CONTRACT	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2731 YIT ADMIN CONTRACTS/206A	74420	7400	11279 YIT ADMIN CONTRACTS/206A	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2747 YIT TRIBAL YOUTH	74420	7400	74421 YIT TRIBAL YOUTH	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2751 IL SKILLS COACH CONTRACTS	74420	7400	74423 IL SKILLS COACH CONTRACTS	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2751 IL SKILLS COACH CONTRACTS	99940	0819	00539 IL SKILLS COACH CONTRACTS	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
2752 YIT UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINOR	74420	7400	74424 YIT UNACCOMPNIED REFUGEE MINR	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2752 YIT UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINOR	99940	0819	00549 YIT UNACCOMPNIED REFUGEE MINR	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	

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0164: IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITION									
0165: IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITION ADMINISTRATION									
2705 SYEP MI STRATEGIC FUND-IA-YIT	74420	7400	72416 SYEP MI STRATEGIC FUND IA-YIT	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2717 YIT DISCRETIONARY WAYNE COUNTY	74420	7400	11285 YIT DISCRETIONARY WC	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	744200	16	
2731 YIT ADMIN CONTRACTS/206A	99940	0819	00317 YIT ADMIN CONTRACTS/206A	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS	999400	16	
0172: XIX MEDICAID ADMIN 50%									
0510 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES MEDICAID RELATED	12050	1200	12363 AG IAB LGL SERV-MDCAID RELATD	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	120500	16	
0510 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES MEDICAID RELATED	62040	6200	62172 AG IAB LGL SERV-MDCAID RELATD	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
0510 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES MEDICAID RELATED	62610	6200	62627 AG IAB LGL SERV-MDCAID RELATD	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
2615 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT CONFERENCE	74460	7400	74463 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT CONFCE	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	744600	16	
2615 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT CONFERENCE	99940	0819	00495 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT CONFCE	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
2651 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT ADMIN COSTS	74460	7400	74464 PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSIGHT ADMIN	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	744600	16	
3193 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-TITLE XIX	32620	3200	32153 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-XIX	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	326200	16	
3518 MA ERROR REDUCTION ANALYST	62040	6200	62132 MA ERROR REDUCTION ANAL-CSS&M	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
3518 MA ERROR REDUCTION ANALYST	62610	6200	62252 MA ERROR REDUCTION ANAL-S&W	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
3532 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY REVIEW CONSULTANT	62040	6200	62091 MEDICAID ELIG REVIEW CONSULT	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
3541 INCAPACITY OR DISABILITY EXAM-CNOP	62400	6200	62093 INCAPACITY OR DISAB EXAM-CNOP	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	624000	16	
8092 CW MEDICAL UNIT	12050	1200	12214 CW MEDICAL UNIT	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	120500	16	
1/ 8092 CW MEDICAL UNIT	74040	7400	72482 CW MEDICAL UNIT	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	740400	16	
8092 CW MEDICAL UNIT	74100	7400	74135 CW MEDICAL UNIT	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	741000	16	
1/ 8109 CP03 MEDICAL CONSULT CONTR FOR FCCHLDRN	74040	7400	72018 CP03 MED CONS CONT-FC CHILDRN	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	740400	16	
8637 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	12050	1200	12533 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	120500	16	
8637 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	62040	6200	62384 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
8637 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	62610	6200	62652 MEDICAID PROGRAMS MA	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
0173: T-XIX FAMILY PLANNING WAIVER									
0930 FAMILY PLANNING WAIVER PROGRAM	12050	1200	12274 FAMILY PLANNING WVR PG-TRAVEL	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	120500	16	
0930 FAMILY PLANNING WAIVER PROGRAM	62040	6200	62146 FAMILY PLANNING WVR PG -CSS&M	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
0930 FAMILY PLANNING WAIVER PROGRAM	62610	6200	62262 FAMILY PLANNING WVR PRG-S&W	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
0177: IV-E WAIVER EVALUATION COSTS (2013 BEG)									
2636 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-EVALUATION	74550	7400	74578 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-EVAL	090360	16	IV-E WAIVER	745500	16	
0178: IV-E WAIVER CONTRACTS (2013 BEGIN)									
2637 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MACOMB	74550	7400	74579 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MACOMB	090360	16	IV-E WAIVER	745500	16	
2638 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MUSKEGON	74550	7400	74581 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MUSKEGON	090360	16	IV-E WAIVER	745500	16	
2638 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MUSKEGON	99940	0819	00491 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-MUSKEGON	090360	16	IV-E WAIVER	999400	16	
2639 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-KALAMAZOO	74550	7400	74582 IVE WAIVER CONTRACTS-KALAMAZO	090360	16	IV-E WAIVER	745500	16	
0198: TITLE XIX SECTION 1931, HEALTHY KIDS									
0952 HEALTHY KIDS UNIT-MDHS	12050	1200	12037 HEALTHY KIDS TITLE XIX TRAVEL	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	120500	16	
0952 HEALTHY KIDS UNIT-MDHS	62040	6200	62043 HEALTHY KIDS TXIX	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	620400	16	
0952 HEALTHY KIDS UNIT-MDHS	62610	6200	62014 HEALTHY KIDS TXIX	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	626100	16	
0952 HEALTHY KIDS UNIT-MDHS	99940	0819	00506 HEALTHY KIDS TXIX	090371	16	XIX MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION	999400	16	
0227: XX STAFF									
5601 INDIAN OUTREACH WORKER	12050	1200	12358 INDIAN OUTREACH WKRS-TRAVEL	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
5601 INDIAN OUTREACH WORKER	62040	6200	62451 INDIAN OUTREACH WKRS-CSS&M	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
5601 INDIAN OUTREACH WORKER	62610	6200	62240 INDIAN OUTREACH WKRS-S&W	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	626100	16	
8172 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	12050	1200	12488 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
8172 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	74040	7400	74159 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	740400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
0227: XX STAFF									
8172 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	74100	7400	74139 NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	741000	16	
0228: XX GUARDIANSHIP CONTRACTS									
7171 GUARDIAN CONTRACTS	81670	8100	72247 GUARDIAN CONTRACTS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	816700	16	
7171 GUARDIAN CONTRACTS	99940	0819	00933 GUARDIAN CONTRACTS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
7172 LEGAL REPRESENTATION	81670	8100	72337 LEGAL REPRESENTATION	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	816700	16	
7172 LEGAL REPRESENTATION	99940	0819	00921 LEGAL REPRESENTATION	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
0229: XX SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION									
0504 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TITLE XX SS BLOCK	12050	1200	12354 AG IAB LGL SRV-TTLE XX SS BLK	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
0504 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TITLE XX SS BLOCK	62040	6200	62118 AG IAB LGL SRV-TTLE XX SS BLK	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
0504 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TITLE XX SS BLOCK	62610	6200	62619 AG IAB LGL SRV-TTLE XX SS BLK	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	626100	16	
1301 VOLUNTEER SERVICES ACTIVITIES	62510	6200	62209 CRP TITLE XX ONLY	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	625100	16	
1301 VOLUNTEER SERVICES ACTIVITIES	99940	0819	00984 VOLUNTEER SERVICES ACTIVITIES	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
1307 VOLUNTEER SVCS BED PROGRAM	62510	6200	62018 VOLUNTEER SVCS BED PROGRAM	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	625100	16	
1401 AFC/HFA PROGRAM	99940	0819	00929 AFC/HFA PROGRAM	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
1407 BCAL ENVIRONMENT COST FOR AFC	99940	0819	00422 ENVIRONMENT COST FOR AFC	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
1407 BCAL ENVIRONMENT COST FOR AFC	99940	0819	00926 ENVIRONMENT COST FOR AFC	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
3196 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-SSBG	32620	3200	32156 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-SSBG	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	326200	16	
4112 OUT-COUNTY CHILD PLACEMENT NON-FC TRAVEL	12050	1200	12138 OUTCTY CHILD PLACE NON FC WKR	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
4112 OUT-COUNTY CHILD PLACEMENT NON-FC TRAVEL	99940	0819	00386 OUTCTY CHILD PLACE NON FC WKR	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
4113 OUT-OF-STATE CHILD PLACEMENT NON-FC TRAV	12050	1200	12140 OUT-ST CHILD PLACE NON FC WKR	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
7192 LOCAL OFFICE PRIVATE ATTY FEES - ADULT	62040	6200	62290 LOCAL PRIV ATTY FEES-ADULT	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
7192 LOCAL OFFICE PRIVATE ATTY FEES - ADULT	99940	0819	00501 LOCAL PRIV ATTY FEES-ADULT	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
8639 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	12050	1200	12535 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	120500	16	
8639 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	62040	6200	62386 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
8639 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	62610	6200	62654 COMMUNITY RESOURCES STAFF	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	626100	16	
0231: XX YOUTH SERVICES									
2381 TRANSPORTATION & CONVEYANCE (CSS&M ONLY)	62040	6200	62144 TRANS & CONVEYANCE/FCS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
2381 TRANSPORTATION & CONVEYANCE (CSS&M ONLY)	99940	0819	00441 TRANS & CONVEYANCE/FCS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
2385 CHILDREN'S PS MEDICAL SERVICES	74440	7400	62278 CHILDRENS PS MEDICAL SERVICES	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744400	16	
2385 CHILDREN'S PS MEDICAL SERVICES	74550	7400	74809 CHILDRENS PS MEDICAL SERVICES	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	
2601 MSP AWOLP PROGRAM	74040	7400	72098 MSP AWOL IA	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	740400	16	
2608 CFC DIAGNOSTIC & EVALUATION EXAMS	74440	7400	62041 CFC DIAGNOSTIC & EVAL EXAMS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744400	16	
2608 CFC DIAGNOSTIC & EVALUATION EXAMS	74550	7400	74545 FC DIAGNOSTIC & EVAL EXAMS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	
2668 TITLE XX CCI TREATMENT PMT	74550	7400	72395 TITLE XX CCI TREATMENT PMT	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	
2668 TITLE XX CCI TREATMENT PMT	74550	7400	72451 TITLE XX CCI TREATMENT PMT	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	
2679 YAVFC CCI TREATMENT-TITLE XX	74550	7400	74564 YAVFC CCI TREATMENT-TITLE XX	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	
2679 YAVFC CCI TREATMENT-TITLE XX	99940	0819	00453 YAVFC CCI TREATMENT-TITLE XX	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
2737 YIT HOMELESS & RUNAWAY	74420	7400	72452 YIT HOMELESS & RUNAWAY	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744200	16	
2737 YIT HOMELESS & RUNAWAY	99940	0819	01058 YIT HOMELESS & RUNAWAY	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
4001 JUV JUSTICE DIAGNOSTIC & EVALUATION EXAM	74440	7400	62042 JUV JUST DIAG & EVAL EXAMS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744400	16	
4111 JUVENILE JUSTICE CONVEYANCE	62040	6200	62149 DELINQUENCY SVCS CONVEYANCE	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	620400	16	
4111 JUVENILE JUSTICE CONVEYANCE	99940	0819	00946 DELINQUENCY SVCS CONVEYANCE	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	999400	16	
5563 FAMILY PRESERVATION SVC-OTHER-ROLL UP	74440	7400	62410 EPCI GUARDIANSHIPS	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744400	16	
5570 PSF MEDICAL SERVICES	74440	7400	62287 PSF MEDICAL SERVICES	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	744400	16	
7163 PS ADULT MEDICAL SERVICES	62400	6200	62277 PS ADULT MEDICAL SERVICES	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	624000	16	
0250: LIHEAP EMERGENCY PAYMENTS									
3333 ENERGY PILOT PROGRAMS	32560	0929	32562 ENERGY PILOT PROGRAMS	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	

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0250: LIHEAP EMERGENCY PAYMENTS									
3357 LIHEAP GRANT BENEFITS EBT	32560	0929	32137 LIHEAP GRANT PAYMENTS EBT	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3358 LIHEAP DOLLAR PAYMENT EBT	32560	0929	32138 LIHEAP DOLLAR PAYMENT EBT	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3362 LIHEAP SER SC22-33	32560	0929	32054 LIHEAP SER SC 26,27,31,33	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3364 LIHEAP SER COMBINED H&E SC64	32560	0929	32056 LIHEAP SER COMBINED H&E SC64	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3365 LIHEAP	32560	0929	32060 LIHEAP SER HEAT PAYMENTS SC63	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3366 LIHEAP SER ELECTRIC PAYMENTS SC 65	32560	0929	32063 LIHEAP SER ELECTRIC PMTS SC65	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
0251: LIHEAP ENERGY ALLOWANCE									
3331 GY14 DELIVERABLE FUELS	32560	0929	32570 GY14 DELIVERABLE FUELS	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3350 MPSC ENERGY PROGRAM I/A	32560	0929	32693 MPSC ENERGY PROGRAMS I/A	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3356 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	32560	0929	32090 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3356 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	99940	0819	00937 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	090015	16	LIHEAP	999400	16	
3383 GY12 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	32560	0929	32537 GY12 SPECIAL ENERGY ALLOWANCE	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
0252: LIHEAP ADMINISTRATION									
0511 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES LIHEAP RELATED	12050	1200	12364 AG IAB LGL SERV-LIHEAP RELATD	090015	16	LIHEAP	120500	16	
0511 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES LIHEAP RELATED	62040	6200	62173 AG IAB LGL SERV-LIHEAP RELATD	090015	16	LIHEAP	620400	16	
0511 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES LIHEAP RELATED	62610	6200	62628 AG IAB LGL SERV-LIHEAP RELATD	090015	16	LIHEAP	626100	16	
3343 ENERGY SERVICES ADMIN	32560	0929	32059 ENERGY SERVICES ADMIN	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3343 ENERGY SERVICES ADMIN	99940	0819	00967 ENERGY SERVICES ADMIN	090015	16	LIHEAP	999400	16	
3344 TREASURY LIHEAP ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	32560	0929	32516 TREASURY LIHEAP ADMIN EXPENSE	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3347 LIHEAP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	11400	1100	81045 BT ADMIN-CITIBANK	090015	16	LIHEAP	114000	16	
3347 LIHEAP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	32560	0929	32067 LIHEP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3375 FY15 WEATHERIZATION ADMIN LIHEAP	32560	0929	32532 FY15 WEATHERIZATION ADMIN	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
0253: LIHEAP TREASURY HOME HEATING CREDIT									
3363 HOME HEATING CREDIT/EBT & WARRANT	32560	0929	32055 HOME HTNG CRED/EBT & WARRANT	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
3372 TREASURY HOME HEATING CREDIT	32560	0929	32566 TREASURY HOME HEATING CREDIT	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
0254: LIHEAP HOME REPAIRS									
3384 FY15 LIHEAP WEATHERIZATION	32560	0929	32536 FY15 WEATHERIZATION	090015	16	LIHEAP	325600	16	
0262: SNAP QUALITY CONTROL									
8412 QAIC MGRS - SECS - GOAS	11010	1100	11895 QAIC MGRS-SECS-GOAS				110100	16	
8412 QAIC MGRS - SECS - GOAS	11040	1100	11896 QAIC MGRS-SECS-GOAS				110400	16	
8412 QAIC MGRS - SECS - GOAS	12050	1200	12976 QAIC MGRS-SECS-GOAS				120500	16	
8413 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS	11010	1100	11897 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS				110100	16	
8413 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS	11040	1100	11898 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS				110400	16	
8413 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS	12050	1200	12978 QAIC QA FAP - ANALYSTS				120500	16	
0263: SNAP ANTI-TRAFFICKING									
3049 SNAP ANTI-TRAFFICKING GRANT	11350	1100	11312 SNAP ANTI-TRAFFICKING GRANT	010103	16	SNAP RECIPIENT TRAFFICKING PREVENTION	113500	16	
0264: NUTRITION ED OBESITY									
0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	81250	0903	81252 SNAP NUTRTION ED PROG GY14-15	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3/ 3004 SNAP NUTRITION ED PROG GY 15-16	81250	0903	81559 DCH SNAP ED	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3008 SNAP ED MONITOR 100%	81250	0903	81259 SNAP ED - STAFF 100%	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3009 SNAP NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM 100%	81250	0903	81256 SNAP NUTRITION ED PROG 100%	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3023 SNAP NUTRITION ED PROGRAM 10/11-9/13	81250	0903	81257 SNAP NUTRTN ED PRG0/11-9/13	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3044 NUTRITION ED ADMIN GY11-12	81250	0903	81258 NUTRITION ED ADMIN GY 11-12	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	
3046 SNAP NUTRITION ED PROG GY 13-14	81250	0903	81261 SNAP NUTRITN ED PROG GY 13-14	010160	16	SNAP NUTRITION ED OBESITY GRANT	812500	16	

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0275: FCS FOOD STAMP EBT ISSUANCE									
3041 EBT SNAP ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	11400	1100	11447 EBT SNAP ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	114000	16	
3047 FOOD STAMP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	11400	1100	81048 FOOD STAMP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	114000	16	
0276: FCS FOOD STAMP MANAGEMENT EVALUATION									
3016 FOOD ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	12050	1200	12113 FOOD ASSIST MGMT EVAL TRAVEL	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120500	16	
3016 FOOD ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	62040	6200	62090 FOOD ASSIST MGMT EVAL CSS&M	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	620400	16	
3016 FOOD ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	62610	6200	62177 FOOD ASSISTANCE MGMT EVAL S&W	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	626100	16	
3016 FOOD ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	99940	0819	00492 FOOD ASSIST MGMT EVAL TRAVEL	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	999400	16	
0277: FCS FOOD STAMP ADMINISTRATION									
0506 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-SNAP ADMIN	12050	1200	12355 AG IAB LGL SERV-SNAP ADMIN	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120500	16	
0506 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-SNAP ADMIN	62040	6200	62119 AG IAB LGL SERV-SNAP ADMIN	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	620400	16	
0506 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-SNAP ADMIN	62610	6200	62621 AG IAB LGL SERV-SNAP ADMIN	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	626100	16	
3012 MICAP UNIT	12050	1200	12009 MICAP UNIT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120500	16	
3012 MICAP UNIT	12070	1200	12010 MICAP UNIT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120700	16	
3012 MICAP UNIT	62040	6200	62019 MICAP UNIT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	620400	16	
3012 MICAP UNIT	62610	6200	62020 MICAP UNIT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	626100	16	
3012 MICAP UNIT	99940	0819	00367 MICAP UNIT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	999400	16	
3057 PCG FAP BONUS PAYMENT	62040	6200	62069 PCG FAP BONUS PAYMENT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	620400	16	
3192 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-FAP	32620	3200	32152 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-FAP	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	326200	16	
0278: FCS PAAM CONTRACTS									
3014 PAAM CONTRACT FS PROSECUTION	11040	1100	11181 PAAM CONTRACT FOOD STAMP PROS	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	110400	16	
3014 PAAM CONTRACT FS PROSECUTION	99940	0819	01001 PAAM CONTRACT FOOD STAMP PROS	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	999400	16	
0280: FCS FOOD STAMP E & T TRANSPORTATION									
1625 FAP TOOLS 50/50	81450	8100	81116 FAP TOOLS 50/50	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	814500	16	
1632 FAP CLOTHING 50/50	81450	8100	81130 FAP CLOTHING 50/50	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	814500	16	
1634 FAP TRANSPORTATION 50/50	81450	8100	81133 FAP TRANSPORTATION 50/50	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	814500	16	
1638 OTHER WORK RELATED ITEMS (FAP E&T)	81450	8100	81186 OTHER WORK RELATED ITEMS	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	814500	16	
0281: FCS FOOD STAMP INVESTIGATION									
3013 TREASURY COLLECTION FEES	11040	1100	11180 TREAS COLL FEE FOOD STAMP FR	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	110400	16	
0285: FNS FOOD STAMP OUTREACH 50%									
3005 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH - 50%	32530	3200	32533 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH-50%	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	325300	16	
0286: FCS STATE EXCHANGE									
3021 FNS STATE EXCHANGE-EBT	12050	1200	12007 FNS STATE EXCHANGE-EBT	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120500	16	
3022 FNS STATE EXCHANGE-PROGRAM INTEGRITY	12050	1200	12252 FNS ST EXCH TRVL-LOCAL&OTHERS	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	120500	16	
0287: FOOD STAMP BENEFITS EBT									
3035 FOOD STAMP GRANT EBT ISSUANCE	32530	3200	32509 FOOD STAMPS GRANTS EBT ISSUED	010120	16	FOOD STAMPS EBT BENEFITS	325300	16	
3037 FOOD STAMPS OIG EBT USAGE	32530	3200	32511 FOOD STAMP OIG EBT USAGE	010120	16	FOOD STAMPS EBT BENEFITS	325300	16	
0288: SNAP FARMERS MARKET EBT									
3001 SNAP FARMERS MARKETS	11400	1100	11462 SNAP FARMERS MARKETS	010106	16	SNAP FARMERS MARKET EBT	114000	16	
0298: CHILD ABUSE									
2303 CHILD PROTECTION SPECIAL PROJECTS	72160	0929	72855 CHILD PROTECTION SPECIAL PROJ	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
2326 NEW BIRTH MATCH IA W/ DCH	72160	0929	72164 NEW BIRTH MATCH IA W/ DCH	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
2327 CPS MEDICAL SERIVCES CONTRACT	72160	0929	72165 CPS MEDICAL SERVICES CONTRACT	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
0298: CHILD ABUSE									
1/ 2327 CPS MEDICAL SERIVCES CONTRACT	74040	7400	72058 CPS MEDICAL SERVICE CONTRACT	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	740400	16	
2327 CPS MEDICAL SERIVCES CONTRACT	99940	0819	00538 CPS MEDICAL SERVICE CONTRACT	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	999400	16	
2328 CAN CONFERENCE & TRAINING COSTS-FIELD	72160	0929	72166 CAN CONF & TRNG COSTS-FIELD	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
2330 CPS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	72160	0929	72170 CPS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
2331 CHILD DEATH REVIEW CONTRACT	72160	0929	72171 CHILD DEATH REVIEW CONTRACT	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
1/ 2331 CHILD DEATH REVIEW CONTRACT	74040	7400	72043 CHILD DEATH REVIEW CSS&M	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	740400	16	
2332 MEDICAL ADVISORY CONFERENCE	72160	0929	72172 MEDICAL ADVISORY CONFERENCE	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
2902 DCQI REVIEW COSTS-CPS CASES	72160	0929	72852 DCQI REVIEW COSTS-CPS CASES	090425	50	CHILD ABUSE	721600	16	
8098 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE	12050	1200	12108 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE				120500	16	
1/ 8098 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE	74040	7400	72027 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE				740400	16	
8098 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE	74100	7400	74137 CPS PROGRAM OFFICE				741000	16	
0301: NISTLEXNEX IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION PROJ									
1/ 3019 NIST-LEXNEX	16100	1600	16359 3019-NIST-LEXNEX				161000	16	
0302: EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS									
2736 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	74420	7400	72442 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	090422	16	EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	744200	16	
2736 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	99940	0819	00316 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	090422	16	EDUCATIONAL TRAINING VOUCHERS	999400	16	
0306: ADOPT & FOSTER FAMILY RECRUITMENT									
2118 ADOPT & FC FAMILY RECRUITMENT GRANT	11350	1100	11360 ADOPT & FC FAM RECRUIT GRANT	090434	16	ADOPT FOSTER FAMILY RECRUITMENT	113500	16	
2118 ADOPT & FC FAMILY RECRUITMENT GRANT	99940	0819	00387 ADOPT & FC FAM RECRUIT GRANT	090434	16	ADOPT FOSTER FAMILY RECRUITMENT	999400	16	
0310: FAMILY VIOLENCE GRANT									
5424 PAYMENTS TO SUBRECIPIENTS	72100	7200	72056 PMTS TO SUBREC FED FAM VIOL	090430	50	FAMILY VIOLENCE	721000	16	
5424 PAYMENTS TO SUBRECIPIENTS	99940	0819	01062 PMTS TO SUBREC FED FAM VIOL	090430	50	FAMILY VIOLENCE	999400	16	
5425 FEDERAL GRANT ADMINISTRATION	72100	7200	72057 FAMILY VIOLENCE GRANT ADMIN	090430	50	FAMILY VIOLENCE	721000	16	
0329: STOP VIOLENCE GRANT									
5421 STOP GRANT-VICTIM SVCS CONTRACT	72100	7200	72067 STOP GRANT-VICTIM SVCS CONTR	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5421 STOP GRANT-VICTIM SVCS CONTRACT	99940	0819	00336 STOP GRANT-VICTIM SVCS CONTR	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	999400	16	
5464 STOP GRANT LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING	72100	7200	11430 STOP GR LAW ENFORCE TRAIN	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5467 STOP GRANT PROSECUTOR TRAINING	72100	7200	11432 STOP GR PROSECUTOR TRAIN	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5469 STOP GRANT JUDICIAL/COURT TRAINING	72100	7200	11434 STOP GR JUDICIAL/CRT TRAIN	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5470 STOP GRANT LOCAL PROSECUTOR PROJECTS	72100	7200	11435 STOP GRNT LOCAL PROSCUTR PROJ	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5471 LAW ENFORCEMENT LOCAL PROGRAMS	72100	7200	72346 LAW ENFORCEMENT LOCAL PROGRAM	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5471 LAW ENFORCEMENT LOCAL PROGRAMS	99940	0819	00335 LAW ENFORCEMENT LOCAL PROGRAM	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	999400	16	
5472 PROSECUTION LOCAL PROGRAMS	72100	7200	72347 PROSECUTION LOCAL PROGRAMS	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5472 PROSECUTION LOCAL PROGRAMS	99940	0819	00334 PROSECUTION LOCAL PROGRAMS	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	999400	16	
5473 COURTS LOCAL PROGRAMS	72100	7200	72348 COURTS LOCAL PROGRAMS	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5473 COURTS LOCAL PROGRAMS	99940	0819	00333 COURTS LOCAL PROGRAMS	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	999400	16	
0330: STOP VIOLENCE GRANT MATCH									
5422 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTRACT/GRANTS	72100	7200	72053 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTRACT/GR	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
5422 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTRACT/GRANTS	99940	0819	01061 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTRACT/GR	030431	50	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	999400	16	
0331: STOP PREA AUDIT SET ASIDE									
4221 FY14 STOP GRANT PREA CONTRACTED AUDITORS	47670	4700	47855 FY14 STOP GRNT PREA CNTRT AUD	030431	14	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	476700	16	
4221 FY14 STOP GRANT PREA CONTRACTED AUDITORS	72100	7200	72857 FY14 STOP GRNT PREA CNTRT AUD	030431	14	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
0338: REFUGEE UNACCOMP MINORS ADMIN									
1/ 7031 CMA UNACOMMPANIED MINORS CENTRAL ADMIN	32650	3200	72288 CMA:UMP ADMIN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	

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0338: REFUGEE UNACCOMP MINORS ADMIN									
1/ 7034 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS ADMIN LSSM GY 14	32650	3200	32682 URM ADMIN LSSM GY 14	090033	14	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7035 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS ADMIN BCS GY 14	32650	3200	32683 URM ADMIN BCS GY 14	090033	14	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
2/ 7044 URM BETHANY CHRISTIAN SVS ADMIN FY16	32650	3200	32792 URM ADMIN BCS FY16	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
2/ 7045 URM LSSM ADMIN FY16	32650	3200	32793 URM ADMIN LSSM FY16	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7131 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS ADMIN-BCS GY15	32650	3200	32772 URM ADMIN BCS FY15	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7133 UNACCOMPANIED MINORS ADMIN - LSSM GY15	32650	3200	32774 URM ADMIN LSSM FY15	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0339: REFUGEE MEDICAL SCREENING ADMIN									
1/ 7013 REFUGEE MEDICAL SCREENING ADMIN	32650	3200	32653 REFUGEE MEDICAL SCREEN ADMIN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0340: REFUGEE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMIN									
1/ 7014 RMA ADMINISTRATION	32650	3200	32669 RMA PHARMACEUTICAL ADMIN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0343: TAG FORMULA EXPANDED									
1/ 7078 TAG FORMULA-KENT CO GY 13	32650	3200	32776 REFUGEE EMPL TAGF-GY13-KENT	090037	16	TAG FORMULA EXPANDED 11TAMI1000	326500	16	
1/ 7079 TAG FORMULA-SE MICH GY 13	32650	3200	32777 REFUGEE EMPL TAGF-GY13-SE MI	090037	16	TAG FORMULA EXPANDED 11TAMI1000	326500	16	
1/ 7081 TAG FORMULA-INGHAM/EATON GY 13	32650	3200	32778 REFUGE EMPL TAGF-GY13-ING/EAT	090037	16	TAG FORMULA EXPANDED 11TAMI1000	326500	16	
1/ 7091 TAG FORMULA WAYNE CO	32650	3200	32666 TAG FORMULA WAYNE CO	090037	16	TAG FORMULA EXPANDED 11TAMI1000	326500	16	
0350: REFUGEE ADMIN- PLANNING & COORDINATION									
1/ 7011 CMA REFUGEE ASSISTANCE CNTRL ADMINISTRAT	32650	3200	72282 CMA: REFUGEE ASSIST ADMIN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
7011 CMA REFUGEE ASSISTANCE CNTRL ADMINISTRAT	99940	0819	00961 CMA: REFUGEE ASSIST ADMIN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	999400	16	
1/ 7012 CMA MI COMMITTEE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT	32650	3200	72283 CMA:MI COMM REFUGEE RESETTLMN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7095 REFUGEE HEALTH COORD DCH ADMIN	32650	3200	32672 REFUGEE HEALTH COORD DCH ADMN	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0351: REFUGEE UNACCOMPANIED MINORS									
1/ 7036 URM BETHANY CHRISTIAN SVCS OF MI GY14	32650	3200	32684 URM BCS GY 14	090033	14	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7037 URM LUTERHAN SOCIAL SVCS OF MI GY14	32650	3200	32685 URM LSSM GY 14	090033	14	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
2/ 7043 URM BCS FY16	32650	3200	32791 URM BCS FY16	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
2/ 7046 URM LUTHERAN SOCIAL SVS OF MI FY16	32650	3200	32794 URM LSSM FY16	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7132 URM BETHANY CHRISTIAN SVS OF MI GY15	32650	3200	32773 URM BCS FY15	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7134 URM LUTHERAN SOCIAL SVS OF MI GY15	32650	3200	32775 URM LSSM FY15	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0352: REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE									
1/ 7021 REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE STATE ADMIN	32650	3200	72285 CMA:REFUGEE ASSIST GRANTS 'I'	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
1/ 7027 REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE - EBT TO CLIENTS	32650	3200	72298 REFUGEE ASSISTANCE GRANTS EBT	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0353: REFUGEE MEDICAL SCREENING									
1/ 7024 CMA REFUGEE HEALTH SCREENING	32650	3200	32612 CMA REFUGEE HEALTH SCREENING	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0354: REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION									
3211 EBT REFUGEE ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	11400	1100	11448 EBT REFUGEE ADMIN EXP OFFSET	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	114000	16	
1/ 7015 REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE EBT ADMIN	32650	3200	72297 REFUG ASSIST EBT ADMIN-CITIBA	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0355: REFUGEE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE									
1/ 7022 CMA REFUGEE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	32650	3200	72286 CMA:REFUGEE ASSIST NON-TXIX	090033	16	REFUGEE CMA	326500	16	
0363: REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES									
2/ 7008 REFUGEE EMPLOY. SVS-SSF GY15	32650	3200	32795 REFUGEE EMPLOYE SVS-SSF GY15	090040	15	REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES	326500	16	
1/ 7009 REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SVS-SSF GY 14	32650	3200	32771 REFUGEE EMPLOY SVS-SSF GY 14	090040	14	REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES	326500	16	
1/ 7042 REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SVCS-SSF GY 13	32650	3200	32686 REFUGEE EMPLYMNT SVS-SSF GY13	090040	13	REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES	326500	16	

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	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description										
0366: SERVICES TO OLDER REFUGEES										
1/	7093 SERVICES TO OLDER REFUGEES - FY 13-15	32650	3200	32667 SVCS TO OLDER REFGEES-FY13-15	090022	16	SERVICES TO OLDER REFUGEES 90RL0144	326500	16	
0368: REFUGEE TAG FORMULA 12TAMI1000										
1/	7061 TAG FORMULA-ING/EAT GY 12	32650	3200	32678 TAG FORMULA-ING/EAT				326500	16	
1/	7062 TAG FORMULA-KENT CO GY 12	32650	3200	32679 TAG FORMULA-KENT CO				326500	16	
1/	7076 TAG FORMULA-SE MICH GY 12	32650	3200	32681 TAG FORMULA-SE MICH				326500	16	
2/	7082 TAG FORMULA MACOMB CO GY14	32650	3200	32796 TAG FORMULA MACOMB CO GY14	090027	14	TAG FORMULA 12TAMI1000	326500	16	
2/	7083 TAG FORMULA EAT/ING CO GY14	32650	3200	32797 TAG FORMULA EAT/ING GY14	090027	14	TAG FORMULA 12TAMI1000	326500	16	
2/	7084 TAG FORMULA OAKLAND CO GY14	32650	3200	32798 TAG FORMULA OAKLAND CO GY14	090027	14	TAG FORMULA 12TAMI1000	326500	16	
2/	7085 TAG FORMULA KENT CO GY14	32650	3200	32799 TAG FORMULA KENT CO GY14	090027	14	TAG FORMULA 12TAMI1000	326500	16	
0369: REF TAG SE MICHIGAN 90RT0180										
1/	7055 TAG D 14-16 RECERTIFICATION	32650	3200	32687 TAGD-WASHT,WAYNE,OAK,MACOMB	090021	16	REF TAG SE MICH 90RT0180	326500	16	
0370: REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT										
1/	7098 REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT - FY 15-16	32650	3200	32779 REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT-FY15-16	090023	16	REF SCHOOL IMPACT 90ZE0143	326500	16	
0390: CHILDREN'S JUSTICE TRAINING										
	2352 CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT - TRAINING SCAO	72250	0929	11249 CJA TRAINING SCAO	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
	2355 CJA GTF TRAINING-OTHER	72250	0929	72255 CJA GTF TRAINING-OTHER	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
	2357 CJA GTF SUMMIT	72250	0929	72257 CJA GTF SUMMIT	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
0392: CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION										
	2351 CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT - PAYROLL COSTS	72250	0929	11248 CHILDREN'S JUSTIC ACT-PAYROLL	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
	2351 CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT - PAYROLL COSTS	99940	0819	00358 CHILDRENS JUST ACT ADMIN	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	999400	16	
	2356 CJA GTF CHILD WELFARE LAW JOURNAL	72250	0929	72256 CJA GTF CHILD WELFARE LAW JRN	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
	2358 CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT-CSS&M AND TRAVEL	72250	0929	72258 CJA CSS&M AND TRAVEL	090456	50	CHILDREN'S JUSTICE	722500	16	
0401: TANF SERVICE TO OLDER CHILDREN AND YOUTH										
1/	1050 SCHOOL SUCCESS PARTNERSHIP	82560	0928	82561 SCHOOL SUCCESS PARTNERSHIP	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	825600	16	
1/	2209 CCF IN-HOME CARE	74290	7400	47294 CCF IN-HOME CARE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	742900	16	
1/	2701 FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	74420	7400	74436 FOSTERING FUTURES SCHOLAR PRG	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	744200	16	
1/	2721 RUNAWAY/STATUS OFFENDER-TANF	74420	7400	72423 RUNAWAY/STATUS OFFENDER-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	744200	16	
1/	2721 RUNAWAY/STATUS OFFENDER-TANF	99940	0819	01056 RUNAWAY/STATUS OFFENDER-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5654 RAPE PREVENTION TANF	72390	7200	72125 RAPE PREVENTION TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	723900	16	
1/	5654 RAPE PREVENTION TANF	99940	0819	00949 RAPE PREVENTION TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
0402: TANF FAMILY SUPPORT FAMILY PRES REUNIFIC										
2/	5505 FTBS CONTRACTS TANF FUNDED	72230	7200	72862 FTBS CONTRCTS TANF FUNDED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5514 SUPPORTIVE VISITATION-PROGRAM	72230	0928	72261 SUPPORTED VISITATION PROGRAM	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5514 SUPPORTIVE VISITATION-PROGRAM	72240	7200	72204 SUPPORTIVE VISITATION-FAM PRS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722400	16	
1/	5521 PARENT PARTNER PROGRAM	72230	0928	72262 PARENT PARTNER PROGRAM	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5523 FAMILIES FIRST SVC DELIVERY	72230	0928	72079 FAM FIRST SVCS DELIVERY CONT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5523 FAMILIES FIRST SVC DELIVERY	99940	0819	00957 FAM FIRST SVCS DELIVERY CONT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5537 LOW RISK LOCAL CP/CP	72230	7200	72141 LOW RISK TECH LOCAL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5537 LOW RISK LOCAL CP/CP	99940	0819	00493 LOW RISK TECH LOCAL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5541 FRP CONTRACTS TANF-FUNDED	74550	7400	72556 FRP CONTRACTS TANF-FUNDED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	745500	16	
1/	5541 FRP CONTRACTS TANF-FUNDED	99940	0819	00380 FRP CONTRACTS TANF-FUNDED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5544 FAMILY REUNIFICATION PGM SERVICE DELIVRY	72230	0928	72116 FAM REUNIFICATION PG SERV DEL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5595 WRAPAROUND PROGRAM	72230	0928	72181 WRAPAROUND PROGRAM-FAM FIRST	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5596 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERMANCY PLANNING	72230	7200	72263 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERM PLAN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
1/	5596 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERMANCY PLANNING	99940	0819	00480 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERM PLAN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0402: TANF FAMILY SUPPORT FAMILY PRES REUNIFIC										
1/	5596 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERMANCY PLANNING	99940	0819	00924 CSPP CHILD SAFETY/PERM PLAN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5598 CSPP REUNIFICATION	72230	7200	72381 CSPP FR ACCOUNT EXPENDITURES	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722300	16	
0403: TANF SUPPORT SERVICES										
1/	1305 VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACTIVITIES 100% TANF	62510	6200	62511 VOLNTEER SVC ACTIVT 100% TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	625100	16	
1/	1611 DIRECT SUPPORT SERVICES CONTRACTS	81450	8100	81117 DIRECT SUPPORT SERV CONTRACTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1611 DIRECT SUPPORT SERVICES CONTRACTS	99940	0819	01068 DIRECT SUPPORT SERV CONTRACTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	1615 DIRECT SUPPORT SERVICES LOCAL ADMIN	81450	8100	81111 DIRECT SUPP SERV LOCAL ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1615 DIRECT SUPPORT SERVICES LOCAL ADMIN	99940	0819	01066 DIRECT SUPP SERV LOCAL ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
0404: TANF ASSESSMENT SERVICE PROVISION										
1/	3191 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-TANF	32620	3200	32151 ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326200	16	
0405: TANF WORK SUPPORT TRANSPORTATION										
1/	1626 E&T VEHICLE REPAIR/PURCHASE-IVA	81450	8100	81122 E&T VEHICLE REPAIR/PURCH-IVA	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1635 E&T TRANSPORTATION IV-A	81450	8100	81134 E&T TRANSPORTATION IV-A	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
0420: COMINGLED CASH ASSISTANCE TANF										
	3232 F.I.P. - CERTIFIED PAYMENTS (AFDC)	32500	3200	32002 FIP PAYMENTS - FEDERAL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3233 FIP-SHELTER VENDOR PAYMENTS-FEDERAL	32500	3200	32003 FIP-SHELTER VENDER PMTS-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3247 FIP-JUDGEMENT PMTS TO LANDLORDS-FEDERAL	32500	3200	32115 FIP-JDGMT PMTS TO LNDLRDS-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3249 FIP CERTIFIED PAYMENTS-EBT-TANF	32500	3200	32121 FIP CERT ISSUANCE(PMT)-EBT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3311 FIP-HEAT VENDOR PAYMENTS-FEDERAL	32500	3200	32004 FIP-HEAT VENDOR PYMTS-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3312 FIP-ELECTRIC VENDOR PAYMENTS-FEDERAL	32500	3200	32005 FIP-ELECTRIC VENDOR PMTS-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3314 ALL ELECTRIC HSEHLD VENDOR PAYMENTS-FED	32500	3200	32008 ALL ELECT HSHLD VEND PMTS-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
0422: ASSISTANCE PRIOR LAW FOSTER CARE TANF										
	2208 COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMBURSEMENT-MOE	74290	7400	47293 COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMB-MOE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	742900	16	
0427: COMINGLED ADMINISTRATION TANF										
	0241 PCG CONTRACT-MOE EXPENSES	11040	1100	11093 PCG CONTRACT-MOE EXPENSES	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	110400	16	
1/	1642 E&T CENTRAL OFFICE ADMIN	81450	8100	81214 E&T CENTRAL OFFICE ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1703 DOE COSTS FOR TANF MOE REPORTING	11040	1100	11065 DOE COSTS FOR TANF MOE REPORT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	110400	16	
	3212 F.I.P. - PAAM CONTRACT-AFDC PROSECUTION	11040	1100	11182 PAAM CONTRACT-AFDC PROS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	110400	16	
	3212 F.I.P. - PAAM CONTRACT-AFDC PROSECUTION	99940	0819	01002 PAAM CONTRACT-AFDC PROS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	3213 EBT FIP TANF ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	11400	1100	11449 EBT FIP TANF ADMIN EXP OFFSET	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	114000	16	
	3214 ADC/MA UNBORN (PREGNANCY)	62400	6200	62094 ADC/MA UNBORN (PREGNANCY)	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	624000	16	
1/	3218 FIP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK TANF	11400	1100	81055 FIP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	114000	16	
	3239 FIP-(AFDC) TREASURY ST TAX RECOVERY FEE	32500	3200	32015 TREAS ST TAX RECOV ADMIN FEE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
1/	5501 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CONTRACT-TRAINING	72870	7200	72146 PROSECUTING ATTY CONT-TRAININ	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	728700	16	
1/	5516 FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES TRAINING	99940	0819	00481 FAMILY PRESERVATION TRAINING	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5516 FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES TRAINING	99940	0819	01047 FAMILY PRESERVATION TRAINING	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5761 COMMUNITY SUPPORT DIV S&W, TX & FR	72240	7200	72371 COMMUNITY SUPP DIV S&W,TX&FRG	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722400	16	
1/	5761 COMMUNITY SUPPORT DIV S&W, TX & FR	74100	7400	72023 FAMILY PRES STAFF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	741000	16	
1/	5762 COMMUNITY SUPPORT DIV CSS&M & TRAVEL	99940	0819	00337 COMMUNITY SUPP DIV CSS&M,TRVL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
	7562 CHILD SUPPORT PSYCH & MEDICAL EXAMS	62400	6200	62095 CHILD SUPP - PSYCHOLOG & MED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	624000	16	
1/	8407 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	11010	1100	11601 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	110100	16	
1/	8407 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	11040	1100	11858 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	110400	16	
1/	8407 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	12050	1200	12521 QAIC-TANF ANALYSTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	120500	16	
1/	8725 OWDT-DELIV #1-FAM PRES	74350	7400	74281 OWDT-DELIV #1-FAM PRES	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	743500	16	

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AC1 Code and Description										
0430: BASIC ASSISTANCE ADOPTION GUARDIANSHIP										
	2112 ADOPTION SUBSIDY TANF ELIGIBLE	74750	7400	72277 ADOPT SUBSIDY TANF ELIGIBLE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	747500	16	
	2112 ADOPTION SUBSIDY TANF ELIGIBLE	99940	0819	00318 ADOPT SUBSIDY TANF ELIGIBLE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
	2137 YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-TANF FUNDED	74750	7400	74753 YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-TANF FUND	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	747500	16	
	2137 YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-TANF FUNDED	99940	0819	00455 YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-TANF FUND	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
0436: TANF NON-TRANSPORTATION WORK SUPPORT										
	1624 OTHER ESS/FSS	81450	8100	81115 OTHER ESS/FSS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
	1624 OTHER ESS/FSS	99940	0819	00485 OTHER ESS/FSS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	1628 E&T MOVING EXPENSES IV-A	81450	8100	81125 E&T MOVING EXPENSES IV-A	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1631 E&T CLOTHING IV-A	81450	8100	81129 E&T CLOTHING IV-A	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
1/	1641 I/A AGREEMENT - DSS SERVICES	81450	8100	81206 I/A AGREEMENT-DSS SERVICES	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
0439: 100% FED ADMINISTRATION TANF										
	1671 JET PILOT ADMIN COSTS	81450	8100	81265 JET PILOT ADMIN COSTS	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
	2006 SAFE AND TOGETHER MODEL	72240	7200	72264 SAFE AND TOGETHER MODEL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722400	16	
1/	2006 SAFE AND TOGETHER MODEL	74040	7400	72001 SAFE AND TOGETHER MODEL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	740400	16	
	5516 FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES TRAINING	74350	7400	72464 FAMILY PRESERVATION TRAINING	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	743500	16	
	5529 FAMILIES FIRST TRAINING	74350	7400	72465 FAMILIES FIRST TRAINING	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	743500	16	
	5545 FAMILY REUNIFICATION TRAINING	74350	7400	72466 FAMILY REUNIFICATION TRAINING	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	743500	16	
	5762 COMMUNITY SUPPORT DIV CSS&M & TRAVEL	72240	7200	72372 COMMUNITY SUPP DIV CSS&M,TRVL	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	722400	16	
0442: TANF EMERGENCY SERVICES UNDER PRIOR LAW										
	3151 BURIAL OF INDIGENTS (FEDERAL)	32630	3200	32081 BURIAL OF INDIGENTS - FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326300	16	
0443: TANF FATHERHOOD 2 PARENT FAMILY FORMATIO										
	2628 PATERNITY TESTING CONTRACT-CHILD WELFARE	74550	7400	74553 PATERNTY TEST CONT-CHILD WELF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	745500	16	
0445: 100% MOE CASH ASSISTANCE TANF										
	3241 CHILD SUPPORT PARTICIPATION - TANF	32500	3200	32016 CHILD SUPP PARTICIPATION TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
0447: 100% MOE ASSISTANCE OTHER SERVICES TANF										
	2105 MEDICAL SUBSIDY TANF MOE ELIGIBLE	74750	7400	72237 MED SUBS TANF MOE ELIGIBLE	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	747500	16	
0456: COMINGLED OTHER WORK ACTIVITIES										
	9518 FRC E&T CLOTHING IV-A	81450	8100	81325 FRC E&T CLOTHING IV-A	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
0461: TRANSPORTATION JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMUTE										
	1663 JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE PRG	81450	8100	81332 JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMM PRG	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	814500	16	
0462: TANF FED SHORT TERM BENEFITS										
	3106 HOMELESS PREVENTION	81200	8100	81213 HOMELESS PREVENTION	090952	15	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	812000	16	
1/	3114 FOOD BANK COUNCIL TANF CONTRACT	32600	3200	32086 FOOD BANK COUNCIL TANF CNTRCT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326000	16	
1/	3119 SALVATION ARMY EMERGENCY SHELTER-FEDERA	32610	3200	32113 SALV ARMY EMERG SHELTER-FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326100	16	
1/	3123 DV HOMELESS PGRM-TANF (SHELTER ALLOC)	32610	3200	32613 DV HOMELESS PGRM-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326100	16	
1/	3172 SER (FEDERAL)	32640	3200	32082 ST EMERG RELIEF - FED	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326400	16	
	3174 RENT PROGRAM	32640	3200	32641 RENT PROGRAM	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	326400	16	
	3234 SHORT TERM FAMILY SUPPORT	32500	3200	32512 SHORT TERM FAMILY SUPPORT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
	3244 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE ISSUANCE-EBT	32500	3200	32528 CLOTHNG ALLOWNCE ISSUANCE-EBT	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	325000	16	
1/	5431 DOMEST VIOLENCE CONTRACTS & GRANTS-TANF	72100	7200	72060 DOMES VIOL CONT & GRANTS-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	721000	16	
1/	5431 DOMEST VIOLENCE CONTRACTS & GRANTS-TANF	99940	0819	01063 DOMES VIOL CONT & GRANTS-TANF	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	
1/	5433 TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	72100	7200	72062 TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HSG	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	721000	16	
1/	5433 TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	99940	0819	01064 TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HSG	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	999400	16	

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Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description									
0501: JUVENILE JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION									
4314 2012 PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION	47800	4700	47819 2012 PLANNING & ADMINISTRATIO	030510	12	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
4315 2013 PLANNING & ADMIN	47800	4700	47846 2013 PLANNING & ADMIN	030510	13	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
4317 2014 PLANNING & ADMIN	47800	4700	47833 2014 PLANNING & ADMIN	030510	14	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
0502: JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE									
4346 2013 JJDPA COMMITTEE	47800	4700	47845 2013 JJDPA COMMITTEE	030510	13	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
4347 2014 JJDPA COMMITTEE	47800	4700	47024 2014 JJDPA COMMITTEE	030510	14	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
0503: JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANT									
4373 2013 FORMULA GRANTS TITLE II	47820	0929	47847 2013 FORMULA GRANTS TITLE II	030510	13	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478200	16	
4374 2014 FORMULA GRANTS TITLE II	47800	4700	47836 2014 FORMULA GRANTS TITLE II	030510	14	JUVENILE JUSTICE	478000	16	
0505: STOP VIOLENCE 75% GRANT									
5466 STOP GRANT SHELTER WORKER TRAINING	72100	7200	11431 STOP GR SHELTER WKR TRAIN	030431	16	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
0506: PREA AUDIT TRAVEL									
4219 PREAU AUDIT TRAVEL EXPENSES	47670	4700	47021 PREA AUDIT TRAVEL EXPENSES	030504	14	PREA AUDIT TRAVEL	476700	16	
0508: JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR									
4724 2012 EARNED INTEREST ON JABG	47700	4700	47729 2012 EARNED INTEREST ON JABG	030505	12	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
4725 2013 EARNED INTEREST ON JABG	47700	4700	47784 2013 EARNED INTEREST ON JABG	030505	13	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
0509: SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM									
5423 SASP SERVICES GRANT	72390	7200	11387 SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGR	030555	16	SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM	723900	16	
0511: JAIBG 100% FFP MATCH SEE 0514									
4764 2012 JABG TO LOCALS-REGULAR	47700	4700	47734 2012 JABG TO LOCALS-REGULAR	030505	12	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
4765 2013 JABG TO LOCALS-REGULAR	47700	4700	47785 2013 JABG TO LOCALS-REGULAR	030505	13	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
0512: JAIBG ADMINISTRATION 90% FFP, 10% GF/GP									
4754 2012 JABG TO LOCALS-NORTHERN	47700	4700	47733 2012 JABG TO LOCALS-NORTHERN	030505	12	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
4755 2013 JABG TO LOCALS-NORTHERN	47700	4700	47786 2013 JABG TO LOCALS-NORTHERN	030505	13	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
0514: JAIBG LOCAL MATCH 0% FFP									
4737 2013 JABG 10% LOCAL MATCH	47700	4700	47788 2013 JABG 10% LOCAL MATCH	030505	13	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
4747 2012 JABG 10% LOCAL MATCH	47700	4700	47731 2012 JABG 10% LOCAL MATCH	030505	12	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLK GR	477000	16	
0518: ENFORCE PROTECTION ORDERS									
5427 GRANT TO ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICIES	11350	1100	11354 GRANT-ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICY	030570	16	ENFORCE PROTECTION ORDERS	113500	16	
5427 GRANT TO ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICIES	99940	0819	00414 GRANT-ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICY	030570	16	ENFORCE PROTECTION ORDERS	999400	16	
5438 GTEA 2015	11350	1100	11882 GTEA 2015	030570	16	ENFORCE PROTECTION ORDERS	113500	16	
0519: SAFE HAVENS									
5436 SAFE HAVENS	11350	1100	11761 SAFE HAVENS	030573	16	SAFE HAVEN GRANT	113500	16	
0521: DISABILITY DETERMINATION CURRENT YEAR									
1515 DDS TRAVEL FOR SSA ONLY	14100	1400	14015 DDS TRAVEL FOR SSA ONLY	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
1519 COOPERATIVE DISABILITY INVESTIGATIONS	11040	1100	11881 OIG COOP DISABILITY INVGTS	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	110400	16	
1519 COOPERATIVE DISABILITY INVESTIGATIONS	11310	1100	11771 OIG COOP DISABILITY INVGTS	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	113100	16	
1519 COOPERATIVE DISABILITY INVESTIGATIONS	12050	1200	12921 OIG COOP DISABILITY INVGTS	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	120500	16	
1519 COOPERATIVE DISABILITY INVESTIGATIONS	14100	1400	14019 COOPERATIVE DISABILITY INVGTS	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
1522 DDS HEARINGS UNIT-TRAVEL & HEARING EXP	14100	1400	14016 DDS HEARINGS UNIT	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
1522 DDS HEARINGS UNIT-TRAVEL & HEARING EXP	99940	0819	00395 DDS HEARINGS UNT-TRVL&HRG EXP	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	999400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description										
0521: DISABILITY DETERMINATION CURRENT YEAR										
	1523 DDS NADE TRAVEL ONLY	14100	1400	14030 NADE TRAVEL	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
2/	1583 MED PYMTS TITLE IT & XVI	14100	1400	14086 MED PYMTS TITLE IT & XVI	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
2/	1584 MED PYMTS TITLE XVI	14100	1400	14087 MED PYMTS TITLE XVI	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
2/	1585 MED PYMTS TITLE IT	14100	1400	14088 MED PYMTS TITLE IT	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	8847 SSA FUNDED DDS STAFF	14100	1400	14113 SSA FUNDED DDS STAFF	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
0522: T-II & XVI MED										
	1573 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE II FY 13	14100	1400	14073 MED PMTS TITLE II FY 13	090530	13	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1574 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE XVI FY 13	14100	1400	14074 MED PMTS TITLE XVI FY 13	090530	13	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1575 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE II,XVI FY13	14100	1400	14075 MED PMTS TITLE II,XVI FY 13	090530	13	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1576 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE II FY14	14100	1400	14076 MED PMTS TITLE II FY14	090530	14	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1577 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE XVI FY14	14100	1400	14077 MED PMTS TITLE XVI FY14	090530	14	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1578 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE II,XVI FY14	14100	1400	14078 MED PMTS TITLE II, XVI FY14	090530	14	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1580 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE XVI FY15	14100	1400	14080 MED PMTS TITLE XVI FY 15	090530	15	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1581 MEDICAL PAYMENTS TITLE II, XVI FY15	14100	1400	14081 MED PMTS TITLE II XVI FY 15	090530	15	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
	1582 MEDICAL PYMTS TITLE II FY 15	14100	1400	14082 MED PMTS TITLE II FY 15	090530	16	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
0523: DDS SCRUB FUND										
	1567 SCRUB FUND GY13	14100	1400	14107 SCRUB FUND GY13	090530	13	DISABILITY DETERMINATION	141000	16	
0539: GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARRESTS										
	5428 GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARREST 2011	11350	1100	11375 GRNTS TO ENCOURGE ARREST 2011	030556	16	GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARRESTS	113500	16	
0540: COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT										
	1011 CSBG - DIRECT ADMINISTRATION	82100	0929	81110 CSBG DIRECT ADMIN	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	821000	16	
	1017 BCAEO COMMISSION COSTS	82100	0929	82107 BCAEO COMMISSION COSTS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	821000	16	
	1021 CSBG PROJECTS	82380	0929	81105 COMM SVC BLOCK GRANT PROJS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1021 CSBG PROJECTS	99940	0819	00936 COMM SVC BLOCK GRANT PROJS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	999400	16	
	1025 CSBG OTHER DISCRETIONARY	82380	0929	81109 CSBG OTHER DICRETIONARY	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1025 CSBG OTHER DISCRETIONARY	99940	0819	00973 CSBG OTHER DICRETIONARY	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	999400	16	
	1027 CSBG-D MIGRANT PROJECTS	82380	0929	82383 CSBG-D MIGRANT PROJECTS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1028 CSBG-D NATIVE AMERICAN PROJECTS	82380	0929	82384 CSBG-D NATIVE AMER PROJECTS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1030 CSBG-D EITC OUTREACH	82380	0929	81385 CSBG-D EITC OUTREACH	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1030 CSBG-D EITC OUTREACH	99940	0819	00490 CSBG-D EITC OUTREACH	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	999400	16	
	1034 CSBG-D-POVERTY FORUMS/SUMMITS	82380	0929	81032 CSBG-D-POVERTY FORUMS/SUMMITS	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	823800	16	
	1035 CSBG POVERTY SUMMIT	82100	0929	81033 CSBG POVERTY SUMMIT	090200	16	COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	821000	16	
0559: WEATHERIZATION 3/13 BEGIN										
	3409 DOE WEATHERIZATION PY14/15	82570	0929	82593 DOE WEATHERIZATION PY14/15	020250	16	WEATHERIZATION	825700	16	
	3411 WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE	82570	0929	82109 DOE WTHRZTN SUBGRNTEE PY15/16	020250	16	WEATHERIZATION	825700	16	
	3423 DOE WTHRZTN STAFF-T&TA PY15/16	82100	0929	82111 DOE WZ STAFF & T&TA PY 15/16	020250	16	WEATHERIZATION	821000	16	
	3424 DOE WEATHERIZATION P-CARD PY 15/16	82570	0929	82110 DOE WZ P-CARD T&TA PY 15/16	020250	16	WEATHERIZATION	825700	16	
	3447 DOE WEATHERIZATION T&TA PY14/15	82100	0929	82108 OEWEATHERIZATION T&TA PY14/15	020250	16	WEATHERIZATION	821000	16	
0561: WEATHERIZATION										
2/	3406 DOE WEATHERIZATION PROG PY 06/07	99940	0819	00974 DOE WEATHERIZATION PY 06/07	020251	13	WEATHERIZATION (2004 START)	999400	15	
0570: CHILDREN'S TRUST										
	2501 CTF AUCTION	57380	5700	57027 CTF AUCTION	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2511 CTF LOCAL COUNCIL ALLOCATIONS-FEDERAL	57380	5700	57021 CTF LOCAL COUNCIL ALLOCATIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2514 CTF PUBLIC AWARENESS	57380	5700	57020 CTF PUBLIC AWARENESS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2514 CTF PUBLIC AWARENESS	99940	0819	00962 CTF PUBL AWARENESS PROMOTIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	999400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description										
0570: CHILDREN'S TRUST										
	2515 CTF PROMOTIONAL GOODS	57380	5700	57042 CTF PROMOTIONAL GOODS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2516 CTF MAJOR DONOR SOLICITATION SUPPORT	57380	5700	57043 CTF MAJOR DONOR SOLICIT SUPPT	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2517 CTF FUND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT	57380	5700	57044 CTF FUND DEVELOP CONSULTANT	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
1/	2521 CTF S&W, TAXES & FRINGES	57380	5700	57022 CTF S&W, TAXES & FRINGES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2521 CTF S&W, TAXES & FRINGES	57380	5700	57051 CTF S&W, TAXES & FRINGES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2524 CTF ANNUAL STATEWIDE TRAINING	57380	5700	57385 CTF ANNUAL STATEWIDE TRAINING	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2532 CTF FUND DEVELOPMENT	57380	5700	57029 CTF FUND DEVELOPMENT	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2533 CTF DIRECT SERVICE ALLOCATIONS	57380	5700	57031 CTF DIRECT SERV ALLOCATIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2533 CTF DIRECT SERVICE ALLOCATIONS	99940	0819	00307 CTF DIRECT SERV ALLOCATIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	999400	16	
	2534 CTF DEMO PROJECTS ALLOCATIONS	57380	5700	57032 CTF DEMO PROJECTS ALLOCATIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2541 CTF DIRECT SERVICE SUPPORT	57380	5700	57033 CTF DIRECT SERVICE SUPPORT	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2543 CTF LOCAL COUNCIL SUPPORT	57380	5700	57035 CTF LOCAL COUNCIL SUPPORT	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2546 CTF COMMUNICATIONS	57380	5700	57045 CTF COMMUNICATIONS	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2547 CTF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	57380	5700	57046 CTF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2548 CTF EVALUATION	57380	5700	57047 CTF EVALUATION	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2549 CTF PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH	57380	5700	57048 CTF PREVENTION AWARE MONTH	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
1/	2551 CTF BOARD EXPENSES	57380	5700	57037 CTF BOARD EXPENSES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
1/	2552 CTF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL EXPENSES	57380	5700	57038 CTF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL EXPENSES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2552 CTF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL EXPENSES	99940	0819	00980 CTF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL EXPENSES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	999400	16	
1/	2553 CTF INTERAGENCY SERVICES	57380	5700	57039 CTF INTERAGENCY SERVICES	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
1/	2554 CTF ADMIN SUPPORT-CSS&M & EQUIP	57380	5700	57041 CTF ADMIN SUPPT-CSS&M & EQUIP	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2554 CTF ADMIN SUPPORT-CSS&M & EQUIP	99940	0819	00943 CTF ADMIN SUPPT-CSS&M & EQUIP	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	999400	16	
	2555 CTF PARENT LEADERSHIP	57380	5700	57049 CTF PARENT LEADERSHIP	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	573800	16	
	2555 CTF PARENT LEADERSHIP	99940	0819	00313 CTF PARENT LEADERSHIP	090457	16	CHILDREN'S TRUST	999400	16	
0608: HUD RHSS HMIS MI0011B5F001104										
2/	3259 HUD RHSS MIS 10/12-9/13	32610	3200	32637 HUD RHSS HMIS 10/12-9/13	040462	13	HUD RURAL MI0011B5F001104	326100	16	
0609: HUD RHSS ADMIN MI0011B5F001104										
2/	3299 HUD RHSS ADMIN 0/12-9/13	32610	3200	32638 HUD RHSS ADMIN 10/12-9/13	040462	13	HUD RURAL MI0011B5F001104	326100	16	
0611: RHSS ADMIN MI0011L5F001205										
2/	3271 HUD RHSS ADMIN 10/13-9/14	32610	3200	32701 HUD RHSS ADMIN 10/13-9/14	040483	14	HUD RHSS OCT13 BEGIN MI0011L5F001205	326100	16	
0612: RHSS SUPP SERV MI0011L5F001205										
2/	3272 HUD RHSS SUPP SVCS 10/13-9/14	32610	3200	32702 HUD RHSS SUPP SVCS 10/13-9/14	040483	14	HUD RHSS OCT13 BEGIN MI0011L5F001205	326100	16	
0613: RHSS HMIS MI0011L5F001205										
2/	3273 HUD RHSS HMIS 10/13-9/14	32610	3200	32703 HUD RHSS HMIS 10/13-9/14	040483	14	HUD RHSS OCT13 BEGIN MI0011L5F001205	326100	16	
0614: HUD RAP REHOUS SUPSERV 14 MI0012L5001306										
	3087 HUD RRHI SUPP SVCS 6/14-5/15	32610	3200	32704 HUD RRHI SUPP SVCS 6/14-5/15	040480	14	HUD RAPID REHOUSING MI0012L5F001306	326100	16	
0615: HUD RAPREHOUS ADMIN GY14 MI0012L5F001306										
	3088 HUD RRHI ADMIN 6/14-5/15	32610	3200	32705 HUD RRHI ADMIN 6/14-5/15	040480	14	HUD RAPID REHOUSING MI0012L5F001306	326100	16	
0616: HUD RAPREHOUS GY14 LEASE MI0012L5F001306										
	3089 HUD RRHI LEASING 6/14-5/15	32610	3200	32706 HUD RRHI LEASING 6/14-5/15	040480	14	HUD RAPID REHOUSING MI0012L5F001306	326100	16	
0617: HUD TSH LAP ADMIN MI0023L5F001205										
2/	3307 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/13-6/14	32610	3200	32648 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/13-6/14	040471	13	HUD THP 2013 MI0023L5F001205	326100	16	
	3307 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/13-6/14	99940	0819	00502 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/13-6/14	040471	13	HUD THP 2013 MI0023L5F001205	999400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description / Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0618: HUD TSH LAP LEASE MI0023L5F001205									
3308 HUD TSHLAP LEASING 7/13-6/14	32610	3200	32649 HUD TSHLAP LEASING 7/13-6/14	040471	13	HUD THP 2013 MI0023L5F001205	326100	16	
0619: HUD RPD LEASING MI0012L5F001205									
3309 HUD RPD LEASING 6/13-5/14	32610	3200	32674 HUD RPD LEASING 6/13-5/14	040472	13	HUD RPD 2013 MI001215F001205	326100	16	
3309 HUD RPD LEASING 6/13-5/14	99940	0819	00487 HUD RPD LEASING 6/13-5/14	040472	13	HUD RPD 2013 MI001215F001205	999400	16	
0620: HUD RPD SUPP SERV MI0012L5F001205									
3315 HUD RPD SUPP SVCS 6/13-5/14	32610	3200	32675 HUD RPD SUPP SVCS 6/13-5/14	040472	13	HUD RPD 2013 MI001215F001205	326100	16	
0621: HUD RPD ADMIN MI0012L5F001205									
3316 HUD RPD ADMIN 6/13-5/14	32610	3200	32676 HUD RPD ADMIN 6/13-5/14	040472	13	HUD RPD 2013 MI001215F001205	326100	16	
3316 HUD RPD ADMIN 6/13-5/14	99940	0819	00486 HUD RPD ADMIN 6/13-5/14	040472	13	HUD RPD 2013 MI001215F001205	999400	16	
0622: HUD TS-LAP ADMIN GY2014									
3091 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/14-6/15	32610	3200	32707 HUD TSHLAP ADMIN 7/14-6/15	040481	14	HUD TRANS SUPP HOUSING MI0023L5F001306	326100	16	
0623: HUD TS-LAP LEASING GY2014									
3092 HUD TSHLAP LEASING 7/14-6/15	32610	3200	32708 HUD TSHLAP LEASING 7/14-6/15	040481	14	HUD TRANS SUPP HOUSING MI0023L5F001306	326100	16	
0624: HUD 463 FRP SUPP SERV MI0433L5F001400									
3483 FRP SUPP SVCS 10/15-9/16	32610	3200	32780 FRP SUPP SVCS 10/15-9/16	040463	16	HUD FAMILY REHOUSING MI0433L5F001400	326100	16	
0625: HUD RPSH SUPP SERV MI0366L5F001301									
3093 HUD RPSH SUPP SVCS 11/14-10/15	32610	3200	32581 HUD RPSH SUPP SVC 11/14-10/15	040482	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS PERMSUPP MI0366L5F001301	326100	16	
0626: HUD RPHS ADMIN MI0366L5F001301									
3094 HUD RPSH ADMIN 11/14-10/15	32610	3200	32582 HUD RPSH ADMIN 11/14-10/15	040482	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS PERMSUPP MI0366L5F001301	326100	16	
0627: HUD RPSH LEASING MI0366L5F001301									
3095 HUD RPSH LEASING 11/14-10/15	32610	3200	32583 HUD RPSH LEASING 11/14-10/15	040482	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS PERMSUPP MI0366L5F001301	326100	16	
0630: HUD RHSS HMIS MI0011L5F001306									
3096 HUD RHSS HMIS 10/14-9/15	32610	3200	32584 HUD RHSS HMIS 10/14-9/15	040484	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS SUPPSERV MI0011L5F001306	326100	16	
0631: HUD RHSS ADMIN MI0011L5F001306									
3097 HUD RHSS ADMN 10/14-9/15	32610	3200	32585 HUD RHSS ADMN 10/14-9/15	040484	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS SUPPSERV MI0011L5F001306	326100	16	
0632: HUD RHSS SUPP SERV MI0011L5F001306									
3098 HUD RHSS SUPP SVCS 10/14-9/15	32610	3200	32586 HUD RHSS SUPP SVCS 10/14-9/15	040484	15	HUD RURAL HOMLS SUPPSERV MI0011L5F001306	326100	16	
0633: HUD 463 FRP RENTAL MI0433L5F001400									
3484 FRP RENTAL ASST 10/15-9/16	32610	3200	32781 FRP RENTAL ASST 10/15-9/16	040463	16	HUD FAMILY REHOUSING MI0433L5F001400	326100	16	
0634: HUD 463 ADMIN MI0433L5F001400									
3485 FRP ADMIN 10/15-9/16	32610	3200	32782 FRP ADMIN 10/15-9/16	040463	16	HUD FAMILY REHOUSING MI0433L5F001400	326100	16	
0653: HUD RHSS SUPP SERV MI0011B5F001104									
3303 HUD RHSS SUPP SERV 10/12-9/13	32610	3200	32639 HUD RHSS SUPP SERV 10/12-9/13	040462	13	HUD RURAL MI0011B5F001104	326100	16	
3303 HUD RHSS SUPP SERV 10/12-9/13	99940	0819	00499 HUD RHSS SUPP SERV 10/12-9/13	040462	13	HUD RURAL MI0011B5F001104	999400	16	
0654: HUD UP TRAN LIVE ADMIN MI0024L5F001306									
3084 HUD UPTL ADMIN 7/14-6/15	32610	3200	32709 HUD UPTL ADMIN 7/14-6/15	040450	15	HUD UP TRAN LIVING MI0024L5F001306	326100	16	
0655: HUD UP TRAN LIVE LEASING MI0024L5F001306									
3085 HUD UPTL LEASING 7/14-6/15	32610	3200	32711 HUD UPTL LEASING 7/14-6/15	040450	15	HUD UP TRAN LIVING MI0024L5F001306	326100	16	

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AC1 Code and Description / Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0655: HUD UP TRAN LIVE LEASING MI0024L5F001306									
0656: HUD UP TRAN LIVE SUP SER MI0024L5F001306									
3086 HUD UPTL SUPP SVCS 7/14-6/15	32610	3200	32712 HUD UPTL SUPP SVCS 7/14-6/15	040450	15	HUD UP TRAN LIVING MI0024L5F001306	326100	16	
0688: SHP HUD SUPP SERV 10/11-9/12									
3482 SHP HUD SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 10/11-9/12	11350	1100	11552 SHP HUD SPPRTV SRV 10/11-9/12	040460	12	HUD SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	113500	16	
0689: SHP HUD ADMIN 10/11-9/12									
3480 SHP HUD ADMIN 10/11-9/12	11350	1100	11550 SHP HUD ADMIN 10/11-9/12	040460	12	HUD SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	113500	16	
0690: SHP HUD HMIS 10/11-9/12									
3481 SHP HUD HMIS 10/11-9/12	11350	1100	11551 SHP HUD HMIS 10/11-9/12	040460	12	HUD SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	113500	16	
0691: HUD RURAL PERM SUPP HOUSING LEASING									
2/ 3304 HUD RPSH LEASING 11/12-10/14	32610	3200	32632 HUD RPSH LEASING 11/12-10/14	040477	13	HUD RURAL PERMANENT HOUSING	326100	16	
0692: HUD RURAL PERM SUPP HOUSING SUPP SERV									
2/ 3305 HUD RPSH SUPP SERVICES 11/12-10/14	32610	3200	32634 HUD RPSH SUPP SVC 11/12-10/14	040477	13	HUD RURAL PERMANENT HOUSING	326100	16	
0693: HUD RURAL PERM SUPP HOUSING ADMIN									
2/ 3306 HUD RPSH ADMIN 11/12-10/14	32610	3200	32635 HUD RPSH ADMIN 11/12-10/14	040477	13	HUD RURAL PERMANENT HOUSING	326100	16	
0743: AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE (REG) GY15									
1349 AMERICORPS (15-16) COMP GRANT AWARD	11300	1100	11908 COMP AMERICORPS 15-16	050755	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
1361 AMERICORPS 15-16 1% ADMIN COMP AWARD	11300	1100	11911 AMRCRPS 15-16 1% AD COMP AWRD	050755	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
0744: AMERICORPS FORMULA GY15 1%									
1345 AMERICORPS 15-16 1% ADMIN FORMULA AWARD	11300	1100	11891 AMERICORPS 15-16 1% FORMULA	050745	16	AMERICORP - FORMULA	113000	16	
0745: AMERICORPS FORMULA GY15									
1346 AMERICORPS (15-16) FORMULA BEGIN AWARD	11300	1100	11892 AMERICORPS 15-16 FORMULA AWRD	050745	16	AMERICORP - FORMULA	113000	16	
0746: AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE GY15 1%									
1347 AMERICORPS 15-16 1% ADMIN COMP AWARD	11300	1100	11893 AMERICORPS 15-16 1% COMP AWRD	050755	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
0747: AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE GY15									
1348 AMERICORPS 15-16 COMP BEGIN GRANT AWARD	11300	1100	11894 AMIERCORPS 15-16 COMP AWARD	050755	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
0748: TTA CONFERENCE									
1381 TTA REGIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE	11300	1100	11104 TTA CONFERENCE	050700	16	STATE COMMISSIONS ADMINISTRATIVE AWARD	113000	16	
0749: CNCS ADMIN MATCH 2013 BEGIN									
1386 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN MATCH	11300	1100	11474 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN MATCH	050710	16	STATE COMMISSIONS ADMINISTRATIVE AWARD	113000	16	
0750: CNCS FEDERAL ADMIN 2013 BEGIN									
1387 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN	11300	1100	11475 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN	050710	16	STATE COMMISSIONS ADMINISTRATIVE AWARD	113000	16	
1387 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN	99940	0819	00526 FED ADMIN NEW 13 BEGIN	050710	16	STATE COMMISSIONS ADMINISTRATIVE AWARD	999400	16	
0752: AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FORMULA 2012 BEGIN									
1385 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FORMULA AWARD	11300	1100	11472 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FORM AWRD	050742	16	AMERICORP-FORMULA	113000	16	
0755: VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND 2014									
1399 14 VOL GEN FUND	11300	1100	11886 MVGF 14 NEW BEGIN	050793	16	VOLUNTEER GENERATION 2013 BEGIN	113000	16	

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0756: VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND MATCH									
1344 MVGF VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND MATCH	11300	1100	11288 MVGF VOLUN GEN FUND MATCH	050791	16	VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND	113000	16	
0758: AMERICORPS EDUCTATION 10FXHMI001									
1359 AMERICORPS FIXED AWARD-MVA	11300	1100	11330 AMERICORPS FIXED AWARD-MVA	050701	16	AMERICORP-FXH EDUCATION GRANT	113000	16	
0759: AMERICORPS EDUCTATION 10ESHMI001									
1343 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FC COMPETITIVE	11300	1100	11293 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FC COMPTV	050760	16	AMERICORP-ESH EDUCATION GRANT	113000	16	
0769: AMERICORP COMP FIXED									
1389 AMERICORPS 14-15 COMPETITIVE FX AWARD	11300	1100	11214 AMERICORPS 14-15 CMP FX AWARD	050704	16	AMERICORP-FIXED COMP 14ESH	113000	16	
0776: AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE GRANT 2012 BEGIN									
1369 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN COMPETITIVE AWARD	11300	1100	11289 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN COMP AWRD	050752	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
1382 AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE 2012 BEGIN	11300	1100	11291 AMERICORPS COMPTIV 2012 BEGIN	050752	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
1398 NEW BEGIN 2015-MATCH GRANT AMERICORPS	11300	1100	11883 ADMIN MATCH GRANT AMERICORPS	050752	16	AMERICORP-COMPETITIVE	113000	16	
0777: AMERICORPS FORMULA GRANT 2012 BEGIN									
1383 AMERICORPS FORMULA 2012 BEGIN	11300	1100	11299 AMERICORPS FORMULA 2012 BEGIN	050742	16	AMERICORP-FORMULA	113000	16	
1383 AMERICORPS FORMULA 2012 BEGIN	99940	0819	00468 AMERICORPS FORMULA 2012 BEGIN	050742	16	AMERICORP-FORMULA	999400	16	
0781: AMERICORP COMP FIXED 1% ADMIN									
1388 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FX COMP	11300	1100	11213 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FX COMP	050704	16	AMERICORP-FIXED COMP 14ESH	113000	16	
0785: AMERICORPS FIXED COMP 2013 BEGIN									
1396 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FC COMPETITIVE	11300	1100	11176 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN FC COMP	050763	16	AMERICORP-FIXED COMP	113000	16	
1397 AMERICORPS FX GRANT AWARD FC COMPETITIVE	11300	1100	11177 AMERICORPS FX GRANT AWARD FC	050763	16	AMERICORP-FIXED COMP	113000	16	
0797: AMERICORPS SCHOOL TURNAROUND									
1338 AMERICORPS 1% ADMIN TURNAROUND	11300	1100	11302 AMERICORPS 1% TURNAROUND COMP	050773	16	AMERICORP-TURNAROUND	113000	16	
1339 AMERICORPS TURNAROUND 2013 BEGIN	11300	1100	11306 AMERICORPS COMPETITIVE	050773	16	AMERICORP-TURNAROUND	113000	16	
0800: MRS-FEDERAL TITLE I-CURRENT YEAR									
6103 MRS-CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION-TITLE I	81520	8100	84303 MRS-CENTRAL ADMIN-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6108 MRS-ICTA-ADMIN-TITLE I	81520	8100	84308 MRS-ICTA-ADMIN-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6110 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-TITLE I	47350	4700	47849 MRS-DSTCT ADJUD YOUTH-TTL I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	473500	16	
6110 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-TITLE I	81520	8100	84310 MRS-DISTRCT OFFICE-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6110 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-TITLE I	99940	0819	00470 MRS-DISTRCT OFFICE-13 TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6114 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-TITLE I	47350	4700	47852 MRS-CLNT SVC ADJUD YUTH-TTL 1	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	473500	16	
6114 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-TITLE I	81520	8100	84314 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815240	16	
6129 MRS-SETTLEMENTS-TITLE I	81520	8100	84329 MRS-SETTLEMENTS-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6130 MRS-AUDITOR/ATTY GENERAL FEES-TITLE I	81520	8100	84330 MRS-AUD/ATTY GEN FEE-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6131 MRS-RENT-TITLE I	12070	1200	84331 MRS-RENT TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6131 MRS-RENT-TITLE I	99940	0819	00508 MRS-RENT NON-ONE STP-13 TTL I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	999400	16	
6140 MRS-BUSINESS SRVC OPERATIONS-TITLE I	81520	8100	84340 MRS-BUS SRVC OPER-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6140 MRS-BUSINESS SRVC OPERATIONS-TITLE I	99940	0819	00476 MRS-BUS SRVC OPER-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	999400	16	
6142 MRS-DISABILITY MANAGEMENT-TITLE I	81520	8100	84342 MRS-DISABILTY MNGMNT-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6145 MRS-TRAINING STATEWIDE-TITLE I	81520	8100	84345 MRS-TRNG STATEWIDE-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6164 MRS-SILC-TITLE I GRANT	81520	8100	84364 MRS-SILC-TITLE I GRANT	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815240	16	
6170 MRS-MISCELLANEOUS AGREEMENTS-TITLE I	81520	8100	84370 MRS-MISC AGREEMENTS-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6171 MRS-MSU-TITLE I	81520	8100	84371 MRS-MSU-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6172 MRS-MARO/MI REHAB COUNCIL-TITLE I	81520	8100	84372 RS-MARO/MI REHAB CNC-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6173 MRS-PINE LAKE PROJECT-TITLE I	81520	8100	84373 MRS-PINE LAKE PROJ-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
0800: MRS-FEDERAL TITLE I-CURRENT YEAR									
6182 MRS-MH&WELLNESS-CLIENT SERVICES-TITLE I	81520	8100	84382 MRS-MH & WELLNESS-CLIENT SVS	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	
6183 MRS PROJECT SEARCH OPERATIONS-TITLE I	81520	8100	84383 MRS PROJCT SEARCH OPS-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	
6184 MRS PROJECT SEARCH CLIENT SVS-TITLE I	81520	8100	84384 MRS PROJ SEARCH CLIENT SVS	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	
6192 MRS-DIRECTOR & ADMIN SUPPORT	81520	8100	81532 MRS-DIRECTOR & ADMIN SUPPORT				815220	16	
6201 MCTI-TECH TRNG, AUTO MECHANIC-TITLE I	81520	8100	86301 CTI-TECH TR,AUTO MCH-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6202 MCTI-TECH TRNG, CABINETMAKING-TITLE I	81520	8100	86302 MCTI-TEC TR,CBNTMKNG-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6203 MCTI-TECH TRNG, CULINARY ARTS-TITLE I	81520	8100	86303 CTI-TEC TR,CLNRY ART-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6204 MCTI-TECH TRNG, CUSTODIAL-TITLE I	81520	8100	86304 MCTI-TECH TR, CUSTOD-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6205 MCTI-TECH TRNG, ELETRONICS-TITLE I	81520	8100	86305 MCTI-TEC TR, ELECS-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6206 MCTI-TECH TRNG, MACHINE TECH-TITLE I	81520	8100	86306 MCTI-TEC TR,MECH TEC-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6207 MCTI-TECH TRNG, OFFICE AUTO-TITLE I	81520	8100	86307 MCTI-TEC TR,OFF AUTO-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6209 MCTI-TECH TRNG, GRAPHIC COMM-TITLE I	81520	8100	86309 MCTI-TEC TR,GRPH CMM-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6210 MCTI-TECH TRNG, PRINCIPAL-TITLE I	81520	8100	86310 MCTI-TECH TR, PRINC-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6213 MCTI-TECH TRNG, LANDSCAPING-TITLE I	81520	8100	86313 MCTI-TEC TR,LNDSCPNG-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6214 MCTI-TECH TRNG, RETAIL-TITLE I	81520	8100	86314 MCTI-TECH TR, RETAIL-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6215 MCTI-TECH TRNG, HEALTH CAREER-TITLE I	81520	8100	86315 MCTI-TEC TR,HLTH CAR-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6216 MCTI-TECH TRNG, PHARMACY SVCS-TITLE I	81520	8100	86316 MCTI-TEC TR,PHAR SVC-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6217 MCTI-TECH TRNG, BLDG SVC TECH-TITLE I	81520	8100	86317 MCTI-TC TR,BLD SVC TC-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6230 MCTI-DIR OFF, PLACEMENT SERVICES-TITLE I	81520	8100	86320 MCTI-DIR OFF-PLACMNT SRV-TTLI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6231 MCTI-DIREC OFC, FAM HOUSING-TITLE I	81520	8100	86321 MCTI-DIR OFC,FM HSNG-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6235 MCTI-DIR OFC, ADMISSIONS FIN AID-TITLE I	81520	8100	86325 MCTI-ADMISS FIN AIDE-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6240 MCTI-TECH TRNG, CARER RDINESS CTR-TITLEI	81520	8100	86340 MCTI TEC TRNG-CARER RED-TTL I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6245 MCTI-STUDENT SVCS RES SVCS-TITLE I	81520	8100	86345 MCTI-STD SVC RES SV-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6246 MCTI-STUDENT SVCS RES SVCS TRAN-TITLEI	81520	8100	86346 MCTI STD SV RS SV TRAN-13TTLI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6248 MCTI-STUDENT SVCS RESID KITCHEN-TITLE I	81520	8100	86348 MCTI-STD SV RESID KITCH-TTL I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6255 MCTI-STU SVCS MCTI-STU AFF,LEIS SVC-TTLI	81520	8100	86355 MCTI-ST SV-ST AF,LEIS SV-TTLI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6257 MCTI-STU SVCS MCTI-STU AFF, H S-TITLEI	81520	8100	86357 MCTI-ST SV-ST AF,H S-13TITLEI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6258 MCTI-STU SVCS MCTI-STU AFF, ACC-TITLEI	81520	8100	86358 CTI-ST SV-ST AFF,ACC-13TITLEI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6260 MCTI-ADMIN, PAYROLL-STAFF-TITLE I	81520	8100	86360 MCTI-ADM,P/R-STAFF-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6261 MCTI-ADMIN, PAYROLL-STUDENTS-TITLE I	81520	8100	86361 MCTI-ADM,P/R-STDNT-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6262 MCTI-ADMIN, TECHNOLOGY-TITLE I	81520	8100	86362 MCTI-ADMIN, TECH-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6263 MCTI-ADMIN, PROGRAM DEVELOP-TITLE I	81520	8100	86363 MCTI-ADM, PROG DEV-TITLE I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6270 MCTI-ADMIN ADMIN SVCS BUS OFC-TITLE I	81520	8100	86370 MCTI-ADM AD SV BUS OFC-TITLEI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6280 MCTI-PHYSICAL PLANT ADMIN, MAIN-TITLEI	81520	8100	86380 MCTI-PHYS PLNT AD,MAIN-TTL I	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6280 MCTI-PHYSICAL PLANT ADMIN, MAIN-TITLEI	99940	0819	00483 MCTI-PHYS PLNT AD,MAIN-13TTLI	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	999400	16	
1/ 6401 MRS IT-RELATED EXPENSES	16100	1600	16357 MRS-TECHNOLOGY COSTS				161000	16	
0801: MRS-GF/GP MATCH FOR TITLE I									
6111 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-GF/GP	12070	1200	84320 MRS GF/GP MATCH RENT	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	120700	16	
6111 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-GF/GP	12840	1200	84321 MRS GF/GP MATCH WORKER'S COMP	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	128400	16	
6111 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-GF/GP	47350	4700	47851 MRS-DSTCT ADJUD YOUTH-GF/GP	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	473500	16	
6111 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-GF/GP	81520	8100	84311 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-GF/GP	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6116 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-GF/GP	47350	4700	47853 MRS-CLNT SVC ADJUD YUTH-GF/GP	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	473500	16	
6116 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-GF/GP	81520	8100	84316 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-GF/GP	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815240	16	
6168 MRS-SILC-IL GF/GP TITLE I MATCH	81530	8100	84368 MRS SILC-IL GF/GP TTL I MTCH	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815300	16	
0802: MRS-OTHER MATCH									
6109 MRS-ICTA-ADMIN-MATCH	81520	8100	84309 MRS-ICTA-ADMIN-MATCH	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815220	16	
6117 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-ICTA	81520	8100	84317 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-ICTA	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815240	16	
6118 MRS-CLIENT SRVC-PRIVATE GIFTS & DONAT	81520	8100	84318 MRS-CLNT SVC-PRV GFTS & DN	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815240	16	

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0802: MRS-OTHER MATCH									
6122 MRS DOC IDG	81520	8100	84322 MRS DOC IDG	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	
0803: MRS-PROGRAM INCOME SOCIAL SECURITY									
6104 MRS-CENTRAL ADMIN S&W-SOCIAL SECURITY	81520	8100	84304 MRS-CENT ADM S&W-SOC SEC	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815220	16	
6157 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1 (SOCIAL SECURITY)	81530	8100	84357 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1-SOC SEC	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815300	16	
0810: MRS-FEDERAL SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT									
6115 MRS-CLIENT SERVICES-SUPPORTED EMPLOY	81520	8100	84315 MRS-CLNT SVCS-SUPP EMPLOY	187811	16	SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT GRANTS	815240	16	
0812: MRS SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT 50%									
6194 MRS-SE YOUTH SERVICES	81520	8100	81556 MRS-SE YOUTH SERVICES	187811	16	SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT GRANTS	815200	16	
0820: MRS-FEDERAL INDEPENDENT LIVING									
6156 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1 (TITLE VIIB)	81530	8100	84356 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1-TTL VIIB	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815300	16	
6163 MRS-SILC-TITLE VIIB GRANT	81530	8100	84363 MRS-SILC-TITLE VIIB GRANT	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815300	16	
0821: MRS-GF/GP INDEPENDENT LIVING									
6155 MRS-IL/CIL-PAS REIMBURSEMENT (GF/GP)	81520	8100	84355 MRS-IL/CIL-PAS REIMB-GF/GP	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815230	16	
6160 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1 (GF/GP)	81530	8100	84360 MRS-IL/CIL-CORE 1-GF/GP	169814	16	INDEPENDENT LIVING TITLE VIIB	815300	16	
6162 MRS-SILC-GF/GP NON-MATCH	81530	8100	84362 MRS-SILC-GF/GP NON-MATCH				815300	16	
0850: MRS-FEDERAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY									
6178 MRS-ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	81520	8100	84378 MRS-ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	224815	16	ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ACT GRANTS	815240	16	
0860: MRS-PROGRAM INCOME PELL									
6264 MCTI-ADMIN, PAYROLL-PELL	81520	8100	86364 MCTI-ADMIN, PAYROLL-PELL	063816	16	DED-OPSE PELL GRANT	815220	16	
0870: MRS-PROGRAM INCOME SEOG									
6218 MCTI-TECH TRNG, PRINCIPAL-SEOG FED	81520	8100	86318 MCTI-TEC TR,PRINC-SEOG FED	007817	16	DED-OPSE SEOG GRANT	815220	16	
0898: MRS-PROGRAM INCOME FEE FOR SERVICE									
6141 MRS-DISABILITY MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS	81520	8100	84341 MRS-DISABILITY MNGMNT OPER				815220	16	
6143 MRS-DISABILITY MGMT-EXPENDITURE CRED	81520	8100	84343 MRS-DSBLTY MGMT-EXPND CRED				815220	16	
0899: MRS-SECOND INJURY									
6112 MRS-DISTRICT OFFICE-SECOND INJURY	81520	8100	84312 DISTRICT OFF-SECOND INJURY				815220	16	
1370: ECIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION									
4501 A.B.E. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	47600	4700	47608 ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476000	16	
4501 A.B.E. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	47670	4700	47705 ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
4506 SPECIAL EDUCATION MONITORING	47670	4700	47707 ADMIN	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
4509 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	47600	4700	47619 TECH & CAREER EDUCATION	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476000	16	
4509 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	47640	4700	47684 TECH & CAREER EDUCATION	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476400	16	
4509 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	47670	4700	47709 TECH & CAREER EDUCATION	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
4511 EARLY ON	12050	1200	12919 EARLY-ON	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	120500	16	
4511 EARLY ON	62040	6200	62666 EARLY ON	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	620400	16	
4511 EARLY ON	62610	6200	62801 EARLY ON	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	626100	16	
4514 TITLE I - 1599/9506	47600	4700	47626 TITLE I - 1599/9506	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476000	16	
4514 TITLE I - 1599/9506	47620	4700	47653 TITLE I - 1599/9506	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476200	16	
4514 TITLE I - 1599/9506	47640	4700	47687 TITLE I - 1599/9506	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476400	16	
4514 TITLE I - 1599/9506	47670	4700	47711 TITLE I - 1599/9506	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
4515 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	47600	4700	47627 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476000	16	
4515 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	47620	4700	47654 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476200	16	

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1370: ECIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION									
4515 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	47640	4700	47688 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476400	16	
4515 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	47670	4700	47712 SPECIAL EDUCATION - 0449-64	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
4522 SPECIAL EDUCATION CARRY-OVER FUNDS	47600	4700	47628 SPECIAL ED CARRY-OVER FUNDS	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476000	16	
4522 SPECIAL EDUCATION CARRY-OVER FUNDS	47620	4700	47655 SPECIAL ED CARRY-OVER FUNDS	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476200	16	
4522 SPECIAL EDUCATION CARRY-OVER FUNDS	47640	4700	47689 SPECIAL ED CARRY-OVER FUNDS	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476400	16	
4522 SPECIAL EDUCATION CARRY-OVER FUNDS	47670	4700	47713 SPECIAL ED CARRY-OVER FUNDS	000200	50	DEPT OF EDUCATION ECIA	476700	16	
1374: RAPE PREVENTION - DEPT OF COMMUNITY HLTH									
5652 RAPE PREVENTION BLOCK GRANT	72390	7200	72128 RAPE PREVENTION BLOCK GRANT	000400	50	RAPE PREVENTION DCH	723900	16	
5652 RAPE PREVENTION BLOCK GRANT	99940	0819	00948 RAPE PREVENTION&SVC-CONTRACTS	000400	50	RAPE PREVENTION DCH	999400	16	
5653 RAPE PREVENTION RPE	72390	7200	72129 RAPE PREVENTION RPE	000400	50	RAPE PREVENTION DCH	723900	16	
5653 RAPE PREVENTION RPE	99940	0819	00950 RAPE PREVENTION VAWA	000400	50	RAPE PREVENTION DCH	999400	16	
1375: MSHDA DV									
5461 DV MSHDA	72100	7200	72854 DV MSHDA	000603	50	MSHDA DV	721000	16	
1377: RAPE PREVENTION CRIME VICTIMS FUNDS									
5412 DV SANE FUND	72390	7200	72391 DV SANE FUND				723900	16	
5412 DV SANE FUND	99940	0819	00503 DV SANE FUND				999400	16	
5655 RAPE PREVENTION CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS FUND	72390	7200	81345 RAPE PREV-CRIME VICTM RGTS FN				723900	16	
1383: CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER FUND									
5415 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS	72700	7299	72701 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS				727000	16	
5415 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS	99940	0819	00496 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS				999400	16	
1386: MSP EMERGENCY MGMT HOMELAND SECURITY									
8139 EMERGENCY MGT HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT	11350	1100	11091 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT				113500	16	
1387: RACE TO THE TOP WITH MDE									
8672 RACE TO THE TOP-ELC MDE IA PROGRAM	12050	1200	12952 RACE TO THE TOP MDE IA PGM				120500	16	
8672 RACE TO THE TOP-ELC MDE IA PROGRAM	62040	6200	62683 RACE TO THE TOP MDE IA PGM				620400	16	
8672 RACE TO THE TOP-ELC MDE IA PROGRAM	62610	6200	62682 RACE TO THE TOP MDE IA PGM				626100	16	
7400: STATE FAMILY ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS									
3395 FIP-HEAT VENDOR PAYMENTS	32500	3200	32044 FIP-HEAT VENDOR PMTS-STATE				325000	16	
3396 FIP-ELECTRIC VENDOR PAYMENTS-STATE	32500	3200	32045 FIP-ELECTR VENDOR PMTS-STATE				325000	16	
3621 SDA ONGOING RELIEF	32520	3200	32024 ST DISAB ASST SDA ONGOING REL				325200	16	
3622 SDA SHELTER VENDOR PAYMENTS	32520	3200	32026 SDA SHELTER VEND PMTS				325200	16	
3627 SDA ONGOING RELIEF EBT	32520	3200	32032 SDA PAYMENTS EBT				325200	16	
3721 STATE FIP PAYMENTS	32500	3200	32042 ST FAM ASST CERT PMTS				325000	16	
3722 FIP-SHELTER VENDOR PAYMENTS-STATE	32500	3200	32043 FIP-SHELTER VENDOR PMTS-STATE				325000	16	
7401: STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS									
1302 VOL SVCS MA TRANSPORT AUGMENTATION	62510	6200	62338 VOL SVCS MA TRSP AUGMENTATION				625100	16	
1302 VOL SVCS MA TRANSPORT AUGMENTATION	99940	0819	00381 VOL SVCS MA TRSP AUGMENTATION				999400	16	
2104 MEDICAL SUBSIDIES-ADOPTION 100% GF/GP	74750	7400	72280 MEDICAL SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
2104 MEDICAL SUBSIDIES-ADOPTION 100% GF/GP	99940	0819	00423 MEDICAL SUBSIDIES				999400	16	
7402: STATE FAMILY ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION									
3611 SDA GRANT RECOVERY SERVICE FEES	32520	3200	32027 SDA GRANT RECOVS IIT TREAS SV				325200	16	

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AC1 Code and Description											
7403: STATE FUNDED WORK PROGRAMS											
1605	I A AGREEMENT MI STRATEGIC FUND	81450	8100	81452	I A AGREEMENT MI STRATGIC FND				814500	16	
1669	FIP CLIENT COSTS W. WORK ASSIGNMENTS	81450	8100	81031	FIP CLIENT COSTS W WRK ASSIGN				814500	16	
3124	EMERGENCY SERVICES	32640	3200	32094	EMERGENCY SERVICES				326400	16	
3124	EMERGENCY SERVICES	99940	0819	00960	EMERGENCY SERVICES				999400	16	
3127	SALVATION ARMY EMERGENCY SHELTER CONT	32610	3200	32098	SALVATION ARMY EMERG SHTR CON				326100	16	
3152	BURIAL OF INDIGENTS (STATE)	32630	3200	32087	BURIALS OF INDIGENTS - ST				326300	16	
3152	BURIAL OF INDIGENTS (STATE)	32640	3200	32642	BURIAL OF INDIGENTS (STATE)				326400	16	
3171	EMERGENCY SERVICES WAYNE CO.	32640	3200	32079	EMERG SVCS WC SOC SERVS BD				326400	16	
3173	SER (STATE)	32640	3200	32083	ST EMERG RELIEF ST				326400	16	
7405: STATE FUNDED ADULT PROGRAMS											
0000	DHS ROLL UP	99940	0819	00514	PAYROLL CLEARING FUND YE ENTR				999400	16	
0000	DHS ROLL UP	99940	0819	00515	IRS PENALTY PRIOR YEAR				999400	16	
2616	TREASURY STATE TAX RECOVERIES ADMIN FEE	74550	7400	72229	TREAS ST TAX RECOV ADM FEE ST				745500	16	
3028	FOOD FOR THE ELDERLY	81200	8100	81212	FOOD FOR THE ELDERLY				812000	16	
3128	HOMELESS PREVENTION GF/GP	81200	8100	81216	HOMELESS PREVENTION GF/GP				812000	16	
3813	SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME - HOT LINE	32580	0901	32078	SSI HOTLINE				325800	16	
3813	SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME - HOT LINE	99940	0819	00966	SSI HOTLINE				999400	16	
3831	SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME	32540	0901	32039	SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME				325400	16	
5411	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADMINISTRATION	72100	7200	72054	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADMIN				721000	16	
7161	ELDER ABUSE PROSECUTING ATTY CONTRACTS	81500	0901	81501	ELDER ABUSE PROS ATTY CONTRCT				815000	16	
7162	AS-EMER EXP MITES REIMB	62040	6200	62046	AS-EMER EXP MITES REIMB				620400	16	
8991	HOME HELP PROVIDER GR	81300	8100	81304	HOME HELP PROVIDER GF				813000	16	
7406: STATE FUNDED YOUTH PROGRAMS											
1405	CWL CAMP CONSULTANTS	99940	0819	00928	CWL CAMP CONSULTANTS				999400	16	
2004	GAP DIRECT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS-GF/GP	74250	7400	72153	GAP DIRECT ADMIN COSTS-GFGP				742500	16	
2005	GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GF/GP	74250	7400	72151	GUARDIANSHIP ASSIST PROGRAM				742500	16	
2007	GUARDIANSHIP NON-RECURRING COSTS-GF/GP	74250	7400	72154	GDNSHP NON-RECURR COSTS-GF/GP				742500	16	
2009	GUARDIANSHIP MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	74250	7400	72159	GDNSHP MEDICAL ASSISTANCE				742500	16	
2009	GUARDIANSHIP MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	99940	0819	00475	GDNSHP MEDICAL ASSISTANCE				999400	16	
2016	YAVFC GUARDNSHP ASSISTNCE PROG-STATE FND	74250	7400	74252	YAVFC GRDNSHP ASSST-STATE FND				742500	16	
2016	YAVFC GUARDNSHP ASSISTNCE PROG-STATE FND	99940	0819	00489	YAVFC GRDNSHP ASSST-STATE FND				999400	16	
2017	YAVFC GUARDNSHP ASSISTNCE PROG-MED SUBS	74250	7400	74253	YAVFC GRDNSHP ASSST-MED SUBSD				742500	16	
2030	SEC.546(4) ADMIN RATE INCREASE GF FUNDED	74250	7400	74256	SEC.546(4) RATE INC GF FUNDED				742500	16	
2030	SEC.546(4) ADMIN RATE INCREASE GF FUNDED	74290	7400	74257	SEC.546(4) RATE INC GF FUNDED				742900	16	
2103	ADOPTION SUBSIDIES 100% STATE	74750	7400	72279	ADOPTION SUBSIDIES 100% ST				747500	16	
2103	ADOPTION SUBSIDIES 100% STATE	99940	0819	00304	ADOPTION SUBSIDIES 100% ST				999400	16	
2136	YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-STATE FUNDED	74750	7400	74752	YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-STATE FND				747500	16	
2136	YAVFC ADOPTION SUBSIDIES-STATE FUNDED	99940	0819	00454	YAVFC ADOPTN SUBSID-STATE FND				999400	16	
2138	YAVFC MEDICAL SUBSIDIES	74750	7400	74754	YAVFC MEDICAL SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
2138	YAVFC MEDICAL SUBSIDIES	99940	0819	00507	YAVFC MEDICAL SUBSIDIES				999400	16	
2148	SEC 559 ADOPT FAMILY SUPPORT CONTRACT	74760	7400	74667	SEC 559 ADOPT FAM SUPP CONTRT				747600	16	
2201	COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMBURSEMENT	74290	7400	47291	COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMBURSMT				742900	16	
2201	COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMBURSEMENT	99940	0819	00377	COUNTY CHILD CARE REIMBURSEMT				999400	16	
2202	BASIC GRANTS	74290	7400	47292	BASIC GRANTS				742900	16	
2202	BASIC GRANTS	99940	0819	00315	BASIC GRANTS				999400	16	
2310	EPIC GUARDIANSHIP SVCS CONTRACTS	74040	7400	74013	EPIC GUARDIANSHIP SVCS CONTRT				740400	16	
2310	EPIC GUARDIANSHIP SVCS CONTRACTS	99940	0819	00537	EPIC GUARDIANSHIP SVCS CONTRT				999400	16	
2311	CW-EMER EXP MITES REIMB	74040	7400	74083	CW-EMER EXP MITES REIMB				740400	16	

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7406: STATE FUNDED YOUTH PROGRAMS										
2312	ERIN'S LAW TASK FORCE TRAVEL COSTS ONLY	74040	7400	74181 ERIN'S LAW TSK FORCE T/C ONLY				740400	16	
2605	EDUCATIONAL STABILITY TRAVEL NON-IVE	74550	7400	72554 EDU STABIL TRAVEL NON-IVE				745500	16	
2605	EDUCATIONAL STABILITY TRAVEL NON-IVE	99940	0819	00400 EDU STABIL TRAVEL NON-IVE				999400	16	
2611	PRE OCT 2013 PAYMENT SWEEP PAYMENTS	74550	7400	74806 PRE OCT 2013 PMT SWEEP PYMTS				745500	16	
2625	PRIVATE AGENCY FC WKR TRG REIMB	99940	0819	00431 PRIV AGENCY FC WKR TRG REIMB				999400	16	
2626	PRIVATE AGENCY FC SUPR TRG REIMB	99940	0819	00472 PRIV AGENCY FC SUPR TRG REIMB				999400	16	
2629	PSY OVERSIGHT IA/DCH-GF MATCH	74460	7400	74461 PSY OVERSIGHT IA/DCH-GF MATCH				744600	16	
2642	CHILDREN'S BENEFIT FUND DONATIONS	99940	0819	00955 CHILD BENEFIT FUND DONATIONS				999400	16	
2644	LIMITED TERM EMERGENCY FOSTER CARE	74550	7400	72212 LIMITED TERM EMRG FOSTER CARE				745500	16	
2644	LIMITED TERM EMERGENCY FOSTER CARE	74550	7400	72503 WC LTD TERM EMRGNCY FOST CARE				745500	16	
2645	STATE WARD BOARD & CARE NON-CERT PAYMNTS	74550	7400	72213 ST WARD FDR CARE NON CERT PMT				745500	16	
2645	STATE WARD BOARD & CARE NON-CERT PAYMNTS	74550	7400	72511 WC ST WRD FDR CARE NONCERT PM				745500	16	
2645	STATE WARD BOARD & CARE NON-CERT PAYMNTS	99940	0819	00990 ST WARD FDR CARE NON CERT PMT				999400	16	
2648	NON IV-E SHELTER HM MAINT	74550	7400	72218 NON IV-E SHELTER HM MAINT				745500	16	
2648	NON IV-E SHELTER HM MAINT	74550	7400	72512 NON IV-E SHELTER HM MAINT				745500	16	
2652	INDIAN TRIBAL CHILD CARE EXPENSE	74550	7400	72228 INDIAN TRIBAL CHILD CARE EXP				745500	16	
2652	INDIAN TRIBAL CHILD CARE EXPENSE	99940	0819	00345 INDIAN TRIBAL CHILD CARE EXP				999400	16	
2656	TRIAL REUNIF ADM DAILY RATE TITLE IVE	74550	7400	74571 TRIAL REUNF ADM DAY RATE TIVE				745500	16	
2657	TRIAL REUNIF ADM DAILY RATES SWBC	74550	7400	74572 TRIAL REUNF ADM DAY RATE SWBC				745500	16	
2657	TRIAL REUNIF ADM DAILY RATES SWBC	99940	0819	00462 TRIAL REUNF ADM DAY RATE SWBC				999400	16	
2658	GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SWBC	74550	7400	72241 GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SWBC				745500	16	
2658	GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SWBC	74550	7400	72518 WAYNE CO GOVT BENEFIT SWBC				745500	16	
2658	GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SWBC	99940	0819	00339 GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SWBC				999400	16	
2661	SSI BENEFITS	74550	7400	72243 SSI BENEFITS				745500	16	
2661	SSI BENEFITS	74550	7400	72520 WC SSI BENEFITS				745500	16	
2661	SSI BENEFITS	99940	0819	00340 SSI BENEFITS				999400	16	
2661	SSI BENEFITS	99940	0819	00449 SSI BENEFITS				999400	16	
2673	FC FAMILY INCENTIVE GRANTS NOT IVE ELIG	74550	7400	72563 FC FAM INCENT GRT-NOT IVE ELG				745500	16	
2673	FC FAMILY INCENTIVE GRANTS NOT IVE ELIG	99940	0819	00350 FC FAM INCENT GRT-NOT IVE ELG				999400	16	
2680	YAVFC CERT MAINTENANCE PYMTS-NON IVE ELG	74550	7400	74565 YAVFC CRT MNT PYMT-NON-IVE EL				745500	16	
2680	YAVFC CERT MAINTENANCE PYMTS-NON IVE ELG	99940	0819	00460 YAVFC CRT MNT PYMT-NON-IVE EL				999400	16	
2681	YAVFC NON-CERT PAYMENTS-NON-IVE ELIGIBLE	74550	7400	74566 YAVFC NON-CERT PYMT-NON-IVE E				745500	16	
2681	YAVFC NON-CERT PAYMENTS-NON-IVE ELIGIBLE	99940	0819	00482 YAVFC NON-CERT PYMT-NON-IVE E				999400	16	
2682	YAVFC PCPA ADMIN RATES-NON-IVE ELIGIBLE	99940	0819	00461 YAVFC PCPA ADM RATE-NON-IVE E				999400	16	
2683	YAVFC CCI MAINTENANCE-NON-IVE ELIGIBLE	74550	7400	74568 YAVFC CCI MAINT-NON-IVE ELIG				745500	16	
2687	SEC 546(6) RESI RATE INCR-COUNTIES HH	74290	7400	74803 SEC546(6) RESI RATE INCR-HH				742900	16	
2687	SEC 546(6) RESI RATE INCR-COUNTIES HH	74550	7400	74804 SEC546(6) RESI RATE INCR-HH				745500	16	
2692	FOSTER CARE PYMNTS NON-SACWIS TO PARENTS	74550	7400	74492 FC PYMNT NON-SACWIS TO PARENT				745500	16	
2693	FOSTER CARE PYMNT NON-SACWIS TO PROVIDER	74550	7400	74493 FC PYMT NON-SACWIS TO PROVIDR				745500	16	
2699	SEC 515 ADDITIONAL ADMIN RATE-PRE PBF	74290	7400	74296 SEC515 ADD ADMIN RATE-PRE PBF				742900	16	
2749	ACF PENALTY- NATIONAL YIT DATABASE	74420	7400	74422 ACF PENALTY-NATL YIT DATABASE				744200	16	
2770	FOSTERING FUTURES GF FOR ROOM & BOARD	74420	7400	74437 FOSTERING FUTURES GF ROOM&BRD				744200	16	
4213	BJJ TRAINING UNIT	74350	7400	72461 CWTI JUVENILE JUSTICE TRAININ				743500	16	
4218	JJOLT RESOURCE CENTER	47670	4700	47041 JJOLT RESOURCE CENTER				476700	16	
4240	CHILD CARE FUND ADMINISTRATION	74300	7400	47301 CHILD CARE FUND ADMIN				743000	16	
4701	RDSS ADMINISTRATION	47350	4700	47351 RDSS ADMINISTRATION				473500	16	
4703	RDSS HOLDOVER STATEWIDE	47350	4700	47353 RDSS HOLDOVER STATEWIDE				473500	16	
4704	RDSS HOME DETENTION	47350	4700	47354 RDS HOME DETENTION STATEWIDE				473500	16	
4706	RDSS TRAINING	47350	4700	47355 RDSS TRAINING				473500	16	

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7406: STATE FUNDED YOUTH PROGRAMS									
4707 RDSS TRANSPORTATION	47350	4700	47356 RDSS TRANSPORTATION				473500	16	
4803 RE-ENTRY SERVICES	47350	4700	47358 RE-ENTRY SERVICES				473500	16	
4803 RE-ENTRY SERVICES	47670	4700	47676 RE-ENTRY SERVICES				476700	16	
4804 MI JJ ASSESSMENT SERVICES	47350	4700	47359 MI JJ ASSESSMENT SVCS				473500	16	
4804 MI JJ ASSESSMENT SERVICES	47670	4700	47672 MI JJ ASSESSMENT SVCS				476700	16	
4811 COURT REFUSAL PAYMENTS-CTY & ST SHARES	74290	7400	74292 COURT REFUSL PYMTS-CTY&ST SHR				742900	16	
4811 COURT REFUSAL PAYMENTS-CTY & ST SHARES	99940	0819	00438 COURT REFUSL PYMTS-CTY&ST SHR				999400	16	
4812 SEC 546(1) CCF DAILY RATE HH EFF 10/1/13	74290	7400	74258 SEC 546(1) CCF DAILY RATE HH				742900	16	
7407: STATE FUNDED INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS									
4214 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF	47670	4700	47030 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFF STAFF				476700	16	
4214 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF	74100	7400	74116 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFF STAFF				741000	16	
4214 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF	99940	0819	00478 JJ PROGRAMS-CENTRAL OFF STAFF				999400	16	
4401 DENTAL SERVICES	47600	4700	47605 DENTAL SERVICES-HIGH SECURITY				476000	16	
4401 DENTAL SERVICES	47620	4700	47056 DENTAL SERV				476200	16	
4401 DENTAL SERVICES	47640	4700	47116 DENTAL SERV				476400	16	
4401 DENTAL SERVICES	47670	4700	47026 DENTAL SERVICES				476700	16	
4401 DENTAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00402 DENTAL SERVICES-HIGH SECURITY				999400	16	
4402 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	47600	4700	47606 MENTAL HLTH SVC-HIGH SECURITY				476000	16	
4402 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	47620	4700	47057 MENTAL HLTH SVC				476200	16	
4402 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	47640	4700	47117 MENTAL HLTH SVC				476400	16	
4402 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	47670	4700	47025 MENTAL HLTH SVC				476700	16	
4402 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	99940	0819	00391 MENTAL HLTH SVC-HIGH SECURITY				999400	16	
4403 MEDICAL SERVICES	47600	4700	47607 MEDICAL SERV - HIGH SECURITY				476000	16	
4403 MEDICAL SERVICES	47620	4700	47058 MEDICAL SERV				476200	16	
4403 MEDICAL SERVICES	47640	4700	47118 MEDICAL SERV				476400	16	
4403 MEDICAL SERVICES	47670	4700	47182 MEDICAL SERVICES				476700	16	
4403 MEDICAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00376 MEDICAL SERV- HIGH SECURITY				999400	16	
4601 RCC ADMINISTRATION	47600	4700	47601 ADMINISTRATION-HIGH SECURITY				476000	16	
4601 RCC ADMINISTRATION	47620	4700	47621 RCC ADMINISTRATION-BAY PINES				476200	16	
4601 RCC ADMINISTRATION	47640	4700	47645 RCC ADMINISTRATION-SHAWONO				476400	16	
4601 RCC ADMINISTRATION	47670	4700	47039 RCC ADMINISTRATION				476700	16	
4601 RCC ADMINISTRATION	99940	0819	00991 ADMINISTRATION-HIGH SECURITY				999400	16	
4602 RCC EDUCATION	47600	4700	47602 EDUCATION - HIGH SECURITY				476000	16	
4602 RCC EDUCATION	47620	4700	47622 RCC EDUCATION-BAY PINES				476200	16	
4602 RCC EDUCATION	47640	4700	47642 RCC EDUCATION-SHAWONO				476400	16	
4602 RCC EDUCATION	47670	4700	47069 RCC EDUCATION				476700	16	
4602 RCC EDUCATION	99940	0819	00447 EDUCATION - HIGH SECURITY				999400	16	
4603 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	47600	4700	47603 INSTITUTIONAL SUPP-HIGH SECUR				476000	16	
4603 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	47620	4700	47054 INSTITUTIONAL SUPP				476200	16	
4603 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	47640	4700	47643 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPP-SHAWON				476400	16	
4603 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	47670	4700	47070 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT				476700	16	
4603 RCC INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT	99940	0819	00362 INSTITUTIONAL SUPP-HIGH SECUR				999400	16	
4606 DEPT OF CORRECTIONS/MAXEY EXP OFFSET	47600	4700	47625 DEPT CORR/MAXEY EXP OFFSET				476000	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	47600	4700	47604 DIRECT CARE & TRMT-HIGH SECUR				476000	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	47620	4700	47624 DIRECT CARE & TREAT-BAY PINES				476200	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	47640	4700	47644 DIRECT CARE & TREAT-SHAWONO				476400	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	47670	4700	47219 DIRECT CARE & TREAT				476700	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	99940	0819	00442 DIRECT CARE & TREAT-SHAWONO				999400	16	
4627 DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT	99940	0819	00513 DIRECT CARE & TREAT-BAY PINES				999400	16	

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	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description										
7407: STATE FUNDED INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS										
	4702 RDSS ELECTRONIC MONITORING	47350	4700	47352 RDSS ELECTRONIC MONITORING				473500	16	
	4708 RDSS D & R	47350	4700	47357 RDSS - D & R				473500	16	
7408: OTHER STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS										
	0102 P2P-MDE-ECIC REIMBURSEMENT	12050	1200	12996 P2P-MDE-ECIC REIMBURSEMENT				120500	16	
	0251 UAW 7D	12080	1200	12682 UAW 7D				120800	16	
	0251 UAW 7D	14100	1400	14108 UAW 7D				141000	16	
1/	0251 UAW 7D	14100	1400	14201 UAW 7D				141000	16	
	0251 UAW 7D	47600	4700	47609 UAW 7D				476000	16	
	0251 UAW 7D	62610	6200	62647 UAW 7D				626100	16	
	0251 UAW 7D	74600	7400	74681 UAW 7D				746000	16	
	0252 UAW 18D	12080	1200	12922 UAW 18D				120800	16	
	0252 UAW 18D	62610	6200	62667 UAW 18D				626100	16	
	0252 UAW 18D	74600	7400	74682 UAW 18D				746000	16	
2/	0310 CITY OF FLINT WATER FILTERS	32640	0910	07310 CITY OF FLINT WATER FILTERS				326400	16	
2/	0310 CITY OF FLINT WATER FILTERS	32640	3200	32099 CITY OF FLINT WATER FILTERS				326400	16	
	0501 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-GFGP	12050	1200	12333 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- GFGP				120500	16	
	0501 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-GFGP	62040	6200	62116 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- GFGP				620400	16	
	0501 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-GFGP	62610	6200	62616 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- GFGP				626100	16	
	0550 MEDICAID COMPLIANCE PROJECT	11350	1100	11362 MEDICAID COMPLNCE PROJ-DCH IA				113500	16	
	1014 MICHIGAN 211	11350	1100	11406 MICHIGAN 211				113500	16	
	1014 MICHIGAN 211	99940	0819	00439 MICHIGAN 211				999400	16	
	1306 100% GF VOL SVCS ACTIVITIES	62510	6200	62512 100% GF VOL SVCS ACTIVITIES				625100	16	
	1306 100% GF VOL SVCS ACTIVITIES	99940	0819	00517 100% GF VOL SVCS ACTIVITIES				999400	16	
	1322 ADMIN COSTS GF/GP	11300	1100	11313 MCSC ADMIN COSTS GF/GP				113000	16	
	1621 MOST EXEMP EXAMS SFA W/O FS	62400	6200	62102 EMPLOYMENT SUPP MEDICAL SVCS				624000	16	
	1637 I/A DLEG FAP E&T GF/GP	81450	8100	81209 I/A DLEG FAP E&T GF/GP				814500	16	
	1800 FRAUD & RECOUP - AG CONTRACT	11350	1100	11342 FRAUD & RECOUP - AG CONTRACT				113500	16	
1/	2032 MSA APPEAL LEGAL COSTS	74040	7400	72086 MSA APPEAL LEGAL COSTS				740400	16	
1/	2039 ATTY FEES NON-PA,CHILD WELFARE CASES	74040	7400	72033 ATTY FEES NON-PA,CW CASES				740400	16	
	2151 ADOPT SUB REDETERMINATION PROG PAYMENTS	74750	7400	74705 ADOP SUB REDETERMINATION PROG				747500	16	
2/	2153 PBF KENT COUNTY CONSORTIUM	74110	7400	74815 PBF KENT COUNTY CONSORTIUM				741100	16	
2/	2154 PBF CSS&M COSTS	74110	7400	74816 PBF CSS&M COSTS				741100	16	
2/	2155 PBF PAYROLL COSTS	74110	7400	74817 PBF PAYROLL COSTS				741100	16	
2/	2156 OFA SAFE DELIVERY COMPUTER UPDATE	74040	7400	74818 OFA SAFE DLVRY CMPTER UPDATE				740400	16	
1/	2617 OUT OF STATE VITAL RECORDS	74040	7400	72345 OUT OF STATE VITAL RECORDS				740400	16	
	2617 OUT OF STATE VITAL RECORDS	99940	0819	00327 OUT OF STATE VITAL RECORDS				999400	16	
	2618 CHAPIN HALL CONTRACT MHWC FUNDED	74550	7400	74811 CHAPIN HALL CONTRACT MHWC				745500	16	
	2662 KBIC MOU-GF MATCH PAYMENTS	74250	7400	74261 KBIC MOU-GF GUARDIAN ASSIST				742500	16	
	2662 KBIC MOU-GF MATCH PAYMENTS	74550	7400	74583 KBIC MOU-GF MATCH PAYMENTS				745500	16	
	2662 KBIC MOU-GF MATCH PAYMENTS	74750	7400	74748 KBIC MOU-GF ADOPT ASSISTANCE				747500	16	
	2693 FOSTER CARE PYMNT NON-SACWIS TO PROVIDER	74290	7400	74293 FC PYMT NONSACWIS TO PROVIDER				742900	16	
	2717 YIT DISCRETIONARY WAYNE COUNTY	74420	7400	11284 YIT ALAN C. YOUNG-ADVANCE				744200	16	
	2724 RUNAWAY STATUS OFFENDER 20% GF PORTION	74420	7400	72425 RUNAWAY 20% GF PORTION				744200	16	
	2724 RUNAWAY STATUS OFFENDER 20% GF PORTION	99940	0819	01057 RUNAWAY 20% GF PORTION				999400	16	
	2727 PERF BASED FUNDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT	74110	7400	74033 PERF BASD FUNDING PROJ MNGMNT				741100	16	
	2728 PERF BASED FUNDING ACTUARIAL SERVICES	74110	7400	74032 PERF BASD FUNDNG ACTUARIAL SV				741100	16	
	2735 AMERICORPS VISTA COST SHARE	74420	7400	74425 AMERICORPS VISTA COST SHARE				744200	16	
	2738 PERF BASED FUNDING EVALUATOR	74110	7400	74034 PERF BASED FUNDING EVALUATOR				741100	16	
	2749 ACF PENALTY- NATIONAL YIT DATABASE	99940	0819	00542 ACF PENALTY-NATL YIT DATABASE				999400	16	

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7408: OTHER STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS												
	3112 MICHIGAN AGRI SURPLUS SYSTEM	32600	3200	32619	MICH AGRI SURPLUS SYSTEM					326000	16	
	3113 FOOD BANK COUNCIL TRANS OF FOOD	32600	3200	32103	FOOD BANK COUNCIL TRANS OF FO					326000	16	
	3117 FOOD BANK I/A AGRICULTURE	32600	3200	32203	FOOD BANK I/A AGRICULTURE					326000	16	
	3124 EMERGENCY SERVICES	32610	3200	32614	DV HOMELESS PGRM-GF					326100	16	
1/	3135 DATA EXCHANGE GATEWAY-MSHDA IA GF/GP	16100	1600	16236	MSHDA-TECHNOLOGY COSTS					161000	16	
	3161 CHALDEAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	32620	3200	32697	CHALDEAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION					326200	16	
	3175 EMERGENCY SHELTER (ST)	32640	3200	32644	EMERGENCY SHELTER (ST)					326400	16	
	3182 ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN ADMIN CT 93-8206	32620	3200	32106	ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN COUNCI					326200	16	
	3182 ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN ADMIN CT 93-8206	99940	0819	00356	ARAB AMERICAN CHALDEAN COUNCI					999400	16	
	3197 ARAB CHALDEAN/ACCESS CONTRACTS-GF/GP	32620	3200	32157	ARAB CHLDEAN/ACCESS CONT-GFGP					326200	16	
	3198 MULTICULTURAL INTEGRATION	32620	3200	32629	DCH JEWISH FEDERATION					326200	16	
	3215 EBT FIP STATE ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	11400	1100	11450	EBT FIP STATE ADMN EXP OFFSET					114000	16	
	3220 FIP EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK 100% GF/FP	11400	1100	81058	FIP EBT ADMN-CITBNK 100%GF/FP					114000	16	
	3235 REIMBURSEMENT OF SUPPORT	32500	3200	32009	REIMBURSEMENT OF SUPPORT					325000	16	
	3235 REIMBURSEMENT OF SUPPORT	99940	0819	00331	REIMBURSEMENT OF SUPPORT					999400	16	
	3236 FIP-(AFDC) SUPP REFUND REV ACT CR OFFSET	32500	3200	32010	SUPP REF REV ACC CRED OFFSET					325000	16	
	3237 REFUND OF SUPPORT	32500	3200	32011	REFUND OF SUPPORT					325000	16	
	3245 F.I.P.-(AFDC) CASH RESERVE LOCAL OFFICE	32500	3200	32020	CASH RESERVE LOCAL OFFICE					325000	16	
	3246 FIP-(AFDC) CASH RESERVE LOCAL OFF OFFSET	32500	3200	32021	CASH RESERVE-LOCAL OFF OFFSET					325000	16	
	3256 FIP STATE CERTIFIED PAYMENTS	32500	3200	32135	FIP STATE CERT EBT					325000	16	
	3320 BCA&EO MEAP AWARD	32680	3297	32762	BCAEO MEAP AWARD					326800	16	
	3387 LOW INCOME ENERGY EFF FUND CRISIS ASST	32560	0929	32513	LOW INC ERG EF FND CRISIS AST					325600	16	
	3397 ALL ELECTRIC HSEHLD VENDOR PMTS-STATE	32500	3200	32046	ALL ELECT HSHLD VEND PMTS-STA					325000	16	
2/	3431 DOE WEATHERIZATION PROG PY 06/07	99940	0819	00975	MPSC WEATHERIZATION					999400	15	
	3436 LIEFF ARR PAY PROGRAM	32560	0929	32527	LIEFF ATT PAY PROGRAM					325600	16	
	3612 EBT SDA ADMIN EXPENSE OFFSET	11400	1100	11451	EBT SDA ADMIN EXP OFFSET					114000	16	
	3615 SDA EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK	11400	1100	81078	SDA EBT ADMIN-CITIBANK					114000	16	
	3625 SDA-JUDGEMENT PAYMENTS TO LANDLORDS	32520	3200	32025	SDA-JDGMT PMTS TO LANDLORDS					325200	16	
	3726 FIP-JUDGEMENT PMTS TO LANDLORDS-STATE	32500	3200	32051	FIP-JDGMT PMTS TO LNDLRDS-STA					325000	16	
	3811 FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION - SSI	32580	0901	32076	FED ADMIN SSI					325800	16	
	3812 STATE ADMINISTRATION - SSI	32580	0901	32077	ST ADMIN SSI					325800	16	
	4121 REINTEGRATION & COMMUNITY JUSTICE	47670	4700	47414	REINTEGRATION & COMM JUSTICE					476700	16	
	4211 COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS	47600	4700	47067	COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS					476000	16	
	4211 COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS	47620	4700	47050	COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS					476200	16	
	4211 COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS	47640	4700	47110	COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS					476400	16	
	4211 COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS	47670	4700	47065	COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS					476700	16	
	4211 COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS	99940	0819	00424	COURT SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS					999400	16	
	4217 PREA AUDIT CHARGES	47670	4700	47031	PREA AUDIT CHARGES					476700	16	
	4225 FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	47600	4700	47213	FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEM					476000	16	
	4225 FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	47670	4700	47212	FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEM					476700	16	
	4225 FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	99940	0819	00986	FEES RELATED TO LEGAL SETTLEM					999400	16	
	4228 BUREAU OF JUV JUSTICE ANAYLIST	47670	4700	47032	BJJ CENTRAL ANYALIST					476700	16	
	4806 IN-HOME COMMUNITY CARE	47830	0901	47835	IN-HOME COMMUNITY CARE					478300	16	
	4806 IN-HOME COMMUNITY CARE	74290	7400	74214	IN-HOME COMMUNITY CARE					742900	16	
	4807 RE-ENTRY PCS ADD ON	47670	4700	47671	RE-ENTRY PCS ADD ON					476700	16	
	5594 WRAPAROUND PROGRAM	74300	7400	74302	WRAPAROUND CONF IN CCF LINE					743000	16	
	6167 MRS-IL/CIL-DG PILOT GF/GP	81530	8100	84367	MRS-IL/CIL-DG PILOT GF/GP					815300	15	
	6167 MRS-IL/CIL-DG PILOT GF/GP	99940	0819	00520	MRS-IL/CIL-DG PILOT GF/GP					999400	15	
	7525 SECT 905 LOCAL MATCH	83200	8300	83209	SECT 905 LOCAL MATCH					832000	16	

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7408: OTHER STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS									
7525 SECT 905 LOCAL MATCH	99940	0819	00326 SECT 905 LOCAL MATCH				999400	16	
7527 STATE FUNDING SUPPLEMENT (CS COOP REIMB)	83200	8300	83206 STATE FUNDING SUPPLEMENMT				832000	16	
7530 SECTION 906 SUPPLEMENT (FOC)	83200	8300	83211 SECT 906 SUPPLEMENT (FOC)				832000	16	
7583 SECTION 901(7) DRA INCENTIVE MATCH	83300	8300	83304 GFGP O/S TO FED UNMAT INCENTV				833000	16	
7593 MISDU COLLECTION FEES	83400	8300	83404 MISDU COLLECTION FEES				834000	16	
7594 MISDU COLLECTION FEES OFFSET	83400	8300	83405 MISDU COLLECTION FEES OFFSET				834000	16	
7596 NON-IVD SDU EXPENSE	83400	8300	83306 NON-IVD SDU EXPENSE				834000	16	
8005 PPU CARDS	11040	1100	11191 ACCOUNTING PPU PURCHASNG CARD				110400	16	
8005 PPU CARDS	99930	9930	99931 PPU CARDS				999300	16	
8022 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS	11010	1100	11599 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS				110100	16	
8022 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS	11040	1100	11867 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS				110400	16	
8022 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS	12050	1200	12872 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS				120500	16	
8039 BUREAU OF COMM SVCS-BENEFITS ACCESS	11010	1100	11608 BUR OF COMM-BENEFITS ACCESS				110100	16	
8039 BUREAU OF COMM SVCS-BENEFITS ACCESS	11040	1100	11868 BUR OF COMM-BENEFITS ACCESS				110400	16	
8039 BUREAU OF COMM SVCS-BENEFITS ACCESS	12050	1200	12873 BUR OF COMM-BENEFITS ACCESS				120500	16	
8149 CP05 SAVE VERIFICATION	62040	6200	62044 SAVE VERIFICATION				620400	16	
8173 GOV'T BENEFITS COORD & CO CHARGEBACK	11010	1100	11262 GOV'T BENEFITS /CO CHARGEBACK				110100	16	
8173 GOV'T BENEFITS COORD & CO CHARGEBACK	11040	1100	11393 GOV'T BENEFITS /CO CHARGEBACK				110400	16	
8173 GOV'T BENEFITS COORD & CO CHARGEBACK	12050	1200	12565 GOV'T BENEFITS /CO CHARGEBACK				120500	16	
8229 DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	11010	1100	11027 DIRECTOR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				110100	16	
8229 DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	11040	1100	11064 DIRECTOR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				110400	16	
8229 DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	12050	1200	12256 DIRECTOR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				120500	16	
8231 DEP DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	11010	1100	11031 DEP DIR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				110100	16	
8231 DEP DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	11040	1100	11072 DEP DIR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				110400	16	
8231 DEP DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	12050	1200	12259 DEP DIR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				120500	16	
8231 DEP DIRECTOR- SELECTED INITIATIVES	99940	0819	00531 DEP DIR-SELECTED INITIATIVES				999400	16	
8528 INTERSTATE COMPACT	12050	1200	12528 INTERSTATE COMPACT				120500	16	
1/ 8528 INTERSTATE COMPACT	74040	7400	72198 INTERSTATE COMPACT				740400	16	
1/ 8528 INTERSTATE COMPACT	74100	7400	72753 INTERSTATE COMPACT				741000	16	
8724 OWDT-DELIV #1-JJ/PRIDE	74350	7400	74282 OWDT-DELIV #1-JJ/PRIDE				743500	16	
8911 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE	11010	1100	11884 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE				110100	16	
8911 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE	11040	1100	11885 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE				110400	16	
8911 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE	12050	1200	12839 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE				120500	16	
8911 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE	74100	7400	74807 OFFICE OF FAMILY ADVOCATE				741000	16	
9527 PATHWAYS/MHWC/P2P TRAINING - 2016	12050	1200	12953 PTHWYS/MHWC/P2P TRNG - 2016				120500	16	
9527 PATHWAYS/MHWC/P2P TRAINING - 2016	62040	6200	62937 PTHWYS/MHWC/P2P TRNG - 2016				620400	16	
9528 PATHWAYS/MHWC/MATRIXHS-TTSPILOT - 2016	12050	1200	12954 PTHWYS/MHWC/MTRX TTSPILOT-16				120500	16	
9528 PATHWAYS/MHWC/MATRIXHS-TTSPILOT - 2016	62040	6200	62938 PTHWYS/MHWC/MTRX TTSPILOT-16				620400	16	
9529 PATHWAYS/MHWC/REGIONAL TRAINING LKBH2016	12050	1200	12955 PTHWYS/MHWC/REG TRNGNG - 2016				120500	16	
9529 PATHWAYS/MHWC/REGIONAL TRAINING LKBH2016	62040	6200	62939 PTHWYS/MHWC/REG TRNGNG - 2016				620400	16	
9531 PATHWAYS/MHWC/WSUCUS-YOUTHCORPS - 2016	62040	6200	62941 PTHWYS/MHWC/WSUCUS-YUTHCORP16				620400	16	
9532 PATHWAYS/MHWC/SJP - 2016	62040	6200	62942 PTHWYS/MHWC/SJP - 2016				620400	16	
9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	74040	7400	74103 LGL SETLMNT EXPND-CHLD WLF C				740400	16	
7415: DIRECT TO DTMB OFFICE OF RETIREMENT IDG									
8845 DDS PAYMENT PROCESSING	14250	1491	14215 TELECOMMUNICATIONS				142500	16	
8848 RETIREMENT SERVICES UNIT	14250	1491	14114 RETIREMENT SERVICES UNIT				142500	16	
7420: COUNTY CHILD CARE FUND (CCF)									
0262 CCF-849020 IHC BETHANY CHRONIC NEGLECT	06100	0610	20611 CCF-849020 IHC BETHANY CHRONIC NEGLECT				061000	16	

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7420: COUNTY CHILD CARE FUND (CCF)									
0263 CCF-849080 IHC FAMILY OUTREACH	06100	0610	20610 CCF-849080 IN HOME CARE FAMILY OUTREACH				061000	16	
0264 CCF-849100 IHC INDIVIDUAL CONSULTS/PROV	06100	0610	20612 CCF-849100 IHC INDIVIDUAL CONSULTS/PROV				061000	16	
0265 CCF-849110 IHC CLOSED-END CONTRACTS	06100	0610	20613 CCF-849110 IHC CLOSED-END CONTRACTS				061000	16	
0266 CCF-849120 IHC PER UNIT COSTS	06100	0610	20614 CCF-849120 IHC PER UNIT CONTRACTS				061000	16	
0267 CCF-849150 IHC PER UNIT COSTS	06100	0610	20615 CCF-849150 IHC WRAPAROUND/1915A FUNDING				061000	16	
0268 CCF-849200 IHC PARENT NURTURING	06100	0610	20616 CCF-849170 IN HOME CARE PARENT NURTURING				061000	16	
0269 CCF-849200 IHC NON-SCH PAYMENTS	06100	0610	20617 CCF-849200 IN HOME CARE NON-SCH PAYMENTS				061000	16	
0270 CCF-849240 IHC YOUTH SUPPORT	06100	0610	20618 CCF-849240 IN HOME CARE YOUTH SUPPORT				061000	16	
0276 CCF-803010 PRCHSD PRV INSTNL CARE FC PMT	06100	0610	20608 CCF-803010 PRCHSD PRV INSTNL CARE FC PMT				061000	16	
0277 CCF-803020 PRCHSD PRV INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20609 CCF-803020 PRCHSD PRV INSTNL CARE NONSCH				061000	16	
0278 CCF-803030 PRCHSD PRV INSTL CARE NONREIM	06100	0610	20626 CCF-803030 PRCH PRV INSTNL CARE NON-REIM				061000	16	
0279 CCF-804200 CO DHS INSTNL SHLTR CARE OPEX	06100	0610	20605 CCF-804200 CO DHS INSTNL SHLTR CARE OPEX				061000	16	
0280 CCF-805010 PURCHASED CO INSTNL CARE PYMT	06100	0610	20606 CCF-805010 PURCHASED CO INSTNL CARE PYMT				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	06103 COUNTY APPN FOR CCF				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	06104 GOVT BENEFIT COLLECTIONS CCF				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20607 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20623 CCF-958100 EMER EXP NON A/R NON REIMB				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20624 CCF-801030 CHLD UNDR DIR SUPV NON-REIM				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20627 CCF-852110 BASIC GRANT-PER UNIT CONTRACT				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20628 CCF-958000 EMER EXP A/R NON-REIMB				061000	16	
0281 CCF-805020 PRCHSED CO INSTNL CARE NONSCH	06100	0610	20629 CCF-965000 CONT TO OTHER FUNDS-TRANSFERS				742900	16	
0286 CCF-801010 FFC CHLD UNDR DIR SUPRVSN DHS	06100	0610	20601 CCF-801010 FFC CHLD UNDR DIR SUPRVSN DHS				061000	16	
0287 CCF-801020 FFC DHS DIR SUP CHLD NON-SCH	06100	0610	20602 CCF-801020 FFC DHS DIR SUP CHLD NON-SCHD				061000	16	
0288 CCF-802010 PRIVATE AGY PURCH FAM FC PYMT	06100	0610	20603 CCF-802010 PRIVATE AGY PURCH FAM FC PYMT				061000	16	
0289 CCF-802020 PRIV AGY PURCH FAM FC NON-SCH	06100	0610	20604 CCF-802020 PRIV AGY PURCH FAM FC NON-SCH				061000	16	
0290 CCF-802030 PURCH FFC PRIV AGY NON-REIM	06100	0610	20625 CCF-802030 PURCH FFC PRIV AGY NON-REIM				061000	16	
0296 CCF-850010 IL UNDR DIR SUPV DHS-FC PYMT	06100	0610	20620 CCF-850010 IL UNDR DIR SUPV DHS-FC PYMT				061000	16	
0297 CCF-850020 IL UNDR DIR SUPV DHS NON-SCH	06100	0610	20621 CCF-850020 IL UNDR DIR SUPV DHS NON-SCH				061000	16	
0298 CCF-851010 IL SUPVD BY PRIV AGY-FC PYMT	06100	0610	20619 CCF-851010 IL SUPVD BY PRIV AGY-FC PYMT				061000	16	
0299 CCF-851020 IL SUPVD BY PRIV AGY NON-SCH	06100	0610	20622 CCF-851020 IL SUPV BY PRIV AGY NON-SCH				061000	16	
7438: FS OUTREACH MATCH									
3006 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH MATCH	32530	3200	32534 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH MATCH	010130	16	FOOD STAMPS	325300	16	
7450: GFGP,LOCL,PRIV OR STATE RESTRICTED FUNDS									
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32680	3297	07106 LARA LIEAF/UTILITY ASSESS REV				326800	16	
0240 TRACFONE AGREEMENT	11350	1100	11467 TRACFONE AGREEMENT				113500	16	
0401 WC CASEY PERMANENCY ROUNDTABLE	11350	0905	07105 WC CASEY PERMANENCY ROUNDTBLE				113500	16	
0401 WC CASEY PERMANENCY ROUNDTABLE	11350	1100	11506 WC CASEY PERMANENCY ROUNDTBLE				113500	16	
0420 MIGRANT-COMM FOUNDATION HOLLAND/ZEELAND	11350	0905	07102 MIGRANT-COMM FOUNDATION HOLLA				113500	16	
0420 MIGRANT-COMM FOUNDATION HOLLAND/ZEELAND	11350	1100	11102 MIGRANT-COMM FOUNDATION HOLLA				113500	16	
0425 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP	11350	0905	07101 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP				113500	16	
0425 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP	11350	1100	11499 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP				113500	16	
0425 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP	74040	7400	72853 SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP				740400	16	
0425 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP	99940	0819	00473 SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP				999400	16	
0431 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DUFFLE BAG	06100	0610	07001 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DUFFLE				061000	16	
0431 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DUFFLE BAG	06100	0610	11481 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DUFFLE				061000	16	
0432 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FUND RAISER ADMIN	06100	0610	07002 DON FND ACT-FUND RAISER ADMIN				061000	16	
0432 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FUND RAISER ADMIN	06100	0610	11482 DON FND ACT-FUND RAISER ADMIN				061000	16	
0433 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-HOLIDAY	06100	0610	07003 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-HOLIDAY				061000	16	

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2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

AC1 Code and Description

7450: GFGP,LOCL,PRIV OR STATE RESTRICTED FUNDS

Pgrm	Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA	Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0433	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-HOLIDAY	06100	0610	11483	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-HOLIDAY				061000	16	
0434	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-ANG NICH FC/CPS RS	06100	0610	07004	DON FND ACT-ANG NICH FC/CPS				061000	16	
0434	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-ANG NICH FC/CPS RS	06100	0610	11484	DON FND ACT-ANG NICH FC/CPS				061000	16	
0435	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	06100	0610	07005	DON FND ACT-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE				061000	16	
0435	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	06100	0610	11485	DON FND ACT-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE				061000	16	
0436	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-EARLY-ON	06100	0610	07006	DONATED FUND ACTIVTY-EARLY-ON				061000	16	
0436	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-EARLY-ON	06100	0610	11486	DONATED FUND ACTIVTY-EARLY-ON				061000	16	
0437	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FAM & ADULT SRVCS	06100	0610	07007	DON FND ACT-FAM & ADULT SRVCS				061000	16	
0437	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FAM & ADULT SRVCS	06100	0610	11487	DON FND ACT-FAM & ADULT SRVCS				061000	16	
0438	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FOSTER CARE	06100	0610	07008	DON FUND ACTIVITY-FOSTER CARE				061000	16	
0438	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-FOSTER CARE	06100	0610	11488	DON FUND ACTIVITY-FOSTER CARE				061000	16	
0439	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SUBSTANCE ABUSE	06100	0610	07009	DONATD FND ACT-SUBSTNCE ABUSE				061000	16	
0439	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SUBSTANCE ABUSE	06100	0610	11489	DONATD FND ACT-SUBSTNCE ABUSE				061000	16	
0441	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-YOUTH BOARD	06100	0610	07011	DONATED FUND ACTV-YOUTH BOARD				061000	16	
0441	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-YOUTH BOARD	06100	0610	11491	DONATED FUND ACTV-YOUTH BOARD				061000	16	
0442	DONATED FUND ACTIVITIES-UNITED WAY	06100	0610	07019	DONATED FUND ACT-UNITED WAY				061000	16	
0442	DONATED FUND ACTIVITIES-UNITED WAY	06100	0610	11501	DON FND ACT-PTHWYS UNITED WAY				061000	16	
0443	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-VOLUNTEER PROGRAM	06100	0610	07013	DONATED FUND ACTVTY-VOLUNTEER				061000	16	
0443	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-VOLUNTEER PROGRAM	06100	0610	11493	DONATED FUND ACTVTY-VOLUNTEER				061000	16	
0444	DONATED FUND ACTIV-PATHWAYS 2 POTENTIAL	06100	0610	07014	DON FND ACT-PATHWAYS 2 POTNTL				061000	16	
0444	DONATED FUND ACTIV-PATHWAYS 2 POTENTIAL	06100	0610	11494	DON FND ACT-PATHWAYS 2 POTNTL				061000	16	
0445	DONATED FUND ACTV-GRADUATION-FOSTER CAR	06100	0610	07015	DON FUND ACTIV-GRADUATION-FC				061000	16	
0445	DONATED FUND ACTV-GRADUATION-FOSTER CAR	06100	0610	11495	DON FUND ACTIV-GRADUATION-FC				061000	16	
0446	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-OTHER	06100	0610	07016	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-OTHER				061000	16	
0446	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-OTHER	06100	0610	11496	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-OTHER				061000	16	
0447	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SF/SC	06100	0610	07017	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SF/SC				061000	16	
0447	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SF/SC	06100	0610	11497	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SF/SC				061000	16	
0448	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SCRIP	06100	0610	07018	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SCRIP				061000	16	
0448	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SCRIP	06100	0610	11498	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-SCRIP				061000	16	
0450	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-MOTT FOUNDATION	06100	0610	07050	DON FND ACT-MOTT FOUNDATION				061000	16	
0450	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-MOTT FOUNDATION	06100	0610	11250	DONATED FUND ACTVTY-MOTT FOUN				061000	16	
0451	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-CARING FOR KIDS	06100	0610	07051	DON FND ACT-CARING FOR KIDS				061000	16	
0451	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-CARING FOR KIDS	06100	0610	11251	DONATED FUND ACT-CARING FOR K				061000	16	
1220	MIGRANT AFFAIRS CONFERENCES & MEETINGS	11040	0910	07201	MIGRANT AFFAIRS CONFERENCE				110400	16	
1220	MIGRANT AFFAIRS CONFERENCES & MEETINGS	11040	1100	11201	MIGRANT AFF CONF&MEETNG-CSS&M				110400	16	
1226	SKILLMAN WC GRANT	62300	6200	62354	SKILLMAN WC GRANT				623000	16	
1227	LASR DONATED FUNDS PROCUREMENT CARD	62300	6200	62313	LASR DONATED FUNDS PROC CARD				623000	16	
1372	MENTOR MICHIGAN	11300	1100	11337	MENTOR MICHIGAN				113000	16	
1373	PROGRAM TRAINING COSTS	11300	1100	11338	PROGRAM TRAINING COSTS				113000	16	
2012	CASEY SPEND PLAN 15	11350	0905	07203	REV-CASEY SPEND PLAN 15				113500	16	
2012	CASEY SPEND PLAN 15	11350	1100	11336	CASEY SPEND PLAN 15				113500	16	
2535	CTF LOCAL COUNCIL ALLOCATIONS NON-FEDL	57380	5700	57384	CTF LOCAL COUNCIL ALL NONFED				573800	16	
2542	CTF SBS INITIATIVE	57380	5700	57381	CTF SBS INITIATIVE				573800	16	
2713	MICHIGAN YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVEE	11350	0905	07204	REV-MI YOUTH OPPTNTY INITIATI				113500	16	
2713	MICHIGAN YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVEE	11350	1100	11355	MICHIGAN YOUTH OPPORT INITIA				113500	16	
2713	MICHIGAN YOUTH OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVEE	99940	0819	00994	JIM CASEY YOUTH OPPORT INITIA				999400	16	
3024	DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS MAILING	11350	1100	11422	DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS MAILING				113500	16	
3351	MPSC ADMINISTRATION	32680	3297	32691	MPSC ADMINISTRATION				326800	16	
3352	MPSC ENERGY PROGRAM	32680	3297	32692	MPSC ENERGY PROGRAMS				326800	16	

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AC1 Code and Description										
7450: GFGP,LOCL,PRIV OR STATE RESTRICTED FUNDS										
	4011 BJJ ASSESSMENTS PRIVATE	11350	0905	07103 BJJ ASSESSMENTS REV				113500	16	
	4011 BJJ ASSESSMENTS PRIVATE	11350	1100	11357 BJJ ASSESSMENTS EXP				113500	16	
	4021 BJJ ASSESSMENTS LOCAL	47600	0904	07104 BJJ ASSESSMENTS REV				476000	16	
	4021 BJJ ASSESSMENTS LOCAL	47600	4700	47691 BJJ ASSESSMENTS EXP				476000	16	
	4226 BJJ PRIVATE DONATION EXPENDITURES	47670	4700	47663 BJJ PRIVATE DONATION EXPEND				476700	16	
	4231 MISACWIS MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS CREDIT	47670	4700	47848 MISACWIS MNTL HLTH WLN CREDIT				476700	16	
	4808 CROSSOVER YOUTH PRACTICE MODEL	11350	1100	11359 CROSS OVER YOUTH PILOT PROGRM				113500	16	
	5437 DV MSHDA	72100	7200	72121 DV MSHDA				721000	16	
	5462 SEXUAL ASSAULT PROJECT	11350	1100	11020 SEXUAL ASSAULT PROJECT				113500	16	
	6150 MRS-TRAINING EOP	81520	8100	84350 MRS TRAINING EOP				815200	16	
	6265 MCTI-ADM SVC-STDNT GOV REV-HELD IN TRUST	81520	8100	86387 MRS ADM-SDNT GOV REV-HELD TRS				815210	16	
7451: REFUNDS TO CLIENTS										
	3623 REFUNDS TO CLIENTS IAR REC'D BY FIA	32520	3200	32035 REFUNDS TO CLIENTS FOR IAR				325200	16	
	3624 REFUNDS TO CLIENTS IAR OFFSET	32520	3200	32036 REF TO CLIENTS FOR IAR OFFSET				325200	16	
7452: CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND STATE RESTRICT REV										
	2512 CTF TIER I LOCAL COUNCIL ALLOC NON-FEDL	57380	5700	57019 CTF TIER I LOCAL CNCL NON-FED				573800	16	
7498: EBT AUTHORIZATIONS										
	3033 FOOD STAMP EBT AUTHORIZATION	32530	3200	32507 FOOD STAMPS EBT AUTHORIZATION				325300	16	
	3036 FOOD STAMPS EBT OIG AUTHORIZATION	32530	3200	32510 FS EBT OIG AUTHORIZATION				325300	16	
	3144 REPATRIATE ASSISTANCE EBT AUTHORIZATION	32640	3200	32104 REPATRIATE EBT AUTHORIZATION				326400	16	
	3238 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZATION-EBT	32500	3200	32519 CLOTHING ALLOWNCE AUTHZTN-EBT				325000	16	
	3248 FIP TANF GRANT AUTHORIZATION-EBT	32500	3200	32119 FIP GRANT AUTHORIZATIONS-EBT				325000	16	
	3255 FIP CERTIFIED PMNTS STATE EBT AUTHOR	32500	3200	32120 STATE FIP CERTIFIED EBT AUTH				325000	16	
	3361 LIHEAP DOLLAR AUTHORIZATION EBT	32560	0929	32069 LIHEAP DOLLAR AUTH EBT				325600	16	
	3367 LIHEAP GRANT AUTHORIZATION EBT	32560	0929	32068 LIHEAP GRANT AUTHORIZASHN EBT				325600	16	
	3626 SDA ONGOING RELIEF AUTHORIZATION-EBT	32520	3200	32031 SDA EBT AUTHORIZATION				325200	16	
1/	7026 REFUGEE ASSISTANCE EBT AUTHORIZATIONS	32650	3200	72296 REFUGEE ASSISTANCE EBT AUTHOR				326500	16	
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	72660	7200	72663 ATTY GEN IA GFGP OFFSET				726600	16	
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	99890		99893 OFM D23 BS CLEAN UP						
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	99890	9890	99890 GASB 34 CLOSING ENTRIES						
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	99890	9891	99891 OFM RESERVE AND LEASE ENTRIES						
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	99981	9980	99980 ACCR PYROL/AGY 431/AFUND 0110				999810	16	
	0000 DHS ROLL UP	99981	9981	99981 ACCR PYROL/AGY 431/AFUND 0139				999810	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	11350	1100	11199 CONTRACT ADVANCES				113500	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32560	0929	32065 CONTRACT ADVANCES				325600	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32600	3200	32602 CONTRACT ADVANCES				326000	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32610	3200	32553 CONTRACT ADVANCES				326100	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32620	3200	32561 CONTRACT ADVANCES				326200	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32640	3200	32095 CONTRACT ADVANCES				326400	16	
1/	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	32650	3200	72807 CONTRACT ADVANCES				326500	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	57380	5700	57387 CONTRACT ADVANCES				573800	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	72100	7200	72120 CONTRACT ADVANCES				721000	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	72160	0929	72163 CONTRACT ADVANCES				721600	16	
1/	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	72230	7200	72362 CONTRACT ADVANCES				722300	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	72290	0929	72351 CONTRACT ADVANCES				722900	16	
	0090 CONTRACT ADVANCES	72390	7200	72352 CONTRACT ADVANCES				723900	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	74420	7400	72428 CONTRACT ADVANCES				744200	16	
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	74550	7400	72441 CONTRACT ADVANCES				745500	16	
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	74760	7400	72271 CONTRACT ADVANCES				747600	16	
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	81250	0903	81254 CONTRACT ADVANCES				812500	16	
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	82380	0929	81382 CONTRACT ADVANCES				823800	16	
0090	CONTRACT ADVANCES	82570	0929	32071 WEATHERIZATION CONTRACT ADV'S				825700	16	
0091	CONTRACT ADVANCES(ARRA)	32600	0923	32633 CONTRACT ADVANCES (ARRA)				326000	16	
0097	EFT CLEARING FUND	99840	9840	99840 EFT CLEARING FUND				998400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	06100	0610	08671 ARF COUNTY CHILD CARE FUND				061000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	06100	0610	08672 ARF COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FD				061000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	0901	08002 EXEC OPER S&W-GF/GP				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	0903	08003 EXEC OPER S&W-FEDERAL				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	0928	08586 EXEC OPER S&W-FEDERAL				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	0929	08716 EXEC OPER S&W-GF/GP				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	1100	08001 ARF EXEC OPER S&W				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11010	1198	08091 ARF EXEC OPER S&W-IDG CLEARNG				110100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0901	08005 EXEC OPER CSS&M-GF/GP				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0903	08006 EXEC OPER-CSS&M-FEDERAL				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0910	08434 EXEC OPER CSS&M-RESTRICTED				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0923	08211 JV-ARF SNAP DOD (ARRA)				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0928	08587 EXEC OPER-CSS&M-FEDERAL				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	0929	08717 EXEC OPER CSS&M-GF/GP				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	1100	08004 ARF EXEC OPER CSS&M				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11040	1198	08092 ARF EXEC OPER CSS&M-IDG CLRNG				110400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11300	0901	08435 ARF MICH COMM SERV COMM				113000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11300	0903	08436 ARF MICH COMM SERV COMM				113000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11300	0905	08437 ARF MICH COMM SERV COMM				113000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11300	0929	08719 ARF MICH COMM SERV COMM				113000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11300	1100	08438 ARF MICH COMM SERV COMM				113000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	0901	08343 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	0903	08344 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	0928	08588 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	0929	08720 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	1100	08345 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11310	1198	08042 ARF INSPECTOR GENERAL- S&W				113100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0610	08673 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0716	08303 ARF SKILLMAN #03-501				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0901	08032 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0903	08120 DEMO PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0905	08035 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0928	08589 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	0929	08721 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11350	1100	08031 ARF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				113500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11400	0901	08384 ARF ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TSF				114000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11400	0903	08385 ARF ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TSF				114000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11400	0923	08212 JV-ARF SNAP DOD (ARRA)				114000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11400	0928	08590 ARF ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TSF				114000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11400	1100	08386 ARF ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TSF				114000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	0901	08390 ARF STATE OFFICE OF ADMIN HRG				118000	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	0903	08391 ARF STATE OFFICE OF ADMIN HRG				118000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	0928	08591 ARF STATE OFFICE OF ADMIN HRG				118000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	0929	08722 ARF STATE OFFICE OF ADMIN HRG				118000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	1100	08392 ARF STATE OFFICE OF ADMIN HRG				118000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	11800	1198	08095 ARF ST OFF-ADM HEAR/RULES-IDG				118000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	0901	08049 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-TRAVEL				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	0903	08050 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-TRAVEL				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	0928	08593 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-TRAVEL				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	0929	08724 ARF CENTRAL SUPPORT-TRAVEL				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	1198	08217 ARF CENTRL SUPPORT TRAVEL-IDG				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12050	1200	08048 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-TRAVEL				120500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0901	08055 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-RENT				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0901	08062 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGES				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0903	08056 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-RENT				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0903	08063 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGES				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0928	08595 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-RENT				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0928	08597 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGES				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0929	08726 ARF CENTRAL SUPPORT-RENT				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	0929	08728 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGE				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	1198	08104 ARF RENT-IDG CLRNG				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	1198	08112 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGE-IDG CLRG				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	1200	08054 ARF CENTRAL SUPP ACCTS-RENT				120700	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12070	1200	08061 ARF OCCUPANCY CHARGES				120700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0901	08058 ARF PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGES				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0903	08060 ARF PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGES				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0912	08215 ARF TANF EMERG FUND (ARRA)				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0915	08010 ARF TXIX FMAP(ARRA)				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0923	08012 ARF SNAP ADMIN (ARRA)				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0928	08596 ARF PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGES				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	0929	08727 ARF PAYROLL TAXES&FRINGE BNFT				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	1198	08111 ARF PAYROLL TAX &FRNG-IDG CLR				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	1199	08145 ARF PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGES				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12080	1200	08057 ARF PAYROLL TAXES & FRINGES				120800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	0901	08068 ARF WORKERS COMPENSATION				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	0903	08069 ARF WORKERS COMPENSATION				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	0928	08598 ARF WORKERS COMPENSATION				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	0929	08729 ARF WORKER'S COMPENSATION				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	1198	08222 ARF CENTRAL SUPP-WK COMP-IDG				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	12840	1200	08067 ARF WORKERS COMPENSATION				128400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	0901	08240 ARF CLEARING-DDS				141000	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	0901	08256 ARF-MEDICAL CONSULTATION 0901				141000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	0903	08071 ARF DISAB DETERMIN SVC-OPER				141000	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	0903	08257 ARF-MEDICAL CONSULTATION 0903				141000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	1400	08241 ARF CLEARING-DDS				141000	16	
1/ 0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	1400	08258 ARF-MEDICAL CONSULTATION 1400				141000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14100	1491	08395 ARF DDS (IDG FROM DMB-ORS)				141000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14250	1491	08244 ARF CLEARING-ORS				142500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	14250	1491	14374 IDG FROM DMB OFF RETIRE SVCS				142500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	16500	0901	08268 ARF CHILD SUPPORT AUTOMATION				165000	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	16500	0903	08269 ARF CHILD SUPPORT AUTOMATION				165000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	16500	0910	08543 CHILD SUPPORT AUTOMATION				165000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	16500	0929	08730 ARF IT CHILD SPPRT AUTOMATION				165000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	16500	1600	08270 ARF CHILD SUPPORT AUTOMATION				165000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0901	08073 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0903	08074 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0906	08119 JOURNAL VOUCHERS/ARF				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0911	08008 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0912	08214 ARF TANF EMERG FUND (ARRA)				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	0928	08043 ARF TANF REVENUE & EXPEND				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	3200	08072 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	3291	08075 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32500	3295	08076 ARF FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROG				325000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32520	0901	08078 ARF STATE DISABILITY ASSISTAN				325200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32520	0906	08396 ARF SDA PAYMENTS				325200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32520	3200	08077 ARF STATE DISABILITY ASSISTAN				325200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32520	3295	08381 ARF ST DISBLTY ASST RECOUPMTS				325200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32530	0903	08080 ARF FOOD STAMP PROG BENEFITS				325300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32530	3200	08454 ARF FOOD ASSISTANCE PRG				325300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32530	3295	08382 ARF FOOD ASSIST PRG RECOUPMTS				325300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32540	0901	08081 ARF STATE SUPPLEMENTATION				325400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32560	0903	08085 ARF LOW INCOME ENERGY PROGRAM				325600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32560	0905	08662 ARF LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSIST				325600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32560	0929	08731 RF LOW INCOME HOME ENRGY ASST				325600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32560	3200	08663 ARF LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSIST				325600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32580	0901	08087 ARF STATE SUPLEMENTASHN ADMIN				325800	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32600	0901	08349 ARF FOOD BANK FUNDING				326000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32600	0903	08350 ARF FOOD BANK FUNDING				326000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32600	3200	08351 ARF FOOD BANK FUNDING				326000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	0901	08352 ARF HOMELESS SHELTER CONTRACT				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	0903	08033 ARF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMT				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	0903	08353 ARF HOMELESS SHELTER CONTRACT				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	0928	08600 ARF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMT				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	0929	08732 ARF HOMELESS PROGRAMS				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32610	3200	08354 ARF HOMELESS SHELTER CONTRACT				326100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	0901	08355 ARF MULTICULTURAL ASSIM FUNDG				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	0903	08356 ARF MULTICULTURAL ASSIM FUNDG				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	0928	08601 ARF MULTICULTURAL ASSIM FUNDG				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	0929	08733 RF MULTICULTURAL INTGRTN FUND				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	1198	08223 ARF MULTICULT INTEGR FND-IDG				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32620	3200	08357 ARF MULTICULTURAL ASSIM FUNDG				326200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32630	0901	08358 ARF INDIGENT BURIAL				326300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32630	0903	08359 ARF INDIGENT BURIAL				326300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32630	0928	08147 ARF BURIAL OF INDIGENTS-TANF				326300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32630	3200	08360 ARF INDIGENT BURIAL				326300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32640	0901	08361 ARF EMERG SERVICES-LO ALLOC				326400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32640	0903	08362 ARF EMERG SERVICES-LO ALLOC				326400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32640	0928	08602 ARF EMERG SERVICES-LO ALLOC				326400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32640	3200	08363 ARF EMERG SERVICES-LO ALLOC				326400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description

7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING

Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32650	0903	08179 ARF REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROG				326500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	32680	3297	08661 ARF MI ENERGY ASSIST PROGRAM				326800	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47280	0901	08234 ARF CLEARING-CTY JUV OFFICERS				472800	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47280	0903	08235 ARF CLEARING-CTY JUV OFFICERS				472800	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47280	0929	08734 ARF COUNTY JUVENILE OFFICERS				472800	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47280	4700	08236 ARF CLEARING-CTY JUV OFFICERS				472800	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47350	0901	08709 ARF JUV JUSTICE-COMM SUPP SRV				473500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47350	0903	08710 ARF JUV JUSTICE-COMM SUPP SRV				473500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47350	0928	08711 ARF JUV JUSTICE-COMM SUPP SRV				473500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47350	0929	08712 ARF JUV JUSTICE-COMM SUPP SRV				473500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47350	4700	08442 ARF JUV JUSTICE-COMM SUPP SRV				473500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	0901	08314 ARF HIGH SECURITY JUV SERV				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	0903	08036 W.J.MAXEY TRNG SCHL-FEDERAL				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	0904	08315 ARF HIGH SECURITY JUV SERV				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	0929	08735 ARF WJ MAXEY TRAINING SCHOOLS				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	4700	08316 ARF HIGH SECURITY JUV SERV				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47600	4792	08443 ARF HIGH SECURITY JUV SERV				476000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	0901	08037 BAY PINES CENTER-GFGP				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	0903	08038 BAY PINES CENTER-FEDERAL				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	0904	08039 BAY PINES CENTER-CNTY PYBACK				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	0929	08736 ARF BAY PINES CENTER				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	4700	08041 ARF BAY PINES CENTER				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47620	4792	08040 BAY PINES CENTER-LOCAL FUNDS				476200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	0901	08105 SHAWANO CENTER -GFGP				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	0903	08106 SHAWANO CENTER- FEDERAL				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	0904	08107 SHAWANO CENTER-COUNTY PAYBACK				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	0929	08737 ARF SHAWONO CENTER				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	4700	08109 ARF SHAWANO CENTER				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47640	4792	08108 SHAWANO CENTER-LOCAL FUNDS				476400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	0901	08337 ARF JUV JUST FLD STF,ADMIN,MA				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	0903	08338 ARF JUV JUST FLD STF,ADMIN,MA				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	0904	08339 ARF JUV JUST FLD STF,ADMIN,MA				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	0929	08738 RF JUV JUST ADMIN&MAINTENANCE				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	4700	08341 ARF JUV JUST FLD STF,ADMIN,MA				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47670	4792	08126 ARF JUV JUST ADMIN & MAINT				476700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0511	01511 JV/ARF JABG 11JBFX0037 REV				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0512	01512 JV/ARF JABG 2012-JB-FX-0006				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0513	01513 JV/ARF JABG 2013-JB-FX-0051				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0901	08225 ARF CLEARING-JAIBG				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0903	08218 ARF JOURNAL VOUCHER - JAIBG				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	0929	08739 RF JJ ACCOUNTABILITY BLK GRNT				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47700	4700	08224 ARF CLEARING-JAIBG				477000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47800	0901	08115 ARF COMM ON JUVEN JUST-ADMIN				478000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47800	0903	08116 ARF COMM ON JUVEN JUST-ADMIN				478000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47800	0929	08740 ARF COMMITTEE ON JUV JUST-ADM				478000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47800	4700	08114 ARF COMM ON JUVEN JUST-ADMIN				478000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47820	0903	08117 ARF COMM ON JUVEN JUST-GRANT				478200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	47820	0929	08741 RF COMMITTEE ON JUV JUST-GRNT				478200	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57370	5791	57371 CHILD TRUST FUND-TAX CHECKOFF				573700	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57370	5792	57372 ARF CHILDRENS TRUST FUND				573700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57370	5794	57374 ARF CHILDRENS TRUST FUND				573700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57370	5795	57373 FOSTER CARE TRUST FUND				573700	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	0901	57395 ARF CHILDRENS TRUST FUND				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5700	57017 ARF CHILDRENS TRUST FUND 5700				573800	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5700	57025 ARF CHILDRENS TRUST FUND 5700				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5790	57383 CHLD ABUSE & NEG PREV SVC-IDG				573800	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5790	57393 CHILD ABUSE PREVEN GRANTS-IDG				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5794	57010 CHILD TRUST FUND-REVENUE				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5794	57382 CHLD ABUSE & NEG PREV SVC-IDG				573800	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5794	57392 CHILD ABUSE PREV GRANTS-IDG				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	57380	5796	57386 CTF-JEWISH FUND-REVENUE				573800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	0901	08122 ARF ASSIST PAY SVC & CLERICAL				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	0903	08123 ARF ASSIST PAY SVC & CLERICAL				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	0928	08603 ARF ASSIST PAY SVC & CLERICAL				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	0929	08742 RF CSS&M LOC OFFICE STAFF&OPS				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	1198	08101 ARF LOC OFF STF & OP CSSM-IDG				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62040	6200	08121 ARF ASSIST PAY SVC & CLERICAL				620400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	0721	08310 ARF SKILLMAN #2007-537				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	0903	08365 ARF COUNTY DONATED FUNDS POS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	0909	08467 ARF FLD STAFF S&W (PRIV HOSP)				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	0928	08604 ARF COUNTY DONATED FUNDS POS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	0929	08743 ARF DONATED FUNDS POSITIIONS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	1198	08102 ARF DONATED FUNDS POS-IDG CLR				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	6200	08366 ARF COUNTY DONATED FUNDS POS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	6291	08544 DONATED FUNDS POSITIONS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	6292	08367 ARF COUNTY DONATED FUNDS POS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	6294	08383 ARF PRIVATE DONATED FNDS POS				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62300	6295	08486 ARF FLD STAFF S&W (PRIV HOSP)				623000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62400	0901	08398 ARF MEDICAL/PSYCH EVALUATIONS				624000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62400	0903	08399 ARF MEDICAL/PSYCH EVALUATIONS				624000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62400	0928	08605 ARF MEDICAL/PSYCH EVALUATIONS				624000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62400	0929	08783 ARF MEDICAL/PSYCHIATRIC EVALS				624000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62400	6200	08400 ARF MEDICAL/PSYCH EVALUATIONS				624000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	0901	08128 ARF VOLUNTEER SVC REIMBURSE				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	0903	08129 ARF VOLUNTEER SVC REIMBURSE				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	0928	08606 ARF VOLUNTEER SVC REIMBURSE				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	0929	08744 ARF VOLUNTEER SERVICES& REIMB				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	1198	08209 ARF VOLUNTR SERV & REIMB-IDG				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62510	6200	08127 ARF VOLUNTEER SVC REIMBURSE				625100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	0901	08132 ARF F.I.S. S & W				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	0903	08133 ARF F.I.S. S & W				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	0923	08014 ARF SNAP ADMIN (ARRA)				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	0928	08607 ARF F.I.S. S & W				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	0929	08745 ARF FIELD STAFF SALARY&WAGES				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	1198	08103 ARF FIELD STAFF S&W-IDG CLRNG				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62610	6200	08131 ARF F.I.S.-S & W				626100	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62620	0901	08704 ARF LOCLOFFICE-HLTY MI PLN AD				626200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	0901	08404 ARF TRAINING & PGM SUPPORT				627000	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

AC1 Code and Description

7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING

Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	0903	08405 ARF TRAINING & PGM SUPPORT				627000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	0928	08608 ARF TRAINING & PGM SUPPORT				627000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	0929	08746 ARF TRAINING & PROGRAM SUPPRT				627000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	1198	08210 ARF TRAINING & PROG SUPP-IDG				627000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	62700	6200	08406 ARF TRAINING & PGM SUPPORT				627000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	0901	08141 ARF DOMESTIC VIOL PREVT TREAT				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	0903	08142 ARF DOMESTIC VIOL PREVT TREAT				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	0928	08611 ARF DOMESTIC VIOL PREVT TREAT				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	0929	08748 RF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREV&TRT				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	7200	08140 ARF DOMESTIC VIOL PREVT TREAT				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72100	7296	08143 ARF COMPULSIVE GAMING				721000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72160	0903	08473 ARF CHILD PROTECTION				721600	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72160	0929	08749 ARF CHILD PROTECTION				721600	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0903	08369 ARF COMM PROTECTION & PERM				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0928	08044 ARF FAMILY REUNIFICATION PROG				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0928	08162 ARF CHILD PROTECTION & PERM				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0928	08368 ARF FAMILIES FIRST				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0928	08613 ARF FAMILY PRES & PREV SVCS				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	0929	08753 ARF CHILD PROTECTION&PERMANCY				722300	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72230	7200	08163 ARF CHILD PROTECTION & PERM				722300	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72240	0901	08192 ARF FAM PRES & PREV SERVICES				722400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72240	0903	08148 ARF FAMILY PRESERVATION SVCS				722400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72240	0928	08612 ARF FAMILY PRESERVATION SVCS				722400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72240	0929	08750 ARF FAM PRESERVATION&PRVT SRV				722400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72240	7200	08146 ARF FAMILY PRESERVATION SVCS				722400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72250	0903	08149 ARF CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT-CJ				722500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72250	0929	08751 ARF CHILD ABUSE&NEGLECT-CJA				722500	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72290	0903	08370 ARF STRONG FAMIL/SAFE CHILDRN				722900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72290	0929	08752 ARF STRONG FAMILIES/SAFE CHLD				722900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72390	0903	08152 ARF RAPE PREVENTION & SERVICE				723900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72390	0928	08183 ARF RAPE PREVENTION & SERVICE				723900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72390	0929	08754 ARF RAPE PREVENTION & SERVICE				723900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72390	7200	08189 ARF RAPE PREVENT & SERVICES				723900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72390	7298	08550 RAPE PREVENTION AND SERVICES				723900	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72430	0901	08160 ARF INTERSTATE COMPACT				724300	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72430	0903	08161 ARF INTERSTATE COMPACT				724300	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72430	0929	08755 ARF INTERSTATE COMPACT				724300	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72430	7200	08159 ARF INTERSTATE COMPACT				724300	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72660	0901	08171 ARF ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT				726600	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72660	0903	08172 ARF ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT				726600	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72660	0929	08756 ARF ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT				726600	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72660	7200	08170 ARF ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT				726600	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72700	7299	08551 CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CNTR FUND				727000	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72870	0903	08180 ARF PROSECUTING ATTY CONTRACT				728700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72870	0928	08181 ARF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CONT				728700	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	72870	7200	08182 ARF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CONT				728700	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0901	08138 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-CSS & M				740400	16	
0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0901	08494 CHLD WLFR FLD STAFF CSSM(CRS)				740400	16	
1/ 0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0903	08139 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-CSS & M				740400	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
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MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0903	08495 CHLD WLFR FLD STAFF CSSM(CRS)				740400	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0928	08610 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-CSS & M				740400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0928	08614 CHLD WLFR FLD STAFF CSSM(CRS)				740400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	0929	08757 ARF CHILD WELFARE FIELD-CSS&M				740400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	1198	08098 ARF CHLD WLF STF CSSM-IDG CLR				740400	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	7200	08137 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-CSS & M				740400	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74040	7400	08496 CHLD WLFR FLD STAFF CSSM(CRS)				740400	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0901	08135 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS - S & W				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0901	08506 CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADM(CRS)				741000	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0903	08136 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-S & W				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0903	08507 CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADM(CRS)				741000	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0928	08609 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS-S & W				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0928	08615 CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADM(CRS)				741000	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0929	08747 RF CHILDREN'S SRVCS-SLRY&WAGE				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	0929	08758 ARF CHILDREN'S SRVCS ADMN(CRS				741000	16	
1/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	7200	08134 ARF CHILD & FAM SVCS S & W				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74100	7400	08508 CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADM(CRS)				741000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74160	0901	08515 SETTLEMENT MONITORING(CRS)				741600	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74160	0903	08516 SETTLEMENT MONITORING(CRS)				741600	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74160	0928	08616 SETTLEMENT MONITORING(CRS)				741600	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74160	0929	08759 ARF SETTLEMENT MONITOR (CRS)				741600	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74160	7400	08517 SETTLEMENT MONITORING(CRS)				741600	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74180	0901	08475 ARF TITLE IVE COMPL & ACCT				741800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74180	0903	08476 ARF TITLE IVE COMPL & ACCT				741800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74180	0928	08617 ARF TITLE IVE COMPL & ACCT				741800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74180	0929	08760 ARF TITLE IVE COMPLIANCE&ACCT				741800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74180	7400	08477 ARF TITLE IVE COMPL & ACCT				741800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74250	0901	08090 AFR/JV SUBSIDIZE GUARDIANSHIP				742500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74250	0903	08533 AFR/JV SUBSIDIZE GUARDIANSHIP				742500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74250	7400	08534 AFR/JV SUBSIDIZE GUARDIANSHIP				742500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74290	0901	08237 ARF CLEARING-CCF				742900	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74290	0903	08238 ARF CLEARING-CCF				742900	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74290	0928	08618 ARF CLEARING-CCF				742900	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74290	7400	08242 ARF CLEARING-CCF				742900	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74300	0901	08441 ARF CHILD CARE FUND ADMIN				743000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74300	0903	08153 ARF CHILD CARE FUND ADMIN				743000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74300	7400	08154 ARF CHILD CARE FUND ADMIN				743000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74350	0901	08207 ARF CHILD WELFARE INST - GFGP				743500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74350	0903	08208 ARF CHILD WELFARE INST - FED				743500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74350	0928	08619 ARF CHILD WELFARE INST - FED				743500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74350	0929	08784 ARF CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE				743500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74350	7400	08206 ARF CHILD WELFARE INST-ARF				743500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0901	08157 ARF YOUTH IN TRANSITION				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0901	08521 YOUTH IN TRANSITION (CRS)				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0903	08158 ARF YOUTH IN TRANSITION				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0903	08522 YOUTH IN TRANSITION (CRS)				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0928	08621 ARF YOUTH IN TRANSITION				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	0929	08761 ARF YOUTH IN TRANSITION (CRS)				744200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	7400	08156 ARF YOUTH IN TRANSITION				744200	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	7400	08523 YOUTH IN TRANSITION (CRS)				744200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74420	7491	08552 YOUTH IN TRANSITION				744200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74440	0901	08193 ARF CHILD WELF MED/PSYCH EVAL				744400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74440	0903	08130 ARF CHLD WLFARE MED/PSYCH EVL				744400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74440	0928	08622 ARF CHILD WELF MED/PSYCH EVAL				744400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74440	0929	08762 ARF CHILD WELFARE MED/PSYC EV				744400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74440	7400	08195 ARF CHILD WELF MED/PSYCH EVAL				744400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74460	0901	08656 ARF PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSGHT CON				744600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74460	0903	08657 ARF PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSGHT CON				744600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74460	7400	08658 ARF PSYCHOTROPIC OVERSGHT CON				744600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0901	08165 ARF FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0901	08524 FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS(CRS)				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0903	08166 ARF FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0903	08525 FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS(CRS)				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0904	08118 FOST CARE PMTS(CRS)-CNY PAYBK				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0922	08096 ARF TIVE FSTR CARE FMAP(ARRA)				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0928	08623 ARF FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	0929	08763 ARF FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS(CRS)				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	7400	08164 ARF FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	7400	08526 FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS(CRS)				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74550	7491	08168 REVENUE-FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				745500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	0901	08553 CHILD PROTECTIVE SERV WKRS				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	0903	08554 CHILD PROTECTIVE SERV WKRS				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	0915	08555 CHILD PROTECTIVE SERV WKRS				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	0928	08624 ARF CHILD PROTECTIVE SERV WKR				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	0929	08764 RF CHLD WLFR FLD STFF-CASECOM				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74600	7400	08556 CHILD PROTECTIVE SERV WKRS				746000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	0901	08557 DIRECT CARE WORKERS				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	0903	08558 DIRECT CARE WORKERS				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	0915	08559 DIRECT CARE WORKERS				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	0928	08625 DIRECT CARE WORKERS				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	0929	08765 RF CHLD WLFR FLD STFF-NONCASE				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74610	7400	08560 DIRECT CARE WORKERS				746100	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74620	0901	08561 EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74620	0903	08562 EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74620	0928	08626 EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74620	0929	08766 ARF EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74620	7400	08563 EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74630	0901	08564 PERM PLAN CONFERENCE COORDINS				746300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74630	0903	08565 PERM PLAN CONFERENCE COORDINS				746300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74630	0928	08627 PERM PLAN CONFERENCE COORDINS				746300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74630	0929	08767 ARF PEER COACHES				746300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74630	7400	08566 PERM PLAN CONFERENCE COORDINS				746300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	0901	08567 CHILD WELFARE FIRST-LINE SUPV				746400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	0903	08568 CHILD WELFARE FIRST-LINE SUPV				746400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	0915	08569 CHILD WELFARE FIRST-LINE SUPV				746400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	0928	08628 CHILD WELFARE FIRST-LINE SUPV				746400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	0929	08768 ARF CHLD WLFR FIRST LINE SUPS				746400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74640	7400	08570 CHILD WELFARE FIRST-LINE SUPV				746400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	0901	08571 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKERS				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	0903	08572 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKERS				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	0928	08629 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKERS				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	0929	08769 ARF ADMIN SUPPORT WORKERS				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	1198	08099 ARF ADM SUPP WRKRS-IDG CLRNG				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74650	7400	08573 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKERS				746500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	0901	08574 SECOND LINE SUPV & TECH STAFF				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	0903	08575 SECOND LINE SUPV & TECH STAFF				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	0928	08630 SECOND LINE SUPV & TECH STAFF				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	0929	08770 RF SECOND LINE SUP & TECH STF				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	1198	08100 ARF SCND LN SUPV&TECH STF-IDG				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74660	7400	08576 SECOND LINE SUPV & TECH STAFF				746600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74670	0901	08577 PERMANENCY PLAN SPECIALISTS				746700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74670	0903	08578 PERMANENCY PLAN SPECIALISTS				746700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74670	0928	08631 PERMANENCY PLAN SPECIALISTS				746700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74670	0929	08771 ARF PERMANCY RESOURCE MNGRS				746700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74670	7400	08579 PERMANENCY PLAN SPECIALISTS				746700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0901	08177 ARF ADOPTION SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0901	08527 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES(CRS)				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0903	08178 ARF ADOPTION SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0903	08528 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES(CRS)				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0922	08093 ARF T-IVE ADOPTION FMAP(ARRA)				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0928	08632 ARF ADOPTION SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	0929	08772 ARF ADOPTION SUBSIDIES (CRS)				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	7400	08176 ARF ADOPTION SUBSIDIES				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74750	7400	08529 ADOPTION SUBSIDIES(CRS)				747500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0901	08250 ARF-ADOPTION SUPPORT SERVICES				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0901	08530 ADOPTION SUPPORT SVCS (CRS)				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0903	08251 ARF-ADOPTION SUPPORT SERVICES				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0903	08531 ADOPTION SUPPORT SVCS (CRS)				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0928	08633 ARF-ADOPTION SUPPORT SERVICES				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	0929	08773 ARF ADOPT SUPPRT SRVCS(CRS)				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	7400	08252 ARF-ADOPTION SUPPORT SERVICES				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	74760	7400	08532 ADOPTION SUPPORT SVCS (CRS)				747600	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81200	0901	08155 ARF ELDER LAW OF MI-MICAFE CN				812000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81200	8100	08378 ARF HOMELESS PRV & FOOD ELDER				812000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81200	8100	08407 ARF HOMELESS PRV & FOOD ELDER				812000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81250	0903	08342 ARF NUTRITION EDUCATION				812500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81300	0901	08408 ARF ADULT SERV POLICY & ADMIN				813000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81300	0903	08409 ARF ADULT SERV POLICY & ADMIN				813000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81300	0929	08774 ARF ADULT SERV POLICY & ADMIN				813000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81300	8100	08410 ARF ADULT SERV POLICY & ADMIN				813000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81450	0901	08197 ARF EMP & TRNG SUPPORT SVCS				814500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81450	0903	08198 ARF EMP & TRNG SUPPORT SVCS				814500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81450	0912	08583 EMPLOYMENT & TRNG SUPP SERV				814500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81450	0928	08636 ARF EMP & TRNG SUPPORT SVCS				814500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81450	8100	08196 ARF EMP & TRNG SUPPORT SVCS				814500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0901	08648 0901 ARF MRS				815200	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0903	08188 ARF MRS ADM SVC-STD FEES REV	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	

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AC1 Code and Description

7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING

	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0903	08281 0903 ARF MRS				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0928	08788 0928 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0929	08776 0929 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	0929	08786 ARF MRS ADM SVC-STD FEES REV	126810	16	TITLE I BASIC SUPPORT	815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8100	08795 8100 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8101	08282 ARF MRS-PROGRAM INCOME				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8101	08789 8101 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8102	08283 ARF MRS-LOCAL VR MATCH				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8102	08791 8102 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8103	08187 ARF MRS ADM STD GOV REV-HELD				815210	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8103	08191 ARF MRS TRNG EOP REVENUES				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8103	08284 ARF MRS-PRIVATE GIFTS/DONATNS				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8103	08792 8103 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8104	08285 ARF MRS-REHAB SERVICE FEES				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8104	08793 8104 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8105	08286 ARF MRS-SECOND INJURY				815200	16	
2/	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81520	8105	08794 8105 ARF MRS				815200	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81530	0901	08287 ARF MRS-INDEP LIVING-GF/GP				815300	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81530	0903	08288 ARF MRS-INDEP LIV-TITLE VIIB				815300	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81530	0929	08777 ARF INDEPENDENT LIVING				815300	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81530	8101	08278 ARF MRS-INDEP LIVING-SSI				815300	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81550	0901	08204 ARF WAGE MATCH CONTRACT				815500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81550	0903	08205 ARF WAGE MATCH CONTRACT				815500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81550	0928	08637 ARF WAGE MATCH CONTRACT				815500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81550	0929	08778 RF WAGE EMPLOY VERFCTN REPORT				815500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81550	8100	08203 ARF WAGE MATCH CONTRACT				815500	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81670	0901	08174 ARF GUARDIAN CONTRACT				816700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81670	0903	08175 ARF GUARDIAN CONTRACT				816700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81670	0929	08779 ARF GUARDIAN CONTRACT				816700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	81670	8100	08173 ARF GUARDIAN CONTRACT				816700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82100	0903	08419 ARF BUREAU COMM ACTION/ECON				821000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82100	0928	08638 ARF BUREAU COMM ACTION/ECON				821000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82100	0929	08780 ARF COMM ACTION & ECONOMIC OP				821000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82380	0903	08194 ARF COMM SVCS BLOCK GRANT				823800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82380	0929	08781 RF COMMNTY SERVICES BLOCKGRNT				823800	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	82570	0929	08086 ARF WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE				825700	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83100	0901	08292 ARF CHILD SUPP ENFORCMT OPER				831000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83100	0903	08293 ARF CHILD SUPP ENFORCMT OPER				831000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83100	0910	08449 ARF CHILD SUPP ENFORCMT OPER				831000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83100	8300	08295 ARF CHILD SUPP ENFORCMT OPER				831000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83200	0901	08296 ARF LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS				832000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83200	0903	08297 ARF LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS				832000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83200	0910	08277 ARF LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS				832000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83200	0929	08782 ARF LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS				832000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83200	8300	08298 ARF LEGAL SUPPORT CONTRACTS				832000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83300	0901	08007 ARF CHILD SUPPORT				833000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83300	0903	08299 ARF CHILD SUPPORT INCENT PMTS				833000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83300	8300	08034 ARF CHLD SUPPRT INCNTVE PYMTS				833000	16	
	0099 JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83400	0901	08300 ARF CHILD SUPP DIST COMP SYST				834000	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83400	0903	08301 ARF CHILD SUPP DIST COMP SYST				834000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	83400	8300	08302 ARF CHILD SUPP DIST COMP SYST				834000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99900	0825	99895 A/R WRITE-OFF/DISALLOWANCE				999000	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99930	9930	99930 UNDISTRIBUTED RECEIPTS				999300	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99940	0819	00920 PY EXP IN EXCESS OF AVAIL BAL				999400	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0801	99851 FEDERAL REFUNDS-PRIOR YEAR				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0802	99852 FED REV IN EXCESS OF APPROP				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0803	99853 FED REVENUE-INDIRECT COSTS				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0806	99854 LOCAL REV-IN EXCESS OF APPROP				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0807	99855 PRIVATE REVENUE-LR410				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0808	99856 PRIVATE REV FRAUD COLLECTIONS				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0810	99858 PVT REV IN EXCESS CURRENT APP				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0810	99860 PRIVATE REVENUE				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0811	08018 ARF CHILD&ADULT LIC(BCAL)FEES				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0811	99859 PRIVATE REV FROM CURRENT OPS				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0816	99857 FEDL REV XCESS CUR APPN(ARRA)				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99950	0819	99894 PVT REV-PRIOR YR EXPENDITURE				999500	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99965	9965	99965 TRAVEL ADVANCE DISBURSEMENT				999650	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99970	9970	99970 UNDISTRIBUTED RECEIPTS				999700	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99975	9975	99975 ESTAB PETY CASH/NOT REPLENISH				999750	16	
0099	JOURNAL VOUCHERS / ARF	99980	9995	99915 PPRISM PAYROLL				999800	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	0903	05002 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (0903)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	0906	05010 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (0906				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	0912	05011 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (0912)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	0928	05013 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32650 (0928)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	3200	05001 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (3200)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	3291	05003 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (3291)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32500	3295	05004 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32500 (3295)				325000	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32520	0906	05006 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32520				325200	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32520	3200	05005 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32520 (3200)				325200	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32520	3295	05007 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32520 (3295)				325200	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32540	0901	05008 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32540 (0901)				325400	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32560	0929	05009 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32560 (0903)				325600	16	
0123	UNDELIVERABLE SUBLEDGER	32650	0929	05012 UNDELIV SUBLEGER 32650 (0903)				326500	16	
0221	A/R SOCIAL SERVICES PAYROLL	09998	0710	02259 DHS PAYROLL				099980	16	
0222	A/R MISCELLANEOUS SOCIAL SERVICES	09998	0710	02263 A/R-MISC SOCIAL SERVICES				099980	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11363 MISC COUNTY ADMIN				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11364 OTHER BOARD EXPENSE				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11365 BOARD TRAVEL				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11366 BOARD MEMBER SALARY/PER DIEM				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11507 OTHER COUNTY PROJECTS				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11549 COUNTY FUNDED APPROPRIATION				061000	16	
0282	COUNTY SOCIAL WELFARE FUND ACTIVITIES	06100	0610	11553 CNTY FUNDED DEBT COLLECTIONS				061000	16	
0360	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	06100	0610	06101 EXP)DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	AGYAAA	16	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY	061000	16	
0360	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	06100	0610	06102 REV)DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	AGYAAA	16	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY	061000	16	
0360	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	06100	0610	11828 DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	AGYAAA	16	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY	061000	16	
0360	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	99940	0819	00525 EXP)DONATED FUND ACTIVITY-AAA	AGYAAA	16	DONATED FUND ACTIVITY	999400	16	
0361	ASC CHANGE ACTIVITY	06100	0610	07021 ASC CHANGE ACTIVITY				061000	16	
0390	DEFFERED-UNEARNED RECPTS PAY GRANTS DSS	09998	0710	03924 DEF RCPTS PAY GRANTS SOC SRV				099980	16	

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	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description										
7499: BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING										
	0391 DEFFERED-UNEARNED RECPTS PAY ADMIN DSS	09998	0710	03943 PAY ADMIN SOC SRVS				099980	16	
	0392 DEFFRD-UNEARNED RCPTS PAY-CSE SUPPT COLL	09998	0710	03944 DEF RCPT PAY CSE SUPP COLLECT				099980	16	
	0393 DEFFRD-UNEARNED RCPTS PAY-POTNTL A/R&A/P	09998	0710	03998 DEF RCPT PAY POTENTIA A/R&A/R				099980	16	
	0490 LOCAL UNIT REVENUE REFUND	09998	0710	04906 REVENUE REFUND				099980	16	
	0493 SUPPORT COLLECTIONS-IRS OFFSET RECEIPTS	09998	0710	04946 PATERNITY FOR TRANSFER TO DCH				099980	16	
	0493 SUPPORT COLLECTIONS-IRS OFFSET RECEIPTS	09998	0710	04948 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE - CMH				099980	16	
	0494 SUPPORT COLLECTIONS-TRSY OFFSET RECEIPTS	09999	0710	04947 CSE SUPPORT COLLECTIONS				099990	16	
	0495 CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTIONS	09999	0710	04950 CSE - SUPPORT COLLECTIONS				099990	16	
	0496 COURT ORDERED JUDGEMENTS STTLMTS ATTYFE	99940	0819	00410 COURT ORD JUDG STTLM ATTY FEE				999400	16	
	0600 CENTRALIZED CHILD SUPPORT SYSTEM	06000	0600	06000 CCSS-CASH CONCENTRATION				060000	16	
	0600 CENTRALIZED CHILD SUPPORT SYSTEM	09999	0710	06100 STATE MAKE WHOLE FUNDING				099990	16	
	0911 MA TRANSPORTATION (WC)	99910	9900	90021 MA TRANSPORTATION				999100	16	
	0912 MA TRANSPORTATION STATE CARE (WC)	99910	9900	90022 MA TRANSPORTATION ST CAR (WC)				999100	16	
	0915 MA TRANSPORTATION HMP	99910	9900	90023 MA TRANSPORTATION HMP				999100	16	
1/	1401 AFC/HFA PROGRAM	72800	7200	11135 AFC/HFA PROGRAM	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	728000	16	
1/	1402 CCL PROGRAM	72800	7200	11136 CCL PROGRAM	090310	16	CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND	728000	16	
1/	1405 CWL CAMP CONSULTANTS	72800	7200	11138 CWL CAMP CONSULTANTS				728000	16	
1/	1416 AFC/HFA/CC LICENSING	72800	7200	11153 AFC/HFA/CC LICENSING				728000	16	
	2213 OFFSET FOR COUNTY IV-E NOT REIMBURSED	74290	7400	47296 OFFSET FOR CO IV-E NOT REIMB				742900	16	
	2213 OFFSET FOR COUNTY IV-E NOT REIMBURSED	99940	0819	00305 OFFSET FOR CO IV-E NOT REIMB				999400	16	
	2302 PROSECUTING ATTY CONTRACT-GF/GP OFFSET	72870	7200	72311 PROS ATTY CONT-GF/GP OFFSET				728700	16	
	2664 CHILD SSA BENEFITS	01877	0717	01877 CHILD SSA BENEFITS				018770	16	
	3007 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH OFFSET	32530	3200	32535 FOOD STAMP OUTREACH OFFSET				325300	16	
	3027 FNS LINE CHARGES	11040	1100	11480 FNS LINE CHARGES				110400	16	
	3038 FAP BENEFITS RECOUPMENT	32530	3200	32542 FAP BENEFIT RECOUPMENT				325300	16	
	3042 EBT SNAP REPLACEMENT CARD	11400	1100	11452 EBT SNAP REPLACEMENT CARD				114000	16	
	3216 EBT REFUGEE REPLACEMENT CARD	11400	1100	11453 EBT REFUGEE REPLACEMENT CARD				114000	16	
	3219 EBT FIP TANF REPLACEMENT CARD	11400	1100	11454 EBT FIP TANF REPLACEMENT CARD				114000	16	
	3221 EBT FIP STATE REPLACEMENT CARD	11400	1100	11455 EBT FIP STATE REPLACEMNT CARD				114000	16	
	3389 LOW INCOME & ENERGY EFF FUND-CIS OFFSET	32560	0929	32515 LOW INC & ENGY FND-CIS OFFSET				325600	16	
	3435 DLEG OFFSET - LIEFF FOR WZ	82570	0929	32526 DLEG OFFSET - LIEFF FOR WZ				825700	16	
	3613 EBT SDA REPLACEMENT CARD	11400	1100	11456 EBT SDA REPLACEMNT CARD				114000	16	
	4738 2013 JABG 10% L/M OFFSET	47700	4700	47789 2013 JABG 10% L/M OFFSET				477000	16	
	4748 2012 JABG 10% LOCAL MATCH OFFSET	47700	4700	47732 2012 JABG 10% LOCL MTCH OFFST				477000	16	
	5556 1099 CORRECTION ACCOUNTING USE ONLY	09998	0710	55556 1099 CORRECTION ACCT USE ONLY				099980	16	
	6100 MRS PROGRAM ROLL-UP	81530	8100	99998 EXP CREDIT				815300	16	
	7504 CHILD SUPPORT BENCH WARRANT FEES	83100	0550	83108 CHILD SUPP BENCH WARR REVENUE				831000	16	
	7504 CHILD SUPPORT BENCH WARRANT FEES	83100	8300	83109 CHILD SUPP BENCH WARR EXPENSE				831000	16	
	7528 ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACT OFFSET	83200	8300	83207 ATTORNEY GEN CONTRACT OFFSET				832000	16	
	7595 MISDU-A/R WRITE OFFS	83400	8300	83406 MISDU-A/R WRITE OFFS				834000	16	
	8672 RACE TO THE TOP-ELC MDE IA PROGRAM	62610	0903	07202 REV-RACE 2 TOP-MDE IA PGM				626100	16	
1/	8714 AFC/HFA SECTION MANAGER	72800	7200	11559 AFC/HFA SECTION MANAGER				728000	16	
1/	8716 BCAL ORG SUPPORT/BITS	72800	7200	11560 BCAL ORG SUPPORT/BITS				728000	16	
1/	8782 CP35 BCAL AREA MANAGERS & SUPPORT STAFF	72800	7200	11146 BCAL AREA MANAGERS & SUPP STF				728000	16	
8002: CONSOLIDATED PRINT CENTER										
	8023 CP02 HWDC PRINT SYSTEMS	11040	1100	11492 CONSOLIDATED PRINT CENTER EXP				110400	16	
8004: AP WORKERS ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST										
	8121 CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST HIRING POOL	12050	1200	12024 ELIG SPECIALIST HIRING POOL				120500	16	

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8004: AP WORKERS ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST										
8121	CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST HIRING POOL	62040	6200	62072 ELEG SPECIALIST HIRING POOL				620400	16	
8121	CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST HIRING POOL	62610	6200	62012 ELIG SPECIALIST HIRING POOL				626100	16	
8121	CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST HIRING POOL	99940	0819	01013 ELEG SPECIALIST HIRING POOL				999400	16	
8122	CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPECIALISTS - (ARRA)	62610	6200	62031 CP04 FLD STF ES LTA POS(ARRA)				626100	16	
8126	CP04 ELIG SPEC - MA ERROR REDUCTION	12050	1200	12235 ES-MA ERROR REDUCTION-TRAVEL				120500	16	
8126	CP04 ELIG SPEC - MA ERROR REDUCTION	62040	6200	62109 ES-MA ERROR REDUCTION-CSS&M				620400	16	
8126	CP04 ELIG SPEC - MA ERROR REDUCTION	62610	6200	62235 ES-MA ERROR REDUCTION-S&W				626100	16	
8130	CP04 ES IN MARA POSITIONS	62300	6200	62342 ES IN MARA POSITIONS				623000	16	
8130	CP04 ES IN MARA POSITIONS	99940	0819	00346 ES IN MARA POSITIONS-CSSM				999400	16	
8131	CP04 JET ES WORKERS	62610	6200	62229 JET ES WORKERS-S&W				626100	16	
8132	CP04 ELIGIBILITY SPEC'S IN LRA POSITIONS	62300	6200	62343 ES IN LRA POSITIONS				623000	16	
8135	PATHWAYS TO POTENTIAL BUSINESS OPS UNIT	12050	1200	12382 P2P BUSINESS OPERATIONS UNIT				120500	16	
8135	PATHWAYS TO POTENTIAL BUSINESS OPS UNIT	62040	6200	62376 P2P BUSINESS OPERATIONS UNIT				620400	16	
8135	PATHWAYS TO POTENTIAL BUSINESS OPS UNIT	62610	6200	62375 P2P BUSINESS OPERATIONS UNIT				626100	16	
8136	HEALTHY MICHIGAN CALL CENTER	62040	6200	62379 HEALTHY MI CALL CNTR CSS&M				620400	16	
8154	CP05 IRS FILE MATCH FEES	81550	8100	81142 IRS FILE MATCH FEES				815500	15	
8168	OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-PA POLICY	11010	1100	11232 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-PA POLICY				110100	16	
8168	OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-PA POLICY	11040	1100	11846 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-PA POLICY				110400	16	
8168	OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-PA POLICY	12050	1200	12659 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-PA POLICY				120500	16	
8332	DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PUB ASSISTANCE	12050	1200	12915 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PA				120500	16	
8332	DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PUB ASSISTANCE	62040	6200	62452 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PA				620400	16	
8332	DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PUB ASSISTANCE	62610	6200	62663 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PA				626100	16	
8365	PA & CW SUPERVISORS	12050	1200	12779 PA&CW SUPERVISORS 2&3 LINE				120500	16	
8365	PA & CW SUPERVISORS	62040	6200	62528 PA&CW SUPERVISORS 2&3 LINE				620400	16	
8365	PA & CW SUPERVISORS	62610	6200	62527 PA&CW SUPERVISORS 2&3 LINE				626100	16	
8548	ES WORKERS	12050	1200	12865 ES WORKERS				120500	16	
8548	ES WORKERS	62040	6200	62427 ES WORKERS				620400	16	
8548	ES WORKERS	62610	6200	62642 ES WORKERS				626100	16	
8548	ES WORKERS	99940	0819	00528 ES WORKERS				999400	16	
8549	ES LEAD WORKER	12050	1200	12866 ES LEAD WORKER				120500	16	
8549	ES LEAD WORKER	62040	6200	62428 ES LEAD WORKER				620400	16	
8549	ES LEAD WORKER	62610	6200	62643 ES LEAD WORKER				626100	16	
8558	FIS CASE MANAGER	12050	1200	12867 FIS CASE MANAGER				120500	16	
8558	FIS CASE MANAGER	62040	6200	62429 FIS CASE MANAGER				620400	16	
8558	FIS CASE MANAGER	62610	6200	62644 FIS CASE MANAGER				626100	16	
8559	FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)	12050	1200	12868 FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)				120500	16	
8559	FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)	62040	6200	62430 FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)				620400	16	
8559	FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)	62610	6200	62645 FIS NON-CASE MGR (NFIS)				626100	16	
8568	CP-23 TALX EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION SERV	62040	6200	62253 TALX EMPLY VERIFICATION SERVS				620400	15	
8583	COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	12050	1200	12536 MIGRANT PROGRAM SPECIALIST				120500	16	
8583	COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	62040	6200	62387 MIGRANT PROGRAM SPECIALIST				620400	16	
8583	COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	62610	6200	62655 MIGRANT PROGRAM SPECIALIST				626100	16	
8625	BSC ADMINISTRATION - CASH ONLY	12050	1200	12844 BSC ADMIN - CASH ONLY				120500	16	
8625	BSC ADMINISTRATION - CASH ONLY	62040	6200	62419 BSC ADMIN - CASH ONLY				620400	16	
8625	BSC ADMINISTRATION - CASH ONLY	62610	6200	62248 BSC ADMIN - CASH ONLY				626100	16	
8626	CASH ONLY - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	12050	1200	12845 CASH ONLY-BIFURCATED COUNTIES				120500	16	
8626	CASH ONLY - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	62040	6200	62420 CASH ONLY-BIFURCATED COUNTIES				620400	16	
8626	CASH ONLY - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	62610	6200	62249 CASH ONLY-BIFURCATED COUNTIES				626100	16	
8627	AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE	12050	1200	12857 AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE				120500	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
8004: AP WORKERS ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST									
8627 AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE	62040	6200	62421 AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE				620400	16	
8627 AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE	62610	6200	62601 AP SUPERVISOR/FIM 1ST LINE				626100	16	
8638 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PROGRAM OFFICE	12050	1200	12534 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PRGM OFFICE				120500	16	
8638 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PROGRAM OFFICE	62040	6200	62385 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PRGM OFFICE				620400	16	
8638 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PROGRAM OFFICE	62610	6200	62653 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PRGM OFFICE				626100	16	
8638 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PROGRAM OFFICE	99940	0819	00530 MIGRANT AFFAIRS PRGM OFFICE				999400	16	
8643 DFP-CASH/FIM 1ST LINE	62300	6200	62366 DFP-CASH/FIM 1ST LINE				623000	16	
8661 DFP-ES WORKER	62300	6200	62364 DFP-ES WORKER				623000	16	
8671 DFP-FIS WORKER	62300	6200	62365 DFP-FIS WORKER				623000	16	
8726 OWDT-DELIV #1-PATHWAYS	62700	6200	62736 OWDT-DELIV #1-PATHWAYS				627000	16	
8726 OWDT-DELIV #1-PATHWAYS	74350	7400	74277 OWDT-DELIV #1-PATHWAYS				743500	16	
8931 CP49 VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES	11040	1100	11089 VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES				110400	16	
8931 CP49 VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES	62040	6200	62033 VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES				620400	16	
9142 OWDT-DELIV #1-PA	62700	6200	62737 OWDT-DELIV #1-PA				627000	16	
9142 OWDT-DELIV #1-PA	74350	7400	74279 OWDT-DELIV #1-PA				743500	16	
8006: CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION									
8087 CP06 ANALYSIS & DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING	11040	1100	81190 ANAL & DEV TRN PER LEARN SUP				110400	16	
8087 CP06 ANALYSIS & DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING	99940	0819	00963 ANALYSIS & DEVELOP OF TRNG				999400	16	
8182 CP06 DIRECTOR	99940	0819	00443 DIRECTOR				999400	16	
8185 CP06 OFFICE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	11010	1100	11005 OFF OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION				110100	16	
8185 CP06 OFFICE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	11040	1100	11056 OFF OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION				110400	16	
8185 CP06 OFFICE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	12050	1200	12005 OFF OF AFFIRM ACTION				120500	16	
8185 CP06 OFFICE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	99940	0819	01011 OFF OF AFFIRM ACTION				999400	16	
8188 CP06 MNB RENT / TRNG ROOMS	12070	1200	12236 MNB RENT / TRNG ROOMS				120700	16	
8191 CP06 WORKERS COMPENSATION	12840	1200	12541 WORKERS COMPENSATION				128400	16	
8192 CP06 SBO ANALYST SERVICES	11010	1100	11071 SBO ANALYST SERVICES - S&W				110100	16	
8195 CP06 SEVERANCE PAYMENTS	11800	1100	11698 SEVERANCE PMTS - SOAHR				118000	16	
8195 CP06 SEVERANCE PAYMENTS	12080	1200	12297 CP06 SEVERANCE PAYMENTS				120800	16	
8196 CP06 SUPPLEMENTAL PENS-'10 ERLY RETIREES	12080	1200	12298 CP06 SUPPLMNTL PENS-ERLY RETR				120800	16	
8197 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPENDITURES	11010	1100	11013 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPEND				110100	16	
8197 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPENDITURES	11040	1100	11045 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPEND				110400	16	
8197 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPENDITURES	99940	0819	00544 CP06 CENTRAL SUPPORT EXPEND				999400	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	11010	1100	11022 CP 06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				110100	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	11040	1100	11077 CP 06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				110400	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	12050	1200	12012 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				120500	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	62610	6200	62609 CP 06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				626100	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00399 CP 06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				999400	16	
8205 CP06 FINANCIAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00516 CP 06 FINANCIAL SERVICES				999400	16	
8207 CP06 WELFARE LEGAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00997 WELFARE LEGAL SERVICES				999400	16	
8208 CP06 OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES	11010	1100	11025 OFF HUMAN RESOURCES				110100	16	
8208 CP06 OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES	11040	1100	11082 OFF HUMAN RESOURCES				110400	16	
8208 CP06 OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES	12050	1200	12016 OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES				120500	16	
8210 CP06 EMPLOYEE FINGERPRINTING	11040	1100	11083 EMPLOYMENT FINGERPRINT				110400	16	
8213 CP06 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING	11010	1100	11029 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING				110100	16	
8213 CP06 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING	11040	1100	11086 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING				110400	16	
8213 CP06 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING	12050	1200	12019 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING				120500	16	
8213 CP06 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING	99940	0819	00998 BUREAU OF ACCOUNTING				999400	16	
8216 CP06 FICA/MOVES	11040	1100	11096 FICA/MOVES				110400	16	
8218 CP06 ASSIST RELATED TELECOMM WI	62040	6200	62030 ASSIST REL TELECOM WIRING				620400	16	

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8006: CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION										
	8220 CP06 ERGONOMICS CENTRAL	62040	6200	62071 ERGONOMIC CENT				620400	16	
	8227 CP06 FACILITIES TECHNOLOGY & REGISTRAR	11040	1100	81144 FACIL TECH & REG TRN CENTER				110400	16	
	8227 CP06 FACILITIES TECHNOLOGY & REGISTRAR	99940	0819	00922 FACILITIES TECHNOL& REGISTRAR				999400	16	
	8233 CP06 MOVE, REDESIGN & REMODEL PROJECTS	12070	1200	12279 CNTRL OFF MOVE, RED & REM PRJ				120700	16	
	8246 06 EMPLOYEE DRUG TESTING	11040	1100	11059 EMPLOYEE DRUG TESTING				110400	16	
	8246 06 EMPLOYEE DRUG TESTING	99940	0819	00322 EMPLOYEE DRUG TESTING				999400	16	
	8254 CP-06 VOLUNTEER SERVICES ADMIN-CENT OFF	62510	6200	62293 VOL SVCS ADMIN-CENTRAL OFFICE				625100	16	
	8258 CP06 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OFC PROFESS DEV	11040	1100	81201 LDRSHP ACADEMY OFS PROF'L DEV				110400	16	
	8258 CP06 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OFC PROFESS DEV	12050	1200	12015 CP06 TRAVEL LDRSHP ACADEMY				120500	16	
	8258 CP06 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OFC PROFESS DEV	99940	0819	00985 LDRSHP ACADEMY OFS PROF'L DEV				999400	16	
	8260 CP06 UNEMPLOYMENT CHARGES	12080	1200	12547 UNEMPLOYMENT CHARGES				120800	16	
	8260 CP06 UNEMPLOYMENT CHARGES	99940	0819	00978 UNEMPLOYMENT CHARGES				999400	16	
	8262 CP06 FINAN ASST PROG SYS COORD	11010	1100	81210 FINAN ASST PROG SYS COORD-S&W				110100	16	
	8262 CP06 FINAN ASST PROG SYS COORD	11040	1100	81211 FIN ASST PROG SYS COORD-CSS&M				110400	16	
	8263 CP06 ID MAIL LANSING TO CADILLAC PLACE	11040	1100	11042 ID MAIL LANS TO CADILLAC PLC				110400	16	
	8267 CP06 OTSD E-LEARNING	62700	6200	62712 OTSD E-LEARNING				627000	16	
	8268 CP06 OTSD REGISTRAR	62700	6200	62713 OTSD REGISTRAR				627000	16	
	8276 CENTRAL SUPPLY ACCOUNT	11040	1100	11835 CENTRAL SUPPLY ACCOUNT				110400	16	
	8358 OFC OF ACCTG/FIELD PYMT-ACCTG CONSOLDTN	62610	6200	62049 OFC ACCTG/FLD PYMT-ACCT CONS				626100	16	
	8474 OFFICE OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING	11010	1100	11264 OFF OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING				110100	16	
	8474 OFFICE OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING	11040	1100	11183 OFF OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING				110400	16	
	8474 OFFICE OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING	12050	1200	12567 OFF OF CONTRACTS & PURCHASING				120500	16	
8007: CP07 LOCAL OFF MGT AND SUPPORT										
1/	8318 CP07 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MANAGER	62610	6200	62633 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MNGR				626100	15	
8011: MONITORING AND INTERNAL CONTROLL										
	8411 QAIC-INTERNAL CONTROL	11010	1100	11049 QAIC-INTERNAL AUDIT				110100	16	
	8411 QAIC-INTERNAL CONTROL	11040	1100	11098 QAIC-INTERNAL AUDIT				110400	16	
	8411 QAIC-INTERNAL CONTROL	12050	1200	12027 QAIC-INTERNAL AUDIT				120500	16	
	8411 QAIC-INTERNAL CONTROL	99940	0819	01000 QAIC-INTERNAL AUDIT				999400	16	
8014: ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS										
	8441 CP14 SOAHRS/DLEG	11800	1100	11682 SOAHRS / DLEG IDG				118000	16	
	8441 CP14 SOAHRS/DLEG	12070	1200	12707 SOAHRS/DLEG - RENT				120700	16	
	8441 CP14 SOAHRS/DLEG	12200	1200	12793 SOAHRS/DLEG OCCUPANCY CRGS				122000	16	
	8441 CP14 SOAHRS/DLEG	99940	0819	01051 SOAHRS/DLEG				999400	16	
8017: CONTRACT MANAGEMENT										
	8471 CP17 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SECTION	11010	1100	11028 CONTRACT MGT SECTION				110100	16	
	8471 CP17 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SECTION	11040	1100	11085 CONTRACT MGT SECTION				110400	16	
	8471 CP17 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SECTION	12050	1200	12018 CONTRACT MGT SECTION				120500	16	
	8471 CP17 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SECTION	99940	0819	00415 CONTRACT MGT SECTION				999400	16	
8026: TANF/SA WARRANT ISSUANCE										
	8682 CP26 HWDC METERED POSTAGE/AFDC & GA	62040	6200	62099 HWDC METERED POST/AFDC & GA				620400	16	
	8683 CP26 GA/PA VENDOR WARR ISS&MAILING-TRY	62040	6200	62100 GA/PA VEND WARR ISS & MAIL TR				620400	16	
8031: CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE										
2/	8739 OWDT-DELIV#1-CHILD WELFARE	74350	7400	74821 OWDT-DELIV#1-CHILD WELFARE				743500	16	
	8741 CP31 PARENT RES INFO DEV & EDUCATION	74350	7400	72467 CP31 PARENT RES INFO DEV&EDUC				743500	16	

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8031: CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE									
8741 CP31 PARENT RES INFO DEV & EDUCATION	99940	0819	00993 PARENT RES INFO DEV & EDUCATN				999400	16	
8742 CP31 CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISOR TRNG	74350	7400	72468 CP13 CHILD WELFARE SPVR TRNG				743500	16	
8743 OWDT-DELIV #2 MGR & STAFFNG	74350	7400	72469 OWDT-DELIV #2 MGR & STAFFNG				743500	16	
8743 OWDT-DELIV #2 MGR & STAFFNG	99940	0819	01045 CHILD WELFARE TRAINING				999400	16	
8744 CP31 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI	99940	0819	01046 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI-PR YR				999400	16	
8745 CP31 PVT AGENCY EMPEE CWI TRNG TRAVEL	99940	0819	01034 PVT AGENY EMPEE CWI TRNG TRVL				999400	16	
8746 CP31 CW SUPERVISOR TRAINING-NON DHS EMPL	74350	7400	72473 CP31 CW SPVR TRN-NON DHS EMPL				743500	16	
8746 CP31 CW SUPERVISOR TRAINING-NON DHS EMPL	99940	0819	00344 CP31 CW SPVR TRN-NON DHS EMPL				999400	16	
8747 CP31 MNB RENT / OTSD-CWI	12070	1200	12322 MNB RENT / OTSD-CWI				120700	16	
8748 CP31 CH WELFARE TRNG CONTRTS-STAFF DEVEL	74350	7400	72472 CP31 CHLD WELF TRNG/STAFF DEV				743500	16	
8748 CP31 CH WELFARE TRNG CONTRTS-STAFF DEVEL	99940	0819	01049 CP31 CHLD WELF TRNG/STAFF DEV				999400	16	
8749 CP31 CW PSTT TRAINING-NON DHS EMPLOYEE	74350	7400	72474 CP31 CW PSTT TRN-NON DHS EMPL				743500	16	
8749 CP31 CW PSTT TRAINING-NON DHS EMPLOYEE	99940	0819	00343 CP31 CW PSTT TRN-NON DHS EMPL				999400	16	
8033: CHILD WELFARE LICENSING CONSULTANTS									
1/ 1409 BCAL ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CWL	72800	7200	11142 ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CWL				728000	16	
1409 BCAL ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CWL	99940	0819	00930 ENVIRONMENT COST FOR CWL				999400	16	
8786 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF	12050	1200	12103 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF				120500	16	
1/ 8786 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF	72800	7200	11147 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF				728000	16	
8786 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF	99940	0819	00964 CWL MANAGERS & FIELD STAFF				999400	16	
8036: STATEWIDE NEW HIRE DATABASE									
8791 CP36 STATEWIDE NEW HIRE DATABASE	81550	8100	81552 STATEWIDE NEW HIRE DATABASE				815500	16	
8038: PRIVATE CHILD PLACING AGENCIES									
2030 SEC.546(4) ADMIN RATE INCREASE GF FUNDED	74550	7400	74255 SEC.546(4) RATE INC GF FUNDED				745500	16	
1/ 2114 ADOPTION POS TRG REIMBURSEMENT-WRKRS-GF	74760	7400	72762 ADOPT POS TRG REIMB WRKS-GF				747600	16	
1/ 2115 ADOPTION POS TRG REIMBURSEMENT-SPVRS-GF	74760	7400	72763 ADOPT POS TRG REIMB SPVRS-GF				747600	16	
1/ 2123 ADOPT POS SWBC PLACEMENT PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74766 ADOPT POS SWBC PLACMNT PYMTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2124 ADOPT POS SWBC FINALIZATION PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74767 ADOPT POS SWBC FNLZTION PYMTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2125 ADOPT POS SWBC BLENDED PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74768 ADOPT POS SWBC BLENDED PYMTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2126 ADOPT POS SWBC ONE TIME PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74769 ADOPT POS SWBC ONE TIME PYMTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2127 ADOPT POS SWBC PER DIEM PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74770 ADOPT POS SWBC PER DIEM PYMTS	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2128 ADOPT POS SWBC DISSOLVED ADOPTION REFUN	74760	7400	74771 ADOPT POS SWBC DISS ADOPT REF	090390	16	IV-B CHILD WELFARE	747600	16	
1/ 2129 ADOPT POS IVE PLACEMENT PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74772 ADOPT POS IVE PLACEMENT PYMTS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2130 ADOPT POS IVE FINALIZATION PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74773 ADOPT POS IVE FNLZATION PYMTS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2131 ADOPT POS IVE BLENDED PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74774 ADOPT POS IVE BLENDED PYMTS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2132 ADOPT POS IVE ONE TIME PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74775 ADOPT POS IVE ONE TIME PYMTS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2133 ADOPT POS IVE PER DIEM PAYMENTS	74760	7400	74776 ADOPT POS IVE PER DIEM PYMTS	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2134 ADOPT POS IVE DISSOLVED ADOPTION REFUNDS	74760	7400	74777 ADOPT POS IVE DISS ADOPT REFN	090352	16	IV-E ADOPTION ADMIN	747600	16	
1/ 2143 ICPC ADOPTION HOME STUDY-APPROVED	74760	7400	74182 ICPC ADOPT HOME STUDY-APPROVD				747600	16	
1/ 2144 ICPC ADOPTION HOME STUDY-NOT APPROVED	74760	7400	74183 ICPC ADPT HME STDY-NOT APPRVD				747600	16	
1/ 2145 ICPC ADOPTION PLACEMENT	74760	7400	74184 ICPC ADOPTION PLACEMENT				747600	16	
1/ 2146 ICPC ADOPTCASE SUPERVISION/FINALIZATION	74760	7400	74185 ICPC ADPTCASE SUPRVSN/FINLZTN				747600	16	
2625 PRIVATE AGENCY FC WKR TRG REIMB	74550	7400	74573 PRIV AGENCY FC WKR TRG REIMB				745500	16	
2626 PRIVATE AGENCY FC SUPR TRG REIMB	74550	7400	74574 PRIV AGENCY FC SUPR TRG REIMB				745500	16	
2666 SWBC PVT AGENCY ADMIN RATE	74550	7400	72439 SWBC PVT AGENCY ADMIN RATE				745500	16	
2666 SWBC PVT AGENCY ADMIN RATE	74550	7400	72506 WC SWBC PVT AGENC ADMIN RATE				745500	16	
2676 YAVFC PCPA ADMIN RATES-TITLE IVE	74550	7400	74561 YAVFC PCPA ADMN RATES-TTL IVE	090356	16	IV-E FOSTER CARE ADMINISTRATION	745500	16	
2677 YAVFC PCPA ADMIN RATES-TITLE XX	74550	7400	74562 YAVFC PCPA ADMN RATES-TITL XX	090490	16	T XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS	745500	16	

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AC1 Code and Description													
	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description		Grant	Phs	Grant Description		Proj#	Phs	RTI	
8038: PRIVATE CHILD PLACING AGENCIES													
	2682 YAVFC PCPA ADMIN RATES-NON-IVE ELIGIBLE	74550	7400	74567	YAVFC PCPA ADM RATE-NON-IVE E					745500	16		
	2699 SEC 515 ADDITIONAL ADMIN RATE-PRE PBF	74550	7400	74549	SEC515 ADD ADMIN RATE-PRE PBF					745500	16		
	2719 YOUTH IN TRANSITION	74550	7400	72244	YIT PVT AGENCY IND LIVING ADM	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS		745500	16		
	2719 YOUTH IN TRANSITION	74550	7400	72505	WC YIT PVT AGEN IND LIVNG ADM	090358	16	IV-E YOUTH IN TRANSITIONS		745500	16		
	8745 CP31 PVT AGENCY EMPEE CWI TRNG TRAVEL	74350	7400	72471	CP31 PVT AGY EMP CWI TRNG TRA					743500	16		
	8811 CP-38 PVT AGENCY IV-E ADMIN RATE	74550	7400	72217	PVT AGENCY IV-E ADMIN RATE					745500	16		
	8811 CP-38 PVT AGENCY IV-E ADMIN RATE	74550	7400	72504	WC PVT AGENCY IV-E ADMIN RATE					745500	16		
8040: FOSTER HOME CERTIFICATION													
	0508 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- FOSTER CARE	12050	1200	12357	AG IAB LGL SERV-FOSTER CARE					120500	16		
	0508 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- FOSTER CARE	62040	6200	62122	AG IAB LGL SERV-FOSTER CARE					620400	16		
	0508 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES- FOSTER CARE	62610	6200	62625	AG IAB LGL SERV-FOSTER CARE					626100	16		
	2034 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1	12050	1200	12818	CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1					120500	16		
	2034 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1	74040	7400	74196	CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1					740400	16		
	2034 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1	74100	7400	74195	CQID-MANAGER UNIT 1					741000	16		
	2036 CQID-CW FEDERAL REPORTS ANALYSTS (CFSR)	12050	1200	12823	CQID-CW FED REPORTS ANALYSTS					120500	16		
	2036 CQID-CW FEDERAL REPORTS ANALYSTS (CFSR)	74040	7400	74202	CQID-CW FED REPORTS ANALYSTS					740400	16		
	2036 CQID-CW FEDERAL REPORTS ANALYSTS (CFSR)	74100	7400	74201	CQID-CW FED REPORTS ANALYSTS					741000	16		
	2604 FINGERPRINTING OF FOSTER CARE FAMILILIES	74550	7400	72216	FINGERPRINTING OF FC FAMILIES					745500	16		
	2604 FINGERPRINTING OF FOSTER CARE FAMILILIES	99940	0819	00419	FINGERPRINTING OF FC FAMILIES					999400	16		
	2672 FC FAMILY INCENTIVE GRANTS IVE ELIGIBLE	74550	7400	72562	FC FAM INCENTIVE GRT-IVE ELIG					745500	16		
	2672 FC FAMILY INCENTIVE GRANTS IVE ELIGIBLE	99940	0819	00368	FC FAM INCENTIVE GRT-IVE ELIG					999400	16		
	8094 FOSTER CARE & MI TEAM PROGRAM OFFICE	12050	1200	12216	FOSTER CARE & MITEAM PRGM OFF					120500	16		
1/	8094 FOSTER CARE & MI TEAM PROGRAM OFFICE	74040	7400	72094	FOSTER CARE & MITEAM PRGM OFF					740400	16		
1/	8094 FOSTER CARE & MI TEAM PROGRAM OFFICE	74100	7400	72207	FOSTER CARE & MITEAM PRGM OFF					741000	16		
	8094 FOSTER CARE & MI TEAM PROGRAM OFFICE	74100	7400	74109	FOSTER CARE & MITEAM PRGM OFF					741000	16		
	8096 MICHIGAN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE OFFICE	74760	7400	74702	MI CHILDRENS INSTITUTE OFFICE					747600	16		
	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	12050	1200	12563	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					120500	16		
	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	62610	6200	62029	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					626100	16		
1/	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	74040	7400	72196	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					740400	16		
1/	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	74100	7400	72011	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					741000	16		
	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	74180	7400	74092	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					741800	16		
	8108 TITLE IVE ANALYSTS	74610	7400	74634	TITLE IVE ANALYSTS					746100	16		
1/	8381 CP08 CHILD FOSTER CARE WARNT MAIL COSTS	74040	7400	72035	CHILD FOSTER CARE WARR MAIL C					740400	16		
1/	8712 FOSTER HOME LIC PROG CONSULT	72800	7200	11557	CWL FOSTER HOME LIC PRG CNSLT					728000	16		
1/	8713 FC PLACEMENT ASST	72800	7200	11558	CWL FC PLACEMENT ASST					728000	16		
	8831 CP40 FOSTER FAMILY HOME DEVELOPMENT	74550	7400	72225	FOSTER FAM HOME DEV					745500	16		
	8831 CP40 FOSTER FAMILY HOME DEVELOPMENT	99940	0819	00348	FOSTER FAMILY HOME DEVELOPMEN					999400	16		
	8832 IVE WAIVER PROGRAM	12050	1200	12627	IVE WAIVER PROGRAM					120500	16		
	8832 IVE WAIVER PROGRAM	74040	7400	74628	IVE WAIVER PROGRAM CSS&M					740400	16		
	8832 IVE WAIVER PROGRAM	74610	7400	74629	IVE WAIVER PROGRAM					746100	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	12050	1200	12869	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					120500	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	62610	6200	62646	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					626100	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	74040	7400	74007	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					740400	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	74100	7400	74808	PERM RESOURCE UNIT MGR&STAFF					741000	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	74610	7400	74691	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					746100	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	74610	7400	74692	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					746100	16		
	8859 PERMANENCY RESOURCE UNITS-MGR & STAFF	74670	7400	74673	PERM RESOURCE UNT-MGR & STAFF					746700	16		

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	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description										
8043: MEDICAL CONSULTANTS										
1/	8861 43 MEDICAL CONSULTATION	14100	1400	14301 STATE CE&MER&NONSTATEEMPLTRVL				142000	15	
8044: ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER PROJECT										
	8871 CP44 ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER PROJECT	11400	1100	81044 ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANS PRJ				114000	16	
8046: CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES RELATED										
1/	8895 CP46 ZONE TRAIN TRAVL CHILD & FAMILY SVC	12050	1200	12602 ZONE TRAIN TRAVL CHILD-FAMILY				120500	16	
8047: CENTRAL OFFICE FACILITIES										
1/	8386 STATE OFFICE BLDG-OCCUPANCY CHARGES	12070	1200	12797 STATE OFF BLDG-OCCUPANCY CHGS				120700	16	
	8387 RENT & RELATED COSTS	12070	1200	12197 RENT & RELATED COSTS				120700	16	
	8387 RENT & RELATED COSTS	62040	6200	62912 RENT & RELATED COSTS				620400	16	
	8914 CP47 CENTRAL OFFICE RENT & RELATED COSTS	12070	1200	12780 CENTRAL OFF RENT & RELATED				120700	16	
	8914 CP47 CENTRAL OFFICE RENT & RELATED COSTS	12200	1200	12795 CENT OFF RENT & RELATED COSTS				122000	16	
	8914 CP47 CENTRAL OFFICE RENT & RELATED COSTS	99940	0819	01052 CENTRAL OFF RENT & RELATED				999400	16	
8050: SOCIAL SERVICES WORKERS (PAYROLL ONLY)										
	8054 PEER COACH	99940	0819	00446 CP50 PERM PLAN CONF COORD				999400	16	
	8106 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT	74600	7400	74713 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT				746000	16	
	8744 CP31 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI	74600	7400	74601 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI-SALARY				746000	16	
	8769 CP31 NEW FOSTER CARE (FC) WORKER IN CWTI	74600	7400	74611 NEW FC WORKER IN CWTI-SALARY				746000	16	
	8942 CP50 EDUCATION PLANNERS	74620	7400	74621 CP50 EDUCATION PLANNERS				746200	16	
	8943 CP50 MY01 WORKERS	74610	7400	74615 CP 50 MY0I WORKERS				746100	16	
	8944 CP50 CW FUNDING SPECALSTS-TITLE IVE WKR	74610	7400	74616 CP CW FNDNG SPEC-TITL IVE WKR				746100	16	
	8949 CP50 ADOPTION LOCAL WORKERS	74600	7400	62222 ADOPTION LOC WORKERS				746000	16	
	8950 CP50 FOSTER CARE LOCAL WORKERS	74600	7400	62223 CP50 FOSTER CARE LOC WORKERS				746000	16	
	8951 CP50 DELINQUENCY SERVICES LOCAL WORKERS	62610	6200	62224 DELINQ SVCS LOC WORKERS				626100	16	
	8953 CP50 PREVENTIVE SERVICE WORKERS	74600	7400	74604 CP50 PREVENTIVE SERVICE WKRS				746000	16	
	8954 CP50 FC WORKERS/FOSTER FAMILY RECRUIT	74600	7400	62227 FC WORKERS/FOSTER FAM RECRUIT				746000	16	
	8955 CP50 PS CHILDREN/LO WORKERS	74600	7400	62228 CP50 PS CHILDREN/LOC WORKERS				746000	16	
1/	8960 CP50 CP/CP SERVICES WORKERS	72230	7200	72361 CP/CP SERVICES WORKERS				722300	16	
	8971 DFP-SERVICES WORKER	62300	6200	62368 DFP-SERVICES WORKER				623000	16	
8051: ADULT SERVICES RELATED										
	8011 BSC #6 ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12911 BSC#6 ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
	8011 BSC #6 ADMINISTRATION	62040	6200	62446 BSC#6 ADMINISTRATION				620400	16	
	8011 BSC #6 ADMINISTRATION	62610	6200	62658 BSC#6 ADMINISTRATION				626100	16	
	8011 BSC #6 ADMINISTRATION	99940	0819	00524 BSC#6 ADMINISTRATION				999400	16	
	8527 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS	12050	1200	12768 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS				120500	16	
	8527 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS	62040	6200	62454 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS				620400	16	
	8527 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS	62610	6200	62665 ADMIN SUPPORT WRKR-ADULT SVCS				626100	16	
	8585 ADULT SVCS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR	12050	1200	12914 ADULT SVS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR				120500	16	
	8585 ADULT SVCS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR	62040	6200	62449 ADULT SVS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR				620400	16	
	8585 ADULT SVCS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR	62610	6200	62662 ADULT SVS 1ST LINE SUPERVISOR				626100	16	
	8981 CP 51 INDEP LIVING SVCS DIV	81300	8100	81301 CP 51 INDEP LIVING SVCS DIV				813000	16	
	8982 CP51 ADULT SERVICES FORMS PRINTING	62040	6200	62107 ADULT SVCS FORMS PRINT				620400	16	
	8983 CP51 ADULT COMM PLAC & ADULT SRVCS DIV	81300	8100	81303 CP51 COMM PLAC & ADU SRVCS DV				813000	16	
	8983 CP51 ADULT COMM PLAC & ADULT SRVCS DIV	99940	0819	00374 CP51 COMM PLAC & ADV SRVCS DV				999400	16	
	8985 CP51 ADULT SERVICES TRNG SUPPORT SRVCS	62700	6200	81175 ADULT SVCS TRNG SUPPORT SVCS				627000	16	
	8987 CP-51 HIV AIDS PROGRAM	81300	8100	81307 CP51 HIV AIDS PROGRAM				813000	16	
	8987 CP-51 HIV AIDS PROGRAM	99940	0819	00363 CP51 HIV AIDS PROGRAM				999400	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
8051: ADULT SERVICES RELATED									
8988 CP-51 ADULT SVCS POL REV SUBCOM	81300	8100	81308 CP51 ADLT SVCS POL REV SUBCOM				813000	16	
8989 CP-51 ADULT SERVICES HOTLINE	62040	6200	62061 ADULT SERVICES HOTLINE				620400	16	
8994 OWDT-DELIV #1 ADULT	62700	6200	62735 OWDT-DELIV #1 ADULT				627000	16	
9031 CP55 ADULT SERVICES WORKERS	12050	1200	12116 ADULT SVCS WORKERS				120500	16	
9031 CP55 ADULT SERVICES WORKERS	62040	6200	62108 ADULT SVCS WORKERS				620400	16	
9031 CP55 ADULT SERVICES WORKERS	99940	0819	00944 ADULT SVCS WORKERS				999400	16	
9043 ADULT SERVICE DFA POSITION	62300	6200	62945 ADULT SERVICES DFA INDIRECT				623000	15	
8052: CP52 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREV & TRTMT									
9001 CP52 POLICY AND EXECUTIVE STAFF CHARGES	72100	7200	72063 CP52 POLICY & EXEC STAFF CHGS				721000	16	
9001 CP52 POLICY AND EXECUTIVE STAFF CHARGES	72100	7200	72118 DOMESTIVE VIOLENCE TELECOM				721000	16	
9001 CP52 POLICY AND EXECUTIVE STAFF CHARGES	99940	0819	00300 CP52 POLICY & EXEC STAFF CHGS				999400	16	
9002 CP52 CONTRACT STAFF CHARGES	72100	7200	72064 CP52 CONTRACT STAFF CHARGES				721000	16	
8053: ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACTS									
9011 CP53 ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACTS	72660	7200	72246 ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACTS				726600	16	
9011 CP53 ATTORNEY GENERAL CONTRACTS	74040	7400	74095 CP53 ATTY GENERAL CONTRACTS				740400	16	
8054: CSBG & WEATHERIZATION ADMIN									
9022 CP54 CSBG/WEATHERIZATION ADMINISTRATION	82100	0929	81333 CSBG WEATHERIZATION ADMIN				821000	16	
9022 CP54 CSBG/WEATHERIZATION ADMINISTRATION	99940	0819	00417 CSBG WEATHERIZATION ADMIN				999400	16	
9023 CP54 BCAEO COMMISSION COSTS	82100	0929	82101 BCAEO COMMISSION COSTS				821000	16	
8055: SOCIAL SERVICES WORKERS INDIRECT COSTS									
2026 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2	12050	1200	12907 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2				120500	16	
2026 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2	74040	7400	74268 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2				740400	16	
2026 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2	74100	7400	74695 CQID-MANAGER UNIT 2				741000	16	
2306 MALTREATMENT IN CARE WORKERS	12050	1200	12186 MIC WORKERS- TRAVEL				120500	16	
2306 MALTREATMENT IN CARE WORKERS	74040	7400	74072 MIC WORKERS- CSS&M				740400	16	
2314 MALTREATMENT IN CARE 1ST LINE SUPV	12050	1200	12554 MALTRTMNT IN CARE 1ST LN SUPV				120500	16	
2314 MALTREATMENT IN CARE 1ST LINE SUPV	74040	7400	74084 MALTRTMNT IN CARE 1ST LN SUPV				740400	16	
2314 MALTREATMENT IN CARE 1ST LINE SUPV	74640	7400	74693 MALTRTMNT IN CARE 1ST LN SUPV				746400	16	
2315 FIELD OPERATIONS TECH/MIC DIVISION	12050	1200	12917 FIELD OPS TECH/MIC DIVISION				120500	16	
2315 FIELD OPERATIONS TECH/MIC DIVISION	74040	7400	74143 FIELD OPS TECH/MIC DIVISION				740400	16	
2315 FIELD OPERATIONS TECH/MIC DIVISION	74100	7400	74142 FIELD OPS TECH/MIC DIVISION				741000	16	
2316 CHILD PROTECTION SERVICE WORKLOAD STUDY	74040	7400	74011 CHILD PRTN SVC WRKLD STUDY				740400	16	
8079 FAMILY HOME AIDES	12050	1200	12879 FAM HOME AIDES				120500	16	
8079 FAMILY HOME AIDES	74040	7400	74152 FAM HOME AIDES				740400	16	
8079 FAMILY HOME AIDES	74600	7400	74322 FAMILY HOME AIDES				746000	16	
8081 DFP-HOME AID	62300	6200	62471 DFP-HOME AIDE				623000	16	
8082 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSIS	12050	1200	12906 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSTS				120500	16	
8082 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSIS	74040	7400	74267 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSTS				740400	16	
8082 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSIS	74610	7400	74694 LOCAL FC PROGRAM ANALYSTS				746100	16	
8106 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT	12050	1200	12558 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT				120500	16	
8106 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT	74040	7400	74163 MALTREATMENT IN CARE UNIT				740400	15	
8333 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-CHILD WELFARE	12050	1200	12916 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-CW				120500	16	
8333 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-CHILD WELFARE	62040	6200	62453 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-PA				620400	16	
8333 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-CHILD WELFARE	62610	6200	62664 DISTRICT MGR/DEPUTY DIR-CH				626100	16	
8364 CW-CRC	12050	1200	12777 CW - CRC WAYNE COUNTY				120500	16	
8364 CW-CRC	62040	6200	62526 CW - CRC WAYNE COUNTY				620400	16	
8364 CW-CRC	62610	6200	62525 CW - CRC WAYNE COUNTY				626100	16	

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AC1 Code and Description	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
8055: SOCIAL SERVICES WORKERS INDIRECT COSTS										
	8623 BSC ADMINISTRATION - CHILD WELFARE ONLY	12050	1200	12842 BSC ADMIN-CHILD WELFARE ONLY				120500	16	
	8623 BSC ADMINISTRATION - CHILD WELFARE ONLY	62040	6200	62418 BSC ADMIN-CHILD WELFARE ONLY				620400	16	
	8623 BSC ADMINISTRATION - CHILD WELFARE ONLY	62610	6200	62247 BSC ADMIN-CHILD WELFARE ONLY				626100	16	
	8624 CHILD WELFARE - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	12050	1200	12843 CW - BIFURCATED COUNTIES				120500	16	
	8624 CHILD WELFARE - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	74040	7400	74003 CW - BIFURCATED COUNTIES				740400	16	
	8624 CHILD WELFARE - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	74100	7400	74140 CW - BIFURCATED COUNTIES				741000	16	
1/	8624 CHILD WELFARE - BIFURCATED COUNTIES	74100	7400	74639 CW URBN FIELD OPS ADSPRTSTAFF				741000	16	
	8633 CW 2ND/3RD LINE	12050	1200	12863 CW 2ND/3RD LINE				120500	15	
	8633 CW 2ND/3RD LINE	74040	7400	74005 CW 2ND/3RD LINE				740400	15	
	8633 CW 2ND/3RD LINE	74660	7400	74656 CW 2ND/3RD LINE				746600	15	
	8744 CP31 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI	74350	7400	72470 NEW CPS WORKER IN CWTI-TRAVEL				743500	16	
	8769 CP31 NEW FOSTER CARE (FC) WORKER IN CWTI	74350	7400	74356 NEW FC WORKER IN CWTI-TRAVEL				743500	16	
	8892 CP46 OUTCOUNTY CHILD PLACE FOSTER CARE	12050	1200	12137 OUTCTY CHILD PLACE FOSTER CAR				120500	16	
	8895 CP46 ZONE TRAIN TRAVL CHILD & FAMILY SVC	99940	0819	01031 ZONE TRAIN TRAVL CHILD-FAMILY				999400	16	
	8922 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS	12050	1200	12856 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPV				120500	16	
	8922 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS	74040	7400	74004 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPV				740400	16	
	8922 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS	74640	7400	74646 1ST LINE CHILD WELFARE SUPV				746400	16	
1/	8972 CP/CP SERVICES WORKERS	72230	7200	72363 CP/CP SERVICES WORKERS				722300	16	
	8973 EDUCATION PLANNERS	12050	1200	12941 EDUCATIONAL PLANNERS				120500	16	
	8973 EDUCATION PLANNERS	74040	7400	74674 EDUCATION PLANNERS				740400	16	
	8974 PEER COACH	12050	1200	12553 PEER COACH				120500	16	
	8974 PEER COACH	74040	7400	74014 PEER COACH				740400	16	
	8974 PEER COACH	74630	7400	74635 PEER COACH				746300	16	
	8975 DFP-SERVICES WORKER	62300	6200	62472 DFP-SERVICES WORKER				623000	16	
	9033 CP55 CW CASE PROTECTN ORDER FEES-OLR USE	74040	7400	74105 CW CSE PROT ORDR FEES-OLR USE				740400	16	
	9035 CP55 ADOPTION LOCAL WORKERS	12050	1200	12131 ADOPTION LOC WORKERS				120500	16	
	9035 CP55 ADOPTION LOCAL WORKERS	74040	7400	74058 CP55 ADOPTION LOCAL WORKERS				740400	16	
	9035 CP55 ADOPTION LOCAL WORKERS	99940	0819	01021 ADOPTION LOC WORKERS				999400	16	
	9036 CP55 FOSTER CARE LOCAL WORKERS	12050	1200	12132 FOSTER CARE LOC WORKERS				120500	16	
	9036 CP55 FOSTER CARE LOCAL WORKERS	74040	7400	74059 FOSTER CARE LOCAL WORKERS				740400	16	
	9036 CP55 FOSTER CARE LOCAL WORKERS	99940	0819	01022 FOSTER CARE LOC WORKERS				999400	16	
	9037 CP55 DELINQUENCY SERVICES LOCAL WORKERS	12050	1200	12133 DELINQ SVCS LOC WORKERS				120500	16	
	9037 CP55 DELINQUENCY SERVICES LOCAL WORKERS	62040	6200	62139 JUVENILE JUSTICE SVCS WORKERS				620400	16	
	9039 CP55 PREVENTIVE SERVICES WORKERS	12050	1200	12135 PREVENTIVE SVCS WORKERS				120500	16	
	9039 CP55 PREVENTIVE SERVICES WORKERS	74040	7400	74061 CP55 PREVENTIVE SERVCS WRKRS				740400	16	
	9039 CP55 PREVENTIVE SERVICES WORKERS	99940	0819	00546 CP55 PREVENTIVE SERVCS WRKRS				999400	16	
	9040 CP55 FC WORKERS/FOSTER FAMILY RECRUIT	12050	1200	12136 FC WORKRS/FOSTER FAM RECURIT				120500	16	
	9040 CP55 FC WORKERS/FOSTER FAMILY RECRUIT	74040	7400	74062 CP55 FC WKRS/FSTR FAM RECRUIT				740400	16	
	9041 CP55 PS CHILDREN/LO WORKERS	12050	1200	12556 PS CHILDREN/LO WORKERS				120500	16	
	9041 CP55 PS CHILDREN/LO WORKERS	74040	7400	74063 CP55 PS CHILDREN/LOCAL WRKRS				740400	16	
	9041 CP55 PS CHILDREN/LO WORKERS	99940	0819	00529 CP55 PS CHILDREN/LOCAL WRKRS				999400	16	
	9049 CP55 CW FUNDNG SPECIALISTS CSS&M	12050	1200	12351 CP55 CW FNDG SPECLISTS TRAVEL				120500	16	
	9049 CP55 CW FUNDNG SPECIALISTS CSS&M	74040	7400	74065 CP55 CW FUNDNG SPECLSTS CSS&M				740400	16	
	9509 CP 55 FRC SOC SERVICES WORKER TRAVEL	12050	1200	12678 FRC SOC SERV WKR - TRAVEL				120500	16	
	9799 CP 07 HEALTH SERVICES LIAISON WORKERS	62610	6200	62027 HEALTH CARE LIAISONS				626100	16	
8064: ADULT SERVICES RMTS STAFF(ONLY PAYROLL)										
1/	8945 CP50 ADULT SERVICES WORKERS	62640	6200	62180 ADULT SVCS WORKERS				626400	16	
	8977 ADULT SERVICE DFA POSITION	62300	6200	62944 ADULT SERVICES DFA S&W				623000	15	

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AC1 Code and Description										
8065: CENTRALIZED INTAKE-NEW CASES FOR APS&CPS										
	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	12050	1200	12908 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT				120500	16	
	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	12070	1200	12971 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT				120700	16	
	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	74040	7400	74269 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT				740400	16	
1/	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	74100	7400	74638 CENTRAL INTAKE ADMINSUPPSTAFF				741000	16	
	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	74610	7400	74633 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT				746100	16	
	8006 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT	74640	7400	74645 CENTRAL INTAKE UNIT				746400	16	
8098: GF/GP NON FFP										
	9802 CP98 CIVIL SERVICE OFFSET	11010	1100	11002 CIVIL SERVICE COST OFFSET				110100	16	
	9803 CP98 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FED FUNDING	11010	1100	11009 NOT ELIG. FOR FFP				110100	16	
	9803 CP98 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FED FUNDING	11040	1100	11054 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FED FUND				110400	16	
	9803 CP98 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FED FUNDING	12050	1200	12004 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FED FUNDS				120500	16	
	9803 CP98 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FED FUNDING	62610	6200	62370 FUND RAISING CONSULTANT COST				626100	16	
	9803 CP98 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FED FUNDING	99940	0819	00403 STAFF NOT ELIGIBLE FED FUND				999400	16	
	9804 CP98 ELIG SPECIALISTS-MARA POSTNS OFFSET	62300	6200	62312 CP98 ES-MARA POSITIONS OFFSET				623000	16	
	9805 CP98 CENTRAL SERVICE COSTS OFFSET	11040	1100	11062 CENTRAL SERVICE COST OFFSET				110400	16	
	9809 CP98 EE PAYROLL ADV MANUAL WARRANTS	11010	1100	11026 EE PAYROLL ADV MAN WARRANTS				110100	16	
	9810 CP98 SINGLE AUDIT (FED SHARE)	11040	1100	11099 SINGLE AUDIT FEDERAL SHARE				110400	16	
	9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	11040	1100	11111 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS				110400	16	
	9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	62040	6200	62258 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS				620400	16	
	9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	74250	7400	72342 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS				742500	16	
	9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	74550	7400	72339 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS				745500	16	
	9821 CP98 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS	99940	0819	00981 LEGAL SETTLEMENTS				999400	16	
	9824 CP98 FS CHALLENGE EBT AUTHORIZATION	11040	1100	11112 CP98 FS CHALLANGE EBT AUTH				110400	16	
	9825 CP98 FS CHALLENGE EBT PAYMENTS	11040	1100	11113 CP98 FS CHALLANGE EBT PYMT				110400	16	
	9827 CP98 TRAVEL CARD DEFAULT CODING	12050	1200	12060 CP98 TRAVEL CARD DEFAULT CODE				120500	16	
	9830 CP98 GF/GP CHRGS ALLCTD IN PRED FED APPN	99940	0819	00321 GF/GP CRGS ALLC PRED FED APPN				999400	16	
8101: DTMB SERVICES										
1/	8019 MI.GOV PORTAL & MI GEOGRAPHIC FRAMEWORK	16100	1600	16402 DTMB ADMIN/DTMB 900 FEE ETC				161000	16	
	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	99940	0819	00532 TELECOMMUNICATIONS				999400	16	
1/	8115 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-TELECOM CADILLAC PLACE	16100	1600	16272 TECHNOLOGY-TELECOM MLAN DT PT				161000	16	
1/	8117 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-EQUIPMENT & SUPPORT	16100	1600	16273 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-OTHER TELECM				161000	16	
1/	8117 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-EQUIPMENT & SUPPORT	16100	1600	16276 TECHNOLOGY COSTS L-MAN				161000	16	
1/	8117 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-EQUIPMENT & SUPPORT	16100	1600	16352 TCHNLGY CSTS-EQUP & SUP COSTS				161000	16	
1/	8118 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-TELECOM	16100	1600	16271 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-TELECOM CBDS				161000	16	
	8181 CP06 CIVIL SERVICES COST	11010	1100	11001 CIVIL SVCS COST				110100	16	
	8249 CP06 CENTRAL SERVICE COSTS	11040	1100	11061 CENTRAL SERVICE COST				110400	16	
1/	9104 MAINFRAME COSTS	16100	1600	16231 MAINFRAME COSTS				161000	16	
8102: DHS DIRECTOR, DEP DIR & ADMIN SUPPORT										
	8138 DIVERSITY PROGRAMS	11040	1100	11614 DIVERSITY PROGRAMS				110400	16	
	8175 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	11010	1100	11109 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SVCS				110100	16	
	8175 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	11040	1100	11134 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SVCS				110400	16	
	8175 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	12050	1200	12218 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SVCS				120500	16	
	8176 OFFICE OF COMMUNCIATIONS	11010	1100	11108 OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS				110100	16	
	8176 OFFICE OF COMMUNCIATIONS	11040	1100	11133 OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS				110400	16	
	8176 OFFICE OF COMMUNCIATIONS	12050	1200	12209 OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS				120500	16	
	8178 DHS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	11010	1100	11106 CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S OFFCE				110100	16	
	8178 DHS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	11040	1100	11131 CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S OFFIC				110400	16	

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8102: DHS DIRECTOR, DEP DIR & ADMIN SUPPORT												
	8178 DHS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	12050	1200	12203	CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S OFFIC					120500	16	
	8179 DHS DIRECTOR	11010	1100	11007	DHS DIRECTOR					110100	16	
	8179 DHS DIRECTOR	11040	1100	11073	DHS DIRECTOR					110400	16	
	8179 DHS DIRECTOR	12050	1200	12202	DHS DIRECTOR					120500	16	
	8382 WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT	12050	1200	12207	WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT					120500	16	
	8382 WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT	62040	6200	62378	WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT					620400	16	
	8382 WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT	62610	6200	62638	WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION UNIT					626100	16	
	9832 OFFICE OF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION	11010	1100	11008	OFF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION					110100	16	
	9832 OFFICE OF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION	11040	1100	11103	OFF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION					110400	16	
	9832 OFFICE OF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION	12050	1200	12281	OFF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION					120500	16	
8103: ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES												
	8013 DATA STRATEGY GROUP	11010	1100	11273	DATA STRATEGY GROUP					110100	16	
	8013 DATA STRATEGY GROUP	11040	1100	11128	DATA STRATEGY GROUP					110400	16	
	8013 DATA STRATEGY GROUP	12050	1200	12837	DATA STRATEGY GROUP					120500	16	
	8015 INFORMATION SECURITY	11010	1100	11271	INFORMATION SECURITY					110100	16	
	8015 INFORMATION SECURITY	11040	1100	11126	INFORMATION SECURITY					110400	16	
	8015 INFORMATION SECURITY	12050	1200	12831	INFORMATION SECURITY					120500	16	
	8016 APPLICATION SUPPORT	11010	1100	11269	APPLICATION SUPPORT					110100	16	
	8016 APPLICATION SUPPORT	11040	1100	11121	APPLICATION SUPPORT					110400	16	
	8016 APPLICATION SUPPORT	12050	1200	12828	APPLICATION SUPPORT					120500	16	
	8037 CONTACT CENTER	12050	1200	12532	CONTACT CENTER					120500	16	
	8037 CONTACT CENTER	62040	6200	62383	CONTACT CENTER					620400	16	
	8037 CONTACT CENTER	62610	6200	62651	CONTACT CENTER					626100	16	
1/	8117 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-EQUIPMENT & SUPPORT	16100	1600	16179	SUPPRT SVS-SCURTY/CSS/DCOETC					161000	16	
1/	8117 TECHNOLOGY COSTS-EQUIPMENT & SUPPORT	16100	1600	16301	DESKTOP/WIRELESS/STORAGE, ETC					161000	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	11010	1100	11223	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					110100	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	11040	1100	11851	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					110400	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	12050	1200	12888	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					120500	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	62040	6200	62411	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					620400	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	62610	6200	62641	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					626100	16	
	8601 ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES	99940	0819	00523	ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES					999400	16	
	8606 POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPECIALIST	11010	1100	11902	POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPLT					110100	16	
	8606 POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPECIALIST	11040	1100	11903	POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPLT					110400	16	
	8606 POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPECIALIST	12050	1200	12986	POLICY UNIT COORD & FOIA SPLT					120500	16	
	8822 DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	11010	1100	11604	DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT					110100	16	
	8822 DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	11040	1100	11862	DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT					110400	16	
	8822 DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	12050	1200	12524	DEPUTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT					120500	16	
8105: OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS												
	8427 OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS	11040	1100	11843	OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS					110400	16	
	8427 OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS	11310	1100	11171	OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS					113100	16	
	8427 OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS	12050	1200	12652	OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS					120500	16	
8107: FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN DIRECTORS												
	8244 FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA	11040	1100	11837	FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA					110400	16	
	8244 FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA	12050	1200	12645	FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA					120500	16	
8108: FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA												
1/	8244 FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA	11010	1100	11258	FRAUD & RECOUP ADMIN SEMA					110100	16	

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8110: FTE DHS EXC DDS,CH SUP,MRS,DOM VIOLENCE											
	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	11040	1100	11562	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				110400	16	
1/	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	16100	1600	16143	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				161000	16	
	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	62040	6200	62391	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				620400	16	
	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	62700	6200	62711	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				627000	16	
1/	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	74040	7400	72002	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				740400	16	
	8114 TELECOMMUNICATIONS	74040	7400	74008	TELECOMMUNICATIONS				740400	16	
8111: OIG SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT											
	8426 OIG SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT	11040	1100	11842	OIG SPEC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT				110400	16	
	8426 OIG SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT	11310	1100	11346	OIG SPEC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT				113100	16	
	8426 OIG SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT	12050	1200	12651	OIG SPEC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT				120500	16	
8112: OIG ADMINISTRATION											
	8425 OIG ADMINISTRATION	11040	1100	11841	OIG ADMINISTRATION				110400	16	
	8425 OIG ADMINISTRATION	11310	1100	11345	OIG ADMINISTRATION				113100	16	
	8425 OIG ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12649	OIG ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
	8425 OIG ADMINISTRATION	99940	0819	00519	OIG ADMINISTRATION				999400	16	
	8427 OIG - FIELD OPERATIONS	12200	1200	12796	OIG-OCCUPANCY CHGS				122000	16	
8113: OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY - ADMIN											
	8169 OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY - ADMIN	11010	1100	11231	OFF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-ADMIN				110100	16	
	8169 OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY - ADMIN	11040	1100	11845	OFF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-ADMIN				110400	16	
	8169 OFFICE OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY - ADMIN	12050	1200	12658	OFF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-ADMIN				120500	16	
8114: QAIC-DIRECTOR & PROGRAM SUPPORT											
	8402 QAIC-DIRECTOR & PROGRAM SUPPORT	11010	1100	11225	QAIC-DIRECTOR & PRGM SUPPORT				110100	16	
	8402 QAIC-DIRECTOR & PROGRAM SUPPORT	11040	1100	11853	QAIC-DIRECTOR & PRGM SUPPORT				110400	16	
	8402 QAIC-DIRECTOR & PROGRAM SUPPORT	12050	1200	12891	QAIC-DIRECTOR & PRGM SUPPORT				120500	16	
8118: OTSD ADMINISTRATION											
	8732 OTSD ADMINISTRATION	62700	6200	62731	OTSD ADMINISTRATION				627000	16	
	8732 OTSD ADMINISTRATION	74350	7400	74262	OTSD ADMINISTRATION				743500	16	
	8733 OWDT-TRAINING ADMINISTRATION	62700	6200	62733	OWDT-TRAINING ADMINISTRATION				627000	16	
	8733 OWDT-TRAINING ADMINISTRATION	74350	7400	74264	OWDT-TRAINING ADMINISTRATION				743500	16	
8122: CHILD WELFARE DIRECTOR & CO STAFF											
1/	8787 CWL DIRECTOR & CO STAFF	72800	7200	11152	CWL DIRECTOR & CO STAFF				728000	16	
8124: CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE											
	8271 CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	12050	1200	12814	CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				120500	16	
1/	8271 CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74040	7400	72841	CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				740400	16	
	8271 CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74040	7400	74192	CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				740400	16	
	8271 CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74100	7400	74191	CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				741000	16	
	8271 CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	99940	0819	00534	CSA DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				999400	16	
	8889 CP46 SETTLEMENT MONITOR COSTS	74040	7400	74209	CP46 SETTLEMENT MONITOR CSS&M				740400	16	
	8889 CP46 SETTLEMENT MONITOR COSTS	74160	7400	74211	CP46 SETTLEMENT MONITOR COSTS				741600	16	
	8909 CP-03 CENTER FOR SUPPORT OF FAM CONTRACT	74040	7400	74207	CNTR FOR SUPP OF FAM CONTRACT				740400	16	
8125: BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES											
	8021 BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	11010	1100	11598	BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES				110100	16	
	8021 BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	11040	1100	11866	BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES				110400	16	
	8021 BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	12050	1200	12871	BUREAU OF COMMUNITY SERVICES				120500	16	

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8127: FTE COUNT ACCROSS ALL FIELD STAFF										
	8052 CP07 AP SUPERVISOR	12050	1200	12174 AP SUPERVISOR - TRAVEL				120500	16	
	8052 CP07 AP SUPERVISOR	12080	1200	12296 AP SUPERVISOR - TX&FRGS				120800	16	
	8052 CP07 AP SUPERVISOR	62040	6200	62115 AP SUPERVISOR - CSS&M				620400	15	
	8052 CP07 AP SUPERVISOR	62610	6200	62239 AP SUPERVISOR - S&W				626100	15	
	8052 CP07 AP SUPERVISOR	99940	0819	00412 AP SUPERVISOR - TRAVEL				999400	16	
	8119 ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	12050	1200	12904 ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMNT				120500	16	
1/	8119 ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	16100	1600	16356 ELECTRONIC DOC MGMT TECH CSTS				161000	16	
	8119 ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	62040	6200	62412 ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMNT				620400	16	
	8312 CP07 FIELD STAFF ADM EXPENSE SPREAD	74040	7400	74045 CHL WELF FLD STAFF CSSM (CRS)				740400	15	
	8318 CP07 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MANAGER	12050	1200	12240 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MNGR				120500	16	
	8318 CP07 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MANAGER	62040	6200	62078 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MNGR				620400	15	
	8318 CP07 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MANAGER	99940	0819	00479 BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER MNGR				999400	16	
	8322 CP07 FSA DIRECTORS OFFICE	62040	6200	62316 FSA DIRECTORS OFFICE- CSS&M				620400	15	
	8331 FIELD STAFF ADM EXPENSE SPREAD	62040	6200	62681 FIELD STAFF ADM EXP SPREAD				620400	16	
	8331 FIELD STAFF ADM EXPENSE SPREAD	74040	7400	74213 CHL WELF FLD STAFF CSSM (CRS)				740400	16	
	8331 FIELD STAFF ADM EXPENSE SPREAD	99940	0819	00522 FIELD STAFF ADM EXP SPREAD				999400	16	
	8346 DET POLICE PROVIDE ENHANCE SECURITY@DHS	74040	7400	74009 DET POLICE ASST UNIT WAYNE CO				740400	16	
	8362 CW-PROGRAM TECH & ADMIN SUPPORT	12050	1200	12773 CW-PROGRAM TECH&ADMIN SUPPORT				120500	16	
	8362 CW-PROGRAM TECH & ADMIN SUPPORT	62040	6200	62522 CW-PROGRAM TECH&ADMIN SUPPORT				620400	16	
	8362 CW-PROGRAM TECH & ADMIN SUPPORT	62610	6200	62521 CW-PROGRAM TECH&ADMIN SUPPORT				626100	16	
	8384 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SERVICE CENTERS	12050	1200	12573 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SRVC CTR				120500	16	
	8384 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SERVICE CENTERS	62040	6200	62255 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SRVC CTR				620400	16	
	8384 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SERVICE CENTERS	62610	6200	62165 EXP OPERATIONS-ACCTG SRVC CTR				626100	16	
	8602 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT	11010	1100	11224 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT				110100	16	
	8602 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT	11040	1100	11852 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT				110400	16	
	8602 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT	12050	1200	12889 STAFFING RESOURCE MGMT				120500	16	
	8629 AP PROG TECH	12050	1200	12859 AP PROG TECH				120500	16	
	8629 AP PROG TECH	62040	6200	62423 AP PROG TECH				620400	16	
	8629 AP PROG TECH	62610	6200	62603 AP PROG TECH				626100	16	
	8630 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER	12050	1200	12860 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER				120500	16	
	8630 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER	62040	6200	62424 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER				620400	16	
	8630 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER	62610	6200	62604 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER				626100	16	
	8630 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER	74650	7400	74654 ADMIN SUPPORT WORKER				746500	16	
	8631 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT	12050	1200	12861 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT				120500	16	
	8631 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT	62040	6200	62425 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT				620400	16	
	8631 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT	62610	6200	62605 ADMIN SUPPORT MANAGEMENT				626100	16	
	8634 CW PROGRAM TECH	74660	7400	74657 CW PROGRAM TECH				746600	16	
	8642 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	12050	1200	12538 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD				120500	16	
	8642 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	62040	6200	62389 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD				620400	16	
	8642 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD	62610	6200	62657 COMMUN RESOURCE COORD				626100	16	
	8644 DFP-ADMIN SUPPORT	62300	6200	62367 DFP-ADMIN SUPPORT				623000	16	
	8976 STUDENT ASSTS - COUNTY OFFICES	74650	7400	74652 STUDENT ASSTS-COUNTY OFFICES				746500	16	
8128: CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN										
	8102 CW FIELD OPERATIONS CENTRAL OFC UNIT	12050	1200	12479 CW FIELD OPS CENTRAL OFC UNIT				120500	16	
	8102 CW FIELD OPERATIONS CENTRAL OFC UNIT	74040	7400	74129 CW FIELD OPS CENTRAL OFC UNIT				740400	16	
1/	8102 CW FIELD OPERATIONS CENTRAL OFC UNIT	74100	7400	72071 CW FIELD OPS CENTRAL OFC UNIT				741000	16	
	8102 CW FIELD OPERATIONS CENTRAL OFC UNIT	74100	7400	74128 CW FIELD OPS CENTRAL OFC UNIT				741000	16	
	8105 CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN OFF	12050	1200	12557 CW FLD OPS/ADOPT SUBS DIV ADM				120500	16	
	8105 CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN OFF	74040	7400	74164 CW FLD OPS/ADOPT SUBS DIV ADM				740400	16	

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MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

AC1 Code and Description / Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
8128: CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN									
1/ 8105 CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN OFF	74100	7400	72007 CW FLD OPS/ADOPT SUBS DIV ADM				741000	16	
8105 CW FIELD OPS & ADOPT SUBS DIV ADMIN OFF	74100	7400	74119 CW FLD OPS/ADOPT SUBS DIV ADM				741000	16	
8130: JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS									
4230 JJ PROGRAMS-DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	47670	4700	47677 JJ PROGAMS-DIRECTOR & SUPP				476700	16	
4230 JJ PROGRAMS-DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	74100	7400	74141 JJ PROGAMS-DIRECTOR & SUPP				741000	16	
8133: CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE									
8097 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	12050	1200	12217 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				120500	16	
8097 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	72240	7200	72369 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				722400	16	
1/ 8097 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74040	7400	72073 CPS & FPS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				740400	16	
8135: CQI - DIRECTOR AND ADMIN SUPPORT STAFF									
2033 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	12050	1200	12816 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				120500	16	
2033 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74040	7400	74194 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				740400	16	
2033 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74100	7400	74193 CQID-DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				741000	16	
8240 CW DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT	12050	1200	12642 DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT STAFF				120500	16	
8240 CW DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT	74040	7400	74098 DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT STAFF				740400	16	
8240 CW DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT	74100	7400	74096 DATA MANAGEMENT UNIT STAFF				741000	16	
8136: FEDERAL COMPLIANCE & FUNDING MANAGER									
8107 FEDERAL COMPLIANCE & FUNDING MANAGER	12050	1200	12562 FED COMPL & FUNDING MANAGER				120500	16	
1/ 8107 FEDERAL COMPLIANCE & FUNDING MANAGER	74040	7400	72195 FED COMPL & FUNDING MANAGER				740400	16	
8107 FEDERAL COMPLIANCE & FUNDING MANAGER	74180	7400	74091 FED COMPL & FUNDING MANAGER				741800	16	
8140: OFFICE OF TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT									
8017 OFFICE OF TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT	11010	1100	11268 OFC TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT				110100	16	
8017 OFFICE OF TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT	11040	1100	11120 OFC TECH & INFO MGMT ADM CSSM				110400	16	
8017 OFFICE OF TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT	12050	1200	12826 OFC TECH & INFO MGMT SUP CENT				120500	16	
8142: FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT									
8635 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	12050	1200	12529 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT				120500	16	
8635 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	62040	6200	62381 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT				620400	16	
8635 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	62610	6200	62648 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT				626100	16	
8635 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT	99940	0819	00541 FOA DIRECTOR & SUPPORT				999400	16	
8143: WEIGHTED # OF PARTICIPATIONS IN EA. RMTS									
8174 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS	11010	1100	11261 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS				110100	16	
8174 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS	11040	1100	11392 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS				110400	16	
8174 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS	12050	1200	12564 RMTS ADMINISTRATORS				120500	16	
8144: DDS-DIRECTOR & ADMIN SUPPORT									
8844 DDS-DIRECTOR,ADMIN SUP,BUDGET,& STOREKPR	14100	1400	14006 TELECOMMUNICATIONS				141000	16	
8844 DDS-DIRECTOR,ADMIN SUP,BUDGET,& STOREKPR	14100	1400	14109 DDS-DIR,ADM,BDGT,PLCY,STKPR				141000	16	
8845 DDS PAYMENT PROCESSING	14100	1400	14111 DDS PAYMENT PROCESSING				141000	16	
8151: OWDT-DELIVERY #1 ADMIN									
8727 OWDT-DELIVERY #1 ADMIN	74350	7400	74266 OWDT-DELIVERY #1 ADMIN				743500	16	
8152: PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT DIRECTOR OFFICE									
8834 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT DIRECTOR OFFICE	12050	1200	12212 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT				120500	16	
8834 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT DIRECTOR OFFICE	74040	7400	74021 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT				740400	16	

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8152: PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT DIRECTOR OFFICE									
8834 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT DIRECTOR OFFICE	74610	7400	74134 PROT MIFAMILY & MED UNIT				746100	16	
8155: MEDICAID AND CENTRAL PROCESS - DIRECTOR									
8636 FOA-MEDICAID/CNTRL PROC DIR/SUP	12050	1200	12531 FOA-MEDCAID/CTRL PROC DIR/SUP				120500	16	
8636 FOA-MEDICAID/CNTRL PROC DIR/SUP	62040	6200	62382 FOA-MEDCAID/CTRL PROC DIR/SUP				620400	16	
8636 FOA-MEDICAID/CNTRL PROC DIR/SUP	62610	6200	62649 FOA-MEDCAID/CTRL PROC DIR/SUP				626100	16	
8160: FOSTER HOME AND CAMP LICENSING MANAGER									
8711 DCWL FOSTER HOME PROGRAM MANAGER OFC	72800	7200	11556 CWL FOSTER HOME/CAMP LIC MNGR				728000	16	
8163: OWDT-TRAINING DELIV MGR									
8728 OWDT-TRAINING DELIV MGR	62700	6200	62734 OWDT-TRAINING DELIV MGR				627000	16	
8728 OWDT-TRAINING DELIV MGR	74350	7400	74265 OWDT-TRAINING DELIV MGR				743500	16	
8164: CSA DEP DIRECTORS OFFICE									
8095 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	12050	1200	12474 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				120500	16	
8095 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74040	7400	74124 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				740400	15	
8095 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE	74100	7400	74125 CSA DEP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				741000	15	
8167: FTE ACROSS RECOUPMENT & DEBT COLLECT									
8603 RECOUPMENT & DEBT COLLECT MNGR & SUPPOR	12050	1200	12985 RECOUP-DEBT COLL MNGR & SUPP				120500	16	
8603 RECOUPMENT & DEBT COLLECT MNGR & SUPPOR	62040	6200	62803 RECOUP-DEBT COLL MNGR & SUPP				620400	16	
8603 RECOUPMENT & DEBT COLLECT MNGR & SUPPOR	62610	6200	62802 RECOUP-DEBT COLL MNGR & SUPP				626100	16	
8168: FTE COUNT DDS TRAINING AND POLICY									
8872 DDS TRAINING MANAGER	14100	1400	14305 DDS TRAINING MANAGER				141000	16	
8169: FTE COUNT ACROSS BSC 1									
8334 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12961 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
8334 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION	62040	6200	62929 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION				620400	16	
8334 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION	62610	6200	62928 BSC#1 ADMINISTRATION				626100	16	
8170: FTE COUNT ACROSS BSC 2									
8335 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12963 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
8335 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION	62040	6200	62932 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION				620400	16	
8335 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION	62610	6200	62931 BSC#2 ADMINISTRATION				626100	16	
8171: FTE COUNT ACROSS BSC 3									
8336 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12965 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
8336 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION	62040	6200	62934 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION				620400	16	
8336 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION	62610	6200	62933 BSC#3 ADMINISTRATION				626100	16	
8172: FTE COUNT ACROSS BSC 4									
8337 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION	12050	1200	12967 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION				120500	16	
8337 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION	62040	6200	62936 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION				620400	16	
8337 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION	62610	6200	62935 BSC#4 ADMINISTRATION				626100	16	
8200: DEBT COLLECTIONS									
8248 DEBT COLLECTIONS	11010	1100	11256 DEBT COLLECTIONS				110100	16	
8248 DEBT COLLECTIONS	11040	1100	11839 DEBT COLLECTIONS				110400	16	
8248 DEBT COLLECTIONS	12050	1200	12647 DEBT COLLECTIONS				120500	16	

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AC1 Code and Description											
	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description		Grant	Phs	Grant Description		Proj#	Phs	RTI
8201: FIELD RECOUPMENT												
	8137 FIELD RECOUPMENT	12050	1200	12648	FIELD RECOUPMENT					120500	16	
	8137 FIELD RECOUPMENT	62040	6200	62151	FIELD RECOUPMENT					620400	16	
	8137 FIELD RECOUPMENT	62610	6200	62639	FIELD RECOUPMENT					626100	16	
	8137 FIELD RECOUPMENT	99940	0819	00540	FIELD RECOUPMENT					999400	16	
8202: OFF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-TRUST & ANNUITY												
	8167 OFF OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-TRUST/ANNUITY	11010	1100	11234	OFF LEGAL SVCS-TRUST/ANNUITY					110100	16	
	8167 OFF OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-TRUST/ANNUITY	11040	1100	11848	OFF LEGAL SVCS-TRUST/ANNUITY					110400	16	
	8167 OFF OF LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-TRUST/ANNUITY	12050	1200	12662	OFF LEGAL SVCS-TRUST/ANNUITY					120500	16	
8206: BRIDGES OP PHASE COSTS												
1/	9075 BRIDGES OP PHASE COSTS	16100	1600	16353	BRIDGES OPERATIONAL COSTS					161000	16	
	9076 BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER	11010	1100	11270	BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER					110100	16	
	9076 BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER	11040	1100	11122	BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER					110400	16	
	9076 BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER	12050	1200	12829	BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER					120500	16	
	9076 BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER	62040	6200	62413	BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER					620400	16	
	9076 BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER	62610	6200	62241	BRIDGES RESOURCE CENTER					626100	16	
8208: MCJJ COORDINATOR												
	4316 MCJJ COORDINATOR	47670	4700	47679	MCJJ COORDINATOR					476700	16	
	4316 MCJJ COORDINATOR	47800	4700	47854	MCJJ COORDINATOR					478000	16	
8209: ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT												
	2117 ADOPTION CONFERENCE	74760	7400	74709	ADOPTION CONFERENCE					747600	16	
	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	12050	1200	12559	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					120500	16	
	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	74040	7400	74162	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					740400	16	
1/	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	74100	7400	72009	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					741000	16	
	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	74100	7400	74138	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					741000	16	
1/	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	74100	7400	74733	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					741000	16	
	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	74610	7400	74637	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					746100	16	
	2147 ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT	99940	0819	00527	ADOPTION SUBSIDY UNIT					999400	16	
	9065 CP8209POST-ADOPTION SERVICES CONTRACTS	74760	7400	74187	POST-ADOPTION SRVCS CONTRACTS					747600	16	
	9066 CP8209 ADOPTION RECORD IMAGING PROJECT	74760	7400	74188	8209 ADOPTION REC IMAGNG PROJ					747600	16	
8210: ADOPTION & GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE												
	2149 FAITH BASED SUMMIT	74550	7400	11311	FAITH BASED SUMMIT					745500	16	
	2152 LICENSING WORKERS SUMMIT	74550	7400	11325	LICENSING WORKERS SUMMIT					745500	16	
	8093 ADOPTION & GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE	74100	7400	74136	ADOPT & GUARDNSHP PRGM OFFICE					741000	16	
	8093 ADOPTION & GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE	74760	7400	74701	ADOPT & GUARDNSHP PRGM OFFICE					747600	16	
	8482 CP8210 MARE CONTRACT	74760	7400	74186	CP8210 MARE CONTRACT					747600	16	
8211: CQID-Q1 ANALYSTS												
	2037 CQID-QI ANALYSTS	12050	1200	12825	CQID-QI ANALYSTS					120500	16	
	2037 CQID-QI ANALYSTS	74040	7400	74206	CQID-QI ANALYSTS					740400	16	
	2037 CQID-QI ANALYSTS	74100	7400	74203	CQID-QI ANALYSTS					741000	16	
1/	2037 CQID-QI ANALYSTS	74100	7400	74204	CQID-QI ANALYSTS					741000	16	
	2037 CQID-QI ANALYSTS	74610	7400	74205	CQID-QI ANALYSTS					746100	16	
	2901 DCQI REVIEW COSTS-ADOPTION	74760	7400	74801	DCQI REVIEW COSTS-ADOPTION					747600	16	
	2903 DCQI REVIEW COSTS-FOSTER CARE	74550	7400	74802	DCQI REVIEW COSTS-FOSTER CARE					745500	16	
	2904 DCQI REVIEW COSTS-OTHER	12050	1200	12945	DCQI REVIEW COSTS-OTHER					120500	16	

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8212: DTMB STAFF										
1/	8116 DTMB STAFF	16100	1600	16173 DTMB STAFF				161000	16	
8213: OTHER DTMB SERVICES										
1/	8018 OTHER DTMB SERVICES	16100	1600	16351 DTMB CONTRACTUAL SERVICES				161000	16	
8216: DDS-CASE COUNT SSA, OTHER FED & STATE										
	8392 DDS PHYSICIANS-LANSING-CLASSIFIED	14100	1400	14134 DDS PHYSICIANS-LANSING-CLASS				141000	16	
	8863 ACCTG-DDS PYMT PROCESSING	14100	1400	14375 ACCTG-DDS PYMT PROCESSING				141000	16	
	8873 DDS AREA ADMIN & REG MANAGERS	14100	1400	14306 DDS AREA ADM & REG MNGRS				141000	16	
	8874 DDS APPT SEC/ADM SUPPRT & D-D ASSISTANTS	14100	1400	14307 DDS APT SEC/AD SPT & DD ASST				141000	16	
	8875 DDS DISTRICT MNGR & CASE CONSULTANTS	14100	1400	14308 DDS DIST MNGR & CASE CONSULT				141000	16	
	8876 DDS OFFICE MANAGERS	14100	1400	14309 DDS OFFICE MANAGERS				141000	16	
	8877 DDS QA STAFF & MSU MNGRS & CASE CONSULTA	14100	1400	14311 DDS QA STAFF & MSU MNGRS &CC				141000	16	
8217: DDS QTR RESULT OF PARS FOR ORS & DDS MGR										
	8846 ORS & DDS MANAGER	14100	1400	14112 ORS & DDS MANAGER				141000	16	
8219: CW LEGAL SVCS										
	8824 CW LEGAL SVCS	11010	1100	11606 CW LEGAL SVCS				110100	16	
	8824 CW LEGAL SVCS	11040	1100	11864 CW LEGAL SVCS				110400	16	
	8824 CW LEGAL SVCS	12050	1200	12526 CW LEGAL SVCS				120500	16	
8224: MRS PARS STAFF										
	6193 MRS-PARS STAFF	81520	8100	81533 MRS-PARS STAFF				815220	16	
8225: ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS										
	8823 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS	11010	1100	11605 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS				110100	16	
	8823 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS	11040	1100	11863 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS				110400	16	
	8823 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS	12050	1200	12525 ADOPTION SUBSIDY LEGAL SVCS				120500	16	
8227: OFFICE LEGAL SVCS & POLICY-HEARINGS(MRS)										
	8165 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POLICY-HEARINGS(MRS)	11010	1100	11233 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-HEAR (MRS)				110100	16	
	8165 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POLICY-HEARINGS(MRS)	11040	1100	11847 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-HEAR (MRS)				110400	16	
	8165 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POLICY-HEARINGS(MRS)	12050	1200	12661 OFF LEGAL SVCS/POL-HEAR (MRS)				120500	16	
8228: QAIC-QA ANALYSTS										
	8405 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS	11010	1100	11228 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS				110100	16	
	8405 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS	11040	1100	11856 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS				110400	16	
	8405 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS	12050	1200	12894 QAIC-QA ANALYSTS				120500	16	
8230: PATH COORDINATOR										
	0507 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TANF ADMIN	12050	1200	12356 AG IAB LGL SERV-TANF ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	120500	16	
	0507 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TANF ADMIN	62040	6200	62121 AG IAB LGL SERV-TANF ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	620400	16	
	0507 AG IAB LEGAL SERVICES-TANF ADMIN	62610	6200	62624 AG IAB LGL SERV-TANF ADMIN	090952	16	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES	626100	16	
	8607 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN	12050	1200	12994 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN				120500	16	
	8607 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN	12080	1200	12993 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN				120800	16	
	8607 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN	62040	6200	62668 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN				620400	16	
	8607 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN	62610	6200	62607 FOA-DRUG TESTING ADMIN				626100	16	
2/	8608 FIP DRUG TESTING PILOT	32500	3200	32801 FIP DRUG TESTING PILOT				325000	15	
	8641 PATH COORDINATOR	12050	1200	12537 PATH COORDINATOR				120500	16	
	8641 PATH COORDINATOR	62040	6200	62388 PATH COORDINATOR				620400	16	
	8641 PATH COORDINATOR	62610	6200	62656 PATH COORDINATOR				626100	16	

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AC1 Code and Description									
8230: PATH COORDINATOR									
8752 CP32 E & T BULK TRANSPORT & CLOTHING	81450	8100	81132 E & T BULK TRANSPO & CLOTHING				814500	16	
8232: OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS									
8729 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS	11010	1100	11554 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS				110100	16	
8729 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS	11040	1100	11555 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS				110400	16	
8729 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS	12050	1200	12903 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS				120500	16	
8729 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS	62700	6200	62732 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS				627000	16	
8729 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS	74350	7400	74263 OTSD-DEVELOPMENT & LOGISTICS				743500	16	
8239: EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES, MYOI AND YIT									
2765 EDUC & YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR OFFICE	74420	7400	74427 EDUC & YTH SVCS DIRECTOR OFF				744200	16	
2766 YIT, MYOI, ETV PROGRAMS	74420	7400	74428 YIT, MYOI, ETV PROGRAMS				744200	16	
2767 CHILD LOCATOR ANALYST	74100	7400	74108 CHILD LOCATOR ANALYST				741000	16	
2767 CHILD LOCATOR ANALYST	74420	7400	74429 CHILD LOCATOR ANALYST				744200	16	
2768 HOMELESS YOUTH/RUNAWAY PROGRAM	74420	7400	74434 HOMELESS YOUTH/RUNAWAY PRGM				744200	16	
8241: QRTRLY PARS-TANF QA&STATS DATA SUPP MNGR									
8414 QAIC-TANF QA STTCS & DATA SPPRT PRG MGR	11010	1100	11900 QAIC TANF QA STTCS & DATA				110100	16	
8414 QAIC-TANF QA STTCS & DATA SPPRT PRG MGR	11040	1100	11901 QAIC TANF QA STTCS & DATA				110400	16	
8414 QAIC-TANF QA STTCS & DATA SPPRT PRG MGR	12050	1200	12982 QAIC TANF QA STTCS & DATA				120500	16	
8243: LASR SECURITY&GOVRNMNT BEN COORD & CO CB									
8388 MNGR-LASR SECURITY&GOV BNFTS COORD&CO C	11010	1100	11278 NGR LASR SEC&GOVBENCOORD&COCB				110100	16	
8244: QAIC-FAP QLTY ASSURANCE MNGR & SUPPORT									
8408 QAIC-FAP QLTY ASSURANCE MNGR & SUPPORT	11010	1100	11887 AIC-FAP QLTY ASSRNCE MGR&SPRT				110100	16	
8408 QAIC-FAP QLTY ASSURANCE MNGR & SUPPORT	11040	1100	11888 AIC-FAP QLTY ASSRNCE MGR&SPRT				110400	16	
8408 QAIC-FAP QLTY ASSURANCE MNGR & SUPPORT	12050	1200	12972 AIC-FAP QLTY ASSRNCE MGR&SPRT				120500	16	
8408 QAIC-FAP QLTY ASSURANCE MNGR & SUPPORT	12080	1200	12973 AIC-FAP QLTY ASSRNCE MGR&SPRT				120800	16	
8245: PAR TANF QA/STAT DATA SUPP INT CONT GOA									
8409 QAIC-TANF QA STAT-DATA & IC GOA	11010	1100	11889 QAIC-TANF STAT-DATA-IC GOA				110100	16	
8409 QAIC-TANF QA STAT-DATA & IC GOA	11040	1100	11890 QAIC-TANF STAT-DATA-IC GOA				110400	16	
8409 QAIC-TANF QA STAT-DATA & IC GOA	12050	1200	12974 QAIC-TANF STAT-DATA-IC GOA				120500	16	
8248: PARS ACROSS CHILDREN'S LEGAL									
8277 CHILDRENS SVCS LEGAL DIV ADMIN	11010	1100	11909 CHILDREN'S SVCS LEGAL DIV ADM				110100	16	
8277 CHILDRENS SVCS LEGAL DIV ADMIN	11040	1100	11910 CHILDREN'S SVCS LEGAL DIV ADM				110400	16	
8277 CHILDRENS SVCS LEGAL DIV ADMIN	12050	1200	12998 CHILDREN'S SVCS LEGAL DIV ADM				120500	16	
8250: PARS ACROSS FIELD LEGAL SERV.									
8604 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT	11010	1100	11904 FEILD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT				110100	16	
8604 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT	11040	1100	11905 FEILD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT				110400	16	
8604 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT	12050	1200	12988 FEILD-LEGAL UNIT MNGR & SUPPT				120500	16	
8252: PARS ACROSS FIELD LEGAL SERV.(HEARINGS)									
8605 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL DEPT SPCLST-HEARING	11010	1100	11906 FEILD-LEGAL DPT SPLST-HEARING				110100	16	
8605 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL DEPT SPCLST-HEARING	11040	1100	11907 FEILD-LEGAL DPT SPLST-HEARING				110400	16	
8605 OLS&P FIELD-LEGAL DEPT SPCLST-HEARING	12050	1200	12991 FEILD-LEGAL DPT SPLST-HEARING				120500	16	
8253: WEIGHTED ADOPT FOSTER CARE GUARDIAN RATE									
2025 PERMANENCY FORUM CONFERENCES	12050	1200	12643 PERMANENCY FORUM CONFERENCES				120500	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

	Pgrm Code and Description	Appn#	Fund	PCA Code and Description	Grant	Phs	Grant Description	Proj#	Phs	RTI
AC1 Code and Description										
8253: WEIGHTED ADOPT FOSTER CARE GUARDIAN RATE										
	2025 PERMANENCY FORUM CONFERENCES	74760	7400	74401 PERMANENCY FORUM CONFERENCE				747600	16	
2/	2101 FC & ADOPT PARENT KINSHIP CONFERENCE	74550	7400	11304 FC&ADOPT PARENT KINSHIP CONF				745500	16	
8254: DDS TRAINING STAFF										
	8878 DDS TRAINING STAFF	14100	1400	14312 DDS TRAINING STAFF				141000	16	
8255: DDS MEDICAL RELATIONS (PARS)										
	8879 DDS MEDICAL RELATIONS	14100	1400	14313 DDS MEDICAL RELATIONS				141000	16	
8256: DDS PHYSICIANS STATE EMPLYE(CASE COUNT)										
	8912 DDS PHYSICIANS (STATE EMPLOYEE)	14100	1400	14314 DDS PHYSICIANS (STATE EMPLYE)				141000	16	
8257: DDS DUAL CASELOAD EXAMINERS (CASE COUNT)										
1/	8913 DDS DUAL CASELOAD EXMNRS & ADMIN SUPPRT	14100	1400	14315 DDS DUALLOAD EXMNRS/ADM SPPRT				141000	16	
8259: PA & CHILD WELF VOUNTY DIR & SUPPORT										
	8363 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & CW	12050	1200	12775 COUNTY DIRECTORS OVER PA&CW				120500	16	
	8363 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & CW	62040	6200	62524 COUNTY DIRECTORS OVER PA&CW				620400	16	
	8363 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & CW	62610	6200	62523 COUNTY DIRECTORS OVER PA&CW				626100	16	
8260: PA & ADULT COUNTY DIRECTOR & SUPPORT										
	8366 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & ADULT	12050	1200	12782 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA&ADULT				120500	16	
	8366 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & ADULT	62040	6200	62531 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA&ADULT				620400	16	
	8366 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA & ADULT	62610	6200	62529 COUNTY DIRECTORS PA&ADULT				626100	16	
8270: PREA COORDINATOR PARS										
	4222 STOP GRANT PREA COORDINATOR FY14 GRANT	47670	4700	47856 STOP GRNT PREA COORD FY14 GRN	030431	14	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	476700	16	
	4222 STOP GRANT PREA COORDINATOR FY14 GRANT	72100	7200	72858 STOP GRNT PREA COORD FY14 GRN	030431	14	STOP VIOLENCE GRANT	721000	16	
8901: SWSS/MISACWIS										
	2434 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	12050	1200	12827 SACWIS/SWSS BUSINESS DIV.				120500	16	
1/	2434 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	16100	1600	16355 SACWIS OPERATIONAL COSTS				161000	16	
	2434 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	74040	7400	74001 SACWIS/SWSS BUSINESS DIV.				740400	16	
	2434 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	74610	7400	74663 SACWIS/SWSS BUSINESS DIV.				746100	16	
	2434 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	99940	0819	00533 SACWIS PROJECT-OPERATION EXP				999400	16	

1/ Appropriation, Program, Fund, and/or AC1 have been changed for this PCA for AY-2016.
2/ PCA is new for AY-2016.

MIDB Data As Of: *10/09/2015*

CLEAR Meeting Summary
January 29, 2015

ATTENDEES:
Sheriff Gary A. Rosema, Ottawa County
Col. Kriste Etue, MSP
Chief Tim Bourgeois, Kalamazoo Township
Chief David Molloy, Novi Police Department
Ken Grabrowski, POAM
Dave Hiller, MFOP
Judge Donald Johnston, 17th Circuit Court, Kent County
Sheriff Michael Lovelace, Marquette County
Rich Baird, Governor's Office
Michele VanSickle, Governor's Office
Paul Smith, Governor's Office

GUESTS:
Harriett Miller-Brown, State 911
Jim Redford, Governor's Legal Council
John Walsh, Strategic Policy Governor's office
Devesh Poddar, DTMB

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Summary of the January 29, 2015 meetings were accepted. There were no additions to the agenda.

RB introduced James Redford, Governor Snyder's newly appointment Legal Counsel. Jim served as a Judge at Kent County Circuit Court for 12 years. Jim's distinguished career includes retiring from the Navy in 2012, working for JAG, and having been a prosecutor in Kent County. Jim grew up in Detroit and lives in Grand Rapids. Mike Gadola was appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Governor Snyder in December 2014. RB introduced John Walsh, former House Representative who has taken the Director of Strategic Policy position for Governor Snyder. John's relationships with legislators and understanding of key issues will be an asset to the office.

Old Business

Detroit/Flint Update

- RB reported that the law enforcement side has great partnerships with Detroit that have grown and matured. The relationship between Chief Craig and Mayor Duggan is working fine. The biggest challenges are splitting up water and sewer.
- At the 2015 State of the State address Governor Snyder, talked about the "River of Opportunity" which includes the merger of the Department of Community Health and Department of Human Services. The new department will be called the Department of Health and Human Services. The State is taking a more "holistic" view on issues to become self-sustaining.
- RB will be attending Mayor Duggan's State of the City address on February 9. Arrangements are in the works to bring city services together at Cadillac Place. Combining locations will utilize unused space in Cadillac Place and create a one stop shop format. The Mayor plans to announce on February 9 if plans are completed.
- RB attended Financial Review Committee (FRC) meetings with Dick Ravitch, the FRC special advisor in Detroit. Ravitch was the Lt. Governor of New York in the 1970's. Meetings were held with Brenda Jones, Tate, Benjamin, and Governor Snyder. FRC is off to a good start not adversarial.

- Detroit cabinet members and State Department Directors held a combined meeting on December 12 that included a tour of the I-75 corridor and neighborhoods. Mayor Duggan presented his economic development plan which includes taking down 200 vacant houses per week. The City has begun a deal with city employees to buy houses at auction for 50% of the selling price. Detroit has a strategy to fix the problems and develop the community too.
- Chief Craig's contract expires soon. The Chief has purchased a house in Detroit and plans to stay.
- The EM law does not allow appointment for counties like schools. A consent agreement can be signed between the State and Wayne County. Warren Evans concedes there is no way out of the mess. Negotiations on the consent agreement have begun. It is not cost efficient to move the jail to Mound Rd, the only option is to finish the jail. KG stated that the Judges are opposed to moving it. DH and RB talked to Chief Craig who liked the deal with Mound Rd but doesn't want to run it. DOC should continue to run it. RB would like to talk more with KG. DH confirmed that all precincts do lock ups. The question was asked about video arraignments. There has been resistance.
- John Walsh has judicial reform as a priority.
- Judge Gerald Rosen could join the Governor's team after he retires.
- Pension reform is close to being finalized.
- Darnell Early, former EM of Flint has been appointed as the new EM for Detroit Public Schools. Jerry Ambrose has been appointed as the interim Flint EM.
- Flint's water issue pertains to the water eliminating an odor and looking not appetizing. The water is safe to drink and bathe in. Working to recut a deal with Detroit W&S until other water deal is completed.
- Crime in Flint is coming down. It's a matter of perception vs. reality.
- 55% of the law enforcement workforce shows up for work now. Chief Tolbert is making a difference.
- GR said Kevyn Orr spoke in Grand Rapids; audience was impressed and positive feedback ws received.

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Veterans Courts

- GR reported that Jeff Barnes is still working with MSU to put together a video for roll call. Target date for video is May/June.
- Focus on treatment courts is still a priority. Goal is to bring veterans back to the workplace. Would like to promote with MAP.
- RB talked about the upcoming Disability Summit on February 9. Both Governor and Lt. Governor will be speaking. Arrangements have been made with two employers for their disabled employees to participate in the summit virtually. There are ½ million disabled people in MI with college degrees who are under employed or un-employed.

Where do we go from here?

- Harriett Miller-Brown attended the meeting to participate in determining the next steps for NexGen 911. RB asked how the I-94 tragedy would have been improved with NexGen 911. Real life examples like that should be used in presentation. RB identified Senator Mike Nofs as a potential sponsor for NexGen 911 legislation. A meeting will be convened with Senator Nofs and CLEAR members: RB, KE, KG, GR, SD to discuss NexGen 911 legislation. Michele VanSickle will work with CLEAR group and Senator Nofs office to schedule the meeting as soon as possible. PS has the draft legislation. It is important to have the right legislator on board. There could be opposition to circumventing the 911 and legislative committee process. Local units are tired of waiting, want to move to get new systems; it is time to move this issue. An RFP has been drafted with DTMB but is still few months out. The suggestion was made to issue best practice standards so those ready to invest in a new system would have information for compatibility. The UP has

stepped out in front in the right way. This could be included in the Governor's Public Safety message. PS will check with Mike Brownfield. RB would like to have a recorded endorsement from CLEAR to go ahead with Nofs. Possible that Senator Casperson could support with Nofs. Casperson is looking to move to Washington and wants topics for showcase. Homeland Security is looking at using MI NexGen 911 as a model. Harriett will create a 1-3 page document (user friendly) to show why NexGen 911 is important. The motion was made by TB that consistent with prior endorsement of NexGen 911 and First Net by CLEAR that identified members: GR, RB, KE, SD, and KG begin the process with legislators. The motion was seconded by DM and passed unanimously.

Action Item: Michele VanSickle will set up meeting with identified CLEAR members, Harriett Miller-Brown, and Senator Nofs. A pre meeting conference call will also be set up prior to the meeting date.

- The Governor did not want to move forward with Pension Reform before John Walsh took over as Director of Strategic Policy. KG explained that by not grandfathering in all systems instead of just new hires there would be no new money coming into old plans. There needs to be a provision made into the fund until new money starts coming in. Another concern is whether the change affects Social Security for uniforms. MERS continues to change the rules for how long pensions are funded. Pensions are operated under the law now, even healthy pension systems are being increased like 12 to 20%. PS talked about merging all pensions to one pot instead of multiple plans. Could look at a State run pension system. There could be political implications/Governor's legacy. RB will have Michele set up a meeting with Chris DeRose and KG to discuss pensions.

  Action Item: Michele VanSickle will set up meeting with Chris DeRose, Rich Baird, and Ken Grabrowski to discuss pensions.

MCOLES Standards Project

- GR reported that a meeting was held with GR, TB, DM, and Dave Harvey to see where the MCOLES standard project was going to go if at all. Harvey has put together a funding committee at MCOLES which includes KG. CLEAR is happy to provide logical support. A preliminary meeting was held. Based on the discussion at that meeting MCOLES thinks CLEAR wants to dictate the composition of their board. MCOLES has financial issues but does not want to be stay under MSP. The next MCOLES meeting is scheduled for February 11. The recommendation was made to create a document with history data much like NexGen 911 and the self-assessment done by DH. RB suggested creating a draft letter outlining the challenge of the current administration for producing standards for statewide law enforcement, define what the commission should be and how it is funded, and redefine MCOLES role. CLEAR needs to look at the legislation that defined MCOLES.

Survivor Benefits

- Survivor benefit legislation died during lame duck.

School Safety Grant Review

- PS presented the School Safety Grant program. Highlighted was that approximately $46 million in total requests were submitted, $35 million were submitted on time. Grant review by the Committee will take place in February. Finalists will be presented at the February CLEAR meeting, with advance materials sent prior to the meeting. Grants will be made on or before March 20, 2015.
- Recommendations were to consider only complete applications received on time, not to impose a hard cap on funding per award or based on geography but to cognizant of these factors when making awards, review applications with spelling and typographical errors but not guess at

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corrections, and due to variances in prices listed written estimates for equipment will be requested within 10 days.

- Open questions included should the scope of review be narrowed to favor applications that seek funding for systems to control building access, should applications that identify a sheriff's office as the law enforcement in the "sheriff category be allowed, and how should applications be handled from ISDs and school districts within the same ISD. RB suggested sending the applications back to the school districts and ISDs to decide which application will go forward. **Action item: Add School Safety Grant Review to the next CLEAR agenda.**

CSC Kit Legislation

- The Governor signed the law which created a law commission to address the sexual assault kit issue. There is a concern because Kym Worthy has a new mission: no kit left behind. The concept has great potential but should be tested in Detroit before rolling it out statewide. SB 998 holds law enforcement to tight timelines but those timelines do not apply to all of criminal justice. If timelines are not met there should be suppression liability. Money has been allotted in the budget for sexual assault in higher education. CLEAR should define a grant program like the school safety grant program.

Future Meeting Dates for 2015

- The 2015 meetings dates are: February 26, March 26, April 23, Mary 28, June 25, September 24, October 22, and December 3. There are no meetings scheduled for July, August, and November.
- Colonel Etue will chair the February meeting on behalf of Chairman Rosema and the meeting will be held at MSP.

New business

Open Dialogue

- GR reviewed the 7 topics identified during a phone call with GR, KE, Governor, DM, HH. Governor Snyder wants to make sure Michigan does not experience public safety concerns like Ferguson or New York. 1. How do we blend concerns of diversity, law enforcement and community together? This should include customer service, understanding community culture, cultural intelligence training, and fair and impartial policing, best practices in community policing and engagement, and can a model(s) be developed? Colonel Etue will be visiting the east coast to look at their fair and impartial policing model and will provide training for trainers from around the State. Secure cities could be a model. 2. Are we building relationships? Internally and externally. RB suggested that professional facilitation is needed for secure cities. 3. What is our response to a situation? Who do we call, what is the response, communications: internal/external. 4. Escalation of response who is involved? We require schools to have a plan. An example would be Oakland County who has oaktac. 5. Prosecutor's and court's role in building better communities. Work with SD. 6. Technology – body cameras. Development of model policies and procedures, FOIA, data storage. Put together a workgroup to look at pros/cons, best practices. All patrols or only shifts, when to turn on/off. 7. Recruitment of young people. Schools, ISDs, community colleges, military credits. RB suggested that there might be other folks CLEAR can reach out to on an adhoc basis to provide help based on the work they do like MSU, ICP. CLEAR would be the executive manager to pull the work together. PS will check on availability of interns. GR will create a work group. Start with the latest nerd document on MI dashboard. A follow up phone call will be scheduled with the Governor.

Next Agenda items

- CLEAR website: new design, how to update content, etc.
- Offers to hold meetings at AG's office will be considered
- Discuss prelim exams

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- Gun legislation pending – Should CLEAR review all gun legislation prior to presenting to the Governor for signature?
- MSP Strategic Plan
- Reinvent OCA – Should it be part of DOC?
- Discuss how do we define criminology?
- Meeting will be on **Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 10 am at the MSP Training Center, KE will chair the meeting in the absence of GR.** February meeting was cancelled due to number of conflicts. Next meeting will be on **Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 10 am at the Romney Building.**

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From: Doll, Ryan (DTMB)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 9:04 AM
To: Minster, Carly (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Prison reform article from Bridge Mag linked below. FYI.

From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 8:56 AM
To: Michigan_State_Employees_clips@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For September 25, 2015

News

Doctors warn Flint of high lead levels in tap water (Associated Press, 9/25/2015)

Michigan prison reform gaining momentum in fall session (Bridge Magazine, 9/24/2015)

A readiness test: What if oil spewed into Great Lakes? (Detroit Free Press, 9/24/2015)

Lawmakers ponder bigger punishment for big tuition hikes (Detroit Free Press, 9/25/2015)

Lawmakers split on inspections for prison kitchens (Detroit Free Press, 9/24/2015)

Some state workers get break from reports (Lansing State Journal, 9/25/2015)

Michigan sales tax on Internet purchases to begin Oct. 1 (Macomb Daily, 9/25/2015)

Eastern Michigan, Oakland officials defend big tuition hikes as lawmakers debate state funding (MLive, 9/24/2015)

Medical Marijuana Act may be unfixable, says attorney (MLive, 9/25/2015)

Michigan panel debates changes to presidential election system, Electoral College votes (MLive, 9/25/2015)

Bill calls for crude shipment ban (Petoskey News-Review, 9/24/2015)

U.S. Rep. Moolenaar backs Rubio for president (The Detroit News, 9/24/2015)

Editorials

Prosecutor: Public safety should be top priority in prison reform (Bridge Magazine, 9/24/2015)

We should welcome Schuette's response to Iran deal (Detroit Free Press, 9/24/2015)

The "guns-under-any-circumstances" crowd is making a strategic mistake (Michigan Radio, 9/24/2015)

Mackinac oil won't mix with water - the lifeblood of craft-brew business (MLive, 9/24/2015)

Editor's Note: Part-time Legislature gets boost (The Detroit News, 9/25/2015)

Prognosis is poor for 600,000 Michiganians to keep health coverage (Toledo Blade, 9/25/2015)

Blogs

5,382 People Have Served In The Legislature, Most No More Than 2 Terms (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/24/2015)

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3500 (Rev. 4-06)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

ANDY DILLON
STATE TREASURER

MEETING OF THE

LOCAL EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOAN BOARD

August 8, 2012

AGENDA

Call to Order

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

2. Public Comment

3. Presentation by Attorney General General's Office

4. Communication from the Governor

5. Appointment of Emergency Financial Managers

   -- City of Benton Harbor

   -- City of Ecorse

   -- City of Flint

   -- City of Pontiac

6. Proposed of Revocation of ELB Order 2009-8

Adjournment

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

ANDY DILLON
STATE TREASURER

CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY FINANCIAL MANAGER SERVICES

The Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board (the Board) retains and appoints Joyce A. Parker as the Emergency Financial Manager (Emergency Financial Manager) for the City of Ecorse (City) under Public Act 72 of 1990, the Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Act, MCL 141.1201 *et seq,* (the Act).

The services the Emergency Financial Manager will provide to the City will be pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract and the Act.

The Emergency Financial Manager's role is to continue to remedy the distress of the City by requiring prudent fiscal management and efficient provision of services by exercising the necessary authority conferred by the State to take appropriate action on behalf of the City and its residents.

1. PARTIES, PURPOSE, DUTIES, AND REPORTS

1.1 Parties. The parties to this Contract are the State of Michigan, through the Board, and Joyce A. Parker.

1.2 Purpose. The parties to this Contract agree that Joyce A. Parker will act as the Emergency Financial Manager for the City. The Emergency Financial Manager's duties and responsibilities are delineated in the Act and include conducting all aspects of the operations of the City and establishing and implementing a financial and operating plan pursuant to Section 20 of the Act.

1.3 Duties. The Emergency Financial Manager shall possess all the powers and duties authorized under the Act, including those specifically related to local governments. In addition, the Emergency Financial Manager shall work cooperatively with the Office of the Governor and the State Treasurer. The Emergency Financial Manager agrees to continue to keep these officials informed of major initiatives to be undertaken in furtherance of this Contract before their public announcement. The Emergency Financial Manager shall seek the approval of the State Treasurer before entering into a new collective bargaining agreement.

1.4 Reports. The Emergency Financial Manager shall file quarterly reports with the Department of Treasury beginning on October 15, 2012, for the immediately preceding quarter and shall file the first report required by Section 21a of the Act within six months of his appointment and every six months thereafter.

1.5 Advisory Committee. The State Treasurer reserves the right to appoint an advisory committee upon such conditions and consisting of such individuals as the State Treasurer in his sole discretion shall determine. The purpose of the committee will be to provide advice and counsel to the Emergency Financial Manager regarding the Manager's decisions and actions to resolve the City's distress.

1.6 Communications. The Emergency Financial Manager shall continue to maintain an appropriate protocol for ongoing communications with officials of the City, the community of Ecorse, and the media. The communication protocol should include a variety of means, including personal interactions.

2. TERM OF CONTRACT

2.1 The Emergency Manager shall serve at the pleasure of the Board as provided in Section 18 of the Act.

2.2 Effective Date. This contract is effective on Wednesday August 8, 2012.

2.3 Oath of Office. The Emergency Financial Manager shall take and subscribe an oath of office administered by an official authorized to administer oaths under the laws of Michigan and file such oath with the Office of the Great Seal.

3. COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES PROVIDED

3.1 Source of Payment. The City is required to pay the compensation of the Emergency Financial Manager for all services rendered and for all expenses incurred under this Contract.

3.2 Salary. The Emergency Financial Manager's salary for services rendered under this Contract shall be $70,000.00 per year. If this Contract is terminated after the Emergency Manager has provided services for a portion of the month, the Emergency Manager shall be entitled, for that portion of that month, to $5,833.33 multiplied by the proportion that the number of days of the month for which services were provided bears to the number of days of the whole month.

3.3 Payment for Services. The Emergency Financial Manager shall be paid in equal bi-weekly installments consistent with the established written policies and procedures of the City. The compensation paid is subject to any concessions and furloughs imposed upon non-union executive staff of the City during the term of this Contract. If requested by this State, the Emergency Financial Manager shall provide additional information for services performed pursuant to this Contract.

3.4 Reimbursement for Actual and Necessary Expenses. The actual and necessary expenses of the Emergency Financial Manager will be reimbursed, including customary expenses related to travel, meals, and lodging, incurred and connected to services for the City. The Emergency Financial Manager shall provide original copies of all receipts for meals, lodging, and travel reimbursement with his billings.

4. ADDITIONAL STAFF AND CONSULTANT FEES

4.1 Staff. The Emergency Financial Manager may, as provided in the Act, appoint additional staff as necessary to fulfill the obligations of his appointment and duties under this Contract. Payment of compensation for additional staff will be the obligation of the City. While authority to hire additional staff rests with the Emergency Financial Manager, the Emergency Financial Manager agrees to consult with the State Treasurer, or the designee of the State Treasurer, at

least 24 hours before extending offers of employment for positions paying $50,000.00, or more, annually.

4.2 Professional Assistance. The Emergency Financial Manager may, as provided in the Act, secure professional assistance as necessary to fulfill the obligations of his appointment and duties under this Contract. Payment of compensation for additional professional assistance will be the obligation of the City. The Emergency Financial Manager agrees to consult with the State Treasurer, or the designee of the State Treasurer, at least 24 hours before authorizing professional services contracts of $50,000.00, or more, per engagement or project.

4.3 Security. The Emergency Financial Manager will be entitled to receive security protection in connection with his duties under this Contract. Security personnel will be retained only upon the approval of the State Treasurer, or the designee of the State Treasurer, and only after consultation with the Director of the Michigan Department of State Police, or her designee. Payment of compensation for security personnel will be the obligation of the City.

5. REPRESENTATIONS

5.1 Qualifications. The Emergency Financial Manager, by signing this Contract, represents that she meets the minimum qualifications for appointment set forth in the Act.

5.2 Conflict of Interest. The Emergency Financial Manager represents and warrants that, to her knowledge, she has no personal or financial interest, and will not acquire any such interest, that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of this Contract.

5.3 Non-competition. The Emergency Financial Manager represents and warrants that she is not subject to any non-disclosure, non-competition, or similar clause with current or prior clients or employers that will interfere with the performance of this Contract. The State will not be subject to any liability for any such claim.

5.4 Facilities and Personnel. The City will provide the Emergency Financial Manager with proper facilities and personnel to perform the services and work required to be performed pursuant to this Contract.

5.5 Records. The Emergency Financial Manager shall maintain complete records in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and sound business practices. This requirement applies to all information maintained or stored in the computer system of the Emergency Financial Manager or computer system of the City. The State and its designees shall have the right to inspect all records related to this Contract.

5.6 Non-Discrimination.

a) The Emergency Financial Manager shall comply with Public Act 220 of 1976, the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.1101 *et seq.,* and all applicable federal, State, and local fair employment practices and equal opportunity laws. The Emergency Financial Manager covenants that she will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of a disability that is unrelated to the individual's ability

to perform the duties of a particular job or position. The Emergency Financial Manager shall impose this covenant upon every subcontractor that enters into an agreement for the performance of any obligation imposed by this Contract. A breach of this covenant shall be a material breach of this Contract.

b) The Emergency Financial Manager shall comply with Public Act 453 of 1976, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.2101 *et seq.*, and all applicable federal, State, and local fair employment practices and equal opportunity laws. The Emergency Financial Manager covenants that she will not discriminate against an employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, or marital status. The Emergency Financial Manager shall impose this covenant upon every subcontractor that enters into an agreement for the performance of any obligation imposed by this Contract. A breach of this covenant shall be a material breach of this Contract.

5.7 Unfair Labor Practices. The Emergency Financial Manager shall not enter into a contract for the performance of any obligation imposed by this Contract with a subcontractor, manufacturer, or supplier whose name appears in the register prepared pursuant to Public Act 278 of 1980, MCL 423.322, of employers found in contempt of court for failure to correct unfair labor practices. The State may void this Contract if the Emergency Financial Manager, or any subcontractor, manufacturer, or supplier of the Emergency Financial Manager that is a party to a contract for the performance of any obligation imposed by this Contract, appears in the above mentioned register.

5.8 Independent Contractor. The relationship of the Emergency Financial Manager to the State and to the City under this Contract is that of an independent contractor. Except as specifically provided in the Act, no liability, benefits, workers compensation rights or liabilities, insurance rights or liabilities, or any other rights or liabilities arising out of, or related to, a contract for hire, nor employer-employee relationship, shall arise, accrue, or be implied to either party under this Contract or to an agent, subcontractor, or employee of either party under this Contract, as a result of the performance of this Contract.

6. NOTICES

6.1 The State Treasurer is the designee of this State for this Contract unless notice of another designation is provided by the Board. All notices, correspondence, requests, inquiries, billing statements, and other documents mentioned in this Contract shall be directed to the attention of the State Treasurer, Andy Dillon, and to the following:

For the State:

Roger Fraser
Deputy State Treasurer
Richard H. Austin Building, 430 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan 48922
Phone: (517) 373-3305

Frederick Headen

Director, Bureau of Local Government Services
Richard H. Austin Building, 430 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan 48922
Phone: (517) 373-3305

For the Emergency Financial Manager:

Joyce A. Parker
Ecorse City Hall
3869 W. Jefferson Avenue
Ecorse, Michigan 48229-1798

7. LIMITATION UPON LIABILITY

7.1 The State. This State, the Board, the Treasurer, and all other State officials are not liable for any obligation of or claim against the City resulting from actions taken in accordance with the Act or this Contract.

7.2 The Emergency Financial Manager. Pursuant to the Act, in performing this Contract the Emergency Manager is engaging in a governmental function and is immune from liability for any action taken which she reasonably believes to be within the scope of his authority granted by the Act or by this Contract.

8. INSURANCE

8.1 General. The Emergency Financial Manager may procure and maintain, at the expense of the City, health, worker's compensation, general liability, professional liability, and motor vehicle insurance for himself and any employee, agent, appointee, or contractor of the Emergency Financial Manager as may be provided to elected officials, appointed officials, or employees of the City. The insurance procured and maintained by the Emergency Financial Manager may extend to any claim, demand, or lawsuit asserted or costs recovered against the Emergency Financial Manager and any employee, agent, appointee, or contractor of the Emergency Financial Manager to the extent permitted by the Act.

8.2 Post-Contract. If, after the date that the service of the Emergency Manager is concluded, the Emergency Financial Manager or any employee, agent, appointee, or contractor of the Emergency Manager is subject to a claim, demand, or lawsuit arising from an action taken during the service of the Emergency Financial Manager, and not covered by a procured insurance policy, litigation expenses, including but not limited to attorney fees, payments in satisfaction of judgments, and payments made in settlement as specified pursuant to the Act, shall be paid by the City. If such expenses are not paid by the City, they shall be treated as a debt owed to this State pursuant to section 17a(5) of Public Act 140 of 1971, the Glenn Steil State Revenue Sharing Act of 1971, MCL 141.917a.

8.3 Additional Insurance. If the City has purchased, or otherwise obtained, an errors and omissions policy, then, as provided in the Act, the Emergency Financial Manager may choose to be covered under such policy at the expense of the City.

8.4 Payment by City. All insurance required under this Contract shall be acquired at the expense of the City under valid and enforceable policies, issued by insurers of recognized responsibility. This State reserves the right to reject as unacceptable any insurer.

9. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT AND APPOINTMENT

9.1 Termination by the State.

a) The Board. The Emergency Financial Manager serves at the pleasure of the Board which has the power to rescind the appointment and terminate this Contract at any time, and without cause, by issuing a Notice of Termination to the Emergency Financial Manager.

9.2 Termination Process. Upon receipt of a Notice of Termination, and except as otherwise directed by the Board, the Emergency Financial Manager shall:

a) Cease work under this Contract upon the date and to the extent specified in the Notice of Termination;

b) Incur no costs beyond the date specified by the Notice of Termination;

c) Submit to this State on the date the termination is effective all records, reports and documents as this State shall specify and carry out such directives as this State may issue concerning the safeguarding and disposition of files and property; and

d) Submit within 30 calendar days a closing memorandum and final billing, which shall be paid within 30 days.

9.3 Termination by Emergency Financial Manager. The Emergency Financial Manager may terminate this Contract at any time, with or without cause, with 30 days written notice to the State Treasurer. Within 30 days of his final day of service, the Emergency Financial Manager shall submit a closing memorandum and final billing, which shall be paid within 30 calendar days.

10. GENERAL PROVISIONS

10.1 Governing Law and Jurisdiction. This Contract shall be subject to, and construed according to, the laws of the State of Michigan, and no action shall be commenced against this State, its agents, or employees for any matter whatsoever arising out of this Contract, in any court other than a Michigan State court.

10.2 No Waiver. A party's failure to insist on the strict performance of this Contract shall not constitute waiver of any breach of the Contract.

10.3 Other Debts. The Emergency Financial Manager represents and warrants that she is not, and will not become, in arrears on any contract, debt, or other obligation to the State of Michigan, including taxes.

10.4 Invalidity. If any provision of this Contract or its application to any persons or cir-

cumstances shall, to any extent, be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Contract shall not be affected, and each provision of this Contract shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

10.5 Headings. Section headings contained in this Contract are for convenience only and shall not be used to interpret the scope or intent of this Contract.

10.6 Entire Agreement. This Contract represents the entire and exclusive agreement between the parties and supersedes all proposals or other prior agreements, oral or written, and all other communications between the parties.

10.7 Amendment. No Contract amendment will be effective and binding upon the parties to this Contract unless it expressly makes reference to this Contract, is in writing, and is signed by duly authorized representatives of all parties and all the requisite State approvals are obtained.

10.8 Order of Priority. This Contract and the Act shall be read to be consistent one with the other. However, if a conflict is deemed to exist between the terms of this Contract and the Act, the Act shall supersede the terms of this Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the members of the Board, or their designees, and the Emergency Financial Manager have signed and executed this Contract.

LOCAL EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOAN BOARD

By_____
Roger Fraser, Deputy State Treasurer,
Designee for Andy Dillon, State Treasurer

By_____
John E. Nixon, Director

Department of Technology, Management and Budget

By_____
Steven H. Hilfinger, Director
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

By_____
Joyce A. Parker, Emergency Financial Manager

Dated: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

ANDY DILLON
STATE TREASURER

LOCAL EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE LOAN BOARD

ORDER 2012-4

APPOINTMENT OF EMERGENCY FINANCIAL MANAGER

FOR THE CITY OF FLINT
COUNTY OF GENESEE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, the Governor has declared a financial emergency to exist in the City of Flint and the City presently is in receivership status pursuant to Section 15 of Public Act 4 of 2011, the Local Government and School District Fiscal Accountability Act; And

WHEREAS, the City had a duly appointed emergency manager serving under the authority of that Act at the time that Act was suspended due to the certification of a referendum; And

WHEREAS, the former Public Act 72 of 1990, the Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Act, is deemed revived by the suspension of Act 4; And

WHEREAS, this State, through the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board, has a clear legal obligation to provide for the uninterrupted ability of the emergency manager to discharge the duties and responsibilities of that office and to avoid any unnecessary disruption in, or confusion concerning, the responsibility for resolving the financial emergency within the City.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordered by the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board as follows:

1. That, pursuant to the authority granted the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board by Public Act 243 of 1980, the Emergency Municipal Loan Act, Edward J. Kurtz is appointed Emergency Financial Manager for the City of Flint.
2. That the Emergency Financial Manager shall exercise the duties and responsibilities granted to that office by Public Act 72 of 1990, the Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Act.
3. That the duties, responsibilities, and compensation of the Emergency Financial Manager shall be set forth in a written contract between the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board and the Emergency Financial Manager.
4. Any personnel action rendered or contract executed by an Emergency Manager pursuant to Public Act 4 of 2011, the Local Government and School District Fiscal Accountability Act, that remained in effect upon the suspension of that Act remains in effect under Public Act 72 of 1990, the Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Act, until revoked by the Emergency Financial Manager or by the Board.
5. This Order shall have immediate effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the members of the Board, or their designees, have signed and executed this Order of Approval.

LOCAL EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
LOAN BOARD

By_____
Roger Fraser, Deputy State Treasurer,
Designee for Andy Dillon, State Treasurer

By_____
John E. Nixon, Director
Department of Technology, Management and Budget

By_____
Steven H. Hilfinger, Director
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Date: _____
Lansing, Michigan

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

Governor Contacts: Sara Wurfel wurfels@michigan.gov or Ken Silfven silfvenk@michigan.gov - 517-335-6397 Treasury Contact: Caleb Buhs buhsc@michigan.gov - 517-241-2623 Education Contact: Martin Ackley ackleym@michigan.gov - 517-241-4395	**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Wednesday, August 8, 2012

Emergency Financial Managers appointed under PA 72

Appointments will ensure continuity in financially troubled communities, schools

LANSING, Mich. – Emergency financial managers (EFMs) were appointed today in the four cities and three school districts under a financial emergency. Appointments to the cities were made by the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board and appointments to the school districts were made by the governor.

The actions were taken following the Board of State Canvassers certification of petitions for the referendum of Public Act 4 of 2011, the Local Government and School District Fiscal Accountability Act. The Canvassers certification placed the repeal of PA 4 on the November ballot and immediately suspended the act and reinstated its predecessor, PA 72 of 1990.

Attorney General Bill Schuette issued a formal opinion Monday, Aug. 6, stating that, upon suspension of PA 4, "1990 PA 72 is revived until certification of the November 2012 general election results."

"My administration is deeply committed to addressing the needs of struggling communities and schools," said Gov. Rick Snyder. "This is not just about finances but the quality of life for citizens and ensuring public safety, health and welfare."

The Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board appointed EFMs Joyce Parker in Ecorse, Joe Harris in Benton Harbor, Louis Schimmel in Pontiac and Ed Kurtz in Flint. Parker, Harris and Schimmel all were serving as emergency managers under PA 4 and Kurtz replaces Mike Brown in Flint, who was ineligible to serve under PA 72 because he previously served as interim mayor.

"The action taken today was necessary to ensure continuity in these communities experiencing financial emergencies," said Deputy Treasurer Roger Fraser. "The three EFMs who were re-appointed have been making positive changes to return their respective cities to prosperity. Mr. Kurtz has proved his ability to assist struggling cities in the past and will be a steadying hand through this period of transition in Flint."

Snyder appointed Roy Roberts in Detroit Public Schools, Donald Weatherspoon in Muskegon Heights Schools and Joyce Parker in Highland Park Schools as EFMs to continue oversight for the struggling school districts. In compliance with PA 72, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan made recommendations to the governor for EFMs at Detroit Public Schools, Highland Park Schools and Muskegon Heights Public Schools. Under the law, the superintendent submits to the governor the names of not more than three nominees for the governor's consideration.

In addition to the names of those who have been serving as emergency managers in those districts, Flanagan submitted the names of two education experts from the Michigan Department of Education for the EFMs at Detroit Public Schools and Highland Park Schools.

"Our utmost priority is providing the students of these three school districts with the quality education they need and deserve," Flanagan said. "For that to happen, the schools must be financially sound. MDE is committed to supporting and assisting the work of every emergency financial manager to help the students in those districts achieve and succeed."

The suspension of PA 4 is prospective only. Actions taken by an EM under PA 4, or Consent Agreements reached prior to the suspension of PA 4, remain in effect.

The Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board consists of Treasurer Andy Dillon, state Budget Director John Nixon, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Director Steven Hilfinger. The board was assigned by Snyder the responsibility to manage the financial emergencies per PA 72 of 1990.

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STATE BUDGET OFFICE
May 15, 2013

Department of Natural Resources
Summer Youth Employment Program – 2012 Results

Background:

During his March 7, 2012 Special Message on Public Safety, Governor Synder directed the DNR to build new partnerships with recreation centers and organizations in the Detroit, Pontiac, Flint and Saginaw areas to help teens who too often see nothing but concrete to understand that opportunities exist far beyond their experience.

PA 236 of 2012 appropriated $2.0 million general fund to begin initiative during FY12. PA 200 of 2012 contained $3.0 million to continue the program in FY13 and the FY14 Executive Recommendation continues the program with $3.0 million.

Program:

The following 13 agencies were selected to provide youth ages 16 to 19 with employment opportunities, work skills education and outdoor recreation experiences.

1. The Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency (Pontiac)
2. The Baldwin Center (Pontiac)
3. The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint (Flint)
4. The Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce – Genesee Area Focus Fund (Flint)
5. The Genesee Shiawassee Michigan Works – Career Alliance (Flint)
6. SVRC Industries (Saginaw)
7. Disability Network of Mid-Michigan (Saginaw)
8. The First Ward Community Services (Saginaw)
9. Health Kidz R Us (Detroit)
10. The Youth Connection (Detroit)
11. The Greening of Detroit (Detroit)
12. Detroit Employment Solutions (Detroit)
13. Downtown Detroit Partnership (Detroit)

Statistics from FY12 Program:

- 813 participants were enrolled in the program
- Participants completed a minimum of 6 out of 9 weeks of employment
- 100,502 total hours worked

Work Sites/Activities:

- Urban farming
- Park maintenance
- Sorting and storing food donations
- Footbridge renovation at Kearsley Park
- Participation at Habitat for Humanity
- Landscaping activities
- Litter and debris pick-up
- Graffiti removal
- Beach erosion repair

- Farmer's markets
- After school youth program mentors
- Baldwin Center garden and greenhouse
- Maintenance at Kensington MetroPark
- Renovation projects at local parks and walkways
- Belle Isle
- Water quality testing
- Voter registration
- Child care
- General office clerical duties
- Cashier services
- Neighborhood cleanups

Recreation activities at:

- Holly State Recreation Area,
- Flint Institute of Arts,
- For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum,
- Genesee County Parks
- Green Pointe Nature Center
- Detroit Zoo
- Maybury State Park
- Bay City Recreation Area and Seven Lakes Recreation Area
- Bay City State Recreation Area
- Silver Lake State Recreation Area
- William G. Milliken State Park
- Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Belle Isle Aquarium

Accomplishments:

- 1.2 tons of trash removed in Hart Plaza and Greektown
- Over 100 tires removed from Flint River
- Transformed recycled tires into painted floral planters
- Beach shoreline erosion prevention
- Completed workshops on resume writing, applications, appropriate attire, etc.
- Sold produce in community markets and earned profit
- Learned new landscaping skills
- Returned to school and enrolled in college
- Enhanced leadership skills
- Exposed to new careers
- Maintained over 10,000 trees
- Assisted in rehabilitation of property in Detroit
- Interviewed for internships with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- Applied for park ranger positions
- Assisted in cleanup of Belle Isle golf course
- Served as Junior Counselors at day camps

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 5, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: House and Senate K-12 Appropriations Subcommittees

FROM: Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent

SUBJECT: Quarterly Report to the Legislature on Deficit Districts

OVERVIEW

Pursuant to language in Section 102 of the State School Aid Act (MCL 388.1702), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is required to report quarterly to the Legislature on school districts incurring year-end deficits and the districts' progress in reducing those deficits. In this second quarterly report for FY 2014-2015, an analysis of the projected FY 2014-2015 financial data has been completed for those school districts that ended FY 2013-2014 with a deficit. The analysis is conducted using data collected from Deficit Elimination Plans (DEPs) and required monthly budget control reports. It should be noted that since 1976, MDE has provided the Legislature with an annual report on local school districts in financial deficit. This second quarterly report for FY 2014-2015 can appropriately serve as the required annual report due March 1, given the proximity of this presentation to the annual deadline.

Note: This report was prepared with data as of February 20, 2015.

Section 102(2) of the State School Aid Act (PA 94 of 1979, as amended) states:

"(2) Not later than March 1 of each year, the department shall prepare a report of deficits incurred or projected by districts and intermediate districts in the immediately preceding fiscal year and the progress made in reducing those deficits and submit the report to the standing committees of the legislature responsible for K-12 education legislation, the appropriations subcommittees of the legislature responsible for K-12 education appropriations, the house and senate fiscal agencies, the state treasurer, and

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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the state budget director. The department also shall submit quarterly interim reports concerning the progress made by districts and intermediate districts in reducing those deficits. On a quarterly basis, the superintendent of public instruction shall publicly present those reports to the appropriations subcommittees of the legislature responsible for K-12 education appropriations."

The following narrative provides relevant information regarding process, requirements, and selected district information; the attached analysis provides deficit district specific information.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE) PROCESS

Under Governor Snyder's Good Government initiative, MDE has included a financial metric on our Scorecard related to DEPs as follows: "Percent of DEPs reviewed within 30 days of receipt from districts." MDE is continuing to achieve 100% on this metric.

In addition, the law requires that deficit districts submit a DEP to MDE. MDE has a formal process in place to ensure that school districts develop and implement DEPs to eliminate their general fund deficits. Long-standing MDE procedures ensure that districts are treated fairly throughout the deficit elimination process. MDE's website (http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6605-106599--,00.html) includes definitions, contact information, a flow chart to ensure accurate completion of required forms, and district requirements related to districts in deficit. MDE provides considerable technical assistance to districts during the DEP development and submission process. When necessary, the process may include requiring district representatives (i.e. administrators, local board of education members, and union representatives) to attend a meeting(s) in Lansing to discuss requirements in the law (see following section), status of the district's financial situation, possible modifications to the district's DEP, and answer questions. The desired outcome of such a meeting is for all of the district's key representatives to leave with a mutual understanding related to what is in the law and what is required of deficit districts. The MDE team stresses that because Michigan is a locally controlled state, district officials must make the difficult decisions that will eliminate the deficit. MDE also includes Department of Treasury (Treasury) staff in these meetings to discuss how processes within Treasury regarding the State Aid Note Borrowing Program and the Emergency Loan Program relate to and affect a district's deficit status. It is imperative that district representatives understand that borrowing through Treasury for cash flow purposes does not negate the need to reduce expenditures in order to eliminate the deficit. As we continue to work with these critical districts, it became apparent that the districts also need to have a conversation with Office of Retirement Systems if there is an issue with MPSERS payments and with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs should the district have reimbursement issues related to Unemployment Insurance. Both agencies are invited to these meetings as necessary.

Public school academies (charter schools) are treated the same as traditional districts when faced with a deficit situation. They receive technical assistance and must submit a DEP to MDE and have it approved.

Since my last report to you on December 19, 2014, MDE staff has met in Lansing with the following deficit districts:

Albion Public Schools – 1/16/2015

- After their December DEP submission was not approvable, we asked for a meeting. The Department requested a revised DEP be submitted by February 16, 2015. A revised DEP was submitted by the deadline and is currently being reviewed by the Department.

Hazel Park Public Schools – 2/5/2015

- During the preparation of their annual audit, it was discovered that the district's deficit increased by $2.3 million from June 30, 2013 to June 30, 2014. The district had projected that the deficit would decrease in 2013-14. During the meeting with the Department, the district reported that their new auditing firm required the district to correct prior accounting errors. The district must submit a revised DEP by March 16, 2015.

The Department is currently scheduling a meeting with Saginaw Public Schools board and other officials to discuss their deficit situation.

REQUIREMENTS IN LAW

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

Michigan is a locally controlled state; Sec. 102(1) of the State School Aid Act [MCL 388.1702(1)] states:
"A district or intermediate district receiving money under this act shall not adopt or operate under a deficit budget, and shall not incur an operating deficit in a fund during a school fiscal year. A district having an existing deficit or which incurs a deficit shall not be allotted or paid a further sum under this act until the district submits to the department for approval a budget for the current fiscal year and a plan to eliminate the deficit not later than the end of the second fiscal year after the deficit was incurred or the budget projecting a deficit was adopted. Withheld state aid payments shall be released after the department approves the deficit reduction plan and ensures that the budget for the current school fiscal year is balanced. After the department approves a district's or intermediate district's deficit reduction plan, the district or intermediate district shall post the deficit elimination plan on the district's or intermediate district's website."

The Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act places the burden for eliminating a district's deficit on the local board of education.

- MCL 141.436(7) – Except as otherwise permitted by Section 102 of the State School Aid Act, 1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1702, or by other law, the legislative body shall not adopt a general appropriations act or an amendment to that act which causes estimated total expenditures, including an accrued deficit, to exceed total estimated revenues, including an available surplus and the proceeds from bonds or other obligations issued under the Fiscal Stabilization Act, 1981 PA 80, MCL 141.1001 to 141.1011, or the balance of the principal of these bonds or other obligations.

- MCL 141.437(2) – If, during a fiscal year, it appears to the chief administrative officer or to the legislative body that the actual and probable revenues from taxes and other sources in a fund are less than the estimated revenues, including an available surplus upon which appropriations from the fund were based and the proceeds from bonds or other obligations issued under the Fiscal Stabilization Act, 1981 PA 80, MCL 141.1001 to 141.1011, or the balance of the principal of these bonds or other obligations, the chief administrative officer or fiscal officer shall present to the legislative body recommendations which, if adopted, would prevent expenditures from exceeding available revenues for that current fiscal year. The recommendations shall include proposals for reducing appropriations from the fund for budgetary centers in a manner that would cause the total of appropriations to not be greater than the total of revised estimated revenues of the fund, or proposals for measures necessary to provide revenues sufficient to meet expenditures of the fund, or both. The recommendations shall recognize the requirements of state law and the provisions of collective bargaining agreements.

- MCL 141.438(3) – Except as otherwise provided in Section 19, an administrative officer of the local unit shall not incur expenditures against an appropriation account in excess of the amount appropriated by the legislative body. The chief administrative officer, an administrative officer, or an employee of the local unit shall not apply or divert money of the local unit for purposes inconsistent with those specified in the appropriations of the legislative body.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Penalties in law that are to be imposed on deficit districts: (1) withholding state school aid [MCL 388.1702(1)] (see statutory language above); and (2) reporting a violation to the Attorney General who will review the report and determine whether or not to act [MCL 388.1761] (see statutory language below).

To date, as State Superintendent, I have periodically authorized state aid to be withheld from a limited number of deficit districts that have failed to submit timely, required information. Since my December report to you, because Hazel Park City Schools had not complied with the law in submitting their audit and Financial Information Database, I withheld their state aid beginning with the December 20, 2014 payment. When the required information was received, all payments were released to the district.

MCL 388.1761 – "A school official or member of a board or other person who neglects or refuses to do or perform an act required by this act or who violates or knowingly permits or consents to the violation of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $1,500, or both." There has been no instance where, as State Superintendent, I have asked the Attorney General's involvement regarding deficit districts.

DEFICIT ELIMINATION PLANS NOT REQUESTED

Four districts'/academies' deficit fund balances at the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year were caused by timing issues with how grant related revenues and expenditures were recognized. Because reimbursements for expenditures recorded in 2013-14 were not received within 60 days of the last day of the fiscal year, the corresponding revenue had to be recorded in 2014-15. Since the deficit was directly related to this generally accepted accounting principle, and the districts' budgets show positive fund balances at the end of 2014-15, the Department did not request DEPs for the following districts and academies:

- Lakeside Charter School
- Akron Fairgrove Schools
- Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy
- Education Achievement Authority of Michigan

The Department remains concerned with the financial health of these districts and academies, knowing a simple timing issue could cause a deficit situation. We urged the districts and academies to review their current budgets and implement any necessary changes that will lead to stronger and more stable fund balances.

ADDITIONAL SELECTED DISTRICT INFORMATION

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The district submitted a revised DEP on December 17, 2014. On January 13, 2015, Darnell Earley was appointed Emergency Manager of Detroit Public Schools, replacing Jack Martin. Mr. Earley had been the Emergency Manager for the City of Flint. We continue to have dialogue with the Emergency Manager and the Chief Financial Officer of the district.

BENTON HARBOR AREA SCHOOLS

The district has adopted a resolution choosing the consent agreement option pursuant to Section 8 of 2012, PA436, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act. On September 23, 2014, the district' school board approved the consent agreement developed by the Department of Treasury and the district superintendent, pursuant to state statute. Treasury and the Department are working with the district to approve their Financial and Operating Plan submitted pursuant to the consent agreement.

FLINT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
On December 26, 2014, I approved the district's request to extend their DEP through 2020-2021. This approval was largely based on the continued support provided by the Mott Foundation and the substantial contributions made by all district employees. As I remain very concerned about the district's serious financial state, the Department continues to have weekly contact with the district.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF SAGINAW
The district's current DEP includes closing one of their high schools. On February 18, 2015, the board tabled a vote on the interim superintendent's recommendation to close Saginaw High School. The district has a purchase agreement to sell the former Buena Vista High School to Pansophic Learning. The board also voted to demolish the Phoenix Science & Technology Center, but has subsequently rescinded that decision and placed the building back on the market. The district has made a counter-offer to the interested parties. While the sale of either of these buildings could possibly eliminate the deficit this year, it is important to remember that these are one-time events and have no impact on future budgets. The board must continue to make the tough decisions in order to right-size the district and maintain a balanced budget.

FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE TEAM LEGISLATION
Legislation to develop policy and procedures to address districts and PSAs that trigger "early warning" indicators of financial stress did not pass the last legislation session. The Governor's Executive Recommendation for 2015-16 includes similar language The Department is awaiting the outcome of the proposals.

DEFICIT DISTRICT DATA
Attachments A and B provide the financial analysis for FY 2014-15.

Additional questions about this report should be directed to Dan Hanrahan, Office of State Aid and School Finance, at HanrahanD@michigan.gov or (517) 373-3350.

Attachments

DEFICIT DISTRICT QUARTERLY REPORT
TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE K-12 APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF MICHIGAN DEFICIT SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROJECTED 2014-2015

An analysis of the projected fiscal year 2014-2015 (FY2015) financial data has been completed for those districts that ended fiscal year 2014 (FY2014) with a deficit. The analysis is conducted using data collected from Deficit Elimination Plans (DEPs) and required monthly budget control reports.

Fifty-eight (58) districts and public school academies ended FY2014 in a deficit position. Two public school academies closed at the end of FY2014. Attachment B lists the remaining 56 districts and public school academies that ended FY2014 in a deficit position. Fifty-two (52) districts and public school academies ended FY2013 in a deficit position.

Of the 56 operating districts that ended FY2014 in deficit (including the four listed on page 5), Nineteen (19) are projecting to successfully eliminate their deficit by June 30, 2015 (Attachment B, Category 1). Twenty-seven (27) are projecting to reduce their deficit in FY2015 (Attachment B, Category 2). Eight (8) are projecting to increase their deficit in FY2015 (Attachment B, Category 3). Two (2) districts that ended FY2014 in deficit were converted to public school academy systems in FY2013. The predecessor local districts' deficits are being eliminated through the capture of school operating taxes (Attachment B, Category 5).

Attachment B also includes fund balance information for June 30, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

At this time, we are not aware of any districts that began FY2015 with a positive fund balance and are projecting to end the year with a deficit fund balance (Attachment B, Category 4). That number may change as the year progresses and the districts submit their annual financial data due on October 15, 2015.

NOTE: The 2014-15 data in this report are projections from the districts and are subject to change as the fiscal year progresses.

ISD/School Name	June 2013 Fund Balance	June 2014 Fund Balance	Projected June 2015 Fund Balance		Projected 2015 GF Revenues	% Deficit is of Revenues
CATEGORY 1						
Districts that project to eliminate their deficit at June 30, 2015						
Copper Country ISD						
Hancock Public Schools	($514,291)	($5,856)	$152,663		$6,604,254	2.31%
Eaton RESA						
Life Tech Academy	NA	($58,751)	$246,205		$800,736	30.75%
Gratiot-Isabella RESD						
Ashley Community Schools	($225,307)	($90,081)	$48,721		$2,520,364	1.93%
Hillsdale ISD						
Camden Frontier Schools	$184,226	($55,243)	$6,184		$4,147,758	0.15%
Kalamazoo RESA						
Lakeside Charter School	NA	($233,952)	TBD	A	TBD	
Livingston ESA						
Brighton Area Schools	($8,500,481)	($4,322,572)	$1,317,749		$60,549,832	2.18%
Macomb ISD						
East Detroit Public Schools	($5,002,724)	($1,294,923)	$197,374		$35,531,041	0.56%
New Haven Community Schools	($236,549)	($167,869)	$101,895		$12,475,045	0.82%
Newaygo County RESA						
White Cloud School District	($580,276)	($113,644)	$420,409		$9,002,340	4.67%
Traverse Bay Area ISD						
Grand Traverse Academy	$960,009	($365,129)	$179,877		$9,447,110	1.90%
Tuscola ISD						
Akron Fairgrove Schools	$235,003	($39,679)	$162,856	A	$2,912,091	5.59%
Wayne RESA						
Dearborn Heights School District #7	($1,769,214)	($1,641,961)	$6,559		$23,316,101	0.03%
Hamtramck Public Schools	($3,443,659)	($1,079,978)	$1,363,637		$32,373,017	4.21%
Taylor School District	($8,834,147)	($3,871,072)	$104,438		$67,342,144	0.16%
Ecorse Public School District	($1,809,903)	($661,837)	$343,666		$9,583,647	3.59%
Branch Line School	NA	($22,024)	$30,965		$730,357	4.24%
Madison-Carver Academy	($402,226)	($261,020)	$5,179		$3,877,900	0.13%
Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy	$326,628	($502,085)	$110,252	A	$8,428,848	1.31%
EAA						
Education Achievement Authority of Michigan	$6,781,147	($472,258)	$643,036	A	$85,991,531	0.75%
CATEGORY 2						
Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a reduced deficit.						
Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD						
Alpena Public Schools	($863,359)	($1,574,627)	($623,770)		$35,784,856	-1.74%
Bay-Arenac ISD						
Essexville-Hampton Public Schools	$266,067	($63,027)	($26,673)		$14,706,611	-0.18%
Berrien RESA						
Benton Harbor Area Schools	($15,517,748)	($15,145,607)	($14,275,715)	B, C	$37,586,888	-37.98%
Calhoun ISD						
Battle Creek Montessori Academy	NA	($251,219)	($154,482)		$1,762,838	-8.76%

ISD/School Name	June 2013 Fund Balance	June 2014 Fund Balance	Projected June 2015 Fund Balance		Projected 2015 GF Revenues	% Deficit is of Revenues
CATEGORY 2, continued						
Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a reduced deficit.						
Cheboygen-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD						
Mackinaw City Public Schools	($345,160)	($515,500)	($515,499)		$2,274,634	-22.66%
Vanderbilt Area School District	($221,573)	($195,214)	($88,503)		$1,434,350	-6.17%
Genesee ISD						
Flint Community Schools	($10,403,722)	($21,964,181)	($17,422,905)	D	$93,312,149	-18.67%
Beecher Community School District	($701,015)	($988,531)	($878,190)		$14,118,771	-6.22%
Hillsdale ISD						
North Adams-Jerome Public Schools	$30,421	($108,857)	($51,271)		$3,105,618	-1.65%
Livingston ESA						
Pinckney Community Schools	($1,847,424)	($1,915,772)	($1,820,453)		$31,069,651	-5.86%
Macomb ISD						
Clintondale Community Schools	($3,405,650)	($2,161,441)	($837,531)		$28,084,348	-2.98%
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	($3,586,719)	($2,442,338)	($1,546,953)		$13,725,306	-11.27%
Macomb Montessori Academy	NA	($213,139)	($188,662)		$1,929,438	-9.78%
Muskegon Area ISD						
Muskegon Heights Public School Academy	($553,763)	($665,605)	($397,556)		$9,838,915	-4.04%
Muskegon Montessori Academy for Environmental Cha	NA	($307,246)	($182,686)		$1,181,745	-15.46%
Oakland Schools						
Pontiac School District	($51,677,552)	($39,077,646)	($29,008,898)	C	$79,866,100	-36.32%
Saginaw ISD						
Saginaw City School District	($6,157,077)	($4,163,177)	($332,603)		$77,516,223	-0.43%
Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District	($3,221,274)	($2,924,401)	($1,615,359)		$16,444,337	-9.82%
Shiawassee RESD						
Perry Public Schools	($1,689,022)	($1,578,822)	($522,983)		$11,994,663	-4.36%
Traverse Bay Area ISD						
Suttons Bay Public Schools	$131,076	($351,517)	($219,713)		$7,217,882	-3.04%
Van Buren ISD						
Bangor Public Schools	($373,350)	($452,425)	($333,898)		$12,239,422	-2.73%
Washtenaw ISD						
Lincoln Consolidated Schools	($679,918)	($1,372,785)	($922,322)		$43,968,880	-2.10%
Wayne RESA						
Detroit Public Schools	($93,881,926)	($169,460,308)	($164,501,498)		$691,586,866	-23.79%
Westwood Community School District	($6,311,270)	($4,977,195)	($3,965,474)		$24,267,251	-16.34%
Southgate Community Schools	($4,906,716)	($3,982,984)	($1,195,799)		$40,875,563	-2.93%
Highland Park Public School Academy	($620,248)	($409,544)	($401,723)		$5,682,339	-7.07%
Southwest Detroit Lighthouse Charter Academy	NA	($145,344)	($130,132)		$3,313,936	-3.93%
CATEGORY 3						
Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a greater deficit.						
Calhoun ISD						
Albion Public Schools	($149,003)	($714,425)	($891,525)		$7,108,299	-12.54%
Cheboygen-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD						
Cheboygan Area Schools	$976,845	($232,119)	($1,112,070)		$17,226,327	-6.46%

ISD/School Name	June 2013 Fund Balance	June 2014 Fund Balance	Projected June 2015 Fund Balance		Projected 2015 GF Revenues	% Deficit is of Revenues
CATEGORY 3, continued						
Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a greater deficit.						
Dickinson-Iron ISD						
Iron Mountain Public Schools	$247,143	($224,664)	($564,316)		$7,323,574	-7.71%
Macomb ISD						
South Lake Schools	$689,515	($229,386)	($1,214,821)		$21,167,142	-5.74%
Warren Consolidated Schools	$6,224,809	($2,167,334)	($2,450,229)		$165,021,196	-1.48%
Oakland Schools						
School District of the City of Hazel Park	($3,919,402)	($6,191,945)	TBD		TBD	
Wayne RESA						
Garden City School District	$1,235,399	($606,713)	($1,716,317)		$46,030,745	-3.73%
Detroit Public Safety Academy	NA	($537,993)	($786,362)		$1,428,413	-55.05%
CATEGORY 4						
Districts that began FY2015 with a positive fund balance but project to end the year in deficit.						
We are not aware of any districts that began FY2015 with a positive fund balance and are projecting to end the year with a deficit fund balance						
CATEGORY 5						
Districts whose deficits are being eliminated through the capture of school operating taxes through Department of Treasury						
Muskegon Area ISD						
Muskegon Heights School District	($1,117,702)	($1,089,576)	($868,007)	B, E	$1,506,677	-57.61%
Wayne RESA						
Highland Park City Schools	($7,638,145)	TBD	TBD	B, E	TBD	

SUMMARY:

No. of Districts	Cat.	Description
19	1	Districts that project to eliminate their deficit at June 30, 2015
27	2	Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a reduced deficit.
8	3	Districts that began FY2015 in deficit and project to end the year with a greater deficit.
0	4	Districts that began FY2015 with a positive fund balance but project to end the year in deficit.
2	5	Districts whose deficits are being eliminated through the capture of school operating taxes through Department of Treasury

***NOTES:**

A	DEP not requested due to timing issues related to generally accepted accounting principles.
B	District has an emergency loan from Treasury.
C	Financial emergency declared under PA436.
D	A note 2 in the district's audited financial statements indicates that the district may owe Genesee ISD up to $8.6 million that is not recognized in the deficit.
E	District exists as authorizer of an academy.

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION

DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Nature of Report: / / URGENT
/ X / Routine

Budget: **Environmental Quality**

/ / House	/ X / Senate	/ / Conference
/ / Subcommittee	/ X / Full Committee	/ / Floor

Action: SB 121 (S-1), Draft 2 as amended reported (9 yes; 6 no; 2 pass)

Members Present: Full committee
Meeting Date: April 15, 2015
Meeting Time: 2 p.m.
SBO Analyst Present: Jenny Harrison (SBO)

HIGHLIGHTS

Changes from the Executive Recommendation are as follows:

- Restored $1,337,000 environmental pollution prevention fund support to the air quality program (this was an SBO approved informal revision).
- $100 placeholder for emergency water issues related to city of Flint (Hopgood)

BOILERPLATE

Most current law boilerplate sections recommended for deletion were restored.

New section requiring the department to hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight of the air quality programs for the UP was added by the Senate as part of an unofficial deal to get the air emission fee increase passed.

AMENDMENTS

Senator Hopgood offered two amendments:

1. $100 general fund placeholder for an emergency water fund (related to Flint water issues). **Senator Green** commented that this is something we should look at and supported the amendment. Amendment **adopted** unanimously.
2. $12.0 million general fund for the refined petroleum product cleanup program. Amendment **defeated** along party lines.

GF/GP Impact: **$100**
Gross Impact: **$1,337,100**
Next Meeting Scheduled: Senate Floor

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION

DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Nature of Report: / / URGENT
/ X / Routine

Budget: **Environmental Quality**

/ / House	/ X / Senate	/ / Conference
/ / Subcommittee	/ / Full Committee	/ X / Floor

Action: Omnibus SB 133 as amended reported out

Members Present: n/a
Meeting Date: May 5, 2015
Meeting Time: n/a
SBO Analyst Present: n/a

ARTICLE VII HIGHLIGHTS

Changes from the Executive Recommendation are as follows:

- Restored $1,337,000 environmental pollution prevention fund support to the air quality program (this was an SBO approved informal revision).
- $100 placeholder for emergency water issues related to city of Flint (Hopgood)
- Did not include proposed air emissions fee increase of $2,250,000 (Hildenbrand amendment)

BOILERPLATE

Most current law boilerplate sections recommended for deletion were restored.

New section requiring the department to hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight of the air quality programs for the UP was added by the Senate as part of an unofficial deal to get the air emission fee increase passed.

GF/GP Impact: **$100**
Gross Impact: (**$912,900)**
Next Meeting Scheduled: TBD

From: Minix, Connie (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:22 PM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Document for Review - Flint Water Plan Support
Attachments: Additional Support for Flint Water Improvement Plan, 9.14.15.pdf

fyi

Connie Minix
Assistant to State Budget Director John S. Roberts
111 S. Capitol Avenue, Romney Building, 6th Floor
Phone: 517.373.4978 | Cell: 517.897.3519
State Budget Office

From: Adamczyk, Lynne (GOV)
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Clayton, Stacie (GOV); Kennedy, Jordan (GOV); Rospond, Laurie (GOV); Brown, Eric (GOV); Dempkowski, Angela (Treasury); Pleyte, Beth (Treasury); Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Grijalva, Nancy (DCH); Thelen, Mary Beth (DEQ); Doyle, Maureen (Treasury); Minix, Connie (DTMB)
Subject: Document for Review - Flint Water Plan Support

Stacie, please have Harvey respond to this letter from Mayor Walling and send me a copy of the response letter.

Thanks,

Lynne

Lynne Adamczyk
Executive Assistant
Office of Governor Rick Snyder
517-373-3400 (o)
517-241-9412 (d)
adamczykl@michigan.gov

CITY OF FLINT

Dayne Walling
Mayor

September 14, 2015

The Honorable Rick Snyder
Governor, State of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Call for Additional Support for Flint Water Improvement Plan

Dear Governor Snyder:

On behalf of the Flint community, I am writing with a renewed request for additional support to address Flint's water challenges to ensure that water is affordable and secure for everyone in Flint especially our vulnerable populations. I am asking for an additional $30 million in funds for Flint's infrastructure and a new healthy homes initiative.

Significant progress has been made throughout this year to increase water safety and quality and I thank you for the involvement of your office, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and the Michigan Department of Treasury. A majority of items in the Water Improvement Plan are completed or underway. Most importantly, Flint is now in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act due in large part to the installation of the new carbon filter. The infrastructure systems are being made more secure and efficient through the State grants. Now the City is committed to following the recommendation of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to optimize the treatment process, reduce corrosion and further minimize risks from lead.

The need to accelerate the City's capital improvement investments remains and has been further increased by the continued financial stress and legal issues. Previously I requested support for replacement or forgiveness of payment to the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund due to Flint's status as a distressed community and the gap in funding in the adopted capital improvement plan. I understand that the existing federal law does not allow the existing Drinking Water Revolving Loans that Flint is carrying to be forgiven in retrospect but the need still exists. Flint owes approximately $20 Million. One solution is for the State to grant a new $20 Million that is designed as forgivable from the start. Another solution is to provide

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www.cityofflint.com • (810) 766 - 7346 • Fax: (810) 766 - 7218

equivalent funding through an expansion of the grant program to Michigan's Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships with a supplemental budget amendment in cooperation with the State Legislature.

The community's heightened concern about lead leeching into the water from old service lines and home plumbing also needs to be addressed. We know that lead is an environmental contaminant and there have been many programs in place over the years to address sources in paint and pipes. Flint needs a new healthy homes initiative specifically focused on lead in water with $10 Million to start the process of replacing service lines for the most vulnerable households. Regardless of the source and treatment of Flint's water, this long term threat of lead in pipes needs to be removed in the interest of public health.

My approach continues to be to work with you and your appointed officials, State Senator Ananich, State Representatives Phelps and Neeley, Congressman Kildee, community groups, businesses, churches, foundations, the Flint City Council, and all of the City of Flint and State and Federal government personnel. We need every available expert and resource to address Flint's water problems.

Flint's safety is my top priority. Just as the City and State have worked together on public safety, we need additional support for fixing the water problems. We need $30 Million in new funds to repair and update the city-wide infrastructure and to assist households in becoming lead-free. The entire Flint community deserves sustainable, safe, secure and affordable water now and into the future. Thank you for the consideration Governor and I look forward to future discussions.

Sincerely,

Dayne Walling
Mayor, City of Flint

CC: Flint City Council President Joshua Freeman; Congressman Dan Kildee; State Senator Jim Ananich; State Representative Sheldon Neeley; State Representative Phil Phelps; EPA Regional Administrator Dr. Susan Hedman; Chief of Staff Dennis Muchmore

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 1:07 PM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: 2 amendments added to the supplemental
Attachments: DOC000.pdf

Good afternoon,

Attached are the two amendments added by the Senate to the supplemental, HB 4102:

- $100 placeholder for Flint emergency water services
- $100 Placeholder for Alger County HHS Facility—County bond pay-off

The bill passed the Senate today 30-5 vote. Now back to the full House for more fun.

Senator Ananich offered the following amendments to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 5, following line 9, by inserting:

"SEC 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY:

Full-time equated classified positions 0.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and Intradepartmental transfers 0

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Federal revenues:

Total federal revenues: 0

Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues: 0

Total private revenues: 0

Total other state restricted revenues: 0

State general fund/general purpose: 100

(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Full-time equated classified positions 0.0

City of Flint emergency water services $100

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Appropriated from:

State general fund/general purpose ..... $100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

2. Amend page 5, line 10, by striking out "152" and inserting "153".

September 30, 2015

Senator Casperson offered the following amendment to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 6, following line 8, by inserting:

"(4) **DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION**

Rent and state office facilities $100

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Appropriated from:

State general fund/general purpose . . . . . .$100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

State Budget Office
Legislative Update Meeting
October 8, 2015
9:00 a.m.

AGENDA – Sen. Hildenbrand's Office

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1. Roads
2. Supplementals
3. Flint Water
4. Risk List
5. Hepatitis C
6. Bills with Revenue Impact
7. Miscellaneous

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:48 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data
Attachments: ATT00001.htm

I'm sorry I should have cc'ed you both on this. The Gov's office is looking for this as soon as possible, and was trying to express urgency while not discussing the details too much.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:33:20 AM EDT
> **To:** "Jameson, Robbie (DTMB)" <jamesonr@michigan.gov>, "Howell, Thomas (CEPI)" <HowellT@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data**
>
> Hi Tom,
>
> I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> > **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT
> > **To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> > **Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request**
> >
> > Scott-
> > Here is what I received through MDE last week.
> >
> > Thanks,
> > Maggie
> >
> > ---
> >
> > **From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
> > **Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM
> > **To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <WurfelB@michigan.gov>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <Wurfels@michigan.gov>; Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>
> > **Subject:** Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request
> >
> > According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Date: September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT
To: "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Flint Area Schools Request

See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Cc: Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:

1. Go to https://cepi.state.mi.us/eem/
2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
3. Click "Detailed"
4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"
11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"

15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: CEPI
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena
CEPI customer support

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLBSJ7N.

The CEPI website includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

From: Liethen, Caroline (MDE)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM
To: CEPI <CEPI@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen
Legislative Analyst
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of Education
Office: (517) 373-1948

Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.

From: Wyant, Dan (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 7:54 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 8, 2015 at 7:52:55 AM EDT
> **To:** "Wyant, Dan (DEQ)" <WyantD@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate**

> Begin forwarded message:

> > **From:** "McDonald, Paul (DEQ)" <mcdonaldp@michigan.gov>
> > **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 8:36:14 PM EDT
> > **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> > **Cc:** "Epkey, Amy (DEQ)" <epkeya@michigan.gov>
> > **Subject: Re: Boilerplate**

> > From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint Emergency Water Services, the department shall pay no more than $6 million to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the two parties and a successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System. These funds shall only be made available until June, 30, 2016.

> > _____

From: Roberts, John (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 11:57 AM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Cc: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Re: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

Very helpful. Thanks.

John Roberts

On Oct 8, 2015, at 11:05 AM, Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB) <harrisonj1@michigan.gov> wrote:

> Drinking water revolving loan fund – this program is a loan program and as such we can't loan money to ourselves. Even if we wanted to loan Flint money, the bylaws for the program stated it can only be used for infrastructure improvements and this would not qualify.
>
> SAW grants – this grant program is only for stormwater and wastewater grants – not drinking water grants.

From: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 1:54 PM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Cc: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: RE: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

Just following up in writing for all, of what I verbally communicated to John and Nancy just minutes ago.

Specifically, my conversations with MSP, and research into the Emergency Management Act, and Emergency Powers of the Governor (PA's 390 of 1976, and 302 of 1945 respectively), have yielded that there is nothing preventing the Executive from exercising his/her power to declare an emergency for a municipality on their own should they so choose.

However, no precedence exists for such action, and actually, locals historically, have enacted their own emergency declaration procedures *prior* to soliciting support of the Executive. In the case of Flint, no such action has occurred, and in fact, their Emergency Operations Center is closed. . .

It appears as well, that the Emergency Manager for the City of Flint up until today, was not aware of the water problem existing in the area.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 11:13 AM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: RE: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

Thanks, Jenny.

Scott – I sent this information to HFA and SFA. You can decide if you want to share with Adam and Nancy V.

P.S. We're still researching disaster fund.

From: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 11:06 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB); Roberts, John (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

Drinking water revolving loan fund – this program is a loan program and as such we can't loan money to ourselves. Even if we wanted to loan Flint money, the bylaws for the program stated it can only be used for infrastructure improvements and this would not qualify.

SAW grants – this grant program is only for stormwater and wastewater grants – not drinking water grants.

From: Roberts, John (DTMB)
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 12:24 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: Health Endowment Fund

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Robert DeVries <RDevries@senate.michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 16, 2015 at 10:51:02 AM EDT
> **To:** "Roberts, John (DTMB)" <RobertsJ9@michigan.gov>, Brock Swartzle <BSwartzle@house.mi.gov>
> **Cc:** Peter Langley <PLangley@senate.michigan.gov>, "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: RE: Health Endowment Fund**
>
> The request would have to fall under this section of the law:
>
> (b) Benefitting the health and wellness of minor children and seniors throughout this state with a significant focus in the following areas:
> (i) Access to prenatal care and reduction of infant mortality rates.
> (ii) Health services for foster and adopted children.
> (iii) Access to healthy food.
> (iv) Wellness programs and fitness programs.
> (v) Access to mental health services.
> (vi) Technology enhancements.
> (vii) Health-related transportation needs.
> (viii) Foodborne illness prevention.

From: Roberts, John (DTMB) [mailto:RobertsJ9@michigan.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Brock Swartzle <BSwartzle@house.mi.gov>
Cc: Robert DeVries <RDevries@senate.michigan.gov>; Peter Langley <PLangley@senate.michigan.gov>; Starr, Scott (DTMB) <StarrS1@michigan.gov>
Subject: Re: Health Endowment Fund

I will check on our side. Has anyone reviewed the restrictions in the law?

John Roberts

On Oct 16, 2015, at 10:33 AM, Brock Swartzle <BSwartzle@house.mi.gov> wrote:

> The Speaker would be interested.
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Robert DeVries [mailto:RDevries@senate.michigan.gov]
> **Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 2:01 PM
> **To:** Brock Swartzle <BSwartzle@house.mi.gov>; Roberts, John (DTMB)

<RobertsJ9@michigan.gov>
Cc: Peter Langley <PLangley@senate.michigan.gov>
Subject: Health Endowment Fund

The Majority Leader would like to request that the Health Endowment Fund cover all or most of the State share of the Flint water appropriation. We didn't talk too much about this before the supplemental because we didn't want to give a reason for people to delay or vote no. But now that it's done, we'd like to do something. If the HEF can give the money to Flint then we should be able to hold back some of what we just appropriated, right John?

Would the Governor or Speaker be interested in joining Arlan in making this request?

Bob

Bob DeVries, Chief of Staff
Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof
517-373-6920 (office)
616-334-6710 (cell)

One-Time Spending

General Fund and GF/GP Equivalent Funding

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Statewide						
Budget Stabilization Fund	$ 362,700,000	$ 140,000,000	$ 75,000,000	$ 94,000,000	$ 95,000,000	$ 766,700,000
DTMB-Other Post Employment Benefits	$ 60,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 60,000,000
Roads and Risks Reserve	$ -	$ -	$ 230,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 230,000,000
State employee lump sum payments	$ -	$ 25,313,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,313,900
Subtotal	$ 422,700,000	$ 165,313,900	$ 305,000,000	$ 94,000,000	$ 95,000,000	$ 1,082,013,900
						$ -
Agriculture and Rural Development						$ -
OPEB	$ 1,176,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,176,000
Cattle indemnification	$ 140,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 140,000
Contingency Plan - 9 vacancies	$ (720,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (720,300)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (111,800)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (111,800)
Rural development value-added grants	$ -	$ 900,000	$ -	$ -	$ 550,000	$ 1,450,000
New food safety requirements	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
Private forestry initiative	$ -	$ 600,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000
Pesticide program revenue shortfall	$ -	$ 500,000	$ 800,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,300,000
Bovine tuberculosis testing	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
Ottawa county water resources study	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000
Qualified forest affidavit program	$ -	$ -	$ 2,300,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,300,000
Food and agriculture industry growth initiative	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,400,000	$ -	$ 1,400,000
Muskegon farmers market earmark	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 200,000
Ottawa county ag incubator grant earmark	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 500,000
Geagley laboratory	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000	$ 150,000
Fruit tree research grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ 500,000
Subtotal	$ 483,900	$ 3,000,000	$ 3,400,000	$ 2,100,000	$ 1,200,000	$ 10,183,900
						$ -
Attorney General						$ -
OPEB	$ 1,468,700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,468,700
Contingency Plan - program reductions	$ (40,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (40,000)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (88,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (88,900)
Public safety initiative	$ 900,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 900,000
HICA legal defense	res. revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Sexual assault prosecutions	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Subtotal	$ 2,239,800	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ 5,239,800
Capital Outlay						
Higher ed construction authorizations	$ -	$ 700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 700
Construction/planning aithorizations	$ -	$ -	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ 500
Subtotal	$ -	$ 700	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Community Colleges					$ -	$ -
Shift to School Aid Fund (HMO use tax fix)	$ (63,748,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (63,748,900)
Virtual learning collaborative	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000
Shift GF funding to School Aid revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (167,110,800)	$ -	$ (167,110,800)
MPSERS cap	$ -	$ 12,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 12,500,000
Subtotal	$ (63,748,900)	$ 12,500,000	$ 1,100,000	$ (167,110,800)	$ -	$ (217,259,700)
Civil Rights						
OPEB	$ 508,100	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 508,100
Contingency Plan - 3 vacancies; other reductions	$ (260,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (260,900)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (70,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (70,900)
Subtotal	$ 176,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 176,300
Community Health						
(see Health and Human Services for FY 16)						
Medicaid electronic health records	$ 1,398,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,398,900
HMO use tax	$ 167,292,200	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 167,292,200
OPEB	$ 13,252,800	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 13,252,800
Contigency Plan - 88.3 vacancies	$ (5,729,600)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (5,729,600)
Contigency Plan - elim MI PH Institute billing contract	$ (331,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (331,300)
Contigency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (817,600)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (817,600)
Graduate medical education funding	$ 8,800,000	$ 1,450,000	$ 1,450,000	$ (5,000,000)	$ -	$ 6,700,000
Rural and sole community hospitals	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ 8,000,000
Healthy MI Fund (one-time $900K cancer screening)	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Mental health services for special populations	$ 3,000,000	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 6,000,000
Mental health innovation fund	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000,000
Island health clinics	$ 300,000	$ 325,000	$ 325,000	$ -	$ -	$ 950,000
Replace GF with Medicaid Benefits Trust Fund	$ (106,900,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (106,900,000)
~~Uncompensated care $3.4 million~~	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Dental programs	$ 25,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000
Chiropractic services	$ 152,400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 152,400
Traumatic brain injury treatment	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ (350,000)	$ -	$ (250,000)
Bronson Methodist Hospital-primary care DSH	$ 111,800	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,800
Caseload adjustments	$ (103,825,500)	$ (50,155,800)	$ (28,195,200)	$ (87,028,100)	$ -	$ (269,204,600)
ACA Hlth Insurer Fee - Medicaid HMO	$ -	$ -	$ 3,995,300	$ -	$ -	$ 3,995,300
Nursing home transitions	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,500,000)
ICD-10 Diagnostic Coding project in CHAMPS	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ 2,300,000	$ -	$ -	$ 5,300,000
Health and wellness initiatives	$ -	$ 5,000,000	$ -	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ 3,500,000
University autism centers/svcs (EMU/CMU/OU/WMU)	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ 5,000,000
University autism- replace GF with autism covg fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (3,000,000)	$ -	$ (3,000,000)
MI care improvement immunization registry	$ -	$ -	$ 89,300	$ -	$ -	$ 89,300
Healthy MI Plan savings (sec 105e)	$ -	$ -	$ (103,292,500)	$ -	$ -	$ (103,292,500)
Revised Healthy MI Plan savings - non-MA mental hlth	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000
Revised dual eligibles savings	$ -	$ 10,025,400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,025,400
Various restricted revenue adjustments	$ -	$ 9,860,200	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,860,200
DSH payment - DMC-Hutzel hospital final payment	$ -	$ -	$ 3,366,300	$ -	$ -	$ 3,366,300
State psych DSH - MA managed care	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (15,770,600)	$ -	$ (15,770,600)
Hospice services-non-nursing homes fed fund replcmt	$ -	$ -	$ 2,200,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,200,000
Mental health and wellness commission recs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,100,000	$ -	$ 2,100,000

Community Health (contd) (see Health and Human Services for FY 16)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Dental clinic program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,092,300	$ -	$ 4,092,300
Child and adolscent health services pilot program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ 2,000,000
HICA revenue shortfall/HMO payment	$ -	$ -	$ 173,572,700	$ -	$ -	$ 173,572,700
Replace GF funding with HICA rev	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (6,474,000)	$ -	$ (6,474,000)
Statewide EMS trauma system	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,300,000	$ -	$ 1,300,000
Statewide trauma system - replace GF with Crim Vic	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,300,000)	$ -	$ (1,300,000)
Healthy kids dental CHAMPS/IT - expand via zipcode	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ -	$ 300,000
Senior olympics	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000
Pay for success contracts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Jail diversion council funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (300,000)	$ -	$ (300,000)
MA managed care reimbursement - lab services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ (1,500,000)
Local health department funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ (1,500,000)
Replace Medicaid GF with federal CPE revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (5,900,000)	$ -	$ (5,900,000)
Replace Medicaid Hlth Plan GF with Roads/Risk Res	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ (2,000,000)
Bone marrow transplant registry	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ 250,000
Subtotal	$ (11,670,900)	$ (17,495,200)	$ 87,810,900	$ (120,480,400)	$ -	$ (61,835,600)
Corrections						
OPEB	$ 76,102,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 76,102,900
Contingency Plan - closure of Mound Corr Facility	$ (21,256,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (21,256,300)
Contingency Plan - vacant parole/probation positions	$ (10,640,500)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (10,640,500)
Contingency Plan - operations savings	$ (9,183,400)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (9,183,400)
Contingency Plan - health care savings	$ (7,909,500)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,909,500)
Contingency Plan - spending reductions	$ (8,809,200)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (8,809,200)
Contingency Plan - equip/maintenance funding	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
Contingency Plan - new spec equip fund revenue	$ (500,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (500,000)
Contingency Plan -restore FY 12 enacted savings	$ 34,298,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 34,298,900
Contigency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (7,744,800)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,744,800)
Camp Brighton site redevelopment	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000
Public safety initiative	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Computerized imaging	$ -	$ 629,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 629,500
Digitization of certain prisoner files	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
New custody training staff	$ -	$ -	$ 9,032,500	$ -	$ -	$ 9,032,500
Healthy MI Plan savings (sec 105e)	$ -	$ -	$ (16,141,500)	$ -	$ -	$ (16,141,500)
Revised Healthy MI Plan savings - sub abuse/sex offndr	$ -	$ -	$ 6,601,100	$ -	$ -	$ 6,601,100
Electronic monitoring center tether device savings	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (3,000,000)	$ -	$ (3,000,000)
Transportation efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
Worker's comp anticipated lapse	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ (1,500,000)
County jail reimbursement anticipated lapse	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,250,000)	$ -	$ (1,250,000)
Chippewa correctional closed housing units	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,500,000)	$ -	$ (1,500,000)
Food service bid savings	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
Facility efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,550,000)	$ -	$ (7,550,000)
Prisoner re-entry local service provider efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (500,000)	$ -	$ (500,000)
Replace Field Ops GF with parole/probation fees	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,900,000)	$ -	$ (2,900,000)
Transfer to Legislative Council	$ -	$ (250,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (250,000)
Prisoner education enhancement	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 545,300	$ -	$ 545,300
Mobilize parole/probation staff	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 440,600	$ -	$ 440,600
Neal settlement agreement	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000	$ -	$ 25,000,000
Muskegon county 70 x 7 life recovery pilot	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000	$ -	$ 600,000
Subtotal	$ 46,758,100	$ 879,500	$ (507,900)	$ 6,385,900	$ -	$ 53,515,600
Education						
OPEB	$ 584,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 584,900
Reorganization 2011-8 Office of Great Start	$ 42,045,100	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 42,045,100
Contigency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (28,800)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (28,800)
Educational improvement/innovation operations	$ 125,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 125,000
Education achievement authority	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Financial Independence Team operations	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (389,100)	$ -	$ (389,100)
Shift MPSERS payments to libraries to School Aid rev	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,200,000)	$ -	$ (2,200,000)
CMU Central Assessment Lending Library	$ -	$ 50,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000
Child development and care matching funds	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,400,000)	$ -	$ (2,400,000)
Child development and care caseload adjustment	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,703,500)	$ -	$ (2,703,500)
Cooperative education agreement grant funding	$ -	$ 350,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 350,000
MCEE staffing and system upgrades	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,514,000)	$ -	$ (2,514,000)
Subtotal	$ 42,726,200	$ 400,000	$ -	$ (10,206,600)	$ -	$ 32,919,600

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Environmental Quality						
Muskegon cleanup site	$ 6,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 6,000,000
OPEB	$ 886,700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 886,700
Contigency Plan - 1 vacancy; other reductions	$ (81,600)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (81,600)
Contigency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (93,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (93,000)
Wetlands program	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 600,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,100,000
Replace restricted funds - hazardous wst program	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000
Drinking water revolving fund state match	$ -	$ 2,500,000	$ -	$ (2,750,000)	$ -	$ (250,000)
Beach water quality monitoring	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000
Electronic document management sytem	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,850,000	$ -	$ 1,850,000
City of Flint mergency water services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000,000	$ 5,000,000
Drinking water and environmental health	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ 300,000
Laboratory services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000
Subtotal	$ 6,712,100	$ 4,000,000	$ 1,050,000	$ (900,000)	$ 6,300,000	$ 17,162,100
Executive Office						
Council on Educator Effectiveness	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000
Office for New Americans	$ -	$ -	$ 170,000	$ -	$ -	$ 170,000
Subtotal	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 170,000	$ -	$ -	$ 370,000
Health & Human Services						
Caseload adjustments	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
University autism centers/svcs (EMU/CMU/OU/WMU)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Rent and state office facilities	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100	$ 100
Childhood lead program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 850,000	$ 850,000
Mental health and wellness commission recs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000
Pay for success contracts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000
Drug Policy initiatives	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000
Hospice services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,500,000	$ 2,500,000
Employment & training support services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ 400,000
Subtotal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 8,250,100	$ 8,250,100
Higher Education						
EMU Autism Collaborative Center	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
MSU Facility for Rare Isotope Beams	$ 1,200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200,000
WMU Economic Development/Commercialization	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000
Replace GF MPSERS support with School Aid rev.			$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ (2,000,000)
Subtotal	$ 1,900,000	$ -	$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ (100,000)
Human Services						
(see Health and Human Services for FY 16)						
OPEB	$ 22,691,100	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 22,691,100
Reorganization 2011-8 Office of Great Start	$ (42,045,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (42,045,100)
Caseload adjustments	$ -	$ (19,564,500)	$ (21,040,600)	$ 7,997,000	$ -	$ (32,608,100)
Fugitive felon costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,656,400	$ -	$ 2,656,400
Contingency Plan - salary and wage estimates	$ (5,796,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (5,796,100)
Contingency Plan - 182 vacancies	$ (5,216,500)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (5,216,500)
Contingency Plan - TANF savings	$ (7,758,400)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,758,400)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (1,461,800)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,461,800)
~~State disability assistance - veto of negative amount~~	$ -	$ -	$ 3,287,800	$ -	$ -	$ 3,287,800
FIP lifetime limit court order - $30 M TANF	res. revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Specialized independent living rates	$ 175,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 175,500
Inspector General information technology	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000
~~Before- or after school program- $1.0 million~~	$ -	vetoed	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Seita scholarship program	$ -	$ 750,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000
Juvenile justice behavioral health study	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
Medicaid eligibility review	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000
State emergency relief energy services	$ -	$ 27,700,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 27,700,000
Indigent burial	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Projected overspending (retirement/OPEB)	$ -	$ 20,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 20,000,000
Biometric fraud detection technology	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Bridges IT funding	$ -	$ -	$ 1,039,600	$ -	$ -	$ 1,039,600
Foster care payment replace local revenue	$ -	$ -	$ 2,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,500,000

Human Services (contd)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Parent-to-parent program for adoptive parents/chldrn	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 400,000
Caseload adjustments	$ (75,732,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (75,732,300)
Deliverable fuels crisis assistance	$ -	$ -	$ 4,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 4,000,000
Three-year pilot - youth-in-transition	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000
MI Rehab services matching funds	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,300,000	$ -	$ 1,300,000
Performance-Based Funding Implementation Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000
Child support - impact of IRS offset	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 500,000
Catholic charities center for hope project	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ 250,000
Private Child Welfare Svc Providers/SACWIS impl.	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ -	$ 300,000
Michigan Reading Corps	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 350,000	$ -	$ 350,000
In-home community care for juvenile justice	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (350,000)	$ -	$ (350,000)
Transfer MRS from LARA	$ -	$ 15,625,700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 15,625,700
Food bank	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000
Fostering future trust fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 500,000
Sexual Assalt Evidence Kit....Commission (sec 10)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000	$ -	$ 25,000
Maxey training school operations	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (400,000)	$ -	$ (400,000)
Recoupment position	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (21,700)	$ -	$ (21,700)
Align non-FIS and AP worker wages	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (82,500)	$ -	$ (82,500)
Healthy MI call center	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,181,900)	$ -	$ (2,181,900)
Child welfare training institute	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (50,000)	$ -	$ (50,000)
Emergency services local office allocations	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (559,300)	$ -	$ (559,300)
Adoption subsidy redetermination of care pymts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (6,547,400)	$ -	$ (6,547,400)
Juvenile justice vision 20/20	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
Asset test automation	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,750,000)	$ -	$ (2,750,000)
Child welfare training related travel reimbursements	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (46,000)	$ -	$ (46,000)
PATH coordinators	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (100,200)	$ -	$ (100,200)
Peer coach positions	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (217,500)	$ -	$ (217,500)
Laptops for executives	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (15,900)	$ -	$ (15,900)
Replace adoption subsidy GF with federal TANF	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,000,000)	$ -	$ (7,000,000)
Replace FIP GF with federal TANF	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (380,800)	$ -	$ (380,800)
Replace medical rev team GF with federal revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (206,400)	$ -	$ (206,400)
Replace regulation agent GF with federal revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (40,500)	$ -	$ (40,500)
Subtotal	$ (115,143,600)	$ 49,761,200	$ (8,763,200)	$ (7,671,700)	$ -	$ (81,817,300)
Insurance and Financial Services						
	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Subtotal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Judiciary						
OPEB	$ 2,206,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,206,000
Court of appeals judges (1/2 year)	$ 171,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 171,300
Court of Claims tax appeal cases (2015 PA XX)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ 200,000
Replace Court Fee Fund revenue	$ 1,800,000	$ 820,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,620,000
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (179,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (179,000)
Information technology	$ -	$ -	$ 3,490,700	$ -	$ -	$ 3,490,700
Trial court performance innovation fund	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 375,000	$ -	$ 1,375,000
Indigent defense commission	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000
Subtotal	$ 3,998,300	$ 820,000	$ 5,240,700	$ 375,000	$ 200,000	$ 10,634,000
Legislature						
Retirement costs	$ 470,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 470,000
OPEB	$ 13,612,700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 13,612,700
Transfer from Corrections	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000
Criminal justice policy commission				$ 50,000	$ -	$ 50,000
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (197,500)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (197,500)
Subtotal	$ 13,885,200	$ 250,000	$ -	$ 50,000	$ -	$ 14,185,200

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Heating and energy assistance	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000
OPEB	$ 951,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 951,300
Contingency Plan - 1 vacancy	$ (71,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (71,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (93,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (93,300)
Independent living	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000
Autism coverage reimbursement start-up costs	$ 150,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000
Right-to-Work (private sector) 2012 PA 348	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Right-to-Work (public sector) 2012 PA 349	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Transfer MRS to DHS	$ -	$ (15,625,700)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (15,625,700)
Worker's compensation supplemental payments	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
UIA expanded fraud control program	$ -	$ 1,800,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,800,000
Nursing home survey IT system	$ -	$ -	$ 2,140,300	$ -	$ -	$ 2,140,300
Collective bargaining expenditures; web posting	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000
Health professions regulation	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (100,000)	$ -	$ (100,000)
Health systems regulation	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (100,000)	$ -	$ (100,000)
Replace Work Comp agency GF with Corp fees	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (112,500)	$ -	$ (112,500)
Delphi corp. workers comp payment fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 15,000,000	$ -	$ 15,000,000
	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Subtotal	$ 12,436,900	$ (10,825,700)	$ 2,140,300	$ 14,787,500	$ -	$ 18,539,000
Military and Veterans Affairs						
OPEB	$ 938,800	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 938,800
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (88,800)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (88,800)
GR home - emergency domestic water system repairs	$ 300,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000
Unrealized savings-privatizing resident care aides	$ 4,200,000	$ 5,136,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,336,500
Armory special maintenance	$ -	$ 2,400,000	$ 7,200,000	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ 12,600,000
Grand Rapids Home special maintenance	$ -	$ 1,600,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,600,000
Jacobetti Home special maintenance	$ -	$ 516,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 516,000
Special maintenance - veterans home	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Veterans Advice, Advocacy and Assistance Grants	$ -	$ 434,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 434,000
Pilot Grant - county incentive-accredited veterans svc officers	$ -	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000
Data upgrades and digitization of records	$ -	$ 750,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000
Veterans service delivery initiative	$ -	$ 2,997,500	$ 5,955,000	$ -	$ -	$ 8,952,500
County counselor education & training expenses	$ -	$ -	$ 45,000	$ -	$ -	$ 45,000
Veterans affairs agency computer upgrade (hero2hire)	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000
Grand Rapids Home - replace chiller system	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,200,000
Replace income and assessment revenue with GF	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,300,000	$ -	$ 3,300,000
MNG tuition assistance program reserve	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ -	$ 400,000
Subtotal	$ 5,350,000	$ 14,034,000	$ 15,900,000	$ 6,700,000	$ 3,000,000	$ 44,984,000
Natural Resources						
Grand Marais harbor (capital outlay)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
OPEB	$ 495,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 495,500
Public safety initiative	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Duck Lake fire suppression	$ 3,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,500,000
Contingency Plan - 3.9 vacancies	$ (50,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (50,000)
Contingency Plan - wildfire protection supplies	$ (32,200)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (32,200)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (76,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (76,900)
Dam management program	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Harbor dredging	$ -	$ 11,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 11,500,000
Grand River water study	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000
Conservation officer training	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000
Aquatic invasive species initiative	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000
Fort Holmes restoration project on Mackinac Island	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000
Kawkawlin dredging	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000
Hart-Montague trail earmark	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 470,000	$ -	$ 470,000
R Raisin national battlefield foundation grant	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Saginaw R feasibility study	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 280,000	$ -	$ 280,000
Flint R dike repair	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
City of Alma/Alma college public safety land improvement	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Mgmt practices-aquatic invasive species	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Non-motorized trail program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (250,000)	$ -	$ (250,000)
State parks repair and maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (250,000)	$ -	$ (250,000)
Non-motorized trail program grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
Replace Forestry program GF with forest dev funds	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (500,000)	$ -	$ (500,000)

Natural Resources (contd)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Expand public recreation shooting-priority areas	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Detroit recreation department/Stein Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ 300,000
Palmer Park	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000	$ 50,000
Farwell recreation center	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000	$ 50,000
Park renovation (honoring Detroit civil rightsViola Luizzo)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 125,000	$ 125,000
City of Westland recreation department	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ 200,000
Summer youth training program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Subtotal	$ 5,836,400	$ 13,600,000	$ 2,100,000	$ 3,750,000	$ 1,075,000	$ 26,361,400
School Aid						
Contribution to School Aid Fund	$ 60,000,000	$ -	$ (35,000,000)	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000
Technology infrastructure grants	$ -	$ 50,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000,000
MPSERS reserve	$ -	$ 41,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 41,000,000
MPSERS one-time liability payment reduction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (80,000,000)	$ -	$ (80,000,000)
Health and nutrition software allowance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,200,000)	$ -	$ (1,200,000)
Small class size supplemental payments	$ -	$ 357,600	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 357,600
Best practices funding for schools	$ -	$ 80,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 80,000,000
K-12 consolidation competitive grants	$ -	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000
Dissolution of scool districts	$ -	$ -	$ 4,900,000	$ -	$ -	$ 4,900,000
Subtotal	$ 60,000,000	$ 181,357,600	$ (30,100,000)	$ (81,200,000)	$ -	$ 130,057,600
State						
OPEB	$ 464,400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 464,400
Contingency Plan - 11 vacancies	$ (103,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (103,900)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (39,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (39,100)
CDL medical certificate implementation	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
ExpressSOS marketing	$ -	$ 150,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000
Interlock ignition system	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000
CDL Group License Fee	$ -	$ 600,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000
IT changes impacting vehicle registrations	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 200,000
Reimburse late campaign filing fees (MCL 169.232(6))	$ -	$ -	$ 117,000	$ -	$ -	$ 117,000
Subtotal	$ 1,321,400	$ 750,000	$ 317,000	$ 200,000	$ -	$ 2,588,400
State Police						
OPEB	$ 4,690,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,690,000
Contingency Plan - 2 vacancies	$ (1,155,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,155,000)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (284,400)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (284,400)
Trooper school	$ 6,789,000	$ -	$ 3,661,900	$ 681,400	$ 3,200,000	$ 14,332,300
Trooper collective bargaining agreement (2015)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Local Public safety initiative (focus:school safety)	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 4,050,000	$ -	$ 5,550,000
Fleet leasing (gas price increase)	$ 1,900,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,900,000
Collins Road facility lease	$ 750,000	$ 350,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000
Replace assesment revenue - secondary road patrol	$ 600,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000
MI International Speedway traffic control	$ 800,000	$ 800,000	$ -	$ 831,900	$ -	$ 2,431,900
Emergency response team vehicle replacement	$ -	$ -	$ 350,000	$ -	$ -	$ 350,000
Disaster and emergency contingency fund	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000
At-post troopers - outdated equipment replacement	$ -	$ 1,623,700	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,623,700
Security at events	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Grand Rapids forensics laboratory	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000
Secondary road patrol program	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000	$ -	$ -	$ 150,000
St. emergency ops - Spring 2013 flooding disaster	$ -	$ -	$ 2,310,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,310,000
Assist locals with ice storm costs	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Motor carrier officers	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,028,100)	$ -	$ (2,028,100)
Helicopter purchase	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,932,000	$ -	$ 4,932,000
Electronic warrant to disposition reporting system	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750,000	$ -	$ 750,000

State Police (contd)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Armored car replacement	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 225,000	$ -	$ 225,000
Marshall post building costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Disaster assistance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 14,000,000	$ -	$ 14,000,000
Capitol security	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (294,000)	$ -	$ (294,000)
Urban search and rescue taskforce	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (500,000)	$ -	$ (500,000)
Legal settlement	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 6,725,000	$ -	$ 6,725,000
Reduce sexual assaults on campus	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ 500,000
Subtotal	$ 15,589,600	$ 4,773,700	$ 9,871,900	$ 32,373,200	$ 3,700,000	$ 66,308,400
Talent & Economic Development						
Film incentive funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000	$ 25,000,000
Business attraction & community revitalization	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 17,300,000	$ 17,300,000
Grand Rapids Public Museum	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ 2,000,000
Van Andel Medical Research	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000
Northern Michigan UAV Consortium	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Beat the Streets Detroit	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Chaldean Community Foundation	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Veteran neighborhood assistance project	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Kramswood community association	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000	$ 50,000
Dexter-Elmhurst community center	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000	$ 200,000
Lake MI College - Great Lakes wine institute	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000
Wayne State University	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 75,000	$ 75,000
Prisoner Re-Entry initiative	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ 100,000
Green Acres neighborhood patrol services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000	$ 25,000
Subtotal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 47,450,000	$ 47,450,000
Technology, Mgmt and Budget						
OPEB	$ 2,445,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,445,300
Asbestos abatement - former State Police headquarters	$ 1,250,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,250,000
Planning - st energ ops ctr, MI cyber command, MPSCS	$ 80,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 80,000
Contingency Plan - 7 vacancies	$ (567,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (567,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (282,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (282,100)
Contingency Plan - SBA lease cancellations	$ (19,800,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (19,800,000)
SBA rent/LSSU construction	$ -	$ 900,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 900,000
Marshall state police post planning authorization	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000
Montcalm Community College access road	$ 200,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 200,000
Building Maintenance Fund, state facilities	$ -	$ 10,000,000	$ 10,000,000	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ 22,000,000
Space consolidation fund	$ -	$ 7,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 7,000,000
Teacher evaluation pilot program	$ -	$ 4,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,000,000
Delta county bridge removal	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000
Regional prosperity ~~initiative~~ grants	$ -	$ -	$ 2,500,000	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 3,000,000
MSU-combined sewer overflow (sec 822c)	$ -	$ -	$ 430,500	$ -	$ -	$ 430,500
Legal services/litigation fund	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ 2,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 5,000,000
Military retirement prefunding 2013 PA 99	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000
Military retirement pension cost increase	$ -	$ -	$ 107,000	$ -	$ -	$ 107,000
SBA rent lapse	$ -	$ -	$ (26,400,000)	$ -	$ -	$ (26,400,000)
SBA rent - U/CC planning authorization	$ -	$ -	$ 2,464,700	$ -	$ -	$ 2,464,700
Office of urban initiatives	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,000,000	$ -	$ 4,000,000
MNG pension increase	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 500,000
Catholic Charities - Genesee county	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ -	$ 250,000
Technology services funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 300	$ -	$ 300
Network upgrades	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (1,000,000)	$ -	$ (1,000,000)
IT investment fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,500,000)	$ -	$ (2,500,000)
MI public safety communication system	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (3,500,000)	$ -	$ (3,500,000)
State building authority rent	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (17,800,000)	$ -	$ (17,800,000)
Venture Michigan Fund tax vouchers ((FY 15 & FY 16)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 76,200,000	$ -	$ 76,200,000
Treasury/technology services	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ 3,000,000
School Sudy (2014 PA 555)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ 500,000
Chromebooks for South Redford School District	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 95,000	$ 95,000
Special Projects	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 500,000
Parent computer lab for Redford Union School District	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000	$ 10,000
Subtotal	$ (16,673,900)	$ 22,000,000	$ (6,997,800)	$ 61,150,300	$ 4,605,000	$ 64,083,600

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Transportation						$ -
Maintenance of (2) swing bridges	$ 500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500,000
Federal aid match for transit capital	$ -	$ 12,000,000	$ 121,300,000	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ 143,300,000
Federal aid match for rail operations/infrastructure	$ -	$ 11,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 11,000,000
Priority road projects	$ -	$ -	$ 115,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 115,000,000
Winter road maintenance	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000,000
Beaver Island boat company	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000
Road/bridge construction federal match	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 127,000,000	$ 258,000,000	$ 385,000,000
State road/bridge funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 144,500,000	$ -	$ 144,500,000
Aeronautics federal match	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,047,900	$ -	$ 2,047,900
Regional transit authority - SE Michigan	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000	$ -	$ 1,100,000
~~High speed rail crossing pilot $1.5 million~~	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Subtotal	$ 500,000	$ 23,000,000	$ 336,600,000	$ 284,647,900	$ 258,000,000	$ 902,747,900
Treasury						
Tax restructuring implementation (sec. 697)	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
MI finance authority (sec 21)	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000
OPEB	$ 1,320,200	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,320,200
Contingency Plan - 43 vacancies	$ (3,088,300)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (3,088,300)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (70,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (70,900)
Distressed communities	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ 5,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 15,000,000
HICA administration	rest. revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Payments in lieu of taxes	$ 2,226,000	$ 2,167,400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,393,400
Escanaba industrial park broadband access	$ 94,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 94,000
Treasury legal services	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Agricultural loan program	$ -	$ 15,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 15,000,000
Emergency manager salaries	$ -	$ 780,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 780,000
Emergency manager admin/professional services	$ -	$ 5,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000,000
Upgrade SUW legacy system administrative costs	$ -	$ -	$ 1,763,300	$ -	$ -	$ 1,763,300
Credit or debit card payment of indiv. Income taxes	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 500,000	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Personal property tax reform - local grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 19,300,000	$ 19,300,000	$ 38,600,000
Personal property tax reform - administrative costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ -	$ 1,500,000
MI Financial Review Commission (Detroit setlement)	$ -	$ -	$ 900,000	$ -	$ -	$ 900,000
Treasury business portal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 600,000	$ 600,000
Nonpublic pupil dual enrollment payments est spend	$ -	$ (9,500,000)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (9,500,000)
City of Flint police/fire safety grant	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,100,000	$ -	$ 1,100,000
Tax programs-administrative efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (700,000)	$ -	$ (700,000)
Senior coop housing anticipated lapse	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ (2,000,000)
May 2015 ballot proposal administrative costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ 10,000,000
Supervision of general property tax law efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,000,000)	$ -	$ (2,000,000)
Tax compliance administrative efficiencies	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (500,000)	$ -	$ (500,000)
Financial independence teams	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (2,250,000)	$ -	$ (2,250,000)
IT systems changes - May 2015 ballot proposal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
2014 PA 182, sec 4t(2) - Detroit package; create CFO	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000
2014 PA 282, sec 508(3) - MBT changes; IBM fix	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ -	$ 1,000,000
Presidential primary	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000	$ 10,000,000
Unspecified - tbd	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Subtotal	$ 12,481,000	$ 16,447,400	$ 9,163,300	$ 27,050,000	$ 29,900,000	$ 95,041,700

Treasury/Strategic Fund (see Talent & Economic Development for FY 16)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Precollege programs in engineering/sciences	$ 680,100	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 680,100
Contingency Plan - 2 vacancies	$ (250,100)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (250,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	$ (40,900)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (40,900)
Film incentive funding	$ 25,000,000	$ 50,000,000	$ 50,000,000	$ 13,000,000	$ -	$ 138,000,000
Business attraction & community revitalization	$ 50,000,000	$ -	$ 24,800,000	$ 15,700,000	$ -	$ 90,500,000
Replace bus attract/comm rev GF with 21st C Jobs rev	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ (7,800,000)	$ -	$ (7,800,000)
OPEB	$ 732,600	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 732,600
Land Bank Fast Track - public safety	res. revenue	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Land Bank Fast Track/administration	$ -	$ 1,220,800	$ 1,750,000	$ -	$ -	$ 2,970,800
Skilled trades training fund	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000,000
Detroit pre-college science and engineering program	$ -	$ -	$ 340,000	$ -	$ -	$ 340,000
Pyramid P20 education hub	$ -	$ -	$ 100	$ -	$ -	$ 100
River Rouge park improvements	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000	$ -	$ -	$ 300,000
Auto, engin and mfg technology fund	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000,000	$ -	$ 2,000,000
Special grants	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 15,750,000	$ -	$ 15,750,000
Subtotal	$ 76,121,700	$ 51,220,800	$ 87,190,100	$ 38,650,000	$ -	$ 253,182,600
Total One-Time Spending (GF/GP)	**$ 524,179,600**	**$ 535,787,900**	**$ 820,685,800**	**$ 185,650,300**	**$ 458,680,100**	**$ 2,524,983,700**
County revenue sharing	$ 15,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 15,000,000
County incentive program	$ -	$ 2,500,000	$ 6,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 9,000,000
Economic vitality incentive program	$ 15,000,000	$ 7,500,000	$ 9,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ 32,000,000
CVT revenue sharing	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,800,000	$ 5,800,000	$ 11,600,000
Competitive grant assistance program	$ 5,000,000	$ 10,000,000	$ 10,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000,000
Competitive grant assistance program-public safety	$ 5,000,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000,000
Financially distressed CVTs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,000,000	$ -	$ 3,000,000
Subtotal	$ 40,000,000	$ 20,000,000	$ 26,000,000	$ 8,800,000	$ 5,800,000	$ 100,600,000
					$ -	
Total GF and GF-Equivalent Funding	**$ 564,179,600**	**$ 555,787,900**	**$ 846,685,800**	**$ 194,450,300**	**$ 464,480,100**	**$ 2,625,583,700**

(a) FY 2015 Enacted includes MDOC Neal lawsuit settlement of $25.0 M moved from ongoing appn for FY 2015 only
(b) Initiated Law - 2014 PA 281 is effective 3/31/2015
(b) FY 2016 Executive Recommendation includes Treasury payment to locals for PPT reform for second year of two-year payment.

From: Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Drinking Water Program Funding Request
Attachments: Flint Supplemental.pdf

Nancy,

As a follow-up to my voicemail, I am attaching additional information related to the funding request that Director Wyant spoke to John about. The request includes $3.9 million of one-time funding to keep Flint on the Great Lakes Water Authority system until December 2016. The request also includes $3 million of ongoing funding for additional expertise, sampling, and testing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Amy Epkey, Deputy Director of Administration
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Phone: (517) 284-5002

Department of Environmental Quality
Drinking Water Program Budget Request
December 22, 2015

Appropriation	FTEs		Amount
One-Time (2016 Supplemental)			
City of Flint Emergency Water Services		$	3,900,000
• Support half of the cost for Flint to stay on the Great Lakes Water Authority water system for six additional months (July 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016) until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed.			
• This request assumes the other 50% of the costs to stay on the existing system will be supported by funding from local partners.			
• There may be additional costs for Flint to connect to the Karegnondi Water Authority water system. This request assumes those costs will be a local cost and not funded by the state.			
Total One-Time Funding		$	3,900,000
Ongoing			
Drinking Water and Environmental Health			
Staff			
Corrosion Control Specialists	3	$	450,000
Sampling Staff	2	$	300,000
Lab Staff	3	$	450,000
Service Line Verification Staff	2	$	300,000
Total Staff	10	$	1,500,000
Local Health Department Contracts and Testing Fees		$	1,000,000
Lab Equipment		$	300,000
Travel		$	100,000
Other Supplies and Services		$	100,000
Total Ongoing Funding		$	3,000,000
Total Funding Request		**$**	**6,900,000**

Supplemental Boilerplate

Sec. xxxx. From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint Emergency Water Services, the department is authorized to pay $3,900,000 of the water connection service costs to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department or its successor. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the parties. The funds are intended to support half of the connection costs for July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

From: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 1:49 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: RE: OPPR Flash Report 25 December 2015

[redacted] is my cell phone. Text messages work great for me. E-mail works if I take my tablet home, which I will begin doing. Home e-mail is [redacted]

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 1:47 PM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: RE: OPPR Flash Report 25 December 2015

[redacted] (cell) although e-mail is my preferred method of contact. I regularly check e-mail several times after hours and on week-ends. If necessary, a text message can alert me to check it.

From: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 1:42 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: RE: OPPR Flash Report 25 December 2015

See responses in red below.

Also, Amy asked if she could get numbers for you both in case of after-hours emergencies (similar to the Flint water emergency).

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Saturday, January 02, 2016 10:11 AM
To: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Cc: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: RE: OPPR Flash Report 25 December 2015

Re: FY`16 Flint water supplemental requests:

- Can some/all of the water system $3.9M request be handled as one-time FY17 funding? Yes but only if the locals agree to pay for the 1st half first (locals would pay for July, Aug, & Sept and State would pay for Oct, Nov and Dec). However, DEQ needs to verify that the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline will be completed by December 2016. And, as a point of clarification, is the money needed to keep them on the Detroit system until the new system is ready? Yes, it is to keep them on the Detroit system. Or to hook them up to the new system? Also, we're there some on conditions on the first Flint water supplemental? Yes. Have those conditions been met? Yes, Amy will send copies of the agreement required by boilerplate.

- The $3M ongoing funding request for testing, expertise, etc needs to get on the FY17 investment list.

From: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:16 AM

To: Roberts, John (DTMB)
Cc: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); Minix, Connie (DTMB)
Subject: OPPR Flash Report 25 December 2015

Please see attached - - FYI

From: Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS articles

Funding Placeholder For Flint Water Supply Added In Senate

A supplemental appropriations bill passed in the Senate included a $100 placeholder for potential solutions to address the city of Flint's water supply.

HB 4102, which passed on the Senate floor 30-5 today, was amended on the floor by Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) to include a placeholder appropriation as state and local officials assess exactly how much the city might need to fix the issue.

A recently published study found lead levels in children's blood have increased since the city switched off of Detroit's water supply, instead drawing from the Flint River -- the latest news in an ongoing controversy over whether the Flint River water is safe for public consumption.

In response, Ananich created a website informing residents about what to do if they suspect too-high lead levels in their water and has pushed fellow lawmakers and the administration to act (See "Ananich Urges Snyder To Get Involved With Flint Water Situation," 9/28/15).

Republican lawmakers in the Senate were generally supportive of Ananich's efforts to leave the option of state assistance to Flint open as discussions continue.

"They have a public health issue, and (Ananich is) working with the administration trying to find some sort of solution," Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) said.

Meekhof said he doesn't know that there is one particular solution yet available, but opined that there are likely several issues contributing to the current discontent with Flint's water.

"I'm not the biologist there to say what is or isn't the right water to use," he said.

Gov. Rick SNYDER has said his administration plans to announce additional details on how the state will move forward in the near future.

Other lawmakers and groups have also insisted state and federal officials take the matter more seriously.

State Rep. Phil PHELPS (D-Flushing) asked for and was denied a Freedom of Information Act request for information relating to the issue, and ACLU Michigan today announced a coalition of local and national groups have petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to take emergency action.

Sens. Phil PAVLOV (R-St. Clair), Tonya SCHUITMAKER (R-Lawton), Patrick COLBECK (R-Canton), Judy EMMONS (R-Sheridan) and Joe HUNE (R-Hamburg) voted against the amended bill.

HB 4102 also gives the Michigan State Police funding for a $7.7 million settlement for a crash between a police trooper and a vehicle that resulted in the death of one woman and injuries to two others, $1 million of which will come from the state's Risk Management Revolving Fund. The rest will come from the General Fund (GF).

The supplemental also includes $6 million boilerplate re-appropriation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 in relation to the Business Application Modernization project that is currently the subject of a lawsuit between the state and HP, as well as $50,000 in GF dollars for the Criminal Justice Policy Commission.

Placeholder funding for an office consolidation issue in Sen. Tom CASPERSON's (R-Escanaba) district was also added on the Senate floor.

Cotter: Leaders On `Good Pace' To Get Road Plan In October

House Speaker Kevin COTTER (R-Mt. Pleasant) says he believes legislative leaders are on pace to get a road-funding plan to the House floor some time this month.

Cotter said he's previously stated that he wanted to get bills to the floor in October.

"I think we're on a good pace to do that," Cotter told reporters after session this afternoon.

Gov. Rick SNYDER and quadrant leaders of the House Republicans, House Democrats, Senate Republicans and Senate Democrats have been meeting on and off for weeks now to try to develop a $1.2 billion road-funding deal.

There were two meetings this week. And leaders said yesterday that they believe they're making progress and are "close" to an agreement (See "As Road Talks Press On, Some Dems Push Prevailing Wage, Tax Relief," 9/30/15).

Leaders are currently working on a plan that would feature about $800 million in new revenue and $400 million in existing state dollars shifted to roads.

And Cotter told reporters today he "may be able" to support a plan that includes $800 million in new revenue.

"For me it's not just about the proportion, how much is new revenue, how much is General Fund, but all of the details that go into making up a package," Cotter said.

Asked if the Health Insurance Claims Assessment, another big budget pressure that could make shifting funds to roads more difficult, is still on the table as part of the negotiations, Cotter responded, "I've been one that has said let's keep this about the roads."

He added, "I am hesitant to complicate one priority with another."

On the subject of how close leaders are to a deal, Cotter said he believes it will be reached in a period of weeks not months.

Asked about Cotter's statement that a deal could be reached in October, Katie **CAREY**, spokesperson for the House Democrats, said, "We certainly hope so."

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050

From: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:08 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: RE: Boilerplate

Thanks

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 7:59 AM
To: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB); Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Boilerplate

Suggested DEQ boilerplate for supplemental.

From: Wyant, Dan (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 7:54 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 8, 2015 at 7:52:55 AM EDT
> **To:** "Wyant, Dan (DEQ)" <WyantD@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate**

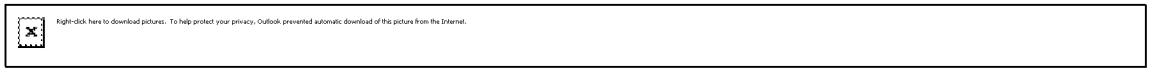
Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "McDonald, Paul (DEQ)" <mcdonaldp@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 8:36:14 PM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** "Epkey, Amy (DEQ)" <epkeya@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Re: Boilerplate**

From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint Emergency Water Services, the department shall pay no more than $6 million to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the two parties and a successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System. These funds shall only be

made available until June, 30, 2016.

From: Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 7:02 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good



Welcome to the First Edition of *Stewardship*

Welcome to the first edition of ***Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good***, brought to you by the Michigan Association of State Universities. Published monthly, *Stewardship* will serve as a media showcase for the tremendous outreach the state universities display in serving their students and communities as well as the State of Michigan and beyond. Covering issues as diverse as K-12 education, economic development, health care, environmental sustainability, and public safety, these media accounts will affirm that **Michigan's state universities are *public* universities serving the *public* interest.**

Civic Engagement & Civic Education

Warming U.P. the Sault
The Sault Evening News (Oct. 12, 2015)

Bill Clinton to speak at MSU next month
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 15, 2015)

NMU shows off expanded archive
WLUC TV (Oct. 15, 2015)

Grand Valley State University announces speakers for 2016 MLK Commemoration Week
Holland Sentinel (Oct. 19, 2015)

Trayvon Martin lawyer talks to Central Michigan University on civil rights
USA Today (Oct. 20, 2015)

MSU debuts largest U.S. media collection in country
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 20, 2015)

Links between leadership and mental illness explored in Saginaw Valley State University Lecture

Midland Daily News (Oct. 20, 2015)

Eight things to look out for at TEDx Oakland
The Oakland Post (Oct. 22, 2015)

NMU celebrates Make a Difference Day
WLUC TV (Oct. 24, 2015)

CMU students making Christmas brighter for vets
Midland Daily News (Oct. 25, 2015)

Presidential Candidate Martin O'Malley Comes to UM-Dearborn
The Michigan Journal (Oct. 27, 2015)

Talking on racism
Ferris State Torch (Oct. 28, 2015)

Native American Elder speaks at NMU
WLUC TV (Oct. 28, 2015)

Economic Development

Innovation and Entrepreneurialism

White House honoring University of Michigan scientist
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 9, 2015)

Automation Alley opens Innovation Lab at Oakland University
The Oakland Press (Oct. 15, 2015)

Erickson: NMU committed to innovation
The Mining Journal (Oct. 20, 2015)

Central Michigan University Unveils MakerBot Innovation Center, First in Midwest
9 and 10 News (Oct. 22, 2015)

What can a city hall do for a business? [UMD]
Crain's Detroit Business (Oct. 29, 2015)

Research, Development & Technology Transfer

MSU celebrates 50 years of cyclotron beams
Lansing State Journal (Oct. 9, 2015)

Michigan State to expand lab for diamond growing
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 14, 2015)

How Michigan helped map path to the Internet
The Detroit News (Oct. 15, 2015)

NMU professor contributes to first field description of whale species
WJMN TV (Oct. 15, 2015)

Woolly mammoths WERE wiped out by hunters: Tusks suggest that calves were forced to wean earlier because of human predators [UM]
Daily Mail (Oct. 16, 2015)

U-M botanical garden displays clone of ancient redwood
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 20, 2015)

UM's $150M biosciences initiative to add 30 faculty
The Detroit News (Oct. 23, 2015)

Michigan State gets $5.8M grant to improve potato production
WTOL TV (Oct. 27, 2015)

Environmental Sustainability

Oakland University to host symposium on climate change
The Oakland Press (Oct. 8, 2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake
The Detroit News (Oct. 12, 2015)

Grand Valley State University, Hastings Township complete sustainable rural recycling prototype
Holland Sentinel (Oct. 14, 2015)

Invasive species conference held at NMU
WJMN TV (Oct. 22, 2015)

Tech Green Enterprise recycles, hosts seminar
The Mining Gazette (Oct. 22, 2015)

University of Michigan boosts biosciences, sustainability
WTOL TV (Oct. 23, 2015)

WMU Prof.: Get ready for more-frequent, more-intense storms after Patricia
WTVB AM (Oct. 29, 2015)

Permaculture garden holds Halloween block party [NMU]
WLUC TV (Oct. 31, 2015)

Health Care

University of Michigan study explores social relationships, well-being in Detroit area
The Tribune (IN) (Oct. 12, 2015)

New $93M Wayne State center to study health disparities
The Detroit News (Oct. 13, 2015)

GVSU student: breast cancer can't stop me
WOOD TV (Oct. 20, 2015)

CMU faculty performs breast cancer research
The Morning Sun (Oct. 22, 2015)

Wayne State doctor: Women pass lead damage to grandkids
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 24, 2015)

Let's talk about health care: All have stake in deciding resource allocation, experts say [GVSU]
MLive (Oct. 27, 2015)

Blood lead clinic to be held for Flint children in Burton
MLive (Oct. 29, 2015)

K-12 Outreach

Students, teachers gain research experience from Saginaw Valley, Dow Foundation STEM program
Midland Daily News (Oct. 19, 2015)

Iron Range STEM Showcase Offers Hands-on Science for All Ages [MTU]
WDIO TV (Oct. 20, 2015)

Central Michigan University receives $5 million STEM donation from Midland Foundation
Midland Daily News (Oct. 21, 2015)

Blueberry program triples with 1,000 Genesee students, new scholarships [UM-F]
MLIve (Oct. 22, 2015)

U-M college prep program to offer full scholarships
Detroit Free Press (Oct. 23, 2015)

Michigan Tech's residence halls to host Halloween Safe House
WLUC TV (Oct. 23, 2015)

Grand Valley State, other colleges to host science demonstrations at Grand Rapids mall
Daily Journal (Indiana) (Oct. 24, 2015)

Teaching Teachers To Teach: It's Not So Elementary [UM]
NPR, (Oct. 24, 2015)

Trick-or-treat at the U-M Museum of Natural History
MLive (Oct. 26, 2015)

Global Outreach

International University Officers to Visit Zimbabwe
Voice of America - Zimbabwe (Oct. 17, 2015)

Public Safety

WMU student non-profit looks to bring awareness to domestic violence
WWMT TV (Oct. 9, 2015)

Keenan: Wayne State police chief says campus is safe
The Detroit News (Oct. 20, 2015)

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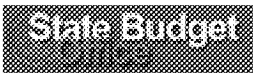
From: Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 8:41 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: DEQ Video Updates

The DEQ is doing video updates on the Flint Water situation, here's the latest one:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Amy4cDW7RtA

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050


From: Bridge Magazine <info@thecenterformichigan.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2015 12:01 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Week in Review: Detroit's long to-do list

Weekend commentary

Getting into college is one thing. Finishing is another. Programs that can help 'some college' students become graduates are vital to the state's economic health.

Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities

Detroit Bankruptcy and Beyond

A year post-bankruptcy, Detroit still has a long to-do list

Repopulating Detroit: City still welcoming to immigrants and refugees

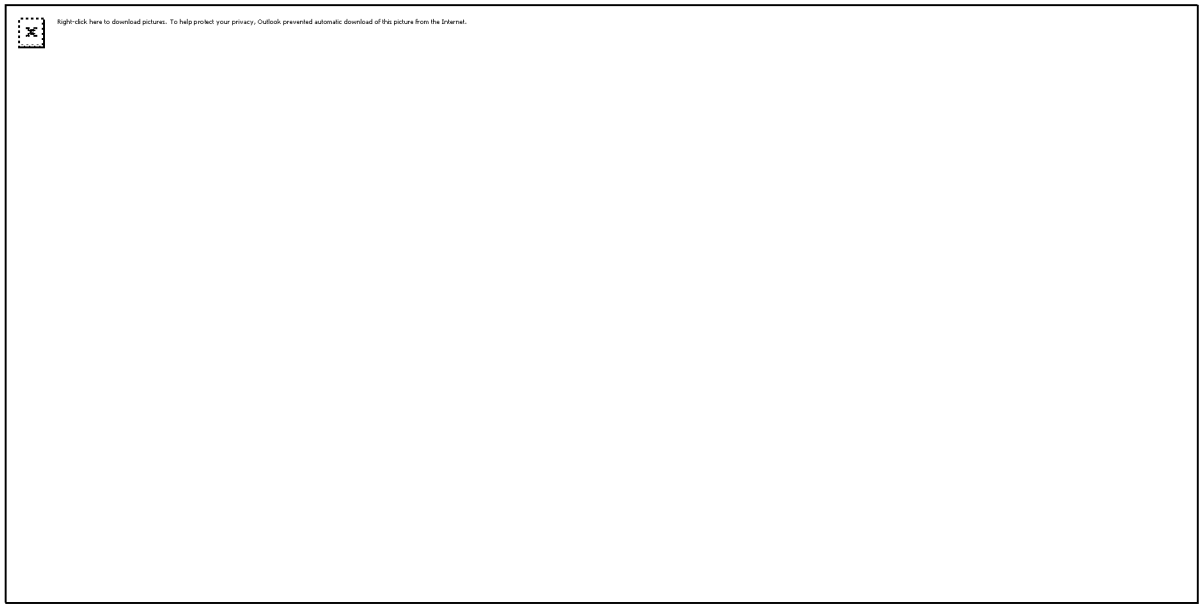
Vulnerable Children and Families

Far from Flint, lead remains an irreversible scourge

Interactive map: Places with higher lead rates than Flint

Talent and Education

Sink or swim: Higher education is key to Michigan's future



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From: Government Product News <GovernmentProductNews@gpn.americancityandcounty.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 3:15 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Are nunchucks making a comeback?

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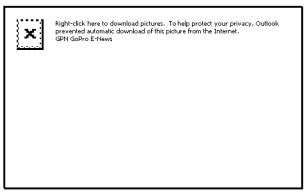

Government Weekly

December 17, 2015

California police showing interest in nunchucks as a restraint tool (with related video)

Governments are a key market for janitorial and sanitary supplies and equipment

Video interview: Andy Berke - From Chattanooga to the moon

Flint, Mich., mayor declares lead levels in water supply state of emergency

Top 20 states for speed traps

Cooperative purchasing trends in 2016 - Part 1

More vendors may rely on cooperative purchasing

Protective coating helps shield water treatment and other municipal facilities

For fleet administrators: Guide to telematics

Former NYPD assistant chief presents webinar on indoor wireless coverage

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Events

Jan 6-8, 2016
NCCAE 2016 January Meeting
Washington, D.C.

Jan. 8-10, 2016
Women in Government 22nd Annual State Directors' Conference
Tampa Bay, Fla.

More Events

Webinars

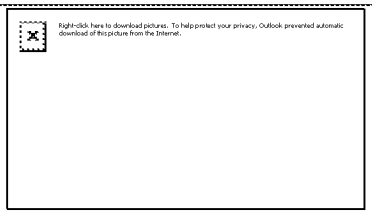
A selection of webinars produced in association with American City and County of interest to city, county and state officials.

More Webinars

News

California police showing interest in nunchucks as a restraint tool (with related video)

By Michael Keating

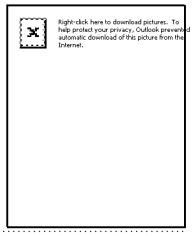


Law enforcement is taking another look at nunchucks, which were in wide use by police in the 1980s. The Anderson Police Department in rural Northern California has added nunchucks, also called nunchucku, to its arsenal of non-lethal weapons.
FULL ARTICLE

Governments are a key market for janitorial and sanitary supplies and equipment

By Michael Keating

Governments buy a lot of of janitorial, sanitation and cleaning products. Distributor sales of these products to municipal, county, state and federal government agencies totaled about $2.02 billion in the most recent year that data was available.
FULL ARTICLE



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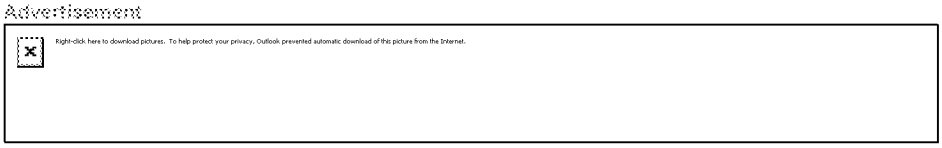
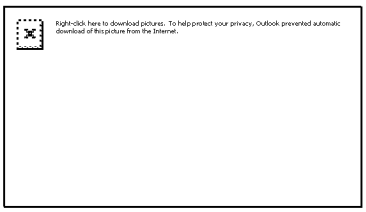


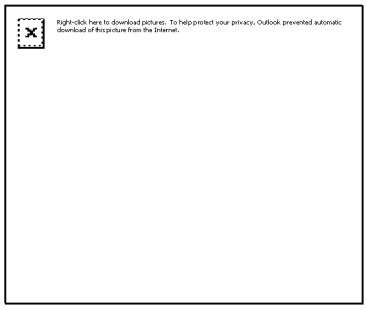
Video interview: Andy Berke - From Chattanooga to the moon

By Derek Prall



For his extraordinary leadership and dedication to innovation, Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke has been named *American City & County*'s 2015 Municipal Leader of the Year. This article and video sheds light on his accomplishments.
FULL ARTICLE

Advertisement



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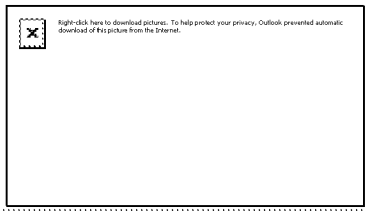
Flint, Mich., mayor declares lead levels in water supply state of emergency

By Stephanie Toone

Flint, Mich., Mayor Karen Weaver sought federal support to aid in the city's toxic water issues, which could harm residents - particularly children.

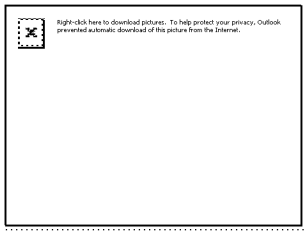
FULL ARTICLE



Gallery

Top 20 states for speed traps

By Stephanie Toone



Just in time for the holiday traveling season, the National Motorists Association (NMA) has released its report warning of 20 states notorious for speed traps.

VIEW GALLERY

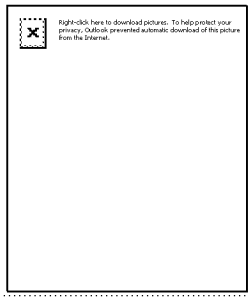
Coop Solutions

Cooperative purchasing trends in 2016 - Part 1

By Michael Keating

Marcheta Gillespie is director of procurement in Tucson, Ariz. She offers her views to GPN on cooperative purchasing trends in the coming year.

FULL ARTICLE



More vendors may rely on cooperative purchasing

By Michael Keating

Onvia predicts continued growth of cooperative purchasing through 2016. The firm has issued a report that highlights a variety of cooperative purchasing trends.

FULL ARTICLE

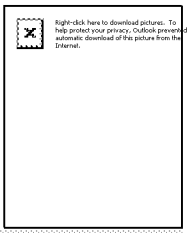
Products

Protective coating helps shield water treatment and other municipal facilities

By Government Product News staff

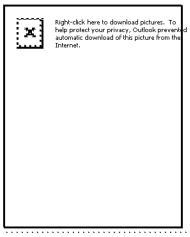
Dura-Plate 6100 is a protective coating product. It shields structures against corrosion in municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities.

FULL ARTICLE



For fleet administrators: Guide to telematics

By Government Product News staff



"Telematics for Fleet Managers" will help equipment managers find a telematics starting point and define data sources.

FULL ARTICLE

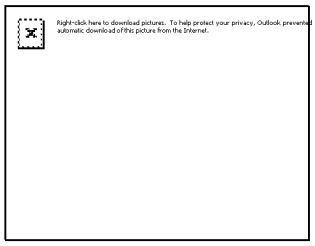
IWCE Expo

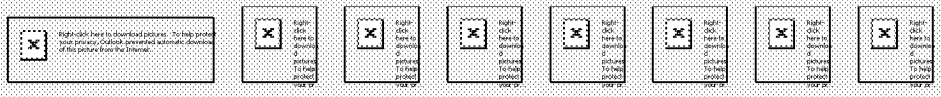
Former NYPD assistant chief presents webinar on indoor wireless coverage

By Stacey Ortick

American City & County's sister brand, IWCE's online College of Technology, is offering a webinar on indoor wireless coverage on demand. The webinar features Chuck Dowd, former assistant chief at the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and former FirstNet board member.

FULL ARTICLE





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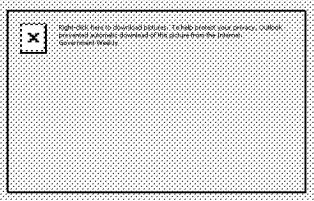

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From: Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2015 2:45 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News - Dec. 18, 2015

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December 13, 2015

This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News will not publish again until January 2016. Happy holidays from all of us here at MASU!

In the News

Accountability

MI Universities Show Compelling Growth [Press release]
Business Leaders for Michigan (Dec. 14, 2015)

Collaboration

WMU weighs Battle Creek expansion
Battle Creek Enquirer (Dec. 15, 2015)

College Access & Affordability

Poorest areas have low student debt, highest defaults
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 13, 2015)

He's a college senior with a 3.4 GPA. And he's homeless. [EMU]
Bridge Magazine (Dec. 17, 2015)

Update: Bridge readers open hearts, wallets for homeless college student [EMU]
Bridge Magazine (Dec. 18, 2015)

Diversity on Campus

Pollack discusses campus diversity at Senate Assembly [UM]
The Michigan Daily (Dec. 14, 2015)

Fixing faculty diversity: It's time we do more than just talk about it [MSU]
Michigan Radio (Dec. 15, 2015)

WSW: WMU President Says Campus Needs to Remain "Inclusive"
WMUK FM (Dec. 17, 2015)

Economic Development

Switch-ing off the brain drain [GVSU]
WOOD TV (Dec. 17, 2015)

Educational Attainment

More than 75 percent of seniors apply during Midland County College Application Week [SVSU]
Midland Daily News (Dec. 13, 2015)

Study: Higher education is key to Michigan's future but comes with $500M annual price tag
MLive (Dec. 14, 2015)

Third generation UM-Flint student tours campus with grandpa, part of first class
MLive (Dec. 16, 2015)

Congressman Dan Kildee, a CMU grad, to speak at daughter's CMU graduation
MLive (Dec. 17, 2015)

Business, higher education partner to unveil "Keep Learning, Michigan" campaign
MLive (Dec. 17, 2015)

Facilities Planning & Campus Improvement

Western Michigan University selects design firms for Business Technology & Research Park expansion
MIBiz (Dec. 11, 2015)

Medical school project at Western Michigan University receives honors
American School & University Magazine (Dec. 11, 2015)

Canceled field trip prompts MSU to offer FRIB tour option
Lansing State Journal (Dec. 11, 2015)

Wireless Internet lacking in most MSU dorm rooms
The Detroit News (Dec. 12, 2015)

City allocates funds for Washington/Bellows roundabout [CMU]
Central Michigan Life (Dec. 14, 2015)

Repairs Of Eastern Michigan University's Athletic Dome Depends On The Weather
WEMU FM (Dec. 15, 2015)

FRIB up for full $100M in federal funding
Lansing State Journal (Dec. 16, 2015)

U-M to build $10M multicultural center
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 17, 2015)

Respect environment in developing WMU business park, public says at input session
MLive (Dec. 18, 2015)

Governance

EMU's education faculty submits 'no confidence' vote in regents over EAA issue
MLive (Dec. 15, 2015)

EMU education faculty votes to censure regents' chairman after comments on EAA
MLive (Dec. 18, 2015)

Higher Education Finance - Institutional Dynamics

NMU Board hears Students on Self-harm Policy, Approves Revised Budget, Property Sale
WJMN TV (Dec. 11, 2015)

Schlissel: U-M shouldn't divest fossil fuel holdings
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 14, 2015)

Appaloosa Protege to Manage Money for University of Michigan
Bloomberg (Dec. 17, 2015)

Higher Education Finance - State Capital Outlay

Lake Michigan College Gets State Help With Renovation Project
WSJM FM (Dec. 15, 2015)

Higher Education Finance - State Operating Support

State representatives face challenges in majority-GOP legislature
The Michigan Daily (Dec. 12, 2015)

Higher Education Finance - State Student Financial Aid

State's prepaid college plan opens 2016 enrollment
The Macomb Daily (Dec. 11, 2015)

Institutional Leadership

Wayne State president gets 2-year contract extension
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 15, 2015)

Leadership Transitions

EMU announces interim provost to replace departing Kim Schatzel
MLive (Dec. 17, 2015)

Board secretary Betty Kocher exits WMU after serving 7 presidents and dozens of board trustees
MLive (Dec. 16, 2015)

University of Michigan names Jack Hu V.P. for Research
MLive (Dec. 17, 2015)

Harvey Hollins tapped to lead Flint water effort
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 17, 2015)

Philanthropic Support

OU student knows challenges of single parenthood, offers scholarship
The Oakland Press (Dec. 11, 2015)

'World-class' $7.5-million jazz hub set for Wayne State
The Detroit News (Dec. 13, 2015)

Novi schools get Japan Business Society donation [UM, EMU, JCMU]
Hometown Life (Dec. 15, 2015)

House Family Foundation Gives $2.3 Million to Michigan Tech
WLUC TV (Dec. 15, 2015)

WMU receives second grant for Fostering Success program
WWMT TV (Dec. 15, 2015)

University of Michigan-Flint gets one of the largest donations in its history
MLive (Dec. 17, 2015)

WMU president donates salary increase to school
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 18, 2015)

Program Delivery

330-year-old violin granted to GVSU professor
Grand Valley Lanthorn (Dec. 13, 2015)

CMU photojournalism students profile immigrants
WNEM TV (Dec. 16, 2015)

Recognitions & Awards

Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski [UM]
The Chronicle of Higher Education (Dec. 13, 2015)

UF ranked second-best value for public universities [UM]
The Gainesville Sun (FL) (Dec. 17, 2015)

Safety & Health

Students address board members about wellness policies [NMU]
ABC 10 News (Dec. 11, 2015)

Six takeaways from ASMSU's last meeting of the year [MSU]
The State News (Dec. 11, 2015)

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse
The Detroit News (Dec. 16, 2015)

Student Success

NMU graduates class of 2015
WLUC TV (Dec. 12, 2015)

Nearly 1,000 Grand Valley State graduates walk across stage

MLive (Dec. 12, 2015)

Allegan man overcomes doctors' predictions, set to graduate from WMU
WWMT TV (Dec. 16, 2015)

Workforce Alignment

Grant to fund police academy for Port Huron cadets [FSU]
The Times Herald (Dec. 16, 2015)

Commentaries

Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities
Bridge Magazine (Dec. 11, 2015)

SVSU showing support to Muslims during critical time
The Valley Vanguard (Dec. 13, 2015)

WMU has failed as Colony Farm Orchard steward (Guest column)
MLive (Dec. 16, 2015)

Is Southeast Michigan set to go over retirement cliff?
Crain's Detroit Business (Dec. 17, 2015)

When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything
Bridge Magazine (Dec. 17, 2015)

State & National Reports

Michigan in Context

REPORT: Current Term Enrollment Estimates - Fall 2015
National Student Clearinghouse Research Center (Dec. 15, 2015)
Higher education enrollment for Fall 2015 in Michigan is down by 3.9% across all sectors of higher education providers.

The Dean's List

The Lighter Side of the News

SVSU coach, bowler, alum set national record one pin shy of perfection
MLive (Dec. 15, 2015)

Watch this: U-M engineering dean's 'Star Wars' rap
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 16, 2015)

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Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 9:35 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Latest Flint Water article in MLive

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/01/flint_water_snyder_republicans.html#incart_river_index

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050

From: Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 12:32 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016

January 4, 2016

Civic Engagement & Civic Education

U-M Library lands papers of indie film producer
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 2, 2015)

NMU Brings Holiday Cheer to Marquette
WLUC TV (Dec. 2, 2015)

'Star Wars': WMU wants to know what the films have taught you about ethics
MLive (Dec. 4, 2015)

EMU student from Livonia launches campus food pantry
Hometown Life (Dec. 4, 2015)

Muslim Student Association speaks out regarding San Bernardino attack [MTU]
WLUC TV (Dec. 8, 2015)

5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti [EMU, UM]
MLive (Dec. 9, 2015)

UM-D students urge City Council to vote on Syrian refugee resolution
Arab American News (Dec. 10, 2015)

LSSU Student Government seeks to create food pantry
Sault Ste. Marie Evening News (Dec. 11, 2015)

University group works to organize shuttle bus service to help those who live downstate [LSSU]
Sault Ste. Marie Evening News (Dec. 12, 2015)

NMU faculty, staff donate to Cheer Club
The Mining Journal (Dec. 13, 2015)

Michigan student raises funds, hope for Humans of New York refugee scientist

USA Today (Dec. 15, 2015)

University forum discusses tactics about ISIS [NMU]
ABC 10 News (Dec. 16, 2015)

Herrick Library to collect stories of Holland's Asian, Pacific Islander residents
Holland Sentinel (Dec. 22, 2015)

MSU creates center to help struggling Michigan local governments
Michigan Radio (Dec. 29, 2015)

Culture & Placemaking

Concert caps off Native American Heritage Month [UM]
The Michigan Daily (Dec. 1, 2015)

Ferris State University Students to Put On Free Holiday Concert
9 & 10 News (Dec. 8, 2015)

National Endowment for the Arts awards Grand Rapids $50K in grants [GVSU]
MLive (Dec. 8, 2015)

University of Michigan students help fight blight in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood
WXYZ TV (Dec. 11, 2015)

GVSU music students to perform in national parks
WZZM TV (Dec. 14, 2015)

Economic Development

Innovation & Entrepreneurialism

Midland-based Map-N-Tour receives business accelerator funding [OU]
Midland Daily News (Dec. 7, 2015)

La. Tech faculty team selected for NSF Pathways to Innovation Program [GVSU]
The News Star (LA) (Dec. 8, 2015)

UM-Flint student starts bow tie business in his apartment
WJRT TV (Dec. 8, 2015)

Grand Rapids firm to begin trials on Alzheimer's drug that improves memory [GVSU]
MLive (Dec. 9, 2015)

Q&A: How clean-energy policies drive economic development [OU]
Midwest Energy News (Dec. 10, 2015)

A conversation with a queen of start-up innovation
The Detroit News (Dec. 12, 2015)

Grand Valley State University graduate students, alumni compete for $1M prize
Holland Sentinel (Dec. 16, 2015)

Research, Development & Technology Transfer

Energy Department awards $12.4 million to 4 Michigan projects [UM]
Crain's Detroit Business (Dec. 1, 2015)

Simulation technology close imitation of fantasy films [CMU]
Central Michigan Life (Dec. 6, 2015)

MSU helps to fight crime with CSI-style technology
Michigan Radio (Dec. 7, 2015)

New software analyses words, gestures to detect lies [UM]
The Economic Times (India) (Dec. 10, 2015)

10 Most Efficient Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles for Winter Weather [MTU, UM]
The Street (Dec. 9, 2015)

WMU to hold first public input sessions on expansion of BTR Park
MLive (Dec. 10, 2015)

Federal grant to help gather historical info on migrants [GVSU]
9&10 News (Dec. 15, 2015)

MTU professor studies how to properly dispose of nano particles
The Mining Journal (Dec. 15, 2015)

UM researchers win grant for protective gear research
Crain's Detroit Business (Dec. 15, 2015)

Could Evolution Ever Yield a 'Perfect' Organism? [MSU]
Discover Magazine (Dec. 16, 2015)

Humans Are Slamming Into Driverless Cars and Exposing a Key Flaw [UM]
Bloomberg (Dec. 17, 2015)

The case of the sticky protein [MTU]
Phys.org (Dec. 18, 2015)

Rare isotope accelerator takes shape on MSU's campus
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 22, 2015)

Cronyism Causes the Worst Kind of Inequality [UM]
Bloomberg View (Dec. 24, 2015)

Environmental Sustainability

Tech analysis backs dust charge
Mining Gazette (Dec. 1, 2015)

Limestone dumped in Lake Michigan aims to rehab reef [CMU]
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 2, 2015)

Large solar dawns in Michigan, but residential incentives may sunset [MSU]
Great Lakes Echo (Dec. 4, 2015)

Pollution sampling not so simple [MTU]
Mining Gazette (Dec. 5, 2015)

EMU to hold State of the Strait conference
Eastern Echo (Dec. 5, 2015)

Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario [UM]
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 6, 2015)

Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate [MTU]
MLive (Dec. 13, 2015)

New '2030 District' vows to slash downtown energy use by 50 percent [GVSU, FSU]
MLive (Dec. 14, 2015)

Faculty Perspective & Expertise

WMU Professor: Progress made this week at Paris Climate Summit
WNWN FM (Dec. 4, 2015)

Can you spot the crab? [NMU]
The Straits Times [Singapore] (Dec. 6, 2015)

Michigan could soon part ways with straight-ticket voting [NMU]
WLUC TV (Dec. 7, 2015)

Flu Shots for Hospital Workers Save Lives [UM]
The Wall Street Journal (Dec. 13, 2015)

Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski [UM]
The Chronicle of Higher Education (Dec. 13, 2015)

Northern Michigan Economists, Experts Reacts To US Interest Rate Uptick [CMU]
9&10 News (Dec. 16, 2015)

Genetically modified fish: coming to a store near you? [NMU]
WLUC TV (Dec. 16, 2015)

What does Federal interest rate hike mean for local consumers? [OU]
The Oakland Press (Dec. 16, 2015)

Is a 'Star Wars' lightsaber possible? MSU profs explain
Lansing State Journal (Dec. 18, 2015)

Q&A: Paul Isely, Associate Dean, Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business
MiBiz (Dec. 20, 2015)

West Michigan doctor calls 'Concussion' movie an 'a-ha' moment for football players, coaches [GVSU, MSU]
MLive (Dec. 22, 2015)

Health Care

MSU Team Comes Up With Depression Plan
WILX TV (Dec. 1, 2015)

RENEW-U exercise machine developed at Michigan Tech
WLUC TV (Dec. 4, 2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers
MLive (Dec. 5, 2015)

UM survey: National teenage use of illegal drugs falls
The Detroit News (Dec. 16, 2015)

K-12 Outreach

Students get hands-on introduction to STEM fields [OU]
The Detroit News (Dec. 2, 2015)

Hour of Code week [MTU]
WLUC TV (Dec. 8, 2015)

CMU mentoring program gives elementary kids a buddy during lunch
The Morning Sun (Dec. 10, 2015)

'Shop With a Cop' brings holiday cheer to Ypsilanti area kids [EMU]
MLive (Dec. 10, 2015)

Folk music camp coming to NMU
WLUC TV (Dec. 17, 2015)

Global Outreach

See the world with fellow U-M, MSU, WSU alumni
The Detroit News (Dec. 12, 2015)

Indian-American Surgeon Aims to Save Lives on Indian Roads [MSU]
The New Indian Express [India] (Dec. 20, 2015)

PUC partners international universities for research [SVSU]
STARR FM [Ghana] (Dec. 30, 2015)

Public Safety

Battle Creek base's new cyber unit to bring 70 new jobs
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 9, 2015)

Michigan Tech's ROTC comments on combat eligibility for women

WLUC TV (Dec. 10, 2015)

New trial sought for man in Detroit girl's '96 murder [UM]
Detroit Free Press (Dec. 14, 2015)

Saginaw approves $300K grant to help victims of crime [SVSU]
MLive (Dec. 22, 2015)

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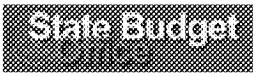
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 8:34 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Flint Water

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2016/01/04/snyder-flint-emergency-lead-water/78274734/

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050


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Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 9:15 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Flint Water editorial in Freep

I talked with Brad Wurfel last week prior to his resignation and he mentioned that a FOIA for all of his e-mails from the past few months is in process. This story is obviously going to continue to have life throughout the year.

http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2016/01/05/snyder-flint-water/78068836/

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 4:57 PM
To: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB) (mcneelyj@michigan.gov);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Gossman, Colleen (DTMB);Babb, Abbey (DTMB);Brown, Marlon (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Flint Water

Keeping you in the loop.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 4:48 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Flint Water

From: Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 4:46 PM
To: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Cc: Howes, Sarah (DEQ); Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Flint Water

We did get a call from Senate Fiscal asking about this. We don't know anything about it. In the meeting with the Governor this afternoon he asked DHHS to look into changing a policy to access Emergency Service money and he asked Treasury to see if there was any Distressed Communities money that could go towards purchasing water filters.

Do you know how much money or where he is looking for money?

Maggie

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 4:44 PM
To: Pallone, Maggie (DEQ) <PalloneM@michigan.gov>; Howes, Sarah (DEQ) <HowesS1@michigan.gov>
Subject: Flint Water

Good afternoon,

Hearing a rumor that Sen. Ananich might be trying to add money for the Flint water issue in the FY 15 supplemental that's up in Senate Appopriations tomorrow. Just thought I'd check in and see if either or you have heard anything on this.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 9:32 AM
To: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Sen. Ananich Amendment

Keeping you in the loop

From: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 4:45 PM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB)
Cc: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Sen. Ananich Amendment

John,

DEQ has a Cleanup & Redevelopment Fund (CRF) - funded with Bottle Deposit Revenue – available as a source to assist with the Flint water filter matter.

Both the agency and myself, believe we can legally utilize this source for filter purchases. The issue is to what degree the CRF fund balance can be tapped, and what impact it has on out year programming efforts.

I've recommend another fund source for their consideration as well, namely; the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), which can legally be used for everything under the sun related to environmental matters. There is a $1.8 million fund balance there, which I've asked them to explore. Between the two funds, I believe we can get to the $1.5 million ask.

Please note however, Dir. Wyant has indicated that he spoke with Dir. Lyon earlier in the day and DHHS has agreed to commit Public Health funding resources towards the $1.5 million ask of Sen. Ananich for filter purchase.

Given such, my question back to DEQ was whether we can utilize any of the aforementioned resources towards the second ask of the Senator, specifically, the $12 million for connect to Lake Huron. DEQ believes the CRF may not qualify, as we have no environmental cleanup involved, however, the EPF may be an option.

The agency will circle back with Dir. Wyant to gauge his comfort level. It also, sounds as if DEQ has outlined a plan with the Executive to address which will be released later in the week.

Jacques

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 1:18 PM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: FW: 2 amendments added to the supplemental
Attachments: DOC000.pdf; Fwd: Time Sensitive: Alger Co.--Potential Supplemental Amt. Today; RE: Time Sensitive: Alger Co.--Potential Supplemental Amt. Today

I've attached a couple of e-mails that will help put the DHHS placeholder in context for purposes of the signing package. Stop by to discuss if necessary.

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 1:07 PM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB); Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB); Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB); Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: 2 amendments added to the supplemental

Good afternoon,

Attached are the two amendments added by the Senate to the supplemental, HB 4102:

- $100 placeholder for Flint emergency water services
- $100 Placeholder for Alger County HHS Facility—County bond pay-off

The bill passed the Senate today 30-5 vote. Now back to the full House for more fun.

Senator Ananich offered the following amendments to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 5, following line 9, by inserting:

"SEC 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY:

Full-time equated classified positions 0.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and Intradepartmental transfers 0

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Federal revenues:

Total federal revenues: 0

Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues: 0

Total private revenues: 0

Total other state restricted revenues: 0

State general fund/general purpose: 100

(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Full-time equated classified positions 0.0

City of Flint emergency water services $100

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Appropriated from:

State general fund/general purpose ..... $100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

2. Amend page 5, line 10, by striking out "152" and inserting "153".

September 30, 2015

Senator Casperson offered the following amendment to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 6, following line 8, by inserting:

"(4) **DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION**

Rent and state office facilities $100

GROSS APPROPRIATION $100

Appropriated from:

State general fund/general purpose . . . . . .$100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:21 PM
To: Pohl, Allan (LARA)
Cc: Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB);Kennedy, Brian (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: RE: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

I'll add this to the list. At this time, John is inclined to include contingency fund items in the supplemental (rather than to a transfer later) in order to get this voted on once.

From: Pohl, Allan (LARA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:58 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Cc: Wyant, Dan (DEQ); Khouri, Nick (TREASURY); Saxton, Thomas (Treasury); Becker, Timothy (DHHS); Lyon, Nick (DHHS); Zimmer, Mike (LARA); Muchmore, Dennis (GOV); Hanley, Farah (DHHS); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB); Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB); Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB); Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB); Roberts, John (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB); Peruchietti, Cindy (Treasury); Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Subject: Re: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

Hi Nancy, I discussed with Lisa earlier this morning that we are asking for $200,000 Gross in a contingency fund transfer with Construction Code found revenue as the source.

Thanks

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 7, 2015, at 12:14 PM, Duncan, Nancy (DTMB) <duncann1@michigan.gov> wrote:

> Colleagues,
>
> Please find attached summary of where the State Budget Office believes we are based on this morning's meeting hosted by Director Wyant. This reflects the State commitment of resources towards provision of filters, reconnecting to Detroit Water & Sewage, and home/school/other inspections. Your quick review would be appreciated, since the Governor wants to share with legislative leaders yet today. I have included your budget officers to assist in the review.
>
> Open issues are: (1) where to place the appropriation for the Flint re-connect and (2) whether (and what) boilerplate we may need/want.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Nancy Duncan
> Deputy State Budget Director
> 517-373-0870

<City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf>

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 2:12 PM
To: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB) (mcneelyj@michigan.gov)
Subject: RE: City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf

Importance: High

Doesn't look like it. I thought EPA was doing the testing. Do we need to pay them?

By copy of this note, I'll ask Jacques to follow-up with DEQ

-----Original Message-----
From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 2:00 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf

Sitting with John. Is the money for testing in here?

City of Flint Water - Funding Solution
State of Michigan Commitment

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
Filters:			
MSHDA		$225,000	Tentative
Health & Human Services	$1,016,000	$1,016,000	Towards 2nd round of filters. (AY15 work project)
Health & Human Services	$0	$1,000,000	Environmental Quality - State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office for 1st round of filters.
Subtotal Filters:	**$1,016,000**	**$2,241,000**	
Reconnect to DSW:			**Reconnection costs ~$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state & Flint**
Environmental Quality	$5,000,000	$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of $1m; balance GF/GP
Subtotal Reconnect:	**$5,000,000**	**$6,000,000**	
Testing Costs:			
Environmental Quality	TBD	$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: $26
Subtotal Testing:	**$0**	**$1,000,000**	
Additional Agency Support:			
LARA	$0	$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
Health & Human Services	TBD	TBD	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	TBD	$300,000	Home and school inspections.
Subtotal Additional Support:	**$0**	**$500,000**	
ALL TOTAL	**$6,016,000**	**$9,741,000**	

From: Saxton, Thomas (Treasury)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 2:43 PM
To: Wyant, Dan (DEQ);Sygo, Jim (DEQ);Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB);Baird, Richard (GOV);Lyon, Nick (DHHS);Hollins, Harvey (GOV)
Cc: Workman, Wayne (TREASURY);Khouri, Nick (TREASURY);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: FW: letter from John O'Brien
Attachments: SKM_C554e15100712200.pdf

Importance: High

Here is the letter from the Genesee Co Drain Commission. My interpretation of the contents would be their estimate is $13.2mm (vs the $12mm discussed this morning).

They included their contract with the City. Sec 5.7 references prevailing rates the City would be charged; that is different than the rates reflected in the $13.2mm. So that contract may need to be modified.

They also raise some other items (under *Procedure to Activate Supply* – p.3) that may have cost implications.

GENESEE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
- DIVISION OF -
WATER & WASTE SERVICES
G-4610 BEECHER ROAD - FLINT, MICHIGAN 48532-2617
PHONE (810) 732-7870 - FAX (810) 732-9773

JEFFREY WRIGHT
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 7, 2015

TO: Wayne Workman, Deputy Director, Treasury Department
Randall Byrne, State Administrative Manager

FROM: John F. O'Brien, P.E., Director

SUBJECT: Letter Dated September 30, 2015
Wolfson to Henderson

My staff and I have reviewed the letter referenced above and have prepared this quick memorandum to explain the economics concerns and ramifications of the temporary cessation of the Flint water treatment operations and the return to DWSD/GLWA supply.

This memorandum is broken down into three parts: economics, procedure and concerns.

Economics

Prior to April 2014, Flint held a water contract with DWSD. Flint also had the franchise rights to DWSD water for Genesee County. Therefore, Genesee County received DWSD water via the Flint. The water rate was calculated on that joint demand. In 2013-2014, the allocated cost was $25,303,062 or $738,066 per month plus $13.01 per mcf.

In 2013, DWSD terminated the Flint contract effective April 2014. The Flint chose to go to the Flint River as its source water until KWA water was made available. With the contract terminated, the franchise was terminated and the county had to go to DWSD for water because Flint could no longer supply DWSD water and the Flint River and the Flint water treatment plant does not have the capacity to serve both utilities.

DWSD established a new rate for GCDC that included significant non-contract and non-member charges to access the water. GCDC also acquired approximately 9 miles of water main pipe from the Flint. (The Detroit water meter at the county line between Lapeer and Genesee and the Flint water plant is approximately 11 miles into the county.) The pipeline is of no use to Flint under the Flint River supply or KWA supply scenario. As part of the purchase agreement, language was included for emergency reconnection for Flint to DWSD through this water line.

GCDC water rates with DWSD are as follows:

	Fixed Monthly	Commodity
July 2013 – April 2014 (Flint Contract)	$346,863	$13.01
May 2014 – June 2014	$423,400	$15.18
July 2014 – June 2015	$1,149,400	$3.89
July 2015 – Present	$900,000	$11.86

As you can see, the fixed monthly fees and commodity fees have had significant swings. This is because under the Flint contract, only 40% of revenue was fixed. GCDC went to 80% and are now 60% for the current billing period.

Upon reviewing DWSD's letter of September 2015, DWSD went back to the 2013-2014 rate, added 4% for FY 14-15 and added approximately 11.3% for FY 15-16. This would create a water revenue requirement for a combined Flint/Genesee supply. In Section 1 d) of the letter, they state they would subtract GCDC current payments from that volume, leaving the amount to be paid by Flint. Remember, GCDC is paying the non-contract/non-customer penalty charges.

The reported rate would be $662,100 monthly fixed and $8.93/mcf commodity. Based on 15 million gallons a day and a 30 day month, the monthly charge would be:

$662,100 + 15,000,000 gal x 30 days x 1 mcf / 7,480 gallons x $8.93 / mcf

$662,100 + $537,232.62 = $1,199,332.62 per month

Flint, over the last two seasons, has seen periods of water flow in the 20 to 25 mgd range due to water main breaks. This period has lasted 2 to 3 months. What is the additional cost if the monthly average was 21 mgd?

6,000,000 x 30 / 7,480 x $8.93 / mcf = $214,893.04 per month

The only way for DWSD to provide water to Flint is a common meter at the county line and flow through a county water main. As previously stated, the Flint and GCDC have a contract regarding this potential circumstance (see 5.7 attached).

Assuming the fixed rate by DWSD is correct, the cost with the current commodity would be:

$662,100 + 15,000,000 x 30 / 7,480 x $11.86 = $1,375,602.67

And again, with water main breaks, the additional monthly cost would be $285,401.00.

Paragraph 1 d) of the DWSD letter recognizes this issue in the last sentence: "Depending on how water is provided to the combined GCDC/Flint customer, alternative rate structures may be appropriate."

We can back into that alternate rate based on our knowledge of the DWSD rate structure. DWSD wants 60% of its revenue from fixed rate.

		Volume per month
GCDC fixed	$900,000	49,428 mcf
Flint fixed	$662,100	50,590 mcf
TOTAL	$1,562,100	100,018 mcf

Total commodity required is $1,041,400
Rate based on volume $10.41would be the alternative rate

The adjusted rate for Flint would then be:

50% of fixed rate plus $10.41 per mcf
$781,050 + $15,000,000 + 30 / 7,480 x $10.41 = $1,407,320

And again, at this rate, the water main break situation could add $250,508 per month

Therefore, Flint's expected bill for DWSD supplied water for a nine month period with 2 months of high flow would be $13,166,896.

Procedure to Activate Supply

1. Agreement with DWSD and common rate for joint GCDC/Flint water supply would be required. Agreement needs to include separate billings to Flint and GCDC, Flint to pay directly to DWSD based on meter readings at Baxter and Potter and Station 2 on Flint plant site. GCDC makes no representation to the water quality - that is between Flint and DWSD. The agreement needs a termination transfer protocol for Flint exiting and GCDC remaining.

2. Separate agreement with Flint: back up supply was anticipated on an emergency basis. Nine months to a year of service requires a more detailed agreement. Water outage due to line break and cost to repair, etc. The agreement needs a termination clause if Flint is still on DWSD when GCDC is ready to turn on its water treatment plant in the fall of 2017.

3. The 72-inch line will be required to be reactivated. This will require flushing, pressure testing, and BAC-T sampling.

4. Station 2 meter needs to be calibrated and GCDC will need access to control the valves and read the meters.

5. Flint needs to reactivate the Dort Reservoir.

6. Flint should perform a significant water flush of the distribution system just prior to the switch over.

Flint Distribution System

The TTHM and lead issues here arising due to the water quality at the residential tap: Everyone agrees that the water leaving the water plant is clean, clear, and lead-free. At the residential tap, it has been shown to contain lead, is often brown in color, and has an odor. These are all indications of problems in the distribution system. The distribution system was built for a population of 250,000 people and major industrial use. Current population is below 100,000 and there is limited industrial use.

If Flint does not continue to make improvements/modifications to the distribution system, the problem at the residential tap will continue.

Concerns

Will the lead sampling protocols change based on Flint's switch back to DWSD?

What happens to water treatment plant personnel during this 9-month period? Will they be laid off or carried as an additional expense?

When Flint switches to KWA, will the staff be capable of treating the water or will the learning curve begin again?

What is the Desired Outcome?

It is the understanding of GCDC that all of the current samples that have been compiled at the Flint Water Treatment Plant have all tested within EPA and MDEQ guidelines. The emergency appears to be in the distribution of the water, which includes lead service leads to several residences located throughout Flint and not in the treatment of the water. As the treated water leaving the Flint Water Treatment Plant is within EPA and MDEQ guidelines, GCDC is confused as to what the emergency is at this time or why Flint would need to purchase water from DWSD. *The quality of the water leaving the Flint Water Treatment Plant is as safe to drink as the water that would be transmitted by DWSD to Flint.*

Given the facts as they have been provided to GCDC, if DWSD begins to supply Flint with water via GCDC, the elevated lead levels will not immediately disappear and Flint will be paying an additional million dollars plus a month over what it is currently paying to provide the same clean potable water to its residents. Additionally, by Flint receiving water from DWSD via GCDC, Flint will not be performing corrosion control measures on the DWSD treated water. This is important because once Flint begins to treat the raw water provided by KWA, the lead issue may resurface and continue until the corrosion control measures that will need to be restarted take effect, which GCDC estimates may take up to eight (8) months to establish the necessary film to separate the distribution system from the supply water.

The DWSD letter purposely pits Flint against Genesee County customers by offering a lower rate to Flint than is currently being offered to GCDC. And the delivery point is the same.

These are our quick thoughts on the matter. As time progresses, we will have more time to understand the issues and most likely additional concerns will present themselves.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact this office at your convenience.

WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN

ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

BY AND BETWEEN

CITY OF FLINT

AND THE

GENESEE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER AS COUNTY AGENCY

DATED MAY 30, 2014

approval, clearance, waiver, order or authorization of any person, organization, or entity; and (iii) do not conflict with, or result in any breach of, or default or loss of any right under (or an event or circumstance that, with notice or the lapse of time, or both, would result in a default), or the creation of any encumbrance pursuant to, or cause or permit the acceleration prior to maturity of any amounts owing under any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, lease or other agreement to which the County Agency is a party, which failure, violation, conflict or breach would, in the aggregate, materially hinder or impair the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

5.4 Litigation. As of the Execution Date, there is no action, suit or proceeding pending or threatened against or affecting the County Agency before any governmental entity in which there is a reasonable possibility of an adverse decision which could have a material adverse effect upon the ability of the County Agency to perform its obligations under this Agreement or which in any manner questions the validity of this Agreement.

5.5 Due Diligence and Inspection. The County Agency acknowledges that it is being afforded the opportunity to conduct due diligence and investigation with respect to the transaction contemplated by this Agreement. The County Agency represents and warrants that it has conducted any and all such legal, factual, and other examinations, inquiries, investigations, and inspections, including conducting any tests, studies and examinations, that it, in its sole discretion, has determined necessary to complete such due diligence inspection to determine that the subject matter of this Agreement is suitable for the County Agency's intended use.

5.6 Environmental Matters. The County Agency represents and warrants that it has conducted any and all such legal, factual, and other examinations, inquiries, investigations, and inspections, including conducting any tests, studies and examinations, that it, in its sole discretion, has determined necessary to complete such due diligence inspection to have full knowledge of the environmental condition of the subject matter of this Agreement. County Agency shall enter into this Agreement subject to any and all environmental conditions present upon the subject matter of this Agreement.

5.7 Emergency Water Supply. The County Agency warrants that it will provide, to the extent the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has available capacity treated water through the water main that is the subject matter of this Agreement in an emergency situation to Flint until such time as the Karegnondi Water Authority Water Transmission Pipeline construction is completed (which is estimated to be completed by May 2017) and the Karegnondi Water Authority is providing raw water to its customers.

The emergency supply of treated water to the Flint by the County Agency during the construction of the Karegnondi Water Authority Water Transmission Pipeline shall be at the prevailing rate and any additional charges, fees, special charges, and penalties, as billed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to the County Agency.

If Flint shall need an emergency water supply after the Karegnondi Water Authority Water Transmission Pipeline has been installed and is operational, the County Agency will provide, to the extent the County Agency has available capacity, treated water through the water main that is the subject matter of this Agreement in an emergency situation to Flint. The emergency supply of treated water to Flint by the County Agency after the Water

Transmission Pipeline has been installed and is operational, shall be at the prevailing rate and any additional charges, fees, special charges, and penalties, if applicable, as billed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to the County Agency.

ARTICLE 6
COVENANTS OF FLINT

Flint covenants and agrees with the County Agency as follows:

6.1 Operation and Maintenance of the Water Main until Closing. Between the Execution Date of this Agreement and the Effective Date of this Agreement, Flint shall:

a. Operate the Water Main in the ordinary course of business; and

b. Maintain all books and records relating to the operation of the Water Main in the ordinary course of business; and

c. Fix any known breaks or leaks in the Water Main, except those set forth on Exhibit F; and

c. Promptly notify the County Agency of any emergency or other change in the normal course relating to the Water Main (or communications indicating that the same may be contemplated.

6.2 Litigation and Claims. Flint shall promptly inform the County Agency in writing of any Claims of which Flint is or becomes aware that are or might reasonably be expected to become the subject of litigation affecting the Water Main or the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

6.3 Notice of Changes. Flint shall inform the County Agency in writing if it becomes aware that any representation or warranty made by Flint in this Agreement has ceased to be accurate or if Flint becomes aware of the occurrence of any breach of any covenant or other agreement required by this Agreement to be performed or complied with by Flint.

ARTICLE 7
COVENANTS OF THE COUNTY AGENCY

The County Agency hereby covenants and agrees with Flint as follows:

7.1 Cooperation. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the County Agency shall cooperate with Flint to use its best efforts to secure all necessary consents, approvals, authorizations, exemptions and waivers from all persons and entities as shall be requested by Flint or required to be obtained in order to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby.

7.2 Litigation and Claims. The County Agency shall promptly inform Flint in writing of any claims (or communications indicating that the same may be contemplated) of which the County Agency is or becomes aware that are or might reasonably be expected

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 6:17 PM
To: Wyant, Dan (DEQ);Khouri, Nick (TREASURY);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Lyon, Nick (DHHS);Becker, Timothy (DHHS);Pallone, Maggie (DEQ);Zimmer, Mike (LARA);Pohl, Allan (LARA);Hanley, Farah (DHHS)
Cc: Roberts, John (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB) (mcneelyj@michigan.gov);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: Flint Water Summary for Governor
Attachments: City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf

Importance: High

Attached is a summary of the funding commitments to address the Flint Water situation. The total state commitment is $10.4m; $7.9m of that amount is GF/GP. [The DHHS number needs to be verified tomorrow morning, but the final number should be close to this estimate.]

The funding will address 4 priority areas:

1. Provision of filters for residential service;

2. 50% of the estimated cost to reconnect temporarily to the Detroit Water System;

3. Funding for testing water samples; and

4. Other state assistance (e.g., home/school/health facility inspections and follow-up for children with elevated blood levels).

We are preparing a formal supplemental request to transmit to the Legislature tomorrow. John intends to talk with Rep. Pscholka and Sen. Hildenbrand about including this funding in HB 4102, the pending supplemental bill now awaiting House concurrence. Assuming that they agree, we would ask for final action next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about our planned approach.

Nancy

City of Flint Water - Funding Solution
State of Michigan Commitment

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
Filters:			
Health & Human Services	$1,016,000	$1,016,000	AY15 work project
Health & Human Services	$0	$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
Subtotal Filters:	**$1,016,000**	**$2,016,000**	
Reconnect to DSW:			**Reconnection costs ~$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state & Flint**
Environmental Quality	$5,000,000	$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of $1m; balance GF/GP
Subtotal Reconnect:	**$5,000,000**	**$6,000,000**	
Testing Costs:			
Environmental Quality	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: $26
Subtotal Testing:	**$1,000,000**	**$1,000,000**	
Additional Agency Support:			
LARA	$0	$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	$0	$249,900	
Health & Human Services	$600,000	$600,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	$300,000	$300,000	Home and school inspections.
Subtotal Additional Support:	**$900,000**	**$1,349,900**	
ALL TOTAL	**$7,916,000**	**$10,365,900**	

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:13 AM
To: Wyant, Dan (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Boilerplate

Thanks. We'll include in our supplemental request letter.

From: Wyant, Dan (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 7:54 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 8, 2015 at 7:52:55 AM EDT
> **To:** "Wyant, Dan (DEQ)" <WyantD@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: Boilerplate**

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "McDonald, Paul (DEQ)" <mcdonaldp@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 7, 2015 at 8:36:14 PM EDT
> **To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** "Epkey, Amy (DEQ)" <epkeya@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Re: Boilerplate**
>
> From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint Emergency Water Services, the department shall pay no more than $6 million to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the two parties and a successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System. These funds shall only be made available until June, 30, 2016.
>
> _____

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:28 PM
To: mcleary@house.mi.gov;Steve Angelotti (SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov);ejeffries@senate.michigan.gov;Kyle Jen (kjen@house.mi.gov)
Subject: Draft Supplemental for Flint Water
Attachments: Supplemental Request 2016-1.pdf

John has not signed this but, since there is some time urgency, I'm sending you this draft of the request. I anticipate that John will sign late today or early tomorrow.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Nancy

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BUDGET OFFICE
LANSING

JOHN S. ROBERTS
DIRECTOR

October 8, 2015

The Honorable Dave Hildenbrand, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Michigan State Senate
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable Al Pscholka, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Legislators:

SUBJECT: Supplemental Request 2016-1

Attached please find supplemental recommendations for fiscal year 2016 for the departments of Environmental Quality, Health and Human Services, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Nancy Duncan at (517) 373-0870.

Sincerely,

John S. Roberts
State Budget Director

DRAFT

Attachment

cc: Arlan Meekhof, Senate Majority Leader
Kevin Cotter, Speaker of the House
Jim Ananich, Senate Minority Leader
Tim Greimel, House Minority Leader
Senate Appropriations Committee
House Appropriations Committee
Senate Fiscal Agency
House Fiscal Agency
Departments
Dick Posthumus, Executive Office
Dennis Muchmore, Chief of Staff
Nancy W. Duncan, Deputy State Budget Director
Michael J. Moody, Office of Financial Management
Internal State Budget Office

	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY		
	(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY		
	Full-time equated classified positions..... 2.0		
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	7,300,000
	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers.....		0
	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	7,300,000
	Federal revenues:		
	Federal funds.....		0
	Special revenue funds:		
	Total local revenues.....		0
	Total private revenues.....		0
	Total other state restricted revenues.....		1,000,000
	State general fund/general purpose.....	$	6,300,000
	(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION		
	Full-time equated classified positions..... 2.0		
	City of Flint emergency water service.....	$	6,000,000
	Drinking water and environmental health - 2.0 FTE positions....		300,000
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	6,300,000
	Appropriated from:		
	Special revenue funds:		
	Settlement funds.....		1,000,000
	State general fund/general purpose.....	$	5,300,000
	(3) REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION		
	Laboratory services.....	$	1,000,000
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	1,000,000
	Appropriated from:		
	Special revenue funds:		

DRAFT

State general fund/general purpose..... $ 1,000,000

BOILERPLATE:

Sec. xxx. From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to $6.0 million for re-connection services to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the parties and a successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System. These funds are intended to pay re-connection costs through June 30, 2016.

EXPLANATION:

This supplemental provides $6.0 million to support the re-connection of the City of Flint to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department, $1.0 million for testing water samples, and $300,000 for home and school inspections to ensure the safety of the City of Flint's water system.

DRAFT

	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
	(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY		
	Full-time equated classified positions..... 0.0		
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	1,850,000
	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers.....		0
	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	1,850,000
	Federal revenues:		
	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy families...		0
	Capped federal revenues.....		0
	Total other federal revenues.....		0
	Special revenue funds:		
	Total local revenues.....		0
	Total private revenues.....		0
	Total local and private revenues.....		0
	Merit award trust fund.....		0
	Total other state restricted revenues.....		1,000,000
	State general fund/general purpose.....	$	850,000
	(2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		
	Emergency services local office allocations.....	$	1,000,000
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	1,000,000
	Appropriated from:		
	Special revenue funds:		
	Total other state restricted revenues.....		1,000,000
	State general fund/general purpose.....	$	0
	(3) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES		
	Childhood lead program.....	$	850,000
	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	850,000

DRAFT

Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

State general fund/general purpose..... $ 850,000

EXPLANATION:

The department is funding the purchase of water filters for Flint residents and is partnering for their distribution with the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. In addition, it will make arrangements for appropriate health care and other clinical personnel to address child blood level concerns in that community.

DRAFT

	DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS	
	(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY	
	Full-time equated classified positions..... 1.0	
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	200,000
	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers.....		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	200,000
	Federal revenues:	
Total federal revenues.....		0
	Special revenue funds:	
Total local revenues.....		0
Total private revenues.....		0
Total other state restricted revenues.....		200,000
State general fund/general purpose.....	$	0
	(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION	
	Full-time equated classified position..... 1.0	
Bureau of construction codes.....	$	200,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	$	200,000
	Appropriated from:	
	Special revenue funds:	
Construction code fund.....		200,000
State general fund/general purpose.....	$	0

EXPLANATION:

This supplemental provides $200,000 in construction code funds to support efforts in ensuring the safety of the City of Flint's water system. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will use this budgetary

DRAFT

authorization and existing resources for plumbing inspections of schools and health facilities within the City of Flint.

DRAFT

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 7:29 AM
To: Starr, Scott (DTMB);Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Subject: FW: schools not in Flint

Keeping you in the loop.

From: Harkins, Chris (DTMB)
Sent: Saturday, October 10, 2015 5:25 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)
Subject: Fwd: schools not in Flint

Thank you, Farah. The FTE issue has been interesting I appreciate you sharing this.

Chris

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Hanley, Farah (DHHS)" <hanleyf@michigan.gov>
> **Date:** October 10, 2015 at 8:14:12 AM EDT
> **To:** "Harkins, Chris (DTMB)" <HarkinsC1@michigan.gov>
> **Cc:** "Scott, Teri (DHHS)" <ScottT13@michigan.gov>, "Kangas, Susan (DHHS)" <KangasS1@michigan.gov>
> **Subject: Fwd: schools not in Flint**
>
> Chris - Please see below. We expect there to be pressure exerted on us with the DEQ testing recommendation. We understand nothing can be done about this in the current supplemental and we may need to stretch out our tests over time as limited staff permits. The estimates we shared for FTEs were for the Flint area only.
>
> Just wanted to be sure you were aware. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Farah
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** "Moran, Susan (DHHS)" <MoranS@michigan.gov>
> > **Date:** October 9, 2015 at 2:08:43 PM EDT

To: "Becker, Timothy (DHHS)" <beckert1@michigan.gov>,
"Hanley, Farah (DHHS)" <hanleyf@michigan.gov>
Cc: "Granger, Patricia (DHHS)" <GrangerP@michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: schools not in Flint

Tim—see note from Corinne regarding toxicology support resources.

From: Miller, Corinne (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 1:11 PM
To: Moran, Susan (DHHS)
Subject: schools not in Flint

Sue,

Linda was on a call this morning with DEQ and Flint's Public Works director. During the call the DEQ staff indicated Wyant told them to prepare an army given that schools statewide will be encouraged to assess lead levels in drinking water.

I think MDHHS leadership needs to be made aware that we have a squadron but not an army. The submitted budget for the Flint situation includes an 0.2 or 0.25 FTE for toxicology but it can't be stretched to provide technical assistance for a statewide process.

Corinne

From: Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS)
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 12:59 PM
To: Miller, Corinne (DHHS)
Subject: schools

http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/flint-water/73623958/

State officials plan to contact all schools in the state, urging them to assess their lead levels in drinking water. Facilities built in the last quarter-century are unlikely to have lead issues, but others built before the mid-1980s may have lead connections and could be a problem, according to the agency.

"Schools that have lead infrastructure should be testing," Wyant said.

Linda D. Dykema, Ph.D.
Environmental Public Health Director
Division of Environmental Health
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
517.335.8566
dykemal@michigan.gov

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 11:14 AM
To: Kyle Jen;Mary Ann Cleary;Steve Angelotti (SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov)
Cc: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Subject: RE: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

I think the stature John mentioned was the Drinking Water Revolving Fund. Currently funds cannot be used for remediation at private facilities (only for remediation at public facilities). Administration is thinking about removing that limitation.

NOTE: It's still a loan. Borrower is still the local water authority. May need federal law changes as well.

From: Kyle Jen [mailto:kjen@house.mi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 11:17 AM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); Mary Ann Cleary; Steve Angelotti (SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov)
Subject: RE: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

Thanks. Which fund is the administration looking at amending the statute for to potentially redirect for this purpose? Our note taking wasn't very good.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB) [mailto:duncann1@michigan.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2015 11:12 AM
To: Mary Ann Cleary <mcleary@house.mi.gov>; Kyle Jen <kjen@house.mi.gov>; Steve Angelotti (SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov) <SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov>
Subject: FW: Alternative fund sources for Flint Water Emergency

This is what I've been told so far about alternate funding sources for Flint.

- Drinking water revolving loan fund – this program is a loan program and as such we can't loan money to ourselves. Even if we wanted to loan Flint money, the bylaws for the program stated it can only be used for infrastructure improvements and this would not qualify.

- SAW grants – this grant program is only for stormwater and wastewater grants – not drinking water grants.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 2:07 PM
To: Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Floor Sub for HB 4102
Attachments: H01133'15 (H-2).pdf

From: Starr, Scott (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:11 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB); Gossman, Colleen (DTMB); Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB); Jameson, Robbie (DTMB); Harkins, Chris (DTMB)
Cc: Roberts, John (DTMB)
Subject: Floor Sub for HB 4102

Attached is the House floor substitute for the supplemental, which could be taken up in the House as early as today. If you could, please take a look at your relevant areas and let me know if you see any issues. Thanks.

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 4102

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

PART 1

LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, from the following funds:

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	7,775,000
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	7,775,000
Total federal revenues		0
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	6,775,000

Sec. 102. LEGISLATURE

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	50,000
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	50,000
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		0
State general fund/general purpose	$	50,000

(2) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Criminal justice policy commission	$	50,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	50,000

Appropriated from:		
State general fund/general purpose	$	50,000

Sec. 103. DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	7,725,000
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	7,725,000
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	6,725,000

(2) ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

Legal settlement	$	7,725,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	7,725,000
Appropriated from:		
Special revenue funds:		
Risk management revolving fund		1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	6,725,000

Sec. 104. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	0
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	0
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		0
State general fund/general purpose	$	0
(2) ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS		
MSF, special grants	$	(500,000)
MSF, special grants		500,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	0
Appropriated from:		
State general fund/general purpose	$	0

PART 1A

LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Sec. 151. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions	3.0		
GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	9,350,100
Interdepartmental grant revenues:			
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers			0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	9,350,100
Federal revenues:			
Total federal revenues			0
Special revenue funds:			
Total local revenues			0
Total private revenues			0
Total other state restricted revenues			2,200,000
State general fund/general purpose		$	7,150,100

Sec. 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions	2.0		
GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	7,300,000
Interdepartmental grant revenues:			
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers			0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	7,300,000
Federal revenues:			
Total federal revenues			0
Special revenue funds:			
Total local revenues			0
Total private revenues			0

Total other state restricted revenues			1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose		$	6,300,000
(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION			
Full-time equated classified positions 2.0			
City of Flint emergency water services		$	6,000,000
Drinking water and environmental health--2.0 FTE positions.....			300,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	6,300,000
Appropriated from:			
Special revenue funds:			
Settlement funds			1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose		$	5,300,000
(3) REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION			
Laboratory services		$	1,000,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	1,000,000
Appropriated from:			
State general fund/general purpose		$	1,000,000

Sec. 153. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY			
Full-time equated classified positions 0.0			
GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	1,850,100
Interdepartmental grant revenues:			
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers.....			0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION		$	1,850,100
Federal revenues:			

Total federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	850,100
(2) DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION		
Rent and state office facilities	$	100
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	100
Appropriated from:		
State general fund/general purpose	$	100
(3) CHILDREN'S SERVICES AGENCY - JUVENILE JUSTICE		
In-home community care	$	(400,000)
In-home community care		400,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	0
Appropriated from:		
State general fund/general purpose	$	0
(4) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		
Emergency services local office allocations	$	1,000,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	1,000,000
Appropriated from:		
Special revenue funds:		
Total other state restricted revenues		1,000,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	0
(5) FIELD OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES		
Full-time equated classified positions 0.0		
Michigan rehabilitation services--(526.0) FTE		

positions	$	(130,927,900)
Michigan rehabilitation services--526.0 FTE positions		130,927,900
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	0
Appropriated from:		
Federal revenues:		
Social security act, temporary assistance for needy families		0
Capped federal revenues		0
Total other federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Local vocational rehabilitation match		0
Private funds - gifts, bequests, and donations		0
Rehabilitation service fees		0
Second injury fund		0
State general fund/general purpose	$	0

(6) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES

Childhood lead program	$	850,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	850,000
Appropriated from:		
State general fund/general purpose	$	850,000

Sec. 154. DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions 1.0		
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	200,000

Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers		0
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	200,000
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues		0
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues		0
Total private revenues		0
Total other state restricted revenues		200,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	0
(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION		
Full-time equated classified positions 1.0		
Bureau of construction codes--1.0 FTE position	$	200,000
GROSS APPROPRIATION	$	200,000
Appropriated from:		
Special revenue funds:		
Construction code fund		200,000
State general fund/general purpose	$	0

PART 2

PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending

from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 is $7,775,000.00 and state appropriations paid to local units of government are $0.00.

Sec. 202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices, and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sec. 301. (1) From unexpended and unencumbered funds appropriated in 2010 PA 191 for branch and central operations, $6,000,000.00 is appropriated for a business application modernization project and shall be reappropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation line entitled information technology services and projects.

(2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain available for expenditure to implement provisions of business application modernization ongoing costs. The unexpended funds reappropriated into the information technology services and projects line item are considered work project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

(a) The purpose of the projects is to modernize the technical infrastructure to support the business needs of the department.

(b) The projects will be completed by contract staff and state employees.

(c) The total estimated cost of all projects is $6,000,000.00.

(d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

Sec. 302. (1) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of funding remaining in accounts appropriated in section 301 of 2011 PA 83, for implementation of the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, for the secretary of state, shall be reappropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation line item entitled help America vote act.

(2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain available for expenditure to implement provisions of the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section 37 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other election reforms. Consistent with the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, the unexpended funds reappropriated into the help America vote act line item are considered work project appropriations and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into succeeding fiscal years. The following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

(a) The purpose of the projects is to implement provisions of the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section 37 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other election reforms.

(b) The projects will be completed by state employees, by contracts with private vendors, or by grants to local units of

government.

(c) The total estimated cost of these projects is identified in each line-item appropriation.

(d) The tentative completion date for these projects is September 30, 2019.

STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Sec. 401. Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of DOT, federal railroad administration (ARRA) funds appropriated in 2011 PA 157 for high-speed intercity passenger rail (ARRA) shall not lapse pursuant to section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a, but instead are reappropriated for expenditure as originally intended and are a work project meeting the following criteria:

(a) The purpose of the project to be carried forward is to preserve and invest in transportation infrastructure of the state of Michigan.

(b) The projects will be accomplished by state employees and by contract.

(c) The total estimated cost of the project is $26,711,800.00.

(d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2017.

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Sec. 501. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for special grants, the fund shall allocate $500,000.00 for the purpose of funding the cost of GED testing and certification as provided by this section. The workforce development agency shall administer a

Michigan GED-to-school program, which shall cover the cost of providing the GED test free of charge to individuals who meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The individual has not previously been administered a GED test free of charge under this section.

(b) The individual meets at least 1 of the following requirements:

(*i*) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual successfully completed a WDA-approved GED preparation program.

(*ii*) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual completed the official GED practice test and the individual's score indicated that he or she is likely to pass.

(2) A WDA-approved GED preparation program shall include all of the following:

(a) Instructional and tutorial assistance.

(b) GED test practice.

(c) Required attendance at program instructional sessions.

(d) A curriculum that prepares students for opportunities in postsecondary education and the job market.

(e) Information on potential postsecondary and career pathways.

(f) Counseling on preparing for and applying to college.

(g) Personal and job readiness skills development.

(h) Comprehensive information on college costs and financial aid.

(i) College and career assessments.

(j) Computer-based instruction, practice, or remediation.

(3) By January 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall post online an announcement of the Michigan GED-to-school program, minimum standards for GED preparation program approval, and approval procedures.

(4) By April 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall do all of the following:

(a) Develop procedures consistent with this section under which individuals can take the GED test without charge.

(b) Provide program information for educators and students on the workforce development agency website, including explanations of the procedures developed under this subsection, and contact information for questions about the program.

(c) Provide an estimate of the full-year cost of the program to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

(5) By September 30, 2016, the workforce development agency shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on utilization of the GED incentive program, including numbers of GED certifications issued by location, year-to-date expenditures, and numbers of participants qualifying under subsection (1)(b)(*i*) or (*ii*), or both.

(6) The unexpended funds appropriated for the GED-to-school program are designated as a work project appropriation, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall be available for expenditure for projects

under this section until the projects have been completed. The following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

(a) The purpose of the project is to fund the cost of GED testing and certification for certain individuals as provided by this section.

(b) The projects will be accomplished by utilizing state employees or contracts with private vendors, or both.

(c) The total estimated cost of the project is $500,000.00.

(d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

PART 2A

PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 1201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 is $9,350,100.00 and state appropriations paid to local units of government are $6,000,000.00.

Sec. 1202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices, and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Sec. 1251. From the funds appropriated for the city of Flint emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to $6,000,000.00 for reconnection services to the Detroit water and sewerage department or its successor. The payments shall only be made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between the parties and a successful reconnection has occurred to the Flint water system. These funds are intended to pay reconnection costs through June 30, 2016.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Sec. 1301. From the funds appropriated in part 1A for Michigan rehabilitation services, the department shall allocate $6,100,300.00, including federal matching funds, to service authorizations with accredited, community-based rehabilitation organizations for job development and other community employment-related support services.

Sec. 1302. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1A for in-home community care programs, $400,000.00 shall be used to expand or create new in-home care and community-based juvenile justice services to rural counties through a grant making process. Counties that received funds for the purpose described in section 587 of article X of 2013 PA 59 are not eligible to receive the funds in this section. The department shall have contracts in place for the full amount of funds for the purpose described in this section by January 15 of the current fiscal year.

(2) By June 30 of the current fiscal year, the department

shall submit a report that describes the program expansion and expenditures in detail to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the senate and house policy offices.

REPEALERS

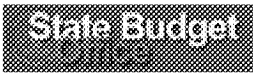
Enacting section 1. Sections 587 and 806 of article X of 2015 PA 84 are repealed.

Enacting section 2. Section 1069 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252 is repealed.

From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 12:27 PM
To: Harkins, Chris (DTMB)
Subject: FW: Flint Mayor Declares Water Emergency

From: Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 9:40 AM
To: Roberts, John (DTMB); Duncan, Nancy (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Flint Mayor Declares Water Emergency

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/mayor_karen_weaver_declares_st.html

Kurt Weiss
State Budget Office
517-335-0050


From: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 5:08 PM
To: Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Drinking Water Program Funding Request

Got your voice mail. We'll take a look at this and get back with you.

From: Epkey, Amy (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)
Cc: McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)
Subject: Drinking Water Program Funding Request

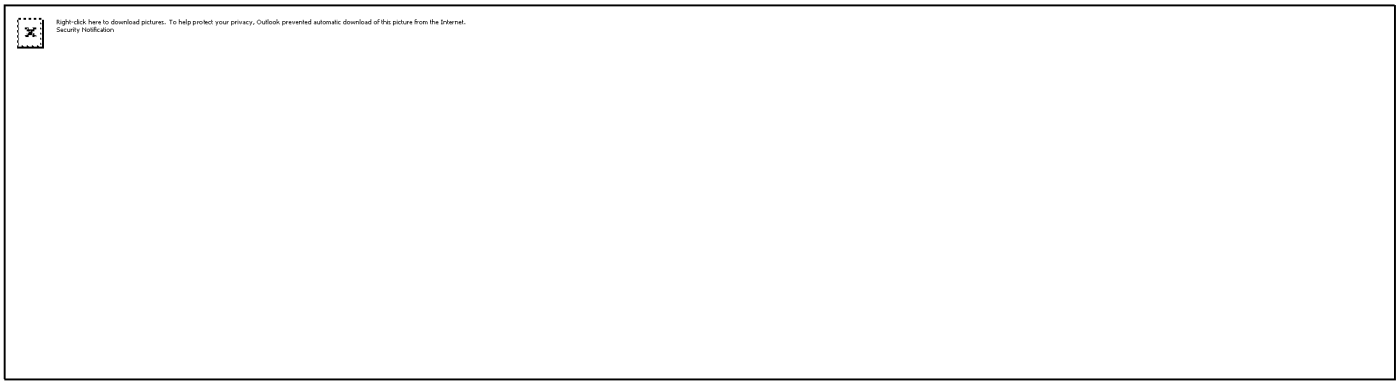
Nancy,

As a follow-up to my voicemail, I am attaching additional information related to the funding request that Director Wyant spoke to John about. The request includes $3.9 million of one-time funding to keep Flint on the Great Lakes Water Authority system until December 2016. The request also includes $3 million of ongoing funding for additional expertise, sampling, and testing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Amy Epkey, Deputy Director of Administration
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Phone: (517) 284-5002

From: DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM
To: Evani, Lisa (DTMB)
Subject: Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



Protest Activity

Date/Time:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Details:

Please be aware that there is a protest event planned for today, October 28, outside of the Constitution Hall from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The event is being held in response to the water condition in Flint. Please plan your daily activities with this in mind as a large turnout for this event is anticipated. DTMB and MSP will be working together to monitor the situation.

Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov or 517-373-6227

This email was sent to evanil@michigan.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of DTMB · Lewis Cass Building · 320 South Walnut Street · Lansing, MI 48933 · 517-373-1004

From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:10 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

Is judge biased in Oakland County Tea Party ballot-fraud case? Ruling due soon

"Oakland County's chief judge is expected to decide within the next day or so whether to recuse a fellow judge from hearing a case involving two former Democratic Party leaders accused of voter fraud.."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20110427/NEWS03/110427013/1285/news15/Is-judge-biased-Oakland-County-Tea-Party-ballot-fraud-case-Ruling-due-soon*

ACLU seeks to reinstate lawsuit over Walmart worker\'s firing for using marijuana

"He says he was a cancer patient who needed pot for pain. His employer says he posed a safety risk."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20110428/NEWS01/104280445/ACLU-seeks-reinstate-lawsuit-over-Walmart-worker-s-firing-using-marijuana?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Geithner to tour Chrysler plant today; Marchionne may reveal more on Fiat deal

"Detroit— Fiat and Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne will host U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner at Chrysler\'s Jefferson North Plant today, and may reveal details about Fiat\'s impending acquisition of another 16 percent of Chrysler. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.detnews.com/article/20110428/AUTO01/104280346/1148/Geithner-to-tour-Chrysler-plant-today--Marchionne-may-reveal-more-on-Fiat-deal*

Startups stirring in Corktown

"The core of the activity is the once forlorn stretch of Michigan Avenue between Nemo\'s Bar and Slows Bar BQ. Six new businesses are planned there, ranging from an Italian restaurant, a café, a burger joint, an upscale cocktail bar, and a Coney Island eatery. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110428/BIZ/104280345/Startups-stirring-in-Corktown#ixzz1Kozp8sJA*

Officials: \'Yes\' vote would stave off Garden City layoffs

"Garden City— City Manager Darwin McClary said he didn\'t want to tell people how to vote on Tuesday\'s police and fire millage, but he thinks residents should know what will happen if the 12-mill proposal fails. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110428/METRO01/104280381/Officials--'Yes'-vote-would-stave-off-Garden-City-layoffs#ixzz1KozOSKZ5*

Snyder targets 18 Detroit area districts

"Detroit— Eighteen of the 23 financially distressed school districts mentioned by Gov. Rick Snyder in his education address Wednesday are in Metro Detroit. "

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110428/POLITICS02/104280393/Snyder-targets-18-Detroit-area-districts#ixzz1KoywhQdv*

Chrysler to repay bailout by end of June

"Chrysler Group LLC today confirmed its intention to repay its $7.4 billion in loans to the U.S. and Canadian governments by the end of June, as long as market and other conditions remain conducive."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110428/AUTO01/104280434/Chrysler-to-repay-bailout-by-end-of-June#ixzz1KoyX0xMB*

Dow Chemical sales increase to $14.7 billion for first quarter, exceed analysts\' predictions

"MIDLAND — The Dow Chemical Co. exceeded analysts\' predictions for first quarter sales of 2011, rising 20 percent from a year ago to $14.7 billion."

Source: *Saginaw News* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2011/04/dow_chemical_sales_increase_to.html*

Snyder\'s education wide-ranging reform plan \'a lofty goal\'

"A far-ranging proposal to reform education released by Gov. Rick Snyder Wednesday proposes sweeping changes in everything from teacher tenure to virtual learning and lengths of school years to school bullying. "

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2011/04/snyders_education_wide-ranging.html*

Political landscape changes as Kalamazoo County board shrinks to 11 districts

"KALAMAZOO — When the Kalamazoo County commissioners seek re-election in 2012, the political landscape will look very different."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/04/7_kalamazoo_county_commissione.html*

Bar employees healthier in year since Michigan banned smoking in bars and restaurants, study finds

"Bar employees are breathing easier since Michigan banned smoking in restaurants and bars nearly a year ago, according to a study reported by the American Cancer Society\'s Great Lakes Division. "

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/health/index.ssf/2011/04/bar_employees_healthier_in_yea.html*

Blog: Gov. Rick Snyder needs to figure out how to evaluate teachers, measure student growth for reforms to work

"What makes a teacher great? How do we measure how much a student has learned?"

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/04/blog_gov_rick_snyder_needs_to.html*

Jackson County Intermediate School District to issue layoff notices to 23 employees

"Twenty-three Jackson County Intermediate School District employees will be pink-slipped as a result of budget woes."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/04/jackson_county_intermediate_sc_10.html*

CMS Energy reports $135 million profit in first quarter

"CMS Energy started the year on a strong note, earning a $1.5 million a day in profits"

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/jackson-lansing/index.ssf/2011/04/cms_energy_reports_135_million.html*

Karegnondi Water Authority enters spongy ground of political process before pipeline project can begin

"The engineering of the proposed $600 million pipeline from Lake Huron to Flint shows solid footing for the project, but there's still the squishy stuff of money and politics to solve before the Karegnondi Water Authority plunges ahead."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2011/04/torn_from_the_front_page_kareg.html

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Michigan lawmaker hops on the birther crazy train

"Freshman Rep. Mike Callton (R-Nashville) has a simple request. He just wants presidential candidates to present their birth certificate to appear on Michigan\'s ballot."

Source: *Capitol Chronicles* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://blog.mlive.com/capitolchronicles/2011/04/michigan_lawmaker_hops_on_the.html

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Your Michigan Legislature, a wholly owned subsidiary of Right to Life

"The Michigan Legislature is continuing its quest to make embryonic stem cell research as difficult an endeavor as humanly possible in the Great Lakes State. "

Source: *Capitol Chronicles* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://blog.mlive.com/capitolchronicles/2011/04/welcome_to_the_michigan_legisl.html

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Obama: Investing in Detroit automotive industry, advanced battery technology can lower gas prices

"President Barack Obama recently said if the U.S. government hadn\'t supported Detroit's Big Three, there might not be an American automotive industry today."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2011/04/obama_investing_in_detroit_aut.html

Google, McKinley partner to install solar panels, build outdoor terrace at downtown Ann Arbor office building

"Google Inc. is collaborating with real estate firm McKinley Inc. to install solar panels on the roof of the search engine\'s office building in downtown Ann Arbor."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/business-review/solar-panels-outdoor-terrace-planned-for-googles-office-building-in-downtown-ann-arbor/*

Ann Arbor parents of children in schools affected by principal consolidation speak against proposal

"Putting one principal in charge of Abbot and Wines Elementary schools and one principal in charge of Pittsfield and Angell Elementary schools is a money-saving measure without the permanent repercussions of closing a school, Ann Arbor school administrators say."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/news/ann-arbor-parents-of-children-in-schools-affected-by-principal-consolidation-speak-against-proposal/*

Some U-M Law School students don\'t want Rob Portman as graduation speaker, call him anti-gay

"While undergraduate students at the University of Michigan are protesting the choice of Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder as commencement speaker, some students at the U-M Law School are unhappy about the man chosen to give their graduation speech as well."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/news/some-u-m-law-school-students-protest-choice-of-graduation-speaker-call-him-anti-gay/*

Slow pace of cleanup of PCBs in Kalamazoo River is discouraging, residents say during EPA meeting

"PLAINWELL — Representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency offered an update tonight on the work they plan for this year and in coming years to cleanup the 80-mile Kalamazoo River Superfund site."

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/04/slow_pace_of_cleanup_of_pcbs_i.html

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Rep. Miller, Macomb, state lawmakers say flood insurance a rip-off in Michigan

"While drenched residents in Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois deal with extreme flooding conditions, several Michigan lawmakers have joined with U.S. Rep. Candice Miller in her claim that the nation's flood insurance program is a rip-off for Michigan. "

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/04/27/news/doc4db8dd3dd9120831696548.txt

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Warren OKs tax break to lure GM projects

"As car buyers look for incentives from automakers, Warren officials this week offered an incentive to General Motors: Bring two projects and hundreds of jobs, and we'll cut your taxes."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/04/27/business/doc4db8e091519a9753213770.txt

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FBI investigated Stabenow threats

"WASHINGTON - A man unhappy with how his Social Security issue was being handled told Sen. Debbie Stabenow\'s office that there would be a bloodbath unless the matter was resolved to his satisfaction."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110428/NEWS01/104280329/FBI-investigated-Stabenow-threats?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Lansing school board votes to keep Otto, Bingham schools open

"The Lansing school board voted 8-1 Wednesday to keep Otto Middle School and Bingham Elementary open, but did approve closing the Harley Franks Early Childhood Center and moving its programs into existing elementary schools, to save $300,000."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110428/NEWS05/304280008/Lansing-school-board-votes-keep-Otto-Bingham-schools-open?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Feds remain tight-lipped about medical marijuana raids in Oakland County

"Federal agents involved with recent raids on multiple Metro Detroit establishments, including two Oakland County medical marijuana dispensaries, remain tight-lipped about what is being called an ongoing investigation. "

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2011/04/28/news/local_news/doc4db7fd57db0b1449869909.txt

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Snyder's education reform proposals draw mixed reaction

"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder struck a nerve with educators and lawmakers with his special message Wednesday to state lawmakers on education reform."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2011/04/28/news/local_news/doc4db8b2a76d524559672415.txt*

Ferguson puts chips on MSU over Greektown

"Joel Ferguson is choosing Michigan State green over the green being offered to serve on the Greektown Casino Board."

Source: *Lansing City Pulse* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingcitypulse.com/lansing/article-5767-ferguson-puts-chips-on-msu-over-greektown.html*

Livingston educators back reform proposals

"Livingston County\'s public schools for years have supported early childhood education and weeded out bad teachers, and their students remain among the top achievers in the state, county educators said Wednesday."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20110428/NEWS01/104280306/Livingston-educators-back-reform-proposals?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Hamilton Community Schools to cut 18 teachers

"Hamilton, MI — Eighteen pink slips will be given out to teachers in Hamilton Community Schools."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/topstories/x215607699/Hamilton-Community-Schools-to-cut-18-teachers*

Michigan gas among priciest

"Holland, MI — Gas prices are causing a stir as they rise to as much as $4.17 a gallon in the Holland area. "

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/topstories/x1146478975/Michigan-gas-among-priciest*

Bob Genetski pushes for stem cell reporting

"Holland, MI — State Rep. Bob Genetski is hoping to bring more transparency to stem cell research through provisions in the higher education budget."

Source: *Holland Sentinel* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://www.hollandsentinel.com/newsnow/x464041759/Bob-Genetski-pushes-for-stem-cell-reporting*

Press Releases

Tell the Republicans in Congress: Don't Dismantle Medicare

"Last week, House Republicans passed a plan to end Medicare and dismantle Medicaid. Medicare would be replaced by a voucher scheme that would put seniors at the mercy of big insurance company bureaucrats. States would have no choice but to significantly cut the safety and quality of nursing homes, putting America's seniors in danger of abuse and neglect. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the plan would dramatically increase healthcare costs for seniors."

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303941019_MDP1.pdf*

Town hall meeting in Benton Harbor with community members, constituency groups

"On Thursday, April 28 the Michigan State AFL-CIO constituency council will sponsor a town hall meeting with the communities of Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Benton Harbor. The constituency council will provide information regarding information being proposed, passed and discussed by the Michigan governor and the Michigan state legislators. There will be time for questions and concerns from the community."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303940973_aflcio2.pdf*

Senate Democrats Blast Vote on Raiding School Aid Fund

"Lansing – All 12 Senate Democrats took to the podium on the Senate floor today to criticize the Republican budget plan that strips hundreds of millions of dollars out of the state's School Aid Fund to fill the budget gap created by Governor Snyder's proposed $1.8 billion tax handout to big business."

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303938546_Senate2.pdf*

House Dems to Discuss Proposed Tax Reform Plan

"LANSING – House Democratic Leader Richard E. Hammel (D-Mt. Morris Township), Democratic Floor Leader Kate Segal (D-Battle Creek) and other members of the House Democratic Caucus will hold a press

conference tomorrow, Thursday, April 28, to discuss the tax reform plan that is expected to receive a full House vote."

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303937581_House1.pdf

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MDFER Response to Governor Snyder's Education Message

"Many of us throughout Michigan are fed up with the status quo education system and believe our children deserve better,â€ said Michigan Democrats for Education Reform (MDFER) State Director, Harrison Blackmond."

Source: *Michigan Democrats for Education Reform* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303937519_MDER1.pdf

Let's Keep Remaining Canadian Trash Out of Michigan and Improve our Border Security

"Michigan residents Jim Smith of Davison and Bonnie Bare of Clio are tired of seeing, hearing, and smelling the Canadian trash trucks that are still coming down I-69 from the Blue Water Bridge to the Brent Run Landfill in Montrose. They both share the view of so many people across our state that we don't want Canadian trash in Michigan."

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303935462_syabenow1.pdf

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Pavlov responds to governor's education address

"LANSING—In response to Gov. Rick Snyder's special message on education reform on Wednesday, Senate Education Committee Chairman Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair Township, issued the following statement:"

Source: *Sen. Phil Pavlov* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303933175_Pavlov1.pdf

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DNR Offers Kayaking Class for Women May 21 in Milford

"The Department of Natural Resources invites women to learn the basics of kayaking on Saturday, May 21. Kayaking provides fun outdoor exercise and is a great way to get an up-close look at wildlife and take in the scenery. The class is being offered through the DNR's Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program and will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Proud Lake Recreation Area with Heavener Canoe Livery in Milford."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303932775_DNRE2.pdf

Fishing Season Shifts into Higher Gear with Statewide Trout Opener

"The Department of Natural Resources reminds anglers that fishing season shifts into a higher gear Saturday, April 30, as trout season opens statewide."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303931289_DNRE1.pdf*

Michigan Chamber Releases Major Study on Michigan's Bankrupt Unemployment Insurance Program

"LANSING, MI – The Michigan Chamber Foundation today released a major nonpartisan, economic study that identifies up to $550 million in annual cost-saving reforms to Michigan's bankrupt unemployment insurance (UI) program. Michigan's debt for its employer-financed UI program is the second highest in the nation behind California. "

Source: *Michigan Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928578_MCOC1.pdf*

Across Michigan, working families to join in honor of Workers' Memorial Day

"On Thursday, working families from Lansing, Grand Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie, Muskegon, Taylor and Monroe will gather for Workers Memorial Day to honor workers who were injured or killed on the job in Michigan and ask legislators to make occupational safety a priority and to prioritize creating jobs, not dismantling the middle class safety net."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928522_aflcio1.pdf*

Rogers Launches New, More Interactive Website

"WEDNESDAY, April 27, 2011 – U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, MI-08, has launched a new, more interactive website that allows easier access to information about the U.S. House of Representatives, his work in Congress and services provided by his office."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928445_ROGERS1.pdf*

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REQUEST TO REMOVE LANSING JUDGE TO BE HEARD BY MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT

"LANSING, MI, April 27, 2011 – A dispute over whether a Lansing judge can remain in office will be heard by the Michigan Supreme Court in oral arguments on Tuesday, May 3, at the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing."

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928353_MSC1.pdf

Statement on Preservation of Michigan EITC, Over $100 Million in Tax Credits for the Poor

"(Lansing) – Michigan Catholic Conference released the following statement today following the adoption of a general revision to the income tax code by the House Tax Policy Committee, which will allocate some $105 million to the poor in Michigan through a $25 per child refundable Earned Income Tax Credit and an increased Homestead Property Tax Credit for those earning less than $20,000 per year. The comments below may be attributed to Michigan Catholic Conference Vice President for Public Policy Tom Hickson:"

Source: *Michigan Catholic Conference* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928281_MCC1.pdf

Michigan Community College Association supports Governor Rick Snyder's Degrees Matter

"LANSING – The Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) supports many of the policy proposals Governor Rick Snyder included in his education reform message to the Michigan Legislature today."

Source: *Michigan Community College Association (MCCA)* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303928061_MCCA1.pdf

National Expert, Michigan Wildlife & Agriculture Leaders to Address Best Way to Fight Feral Swine

"LANSING – A nationally renowned expert on feral swine and leaders in Michigan agriculture and wildlife conservation will hold a tele-press conference on Thursday, April 28, to address the growing controversy over the fight against feral swine in Michigan. Their call comes as the Legislature considers controversial plans that could let in more feral swine and endanger Michigan's economy. Testimony and hearings have already begun in the Michigan House of Representatives."

Source: *Byrum & Fisk Advocacy Communications* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303927792_Byrum1.pdf

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Quisenberry Applauds Bold Vision Delivered by Governor Snyder in Education Address

"The following is a public statement from Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies, in response to Governor Rick Snyder's special message on education reform present today in Detroit."

Source: *Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA)* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303927696_MAPSA1.pdf*

Michigan LCV Urges Rep. Upton to Cut Taxpayer Subsidies for Big Oil

"GRAND RAPIDS - With gas prices rising and oil companies expected to report massive first quarter profits this week, Rep. Upton is finding himself in a tough spot defending his votes to maintain billions of dollars in taxpayer subsidies to oil companies [House Vote #153, 3/1/11]. Feeling the heat this week, Speaker Boehner suggested Big Oil companies don't need these government handouts, stating that oil companies are "gonna pay their fair share in taxes and they should," Boehner told ABC News Monday night, adding that, "frankly, they've got some part of this to blame.""

Source: *Michigan League of Conservation Voters* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303927603_MLCV1.pdf*

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION COMMENTS ON GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION MESSAGE

"(Lansing) – Speaking on behalf of nearly 100,000 students enrolled in over 500 schools across the state, Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools Executive Director Brian Broderick released the following statement commenting on Governor Rick Snyder's special message on education delivered earlier today:"

Source: *Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303927537_MANPS1.pdf*

Recent Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 4/26/2011."

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303914381_COA1.pdf*

Snyder unveils plan to reinvent Michigan's educational system

"LANSING, Mich. – Saying education is the long-term key to reinventing Michigan's economy, Gov. Rick Snyder today proposed sweeping education reforms aimed at transforming Michigan's educational system from one still rooted in the days of a mostly farm-based society to one that prepares students for the technological age of today and jobs of tomorrow."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303914304_Gov1.pdf*

State Legislative Leaders Join Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to Kick-off

"LANSING, April 27, 2011 — The State's four top legislative leaders will join Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) in recognizing National Walk@Lunch Day® by spearheading a four-week legislative challenge, beginning on Wednesday, April 27, 2011."

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303913745_Senate1.pdf

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Local ceremonies tomorrow to honor workers, oppose legislation that creates unsafe workplaces

" LANSING - This Thursday, the We Are the People coalition will host Workers Memorial Day ceremonies in communities across the state to honor workers who were killed or injured on the job, and protest legislation that would repeal important workplace safety protections. The first Workers Memorial Day was observed on April 28, 1989, to mark the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Legislation has been introduced in the Michigan Senate (SB 14) to repeal MIOSHA, which requires employers to follow safety regulations that help prevent employee injuries and death."

Source: *We Are The People Michigan* **Date:** *04-28-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1303913383_WTPM.pdf

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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http://mirsnews.com. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to info@mirsnews.com

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2011 6:38 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

Detroit 3 jobs are near pre-crash levels

"With General Motors promising Tuesday to add or retain more than 4,000 jobs, the Detroit Three are gaining credence as job creators."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20110511/BUSINESS01/105110429/Detroit-3-jobs-near-pre-crash-levels?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Hewitt not seeking re-election

"Tuesday, May 10 — First Ward Lansing City Councilman Eric Hewitt said today that he will not seek re-election. "

Source: *Lansing City Pulse* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingcitypulse.com/lansing/article-5826-hewitt-not-seeking-re-election.html*

Caterers, hotels watch business flee

"The uncertainty over funding Michigan\'s film incentives — sparked by a proposed $25 million annual cap — is hurting local businesses from hotels and restaurants to security firms that benefited from movie and television productions over the past three years. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110511/BIZ/105110343/Caterers--hotels-watch-business-flee#ixzz1M2RDDBSu*

Union, city leaders hash out deficit

"Detroit —Union leaders and City Council members brainstormed cost-saving ideas Tuesday, in an unusual confab designed to stave off the possibility of an emergency manager. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://detnews.com/article/20110511/METRO01/105110353/Union--city-leaders-hash-out-deficit#ixzz1M2Qk6woG

Michigan\'s film studios go to fade-out

"Michigan\'s fledgling film studio infrastructure is crumbling as the number of productions declines in the wake of a $25 million limit on state cash incentives for movies, television shows and digital media. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://detnews.com/article/20110511/BIZ/105110359/Michigan's-film-studios-go-to-fade-out#ixzz1M2QR4GWz

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Parents sue over medical subsidies for special-needs kids

"A group of Michigan parents sued the state Tuesday in federal court, saying the Department of Human Services failed to payadequate medical subsidies for special-needs children. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://detnews.com/article/20110511/METRO/105110341/Parents-sue-over-medical-subsidies-for-special-needs-kids#ixzz1M2PxU2Mx

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Richfield Township board members hold the line on their salaries

"RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP, Michigan — The five-member Richfield Township Board tonight approved a no-increase salary schedule for themselves for another year."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/05/richfield_township_board_membe.html

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Richfield Township board members hold the line on their salaries

"RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP, Michigan — The five-member Richfield Township Board tonight approved a no-increase salary schedule for themselves for another year."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/05/richfield_township_board_membe.html

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Recall drive for Michigan House\'s GOP speaker

"A group trying to recall Gov. Rick Snyder now seeks to remove another top Republican, Michigan House Speaker Jase Bolger. "

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/05/recall_drive_for_michigan_hous.html

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13 will seek Lansing City Council seats

"Thirteen people filed petitions before Tuesday\'s deadline to run for Lansing City Council in the August primary election. "

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110511/NEWS01/105110319/13-will-seek-Lansing-City-Council-seats?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Troy City Council asks for August library ballot question

"Troy voters will likely get a chance to keep the doors of the Troy Public Library open in an Aug. 2 special election. "

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2011/05/11/news/doc4dc94b1ab2f70186753610.txt

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Layoff notices go out to 338 Chippewa Valley teachers

"More than 330 Chippewa Valley Schools teachers will receive layoff notices as district officials gear up for what could be massive budget cuts for the 2011-2012 school year. "

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/05/11/news/doc4dc96d550cd8a061049425.txt

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Pollution monitors for Lake St. Clair, rivers may shut down

"The nation's most advanced drinking water monitoring system, stretching from Port Huron to Wyandotte, may be shut down by December, just three years after it was put into place. "

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/05/10/news/doc4dca08837134e954500617.txt

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Group calls for law to help protect kids from toxic toys

"Children\'s safety, health and environmental advocates are working to turn discussion about guarding against toxic chemicals in children\'s toys into legislation. "

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110511/NEWS04/105110320/Group-calls-law-help-protect-kids-from-toxic-toys?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Four Lansing police sergeants learn jobs might be cut

"Four Lansing police sergeants have learned their positions could be eliminated next year, the first of more than 100 expected layoff notices as city officials work to close a $20 million budget deficit."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110511/NEWS01/105110328/Four-Lansing-police-sergeants-learn-jobs-might-cut?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Detroit unveils $22M port to help attract cruise ship tourism

"Detroit— The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority opens its $22 million Public Dock & Terminal on a prime spot of downtown riverfront next month, reviving the long-deferred dream of attracting waterfront tourism. "

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://detnews.com/article/20110510/BIZ/105100404/Detroit-unveils-$22M-port-to-help-attract-cruise-ship-tourism#ixzz1M0L130mE*

Bar owner seeks to press challenge to Michigan\'s smoking ban

"A Warren bar owner plans to appeal a lower court's ruling on the constitutionality of the state's smoking ban."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20110510/NEWS04/110510056/Bar-owner-seeks-press-challenge-Michigan-s-smoking-ban?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

City Council backs Bing\'s plan to up casino taxes

"The Detroit City Council today supported Mayor Dave Bing's plan to increase taxes on the city's casinos to help eliminate a nagging deficit. "

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20110510/NEWS01/110510036/City-Council-backs-Bing-s-plan-up-casino-taxes?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Facing council\'s subpoena, Bing delivers plan to cut deficit

"The Detroit City Council didn\'t deliver on its pledge to subpoena Mayor Dave Bing this morning after his office, at the last minute, turned over details of his plan to eliminate the accumulated deficit by 2016."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20110510/NEWS01/110510026/Facing-council-s-subpoena-Bing-delivers-plan-cut-deficit?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Shirvell fires back, claims he\'s victim of gay agenda

"Former assistant state attorney general and University of Michigan alumnus Andrew Shirvell, who was named in a stalking and harassment lawsuit last month, said in a filing last week he is the real victim and that the case has ruined his reputation and livelihood."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20110510/NEWS05/110510041/Shirvell-fires-back-claims-he-s-victim-gay-agenda?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Brian Dickerson: How fair congressional boundaries might look

"Nowhere does the state Republican leadership's call for governmental transparency ring more hollowly than in its so-far clandestine efforts to reconfigure Michigan's congressional and legislative boundaries."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20110509/BLOG2507/110509059/Brian-Dickerson-How-fair-congressional-boundaries-might-look

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Possible layoffs for workers at United Solar Ovonic plants in Greenville

"GREENVILLE -- The parent company of United Solar Ovonic in Greenville plans to layoff 115 Michigan employees within the next week."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2011/05/possible_layoffs_for_workers_a.html

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Consumers Energy will lower monthly charge to customers for green energy; no agreement yet on how much

"Consumers Energy customers will see a reduction in their utility bill come September, but just how much is still to be determined."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/jackson-lansing/index.ssf/2011/05/post_18.html*

Consumers Energy can collect $5.7 million reward, commission says, but not all at once

"At its meeting this afternoon, the Michigan Public Service Commission denied Consumers Energy\'s request to collect a $5.7 million reward from its customers all at once."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/jackson-lansing/index.ssf/2011/05/post_17.html*

Lawsuit targets lost benefits by retired GM execs

"More than 100 former General Motors executive are suing the company, saying their pension benefits were illegally cut."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2011/05/lawsuit_targets_lost_benefits.html*

Dan Rather on \'National Disgrace\' of Detroit Public Schools: Time to start listening to kids

"Detroit Public Schools is \"A National Disgrace,\" according to former CBS News anchor Dan Rather, whose two-hour report on the struggling school system will air tonight on HDNet."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/05/dan_rather_on_national_disgrac.html#incart_hbx*

School Zone blog: As school districts look to save money, the dilemma of privatization looms large

"In the past few weeks, secretaries, custodians and bus drivers in Portage Public Schools have made impassioned pleas to keep their jobs. "

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/05/school_zone_blog_as_school_dis.html#incart_hbx*

Federal grant cuts trickle down to neighborhood associations, but are \'less than anticipated\'

"GRAND RAPIDS — Many local neighborhood associations are relieved to learn their funding hasn't been cut too deeply."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/05/federal_cuts_trickle_down_to_n.html*

Grand Rapids Superintendent Bernard Taylor moves one step closer to heading Cleveland schools

"GRAND RAPIDS - Superintendent Bernard Taylor has made it to the next round of interviews to be the next chief executive officer of Cleveland schools, The Cleveland Plain Dealer reported tonight."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/05/superintendent_bernard_taylor_5.html*

Student and employee groups ask University of Michigan to try to stop cuts to Ann Arbor Fire Department

"A coalition of student and employee organizations at the University of Michigan is lobbying for the university to help the city of Ann Arbor avoid deep cuts to the city\'s fire department."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/news/student-and-employee-groups-ask-university-of-michigan-to-try-to-stop-cuts-to-ann-arbor-fire-departm/*

Political notebook: Who\'s running for the Ann Arbor City Council this year? Six challengers ready to go

"The filing deadline came and went this afternoon and six challengers for seats on the Ann Arbor City Council earned their places on the city\'s ballots. "

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/news/whos-running-for-the-ann-arbor-city-council-this-year/*

Business owners say Gov. Rick Snyder\'s business tax overhaul will be reinvested

"Day 129: This is one in a series of posts assessing key developments during Gov. Rick Snyder\'s self-imposed 182 days to chart a new course for Michigan by July 1. For earlier posts go to mlive.com/stateofchange."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2011/05/business_owners_say_gov_rick_s.html#incart_hbx

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Online high school named \'innovative program\' by state, plans to expand to 100 students as Gov. Rick Snyder promotes virtual learning

"An online high school based in Jackson has state permission to expand and has been designated an "innovative program" by the Michigan Department of Education."

Source: *Jackson Citizen Patriot* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/05/online_jackson_high_school_nam.html#incart_hbx

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DTE Energy tells new regional authority it may want 3 million gallons of Lake Huron water daily

"GENESEE COUNTY, Michigan -- Before the first shovel of dirt is turned to build a new water pipeline to Lake Huron, there\'s already a potential VIP customer waiting in the wings."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/05/dte_energy_tells_regional_wate.html

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CAR economist: General Motors\' $2B investment in 8 states is latest evidence bailout worked

"General Motors CEO Dan Akerson this afternoon confirmed plans to invest $2 billion in domestic assembly and component plants around the nation, creating or retaining up to 4,000 jobs at 17 facilities in eight different states. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2011/05/ceo_dan_akerson_general_motors_1.html

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Stephen Colbert weighs in on Benton Harbor emergency financial manager situation

"Satirist Stephen Colbert skewered Michigan\'s new emergency financial manager law Monday night on his Comedy Central show, \"The Colbert Report.\""

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/05/stephen_colbert_weighs_in_on_b.html

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Windsor MP Brian Masse pushes for Detroit-Windsor passenger rail connection

"Perhaps the most intriguing news from yesterday's high-speed rail announcement was Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood's suggestion that the next phase for Midwest rail upgrade could involve an international high-speed passenger route through Detroit."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/05/windsor_mp_brian_masse_pushes.html

Andrew Shirvell seeks dismissal of stalking complaint, adds counterclaims to Chris Armstrong\'s lawsuit

"A former assistant state attorney general is asking a judge to dismiss numerous allegations in a lawsuit filed against him that alleges he stalked and defamed the openly gay former student body president of the University of Michigan."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *05-10-2011* **Link:** *http://www.annarbor.com/news/andrew-shirvell-chris-armstrong-university-of-michigan/*

Terry Jones plans return trip to Dearborn June 17

"President Obama says Osama bin Laden is dead. "

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *05-10-2011* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/05/terry_jones_plans_return_trip.html

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Press Releases

Snyder Media Advisory

"Gov. Rick Snyder will tour the Hudsonville Ice Cream plant."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059907_Gov3.pdf

MPSC Conditionally Approves Renewable Energy Plan Amendment for Consumers Energy Company, Customers

"The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today conditionally approved Consumers Energy Companyâ€™s amended renewable energy plan (REP) that reflects lower costs than originally forecast and expands its Experimental Advanced Renewable Program (EARP). "

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059801_MPSC5.pdf

MPSC Temporarily Suspends Public Hearings Scheduled in St. Ignace, Mackinac Island and Mackinaw City

"The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today, citing a May 9 filing by the City of Mackinac Island, temporarily suspended the public hearings scheduled for May 16 and 17 in St. Ignace, Mackinac Island, and

Mackinaw City related to the Commissionâ€™s ongoing investigation into the rates, fares, charges and tariffs of the ferry companies that intend to service those communities during 2011. It also remanded the matter to the administrative law judge in the case, who will set a deadline for the filing of responses to the May 9 filing and a schedule for further proceedings, if required."

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059761_MPSC4.pdf*

MPSC Reconciles Detroit Edisonâ€™s 2009 Storm/Non-Storm Expense Tracker and Line Clearance Expense

"The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today reconciled The Detroit Edison Companyâ€™s 2009 storm and non-storm expense tracker and its 2009 line clearance expense report, authorizing it to refund to customers $15.3 million that it over-collected for storm and non-storm expenses and $487,398 that it over-collected for line clearance expense. The refunds include interest."

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059721_MPSC3.pdf*

MPSC Reconciles Consumers Energy's 2009 Energy Optimization Plan

"The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today reconciled Consumers Energy Companyâ€™s 2009 energy optimization plan (EO) costs and revenues for both its electric and gas divisions. "

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059663_MPSC2.pdf*

MPSC Approves Renewable Energy Contracts for Consumers Energy Company and Detroit Edison Company

"The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today approved renewable energy contracts for Consumers Energy Company and The Detroit Edison Company."

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305059626_MPSC1.pdf*

Agreement between nurses, OSF St. Francis nears completion

"Escanaba, MI -- Signatures are currently being obtained for a new agreement between the Michigan Nurses Association and OSF St. Francis Hospital. This Agreement resolves a one year dispute between the parties."

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305057964_Nurses2.pdf

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Legislators, Children's Advocates Unveil Auction Items, Resolution in Prevention of Child Abuse

"LANSING – Legislators, the Children's Trust Fund, children's advocates and others today unveiled exciting items up for auction on May 18 to prevent child abuse, as well as a resolution commemorating the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event for its importance in helping keep kids safe. "

Source: *Children's Trust Fund* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305057912_CTF2.pdf

Governor signs legislation ensuring retired police officers, firefighters have voice on Detroit

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation that ensures retired Detroit police officers and firefighters will have representation on the city's pension board, in accordance with the city charter."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305057847_Gov2.pdf

War of 1812 Sloop Replica Sails from South Haven

"Editor's Note: Periodically, as the 200th Anniversary of notable events of the War of 1812 approaches and are commemorated, The Michigan Commission on the Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 will post reminders of activities within Michigan and around the world. Following is the first of what will be many posts."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305056483_DNR1.pdf

Statewide Millage Successes Show Michigan Residents Willing to Support Important Services

"ANN ARBOR, Michigan - An analysis of statewide poll results on May 3 showed Michigan voters passed an overwhelming 80 percent of the millage requests before them, with 16 of 20 proposals in cities and villages having success in seeking tax increases for everything from police and public transit to libraries and mosquito control."

Source: *Martin Waymire Advocacy Communications* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052968_MWA2.pdf

Equality Michigan responds to House attempt to cut domestic partner benefits at universities

"Last week, the Michigan House approved an amendment to the education budget that will punish public colleges and universities for offering health care benefits for partners of their employees. The amendment, introduced by Rep. Dave Agema (R-Greenville), cuts funding by five percent to all universities that offer the benefits."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052885_EM1.pdf

Senator Stabenow Applauds GM Hiring Blitz

"WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, author of legislation to promote domestic advanced vehicle technology research, development and production, issued the following statement today following General Motors' announcement it is soon adding over 4,000 jobs, many at the Detroit-Hamtramck facility that builds the Chevrolet Volt:"

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052818_Stabenow2.pdf

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Senator Stabenow Applauds Lansing Business Named American Small Business of the Year

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow today announced that Lansing-based Niowave, a cutting-edge producer of superconducting particle accelerators, was awarded the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Small Business of the Year Award by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). This award from DOE recognizes Niowave's success in developing innovative technologies of the future, and the company's rapid creation of American jobs. Niowave will be presented the honor at an Awards Banquet in Kansas City today."

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052747_Stabenow1.pdf

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Michigan's First Lady Sue Snyder to serve as spokesperson for grieving children

"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan's First Lady Sue Snyder will serve as a statewide spokesperson for grieving children in Michigan. First Lady Snyder joined Ele's Place, a healing center for grieving children in Lansing and Ann Arbor, today in announcing her new role to help raise awareness of the needs of grieving children and the launch of a website designed to provide assistance to families through the state seeking information on how to support grieving children."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052701_Gov1.pdf

Legislators, Children's Advocates Unveil Auction Items, Resolution in Prevention of Child Abuse

"LANSING – Legislators, the Children's Trust Fund, children's advocates and others today unveiled exciting items up for auction on May 18 to prevent child abuse, as well as a resolution commemorating the Pam Posthumus Signature Auction Event for its importance in helping keep kids safe. "

Source: *Children's Trust Fund* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052574_CTF1.pdf

Michigan Future Inc. Newsletter - May 10, 2011 10:30 am

"More data-driven and proven uncommon sense from Lou Glazer's blog…people with college degrees have lower unemployment rates (and Michigan is well below the national average); story 5 shows how talent, not capital, is driving economic prosperity in the knowledge economy."

Source: *Michigan Future Inc.* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305052496_MWA1.pdf

Student "Letters About Literature" Writers Win Accolades and National Awards!

"LANSING – The Michigan Center for the Book announced Michigan's award winners and finalists for the national Letters about Literature contest today."

Source: *MI Department of Education* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305039636_MDE1.pdf

NURSES PRAISE INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN HEALTH SECURITY ACT

"The Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) today praised Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA), for introducing the American Health Security Act."'"

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305039167_Nurses1.pdf

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Families, Children's Advocates, and Giant Duck Flock to the Capitol to ask for Safe Children

"Following on the heels of Mother's Day, parents, health professionals and community leaders gathered at the Capitol to urge legislators to pass legislation to give Michigan families a Mother's Day gift: the right-to-know about toxic chemicals in children's products."

Source: *Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health (MNCEH)* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305037953_MNCH1.pdf

Insurance Tips for Michigan Consumers Affected by a Natural Disaster

"LANSING- Floods, tornadoes, violent storms - disasters can strike everywhere in Michigan. Many consumers affected by a natural disaster may be overwhelmed and confused by the insurance claims-filing process. However, it is critical that claims be filed correctly to ensure that policyholders receive the payments they are owed. Today the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation (OFIR) offered insurance tips to Michigan consumers faced with a crisis caused by Mother Nature. "

Source: *Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305037859_DELEG1.pdf*

Agricultural Leaders of Michigan: Releasing Land from Conservation Reserve Program Vital

"EAST LANSING – Agricultural Leaders of Michigan today urged the USDA to allow landowners the opportunity to opt out of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) without penalty, and encouraged Senator Debbie Stabenow to include a provision in the 2012 Farm Bill that would give farmers more flexibility within the program. Senator Stabenow, Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, is holding the first 2012 Farm Bill hearing in Michigan on Tuesday, May 31st."

Source: *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305037795_ALM1.pdf*

Advocates call for a stronger anti-bullying bill in Michigan

"On May 3, Michigan's Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill that would call for schools to implement policies prohibiting bullying or harassment. Senate Bill 137, sponsored by Republican Sen. Rick Jones of Grand Ledge, does not include reporting requirements and specific protections for groups that are often victimized by bullying and harassment."

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305037739_ME1.pdf*

New Study: Michigan Hospitals' Patient Safety Improvements Proved Sustainable

"The statement is attributable to Spencer Johnson, president of the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, as it relates to today's announcement in the news release contained on the following page:"

Source: *Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA)* **Date:** *05-11-2011* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1305037629_MHA1.pdf*

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 8:22 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Battle with GOP lawmakers over stem cells could cost U-M state aid

"A battle is heating up between a Republican-led state House panel and the University of Michigan over whether U-M must disclose its number of embryonic stem-cell lines."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120322/NEWS06/203220436/Battle-with-GOP-lawmakers-over-stem-cells-could-cost-U-M-state-aid?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

At contentious meeting, review team finds Detroit in severe financial emergency

"On the same day Detroit officials delivered to the state a new proposal aimed at saving the city from fiscal collapse, Detroit's financial review team declared that a severe financial emergency exists in the city."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120322/NEWS05/203220430/At-contentious-meeting-review-team-finds-Detroit-in-severe-financial-emergency?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

FBI: Ex-Pontiac school official spent stolen funds on cars, shopping spree

"Detroit— A former Pontiac school official accused of stealing $236,000 from the district spent some of the money on luxury vehicles and a Chicago shopping spree and got taxpayers to foot the bill for his law school tuition, according to the FBI."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120322/SCHOOLS/203220378/FBI-Ex-Pontiac-school-official-spent-stolen-funds-cars-shopping-spree?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

'Severe financial emergency' declared

"Detroit— A state-appointed review team unanimously agreed Wednesday that a "severe financial emergency" exists in Detroit, but gave city leaders a short window to forge a consent agreement."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120322/METRO/203220394/-Severe-financial-emergency-declared?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Tribe to vote on Lansing casino project

"Sault Tribe's registered voters will soon find in their mailboxes a referendum election ballot to either approve, or disapprove, the tribe's proposed Lansing casino."

Source: *Soo Evening News* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.sooeveningnews.com/topstories/x1704641658/Tribe-to-vote-on-Lansing-casino-project*

Coast Guard issues ballast water rules

"Nearly 30 years after invasive zebra mussels first showed up in Lake St. Clair, new regulations that will take effect at the end of June will require ocean-going vessels to treat their ballast water before entering the Great Lakes."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/303220001/Coast-Guard-issues-ballast-water-rules?odyssey=tab|topnews|img|FRONTPAGE*

Synthetic marijuana hits drug scene

"Hospitalization and a suicide attempt: Synthetic marijuana has moved into Dowagiac in an ominous way in the past month."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/03/21/synthetic-marijuana-hits-drug-scene/*

Superintendent: Emergency manager has power to turn around Muskegon Heights

"An emergency manager was what the Muskegon Heights school board had asked for, but that doesn't necessarily make the prospect of actually getting one any easier.

"

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/superintendent_emergency_manag.html*

Sappi soil test results reported to state DEQ for Muskegon Lake dredge permit

"MUSKEGON – Concerns over the dredging of a large portion of the former Sappi paper mill waterfront are based on what is in the lake-bottom sediment and where those materials would be disposed."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/sappi_soil_test_results_report.html

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Sappi soil test results reported to state DEQ for Muskegon Lake dredge permit

"MUSKEGON – Concerns over the dredging of a large portion of the former Sappi paper mill waterfront are based on what is in the lake-bottom sediment and where those materials would be disposed."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/sappi_soil_test_results_report.html

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House approves $400K to raze Camp Brighton

"The state House on Tuesday approved funding to raze the former Camp Brighton women's prison in Hamburg Township."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/203220313/House-approves-400K-raze-Camp-Brighton?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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Data: County will grow fastest in its region through '40

"Livingston County's population is projected to grow fastest among southeastern Michigan's seven counties through 2040 in new figures released by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/203220306/Data-County-will-grow-fastest-its-region-through-40?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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MSU chief: Governor's higher education formula too narrow

"Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon had a few words of praise for Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed higher education budget Wednesday morning."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120322/NEWS01/303220040/MSU-chief-Governor-s-higher-education-formula-too-narrow?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

County considering options for employee health insurance

*"**BAD AXE** — The Huron County Board of Commissioners discussed Tuesday changes that will be made to employee insurance plans in 2013."*

Source: *Huron Daily Tribune* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.michigansthumb.com/articles/2012/03/21/news/local_news/doc4f69bf6d7b364115766171.txt*

Michigan firefighters union speaks out against creating public safety dept. in SJ

"ST. JOSEPH - The Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union has come out against St. Joseph's merger of its police and fire departments, predicting higher costs and reduced services, and is asking residents to oppose the move."

Source: *Herald Palladium (St. Joseph/Benton Harbor)* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.heraldpalladium.com/articles/2012/03/21/local_news/9186153.txt*

Record-breaking temperatures start growing season early for local apple orchards, farmers worried (photos)

"SPARTA TOWNSHIP — March's record-breaking warm weather started the growing season weeks in advance and fruit growers are concerned that temperatures may drop."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/record-breaking_temperatures_s.html*

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians could legalize same-sex marriages

"HARBOR SPRINGS -- The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians could become the first tribe in Michigan to legalize same-sex marriages, if a constitutional amendment being considered by its tribal council is passed."

Source: *Gaylord Herald Times* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/gaylord/news/pnr-little-traverse-bay-bands-of-odawa-indians-could-legalize-samesex-marriages-20120321,0,6923696.story*

Special Flint City Council meeting called amid uncertainty following emergency manager ouster

*"**FLINT, Michigan** -- A Special City Council meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/special_flint_city_council_mee_1.html#incart_river_default

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Warm temperatures could have negative impacts on Genesee County's agriculture industry

"

GENESEE COUNTY, Michigan -- While most of us are enjoying the unseasonably warm temperatures, they could have a negative impact on the agricultural industry in the area, according to the National Weather Service.
"

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/warm_temperatures_could_have_n.html#incart_river_default

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Obama campaign touts impact of Affordable Care Act on Michigan residents

"With the Affordable Care Act's two-year anniversary coming up Friday, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign is touting the benefits that health care reform has brought to Michigan residents."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/obama_campaign_touts_impact_of.html#incart_river_default

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Ready to Run? Michigan needs more women in elected office, experts say

"GRAND RAPIDS – When Patty Birkholz began a run for state representative in 1995, Allegan County Republicans openly questioned her ability to replace former House Speaker Paul Hillegonds, who had retired."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/ready_to_run_michigan_needs_mo.html#incart_river_default*

House approves funds for outdoor projects

"Emmet and Cheboygan counties will receive more than $1 million in state grants for local natural resources development and property acquisition."

Source: *Cheboygan Daily Tribune* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://www.cheboygannews.com/topstories/x394116868/House-approves-funds-for-outdoor-projects

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Dow Chemical Co. named to Fortune's Most Admired Companies list

"The Dow Chemical Co. is among eight Michigan-based companies to be named to Fortune's list of the World's Most Admired Companies."

Source: *Bay City Times* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2012/03/dow_chemical_co_named_to_fortu.html*

Court weighs U.S. power over states in health case

*"**WASHINGTON** — Congress will help pay for your roads, but your state can't lower its drinking age below 21. There's federal money for colleges, but they can't discriminate against women in the classroom or on the athletic field."*

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120321/NEWS01/303210015/Court-weighs-U-S-power-over-states-health-case*

New Michigan law will promote organ donations

"LANSING, Mich. (AP) — New Michigan laws will allow for a fundraising vehicle license plate that encourages organ donation."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/03/new_michigan_law_will_promote.html*

Drop in delinquent taxes sign of an improving economy? Washtenaw County treasurer says yes

"For the first time since 2005, Washtenaw County's treasurer is reporting a drop in delinquent taxes, and that could be a sign of an improving economy."

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/washtenaw-county-treasurers-report-drop-in-delinquent-taxes-sign-of-an-improving-economy/*

Dexter tornado aftermath: State Rep. Mark Ouimet working on bill to reimburse community costs

*"Local government agencies in Washtenaw County could get some help from the state covering **Dexter tornado** relief efforts if a bill Rep. **Mark Ouimet**, R-Scio Township, is trying to develop becomes law."*

Source: *annarbor.com* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://annarbor.com/news/dexter-tornado-aftermath-state-rep-mark-ouimet-working-on-bill-to-reimburse-community-costs/*

Waligora gets reps, senators involved in airport bid

"ALPENA - Alpena Mayor Matt Waligora, Sixel Consulting, and other people involved in the process of attracting an airline provider to Alpena have drafted a letter to the United States Department of Transportation to voice concerns over the current bid by Air Choice One."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/520814/Waligora-gets-reps--senators-involved-in-airport-bid.html?nav=5004*

County may need dashboard

"ALPENA - Last year the City of Alpena was forced by the state of Michigan to implement a transparency dashboard in order to receive a larger portion of revenue sharing from the state. The detailed report is a general outline of finance and operations to be made easily available to residents."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/520813/County-may-need-dashboard.html?nav=5004*

Madison school board updates anti-bullying policy

"The Madison school board on Monday unanimously approved an updated anti-bullying policy."

Source: *Adrian Daily Telegram* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lenconnect.com/newsnow/x394116156/Madison-school-board-updates-anti-bullying-policy*

Press Releases

Rainbow PUSH Michigan and Highland Park NAACP Demand Clean Up of on Toxic Pollution By Chrome Craft

"

(DETROIT) *– D Alexander Bullock, Mayor De Andre Windom and concerned citizens will speak out at a meeting with The Michigan Department of Environment Quality (MDEQ)."*

Source: *Rainbow Push Coalition* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332363269_RPC1.pdf*

Meadows Introduces Michigan- Centered Agriculture Bills

"

*LANSING- State Representative **Mark Meadows** (D-East Lansing) today announced the introduction of legislation designed to support the expansion of local agricultural economies. "*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332362226_House4.pdf

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Calley signs bills creating fundraising license plate to promote organ donation

"

LANSING, Mich. – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley today signed legislation allowing for the creation of a fundraising license plate that encourages organ donation."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332360864_Gov2.pdf

Research universities build argument for greater role for arts, creative thinking

"

ANN ARBOR, Mich.---Confronting the challenge of how to encourage and cultivate innovative thinking in higher education, administrators from some of the most prestigious U.S. research universities have published a report aiming to provoke a national discussion about the ways "arts practice" can be a catalyst for creative thinking in all academic disciplines."

Source: *University of Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359710_UM1.pdf

Email Disclosure Prompts Call for Legislature to Come Clean About Mackinac Center's Influence

"

LANSING, MI—Progress Michigan called today on the state Legislature to release all emails and other communications between lawmakers and the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, including those of a lobbying nature, in light of the disclosure this week in Oakland County of damning emails involving Republican state lawmakers."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359638_Progress1.pdf

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Celebrating Two Years of Better Healthcare

"

DETROIT, MI – March 23, 2012 marks the two-year Anniversary of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Michigan is lucky to be represented by Healthcare champions Congressmen Dingell, Conyers and Levin. Joining them on the call will be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services Bill Corr."

Source: *Know Your Care* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359584_KYC1.pdf

Will the Michigan Supreme Court do the Right Thing? Or Will It Permit GOP Corruption?

"

***LANSING** – The Michigan Supreme Court will soon decide whether a blatant Republican power grab is unconstitutional. The question now is, will the Court make the right ruling or will it permit GOP corruption on both the county and state level?"*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332359481_MDP2.pdf

Traditional School Community Continues to Criticize Full-Time Cyber Schools

"LANSING, Michigan (March 21, 2012) – Throughout the debate on lifting the enrollment cap on cyber charter schools, officials throughout the traditional school community have leveled a host of charges against full-time cyber schools. "

Source: *Michigan Association of Public School Academies* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332353590_MAPSA1.pdf

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AFT Michigan endorses U.S. Rep. Gary Peters

"

Representing members in the Detroit and Hamtramck Public Schools & Wayne County Community College District, AFT Michigan joins growing list of Organized Labor Unions uniting behind Peters"

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352343_Peters1.pdf

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Inland fishing guides reminded of permit required to use state lands

"

The Department of Natural Resources reminds fishing guides who use state-owned lands to access Michigan's inland lakes or streams as part of their commercial operation that they are required to have written permission from the DNR prior to using state-owned lands."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352204_DNR1.pdf*

Teachers union backs renewable energy ballot initiative

"

*LANSING — **American Federation of Teachers Michigan** has joined a growing list of groups endorsing a ballot proposal to increase Michigan's renewable energy standard to 25 percent by 2025."*

Source: *Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332352167_MEMJ1.pdf*

Chamber to Address Federal Debt Crisis

"

***Grand Rapids** – Former United States Comptroller and CEO of Comeback America David M. Walker, will be the keynote speaker at Living on Borrowed Time: Solving America's Debt Crisis, a Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon taking place on Tuesday, April 3, 2012."*

Source: *Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332351372_GRACC1.pdf*

Snyder continues investment mission by meeting with German auto suppliers

"

KUNZELSAU, Germany – Gov. Rick Snyder today met with executives of German automotive suppliers whose companies operate in Michigan, seeking to strengthen relationships and attract new job-creating investments."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332350257_Gov1.pdf*

Michigan Voters Optimistic About Direction of State

"

LANSING - For the first time since March of 2003 more Michigan voters believe the State of Michigan is headed in the right direction than believe we are seriously on the wrong track. These optimistic attitudes appear to be led by the voters belief that the economy has turned around in Michigan."

Source: *Marketing Resource Group, Inc.* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332349866_MRG1.pdf

Michigan Residents Say "No Thanks" to Koch Brothers' Front Group

"

***LANSING** – Out-of-state special interest front groups have already started spending big in Michigan by launching false TV ads attacking Senator Stabenow. Independent fact checkers have repeatedly called these ads "just wrong," and also "ridiculous.""*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346430_MDP1.pdf

MITT ROMNEY ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF MICHIGAN CONGRESSWOMAN CANDICE MILLER

"

***Boston, MA** – Mitt Romney today announced the support of Michigan Congresswoman Candice Miller."*

Source: *Romney for President* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346396_Romney1.pdf

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Rep. Cavanagh Says Rate Hike Demands Passage of Bills Opening MCCA's Books

"

Rep. Cavanagh Says Rate Hike Demands Passage of Bills Opening MCCA's Books"

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346351_House3.pdf

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All hands on deck

"

Have you heard? It looks like legislation to include gay and transgender residents in the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act is set to be introduced soon. This would ensure that no Michigander could be discriminated against, or fired from their job, just because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Great news!"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346314_EM2.pdf*

Senator Warren to Host Press Conference Announcing Anti-Discrimination Legislation

"

LANSING — Senator Rebekah Warren (D – Ann Arbor) will be joined by members of the Unity Michigan coalition and Professor Peter J. Hammer, Director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights at the Wayne State University Law School, on Thursday, March 2"

Source: *Equality Michigan* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346273_EM1.pdf*

Sign up now! Take back the U.S. House

"

We're excited about the buzz and excitement that Dr. Taj has brought to this race, but he needs your help! Help us take back the U.S. House of Representatives by joining Dr. Taj for a fundraiser to support his campaign."

Source: *Taj* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332346195_Taj1.pdf*

Senate Concurrent Resolution 28 moves to Michigan House of Representatives

"

LANSING— *The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 28, said sponsor Rick Jones."*

Source: *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341739_Jones1.pdf*

Recent Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 3/20/2012. "

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341256_COA1.pdf

Majority trashes yard clippings and women's rights.

"

Welcome again to my e-newsletter. As your state representative for the 53rd House District, I'll continue to send these updates to keep you informed of issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state. Please feel free to visit my website and contact me should you have any questions or concerns."

Source: *Rep. Jeff Irwin* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341214_Irwin1.pdf

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Senator Warren to Host Press Conference Announcing Anti-Discrimination Legislation

"

Press conference announcing legislation to amend the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1976 to include protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Michigan residents."

Source: *Sen. Rebecca Warren* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341172_Warren1.pdf

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ATTORNEY JENNIFER WARNER IS NEW DIRECTOR OF TRIAL COURT SERVICES

"LANSING, MI, March 21, 2012 – Attorney Jennifer D. Warner is the new director of the State Court Administrative Office's Trial Court Services division, the Michigan Supreme Court announced today"

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341108_MSC1.pdf

Endangered Species Recovery Champions Announced

"

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced recipients of the 2011 Recovery Champion award, which honors Service employees and partners for outstanding efforts to conserve and protect endangered and threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants."

Source: *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332341018_Fish1.pdf

National Bus Tour to Hit East Lansing, Detroit, and Ann Arbor to Meet with Young Adults, Discuss Job

"

Lansing, Michigan – Wednesday, March 21-Friday, March 24, Young Invincibles, a national nonprofit organization, will be bringing our decked out tour bus to East Lansing, Detroit, and Ann Arbor. During our stop, we will be hosting youth roundtables where we will be discussing the issues, stories, and solutions young Michiganders are facing with respect to health care, college affordability, and employment. "

Source: *Young Invincibles* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340978_YI1.pdf

Senator Stabenow Receives Award from Michigan Snowmobile Association

"

***Washington, DC** – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow received the Michigan Snowmobile Association's Award of Appreciation for her commitment to the Recreational Trails Program. "*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340938_Stabenow1.pdf

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Senate Democrats Take Governor, Legislature to Task over Ethical Failures, Political Fraud

"

Lansing – Senate Democratic leaders Gretchen Whitmer and Tupac A. Hunter issued the following statement today regarding the release of over 200 pages of leaked documentation that reveal significant ethical and political breaches by Governor Snyder and Oakland County elected officials, both local and legislative. "

Source: *Senate Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340895_Senate1.pdf

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Reintroducing the free market into Michigan's electric system

"

LANSING – Rep. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) today introduced legislation in the House and Senate designed to address what many see as a critical flaw in Michigan's current energy law -- the 10 percent cap on electric competition. "

Source: *Energy Choice Now* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332340856_CCC1.pdf

House Dems Continue Push For "Reform Government Now" Package

"

LANSING – House Democratic Leader ***Richard E. Hammel*** *(D-Mt. Morris Township) and the entire House Democratic Caucus again today called on Republican leaders in the House to move the "Reform Government Now" legislative package through the chamber in the wake of a recent report by State Integrity Investigation that ranked Michigan's government 43rd in the country in terms of accountability and risk of corruption."*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336965_House2.pdf

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Emails Confirm Republican Oakland County Redistricting Motive a Sham

"

LANSING – News sources confirmed today that Republican bills which reduced Oakland County Commission seats from 25 to 21 members were done solely to allow the GOP controlled body to redraw court mandated district lines in their favor. Republicans had insisted that their motives were to save taxpayer money, but emails obtained from the Freedom of Information Act, show that was not the case."

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336930_House1.pdf

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Proos: Corrections 2013 budget stops annual increases; cuts $67.3 million from governor's recommenda

"

LANSING – *After the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of Corrections approved a 2013 budget on Tuesday that protects public safety while spending $67.3 million less than the governor's recommendation, Sen. John Proos, chair of the subcommittee, issued the following statement:"*

Source: *Sen. John Proos* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336883_Proos1.pdf

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Local leaders continue to support Selfridge amid proposed cuts

"

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel today presented a letter of support from himself, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Detroit Mayor David Bing to the Selfridge Base Community Council as a show of support for the base, which is currently fighting personnel cuts at the federal level."

Source: *Macomb County Executive Office* **Date:** *03-22-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332336846_Macomb1.pdf*

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 9:58 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

From: MIRS Delivery <johnt@mirsnews.ccsend.com> on behalf of MIRS Delivery <email@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 1:00 PM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: CORRECTION: MIRS Monday Podcast March 26, 2012

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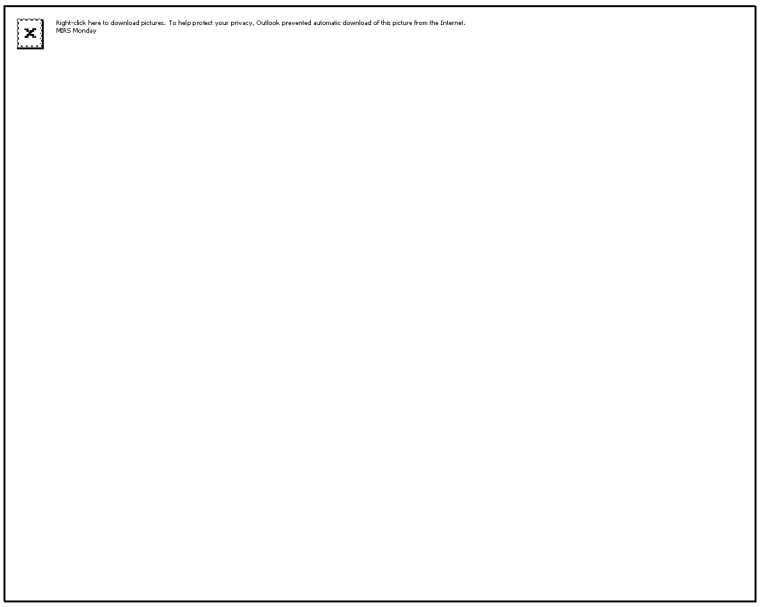

Rich Robinson of the Campaign Finance Network gives Jocelyn Benson's "Right to Know" ballot proposal an "incomplete." Was Robinson consulted on Benson's shelved proposal? What would his ballot proposal look like if he were to craft one? Also, Republicans try to play the role of compromiser on Right to Work, why Flint will get its emergency manager back quickly and why the public doesn't care about the immediate effect controversy in the House.

Listen to the podcast by clicking on the following link: http://mirsnews.podbean.com/

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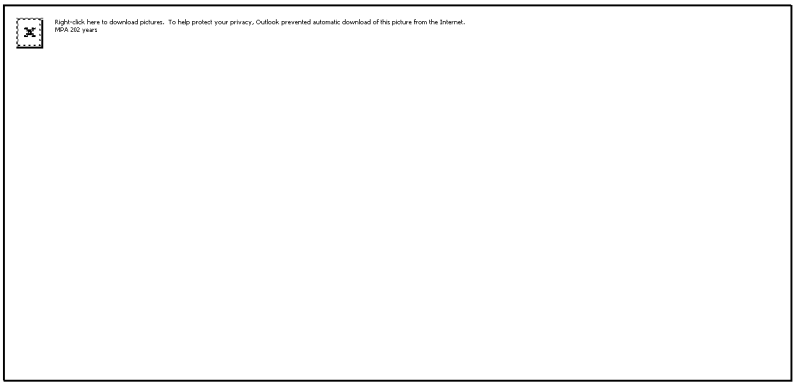

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:11 PM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: NEWS UPDATE--Appeals Court Stays Order; Flint E.M. Returns To Power

News Update

Monday, March 26, 2012, 04:11 PM

Appeals Court Stays Order; Flint E.M. Returns To Power

The Court of Appeals has restored Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown to operate under the provisions of 2011 PA 4 while it hears an expedited review of the Ingham Circuit Court ruling that threw out the emergency manager in that city.

The court issued an order Monday afternoon in *Muma v. Flint Financial Review Team* (COA docket No. 309260), setting the schedule for briefs in the appeal which would take place likely within a month. Following the schedule set in the order, all briefs and counter arguments would have to be completed within 21 days.

Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina ruled that Mr. Brown could not continue in his role as emergency manager, appointed there by Governor Rick Snyder last fall, since the panel violated the Open Meetings Act. That put Flint Mayor Dayne Walling and the city council back in charge.

In its order, the court ruled Mr. Brown could operate under the powers of the emergency manager act during the pendency of the appeal.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in Monday's Michigan Report.

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Subject: MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, March 26, 2012

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INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:
Chaotic Public Meeting Results In Financial Stress, No Consent Agreement
The Detroit Financial Review Team today passed a motion saying that there is financial stress in the Motor City but no consent agreement was adopted as the team withstood a barrage of the objections from more than 15 public commentators and various hecklers.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30567

House Budget: Between Governor's and Senate's Targets
The House Appropriations budget will be lower than Gov. Rick SNYDER's recommendation and higher than the Senate's budget target, MIRS has learned.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30570

Compromise Cyber School Bill Coming In House
The House is preparing to vote this week on a scaled-back version of a bill that would expand charter school-sponsored cyber schools to 15 and limit the number of students able to participate to 3 percent of the state's student population.
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Anuzis To Run Again, Who Will Challenge?
Michigan Republican National Committeeman Saul ANUZIS announced over the weekend that he would seek re-election for a four-year term during the Michigan Republican Party's (MRP) May 19 state committee meeting
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30562

Stem Cell Issue Not Expected In Senate Higher Ed Budget
Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Tonya SCHUITMAKER (R-Lawton) today said she doesn't expect her Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget to delve into hot-button issues of embryonic stem cell research (ESR) or domestic partner benefits.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30571

Helmet Bill To Roar In This Week
The Senate is set to take up the motorcycle helmet bill this week independent of no-fault insurance reform, Senate Majority Leader Randy RICHARDVILLE (R-Monroe) told MIRS.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30558

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www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30563

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A bill that would allow people to carry concealed weapons in churches, hospitals, schools, bars and sports venues is not slated to be taken up this week, Senate Majority Leader Randy RICHARDVILLE (R-Monroe).
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Shields GOP Confident of House Control
The House Democrats are making noses about swiping back control of the lower chamber and a GOP consultant said that's to be expected, but his clients are "confident" that will not happen.
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www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30556

Midland Joins The Big Boys
Midland can now be counted as one of the urbanized areas of the state, and several other areas are nearing that designation, according to U.S. Census Bureau data released today based on the 2010 Census.
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30560

Bits And Tidbits
CPAN Holding Town Hall
www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=3797#30565

On This Day In Michigan History
On March 26, 1859, Adrian College adopted articles of incorporation. By 1862, Adrian College had a student enrollment of 82 women and 133 men.
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Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 10:36 PM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: Updated MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, March 26, 2012

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Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 10:44 PM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: Michigan Report, Monday, March 26, 2012
Attachments: Mar26.htm; 120326plan.htm; 120326dayplan.htm

Volume #51, Report #59 -- Monday, March 26, 2012

4-3 Supreme Court Upholds Oakland County Redistricting

In what could be characterized as 4-3 Republican-Democratic split on the officially nonpartisan Supreme Court, the justices ruled a politically charged law ordering Oakland County to reapportion itself was constitutional.

That reapportionment process is scheduled to begin on Wednesday when 2011 PA 280 ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB518701" }) takes effect, and the process will be the second undertaken by the county since the 2010 census, but this reapportionment will be under the authority of the Republican-controlled county board of commissioners. The first reapportionment was overseen by the countywide officers, who are dominated by Democrats.

The decision, in Houston v. Snyder (SC docket No.144691), came as an order overturning a Court of Appeals decision that held the act was a local act and failed to meet the constitutional guidelines for enacting a local act.

The court heard arguments last week over whether to grant leave to appeal the decision. Instead of deciding to hold more arguments, the four-member majority ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=298201&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" }) said simply the act "is not a 'local' act in violation" of Article IV, Section 29 of the Constitution.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/young05.jpg" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&

locid=1" } sided with the majority; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" } wrote the dissent.

The majority opinion in the order was not signed, so it is unknown who wrote the opinion.

However, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" } clearly wrote the main dissent, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151701&locid=1" } ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153201&locid=1" } concurred in a separate short dissent), in which she said the only way in which 2011 PA 280 could be constitutional would be for the court to sever the section that requires Oakland County to begin to reapportion beginning on Wednesday, March 28.

"If it is possible to sever the constitutionally flawed section of a statute while the remainder of the statute could function, the court should sever the flawed section. That is what the Court of Appeals did in this case. This court should affirm its decision," Ms. Kelly wrote in her concluding comments.

The action passing the statute was one of the more politically charged in recent legislative history. The day before the Supreme Court heard the arguments, Frank Houston, the chief plaintiff in the case and the Oakland County Democratic Party chair, released emails the party had obtained under the Freedom of Information Act that showed that despite the argument of supporters that the measure would save money, it was clearly being pushed because Republicans wanted the act passed to protect their majority on the board.

Both the majority and dissent acknowledged the partisan nature of the law. Ms. Kelly simply referred to it as a "politically charged case."

The majority said the plaintiffs "made much" of the political nature of the act. But the majority decision also said in effect every reapportionment effort tries to provide a partisan advantage to one party or another. "Notwithstanding this reality," the court said, political motives cannot be a basis for rendering a decision on the constitutionality of the law.

A major difference between the majority and dissent was in reading the entirety of the statute. The majority cited previous decisions in saying that an effort to segregate a section would misinterpret legislative intent, and that a statute must be read so all the sections harmonize with themselves.

Ms. Kelly wrote that, "The whole, however read, cannot cure the constitutional flaw of one of its parts." The majority, she said, argues that because one part of the law is unconstitutional it can still be constitutional because the rest of the act is constitutional and that is not possible.

The two sides also differed on the specific date in the act and whether it made the act an unconstitutional local act (that would require approval by a two-thirds majority of the Legislature as well as the local public).

The majority held that the act included enacting conditions that meant it was open-ended enough that theoretically most counties could fall under its provisions. It also referred to an admission made by the plaintiff's counsel that if the act had been enacted before the first reapportionment had occurred, no constitutional question would be raised against the act.

The specific date implementing the required reapportionment process was part of the transitional nature of the act, the majority said. Oakland County was the only county affected beginning Wednesday, but that still did not render the measure a local act because every county "remains potentially subject in the future" to the act's requirements.

But Ms. Kelly argued it was the time frame, and the fact that as defined the only county that could be affected on Wednesday, March 28, would be Oakland County, made the provision a local act. "It is a date certain, and it will never occur again," she wrote. And where only one municipality at one specified time is affected, an act is effectively a local act, she said.

Reaction to the decision fell along predictable partisan lines. Democrats fumed that the Republican majority on the court was in the tank for Oakland County Republicans out of partisan loyalty, not impartial legal analysis.

"It's just another outrageous act by the Republican Party in Michigan," said Frank Houston, chair of the Oakland County Democratic Party. "It's clear that this Supreme Court has set aside legal precedent and our state Constitution all for Republican gain. Outraged would be one word for it. Even more, I think it's extreme disappointment that the Supreme Court would choose the politics of one party over the rule of law."

Mr. Houston said the statute clearly was a local act. Only Oakland County - now and in the future - could possibly qualify under the terms of the statute, he said.

Leading up to the decision, Mr. Houston said Republican attorneys told him legally, Democrats should expect to win, but politically, they should expect to lose.

A federal lawsuit is possible, Mr. Houston said. There also might be some aspects of Ingham Circuit Judge William Collette's ruling that the Supreme Court did not address upon which Democrats could seize.

But Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who led the effort to change the redistricting process in the county, said he simply went through the system to secure the legislation.

"Did we do anything illegal? Did we do anything improper?" he said. "You may not like the result, but it was all done by the rules, by the book."

That is more than the Oakland County Democratic Party can say, Mr. Patterson said, saying the local party remains tainted from the scandal that broke in 2010-11 in which the party's then chair and his then top staffer pleaded no contest to charges related to fraudulently filing the names of

persons to run for office without their knowledge. The two were filing the names of people under the banner of a fake tea party with the goal of siphoning votes from Republican candidates.

However, the plot collapsed after the fraudulent activity was exposed and the fake tea party failed to secure ballot access.

Asked to respond to Democratic complaints that Oakland County Republicans, after not having control of the redistricting process for the first time ever, acted like sore losers by going to their Republican colleagues in the Legislature and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to change the rules, Mr. Patterson said: "What we did was absolutely legally proper. Whether you like the end result depends on which political horse you're riding."

Democrats were unmoved. In response to a tweet from Mr. Patterson about how the county secured the statute legally, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151201&locid=1" } (D-Onondaga) tweeted in response, "Unethical and legal, yes."

Democratic Party Chair Mark Brewer branded the ruling as one to "allow GOP corruption." He took aim at the two Republican incumbents up for election on the 2012 ballot, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" }.

"Today, the Michigan Supreme Court has shown it is on the side of political corruption and not the rule of law. Two other lower courts have already declared this law unconstitutional, yet Republicans on the Supreme Court chose to ignore the law and the facts in order to permit Republican corruption," Mr. Brewer said in a statement. "This plan was set in motion months ago and email records prove that the sole intent was nothing more than a Republican power grab. Our justices should be standing up for the Constitution instead of promoting corruption. Voters will not forget this decision and will hold this Court accountable this November. Justices Markman and Zahra have once again proven they are nothing more than puppets of special interests."

State, Detroit Near Consent Agreement; Activists Drown Out Meeting

DETROIT - Enveloped in chaos, the state-appointed review team examining Detroit's finances declared before an unruly crowd the city is in a state of severe financial stress on Monday, paving the way for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and the city to negotiate a consent agreement in next 10 days and avoid an emergency manager which all sides say they want to avoid.

If the two sides cannot reach a deal, then Mr. Snyder would likely have to name an emergency manager to take control of operations in Michigan's largest city. However, earlier today, Mr. Snyder was upbeat about the prospects of reaching an agreement. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=105001&locid=1" }, who for most

of the hour and a half meeting at Cadillac Place could not be heard because the crowd was so loud, said the hope is to have a consent agreement in place by the end of the week.

The review team stopped short of declaring a financial emergency in the city, which usually is a prelude to the governor naming an emergency manager. If talks on a consent agreement fall apart, Mr. Snyder could still declare a financial emergency within 10 days and proceed down the path of naming a manager.

Racial undertones coursed through the crowd and throughout the meeting.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/Snyder%20(2).jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was upbeat Monday about getting an agreement with Detroit officials on the city's finances.

Activist Minister Malik Shabazz, who is associated with the New Black Panther Nation, said this is white on black crime.

"This is white supremacy and we will fight you," Mr. Shabazz said. "Before we let you take over our city, we will burn it down first."

One man in the crowd stood up to address no one in particular and said he supported the city having an emergency manager, which the crowd turned on immediately. He was told to shut up and called an "Uncle Tom."

As he tried to explain himself, the crowd shouted "Tom!" over him and drowned him out.

Later in the meeting, with tensions running high, a man in the back of the room began yelling at a security guard for putting his hands on him.

Nearly everyone in the room turned their attention to the altercation as it played out, with no one listening or paying attention to the review team.

Before the meeting even began, the crowd got things started by shouting "No takeover!", a refrain that would be echoed later at various points in the meeting.

Well more than a dozen times, the crowd took over the meeting, shouting at the review team and over one another.

At first Mr. Dillon and the team waited for the crowd to stop chanting and then tried to move forward until the next interruption.

After numerous interruptions, Mr. Dillon said the team was just going to push through and if the crowd couldn't hear that was their fault.

He later called those shouting out "rude," which did not sit well with those doing the shouting.

Throughout the meeting the crowd took turns chanting "No takeover," "This is what Democracy looks like!", "Where's our money?", and then stopped the meeting for several minutes as they sang several verses of "We Shall Overcome."

One woman in the crowd chastised the review team saying they were "raping the city of Detroit."

Another focused her rage on Mr. Dillon, "You Democrat turned Republican!"

The crowd also turned on former Chief Justice Conrad Mallett, a member of the review team, for what the crowd saw as fixing up the mess of Mr. Dillon. One woman referred to Mr. Dillon as a "white man," and said Mr. Mallett was acting like a "good colored person."

"Don't do it Conrad!" the crowd shouted for about a minute.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Mr. Shabazz said the city needs help from the state that it wants and deserves, "not the help that you want to impose upon us."

Even after the meeting, Mr. Shabazz continued to bellow as Mr. Dillon was meeting with reporters to explain what happened since it was so difficult to hear during the meeting.

"It's fascism...Damn the governor... worst governor we've ever had," Mr. Shabazz shouted over and over.

Mr. Dillon said during the course of negotiations, the state also introduced the idea of a project manager, who would handle the reform measures identified that need to take place. A chief financial officer would also be added.

The makeup of the nine-member advisory board was also altered. Instead of predominantly being made up of members the state had final say on, it would include four from the state, two from the mayor, two from the city council and one member agreed to by the mayor and the governor and approved by the city council.

During the meeting, the review team worked on its report to send to the governor and worked off a draft that Frederick Headen, director of the Department of Treasury's Local Government Services Bureau, had developed.

Some members of the team wanted nothing to do with it since they had no hand in writing it. Changes were made to the draft during the meeting and one page was deleted entirely. Mr. Dillon did not say what the contents of that page included.

Mr. Dillon said in the next 10 days, he and the governor are hopeful an agreement can be reached. He said the governor does not want to be in a situation where he has to declare an emergency.

"He does want a consent agreement," he said.

At a press conference earlier in the day, Mr. Snyder sounded upbeat about the prospects of a negotiated deal with the city.

"My role is not to run the city of Detroit," he said. "I don't want an emergency manager."

He said discussions between his administration and city officials are focusing on a deficit elimination plan that they are calling a "financial stability agreement," because the city did not want a consent agreement.

Mr. Snyder said he wants some additional elements added to the deficit elimination plan that would qualify it as a consent agreement under Public Act 4 of 2011 ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401" }). One of the additions would be to give Detroit Mayor Dave Bing some of the expanded powers provided under that statute.

Mr. Bing remains hospitalized after undergoing surgery this weekend for a perforated intestine. Mr. Snyder said he has not spoken with Mr. Bing, but has sent flowers. He said he met with six of the nine city council members Monday and his staff continues to meet with Mr. Bing's staff. He called the meetings with city officials productive and said they have not been adversarial.

In a joint statement released late Monday afternoon, Deputy Mayor Kirk Lewis and Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh said significant progress is being made to develop a financial stability agreement "to restore Detroit fiscally and preserve the democratic process."

"The Mayor's Office and City Council have agreed not to discuss details until a final agreement is reached. Our goal is to have an agreement by the end of the week," the statement read.

The statement also said the mayor and the majority of the council are not in favor of a consent agreement. That might explain why officials keep calling the plan under discussion a "financial stability agreement."

Mr. Snyder said he hopes the city council will have the ability to see something in writing before its meeting on Tuesday, but he isn't putting any pressure on them to approve a deal then because he wants them to be comfortable.

"It's a serious agreement," he said.

Mr. Bing and the city council roundly rejected Mr. Snyder's proposed consent agreement earlier this month, because it called for a financial review team to take authority for city's fiscal situation.

The city council's counterproposal calls for the financial review team to advise the mayor and city council on fiscal issues, as well as asks the state to provide more than $130 million in immediate funding for the city and to assist it in collecting taxes from non-resident workers in the city.

Whether the two sides could enter into a consent agreement was in doubt until Friday evening when the Court of Appeals unanimously overturned an Ingham Circuit Court judge's prohibition on the city of Detroit and the state entering into such an agreement.

Also on Friday, a coalition of 30 of the nearly 50 labor unions that represent city of Detroit workers announced they had ratified concessions negotiated with Detroit Mayor Dave Bing.

The concessions would save the city $54 million a year, but Mr. Snyder and Mr. Dillon had made clear that was not nearly enough to resolve the city's cash crisis.

"Detroit's finances are in a very difficult shape," Mr. Snyder said. "Times are very difficult in Detroit and we need to all work together to get to financial stability."

There are three things the city needs, Mr. Snyder said. Detroit needs to get its finances stable and moving in a positive direction, do a better job of providing basic services for the residents and grow the city.

"The long-term answer to Detroit's issues is a growing Detroit," he said.

Senate Subcommittee To Raise Film Incentive To $40M

A Senate subcommittee will recommend increasing funding for the state's film incentive program from $25 million to $40 million.

The Senate Appropriations General Government Subcommittee is scheduled to approve the budget for a variety of smaller state departments and agencies Tuesday ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95401" }
). There's been a significant change in the Senate target for that budget. Initially, Senate Republicans planned to spend $25 million less in that budget than { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } recommended.

Now { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), the subcommittee chair, said the caucus has raised the target to $15 million more than Mr. Snyder's recommendation.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/members/pappageorge.jpg" }{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=50001&locid=1" } said

the discussion on film incentive funding will continue.

Initially, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), the Appropriations Committee chair, said the $25 million cut would be accomplished through halving { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s $50 million recommendation to upgrade the state's information technology systems. But Mr. Pappageorge said Monday that he never planned on that big of a cut and instead will call for trimming the program to $48 million.

"We need that desperately," he said.

Mr. Pappageorge said bumping up the film incentive program to $40 million is designed to allow the conversation on that issue to continue.

In another switch from Mr. Snyder's budget, Mr. Pappageorge plans to handle revenue sharing to counties differently. Mr. Snyder had proposed requiring counties to follow a set of best practices to receive their funds, much like cities, villages and townships had to do starting with the current fiscal year.

However, Mr. Pappageorge said cities, villages and townships receive 80 percent of their revenue sharing from the constitutional formula and 20 percent through the Economic Vitality Incentive Program, while counties get no money through the Constitution. So he decided to wall off 80 percent of the county revenue sharing money and instead make just 20 percent of it subject to the EVIP program. And he set the funding for counties at the same level they received in the current year.

Other budget bills on the Senate side remain works in progress. In the higher education budget, the plan at this point is to retain the tuition restraint language Mr. Snyder recommended requiring universities to keep tuition increases below 4 percent to receive additional funding. However, no decision has been made on Mr. Snyder's proposal to allocate more funding to universities based on their success at meeting certain metrics. The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee is scheduled to vote Thursday on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95501" }.

The K-12 budget ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB96101" }) also is still gelling, said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=73001&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the subcommittee chair. Mr. Walker said he is examining whether to place certain programs, namely the best practices funding incentive and payment for the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, that Mr. Snyder has recommended as categoricals instead into the foundation allowance.

Mr. Walker said the Senate is considering some new categories for the best practices program although he did not want to go into details.

In the Department of Education budget ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB95201" }), Mr. Walker has a target funding level $500,000 below Mr. Snyder's recommendation. He said that would be done by unrolling and reducing the administrative line. Mr. Walker said senators are unhappy with the lack of notice about Highland Park schools' financial crisis. The Legislature had to quickly approve funding that would allow the district's students to continue receiving their education through the Detroit Public Schools operating Highland Park school buildings or to provide funding to charter schools accepting students leaving the Highland Park system.

"We didn't hear about it until they needed an emergency appropriation, so we'd kind of like to see what's going on there in that line item," he said.

Court Of Appeals Rebuffs Ingham Circuit On E.M. Rulings

The Court of Appeals reined in a pair of rulings by two Ingham Circuit Court judges who took severe action to remedy what they said were violations of the Open Meetings Act by state-appointed review teams that examined problems in the Detroit and Flint city governments.

Monday, the Court of Appeals overturned Ingham Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina's ruling that ousted Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown from power and placed Flint Mayor Dayne Walling and the city council back in charge. The court granted the state's request for a stay on that portion of Ms. Aquilina's decision, and Mr. Brown returns to power while the case is resolved.

Also Monday, union activist Robert Davis filed an emergency appeal with the Supreme Court after the Court of Appeals' ruling late Friday evening that overturned Ingham Circuit Court Judge William Collette's decision that the state and city could not enter into a consent agreement to fix the city's finances until he held a hearing Thursday on whether the review team should be held in contempt for violating the Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Davis urged a decision by the court by Tuesday so that the hearing could proceed.

The three-judge panel held that Mr. Collette can only bar action by the review team if there is additional evidence that it violated the Open Meetings Act. The court stayed all other aspects of Mr. Collette's March 20 ruling and barred him from holding any other hearings on the issue, including the Thursday hearing.

The court further held the application for leave to appeal Mr. Collette's ruling in abeyance pending further order and retained jurisdiction.

The judges on the panel were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109001&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109201&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153101&locid=1" }. The same three judges also heard the Flint case. Mr. Kelly and Mr. O'Connell were both elected directly to

the court and are generally considered independent. Mr. Whitbeck was appointed to the court by former Governor John Engler, but also is not considered a conservative firebrand.

In the Flint case, the court ordered the sides to conclude filing briefs within 21 days.

Senate Expected To Run Bill Repealing Mandatory Helmet Law

Senate Republicans apparently have decided they will no longer wait for a comprehensive auto insurance reform bill and instead will pass legislation repealing the state's longtime requirement that motorcyclists wear helmets.

The Senate is expected to take up the helmet law repeal ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB29101" }) on Thursday, said Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has said he prefers to deal with the helmet issue as part of an overall insurance legislative package that addresses unlimited medical benefits for those with catastrophic injuries ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB493601" }).

But that legislation appears to be in serious trouble on the House floor, where it has been stuck for months.

Additionally, on Tuesday, the Senate will vote on a bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB35101" }) that would direct sales tax revenues from gasoline purchases to roads, Ms. McCann said.

Supreme Court Declines Schuette's Request To Bypass Court Of Appeals In Same-Sex Benefits Case

The Supreme Court overwhelmingly rejected a request from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } that it directly hear his case against the Civil Service Commission's awarding of benefits to unrelated adults living with state employees and bypass the Court of Appeals.

Last May, Mr. Schuette challenged the legality of the Civil Service Commission's action, asserting that it exceeded the commission's authority and violated the rights of family members of state employees who are not eligible for benefits because it allows non-family members to be eligible. Under the policy, one unrelated adult living with a state employee can receive state health benefits, as can any dependents of that adult.

Mr. Schuette later asked the Supreme Court to take up the case, bypassing the Court of Appeals, out of concern that the case would take too long to work its way through the system.

The Supreme Court rejected Mr. Schuette's request on an 8-1 vote in an order dated Friday, but released Saturday (SC Docket 144184). { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" } dissented, saying the case warranted expedited consideration.

"Individuals and communities that are immediately affected, as well as the citizenry generally, whose constitution is at issue, are entitled to dispositive resolutions of these disputes in a reasonably facilitated manner," Mr. Markman wrote. "I would have treated each of these disputes as priority matters for our consideration."

Split Supreme Court Rules Arson Case Can Be Reheard

A directed verdict is not necessarily a resolution of the factual matters of a case, and therefore a criminal defendant can be tried a second time even after a directed verdict favoring him without violating the double jeopardy provisions in the U.S. and Michigan constitutions, the Supreme Court ruled Monday in a 4-3 split decision.

The minority in the decision in *People v. Evans* ({ HYPERLINK "http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Clerk/11-12-Term-Opinions/141381.pdf" \t "blank" }) charged the majority had overturned a 1996 opinion of the court that was based on a U.S. Supreme Court decision and did so without a persuasive argument.

But { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=148801&locid=1" }, who wrote the majority opinion in the case, said it was undetermined if the 1996 case, *People v. Nix*, was correctly decided.

A directed verdict can only be considered an acquittal to avoid the double jeopardy provisions if it resolves at least some of the factual elements charged in the case, Mr. Zahra said in the opinion joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=298201&locid=1" }.

The case involved Lamar Evans, who was accused of burning a building, which was an unoccupied house. Mr. Zahra said the trial court, the Wayne Circuit Court, added an incorrect element to the case - whether or not the house was occupied.

Based on that decision, the trial judge issued a directed verdict in favor of Mr. Evans.

The prosecution appealed, arguing it did not have to show whether the property was occupied, and the Court of Appeals held that the trial court had erred. It ordered a new trial in the case.

Mr. Evans appealed, arguing a second trial would violate his rights against double jeopardy.

But Mr. Zahra wrote, "We hold that when a trial court grants a defendant's motion for a directed verdict on the basis of an error of law that did not resolve any factual element of the charged

offense, the trial court's ruling does not constitute an acquittal for the purposes of double jeopardy and retrial is therefore not barred."

To prevent wrongly being retried under double jeopardy provisions of the U.S. and state constitutions, there has to be a resolution of the factual issues in the case, Mr. Zahra said. Even if that resolution is found later to be incorrect, if the factual matters are resolved, then double jeopardy protections are invoked, he said.

In this matter, Mr. Zahra said, the directed verdict did not resolve any of the factual matters in the case because the verdict was based on an incorrect element that was not part of the factual basis of the crime. It was based on an error of law and not to the elements of the defendant's innocence or guilt, he said.

Mr. Zahra acknowledged that the 1996 *Nix* case would have barred retrial, but said that case's application to another case did not consider whether it was correctly determined in the first place.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151701&locid=1" }, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=114701&locid=1" }, dissented, saying the decision essentially overruled *Nix,* which he argued was based on U.S. Supreme Court principles. The majority creates a distinction in its ruling that acts to elevate form over substance, he said.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=153201&locid=1" } dissented, arguing the *Nix* decision was the governing precedent in the matter.

Campaign Notes

S.E.I.U. ENDORSES RENEWABLE ENERGY BALLOT INITIATIVE: The Service Employees Union Michigan State Council announced Monday that it is backing the proposed constitutional amendment to require utility companies to generate 25 percent of their power from renewable resources by 2025. "Michigan workers and businesses have benefited from the renewable energy standard and the momentum for investments and jobs should continue," said SEIU Michigan State Council President Marge Robinson Faville in a statement. "Our members enthusiastically endorse this ballot initiative because it's good for families, good for public health and good for our economy."

HOOGENDYK/CAIN APPEARANCE: Former Rep. Jack Hoogendyk has endorsed former Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain's 9-9-9 tax plan, and the two are scheduled to appear together next week to promote Mr. Cain's plan and Mr. Hoogendyk's run for the U.S. House.

The events are planned for April 5 at 5:30 p.m. in Benton Harbor and at 7:30 p.m. in Kalamazoo. Venues for the events had not been announced as of Monday afternoon.

Mr. Hoogendyk is challenging { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) for the 6th U.S. House District.

Capital Notebook

F.R.I.B. SUPPORT: The Facility for Rare Isotope Beams proposed for Michigan State University now has a website dedicated to urging support for its funding in Congress. Onevoiceforscience.com added a FRIB advocacy page created by East Lansing film and audio producer Doug Monson, who is currently working on a project for the National Academy of Science about investment in physics research nationally.

"FRIB is a good example of the kind of science investment the U.S. needs to stay competitive in the world economy," Mr. Monson said. "Isotope research in particular is a field where we already show strong leadership. It's a source of important innovations in medicine and material."

The project is also important to MSU's physics program and to the state's economy, Mr. Monson said.

PURE MICHIGAN/COCA-COLA PROMOTION: Pure Michigan scenes and logos will soon be appearing on Coca-Cola trucks and billboards around the state as part of a joint marketing campaign that includes national drawings for four vacation packages in the state.

The joint marketing campaign, announced Monday at the Pure Michigan Governor's Conference on Tourism, includes opportunities to win trips through the MyCokeRewards website. A trip to Mackinac Island will be available April 18 through May 9, to Traverse City May 9 through May 30, to the Pure Michigan 400 at Michigan International Speedway May 30 through June 20, and to Detroit June 20 through July 11.

"By joining forces with Pure Michigan, Coca-Cola is helping to support travel across the great state of Michigan and in all of its communities where we do business," said Matthew Barribeau, Coca-Cola's vice president of sales operations in Michigan. "Through this collaborative effort, we hope to not only drive economic development across the state, but to provide vacation-goers with moments of happiness and ice-cold refreshment all summer long."

"We are always looking for innovative ways to introduce Pure Michigan to new audiences and it doesn't get much bigger than partnering with an iconic brand like Coca-Cola," said George Zimmermann, vice president of Travel Michigan. "With more than 17 million people participating in MyCokeRewards, this is a perfect opportunity to showcase the scenic beauty, great cities and exciting events that make Michigan a terrific vacation destination."

M.E.D.C. HOSTING TRIBAL ECONOMIC FORUM: The Michigan Economic Development Corporation will host a forum for the third time geared toward economic development for Indian tribes. The forum will take place May 17-18 at the Radisson Hotel Lansing, 111 North Grand Avenue.

Appointments By The Governor

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT: Margaret Van Houten of Dearborn Heights succeeds Mary Beth Kelly, who was elected to the Supreme Court, for a term expiring January 1, 2013. Ms. Van Houten will have to run to keep her seat in the November 2012 elections. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Signed by the Governor

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB77801" }, PA 56 INLAND LAKES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" }) Specifies authorized uses for public road access to inland lakes or streams.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: March 22, 2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB63401" }, PA 57 PROPERTY TAX DEFERMENT ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" }) Clarifies eligibility for property tax deferment for partnerships.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=l WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" }) Allows citation to watercraft owner or operator for operating without required safety equipment; requires observer when towing person; revises definition of passenger.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB511001" }, PA 62 WATERCRAFT ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=168001&locid=1" }) Clarify criteria for investigatory stops of moving vessels.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: March 22, 2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB463901" }, PA 63 MILITARY REMAINS ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283301&locid=1" }) Requires directions of person designated by deceased military personnel be followed for disposition of remains.

Signed: March 22, 2012; Effective: 03/22/2012; signed by Lt. Governor Calley

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

Tuesday, March 27

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70901&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 352, Capitol Building, 8:30 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

{ **COMMUNITY HEALTH BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204301" **}**) Provide for
LINK department of community health for fiscal year 2012-2013.
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71101&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" **}**, 373-8080),
Room 424 Capitol Building, 9 a.m.

- Bureau of Fire Services and Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration

{ LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" **}**) Provide for
RLIN department of licensing and regulatory affairs for fiscal year 2012-2013. (To be reported)
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69501&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" }, 373-2002), Room 327, House Office Building, 10 a.m.

{ **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" }) Clarifies definition of public employee regarding recognition of union based on receipt of government subsidy or interlocal agreement.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB101801" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67701&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 110, Farnum Building, 12 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ **NATURAL RESOURCES BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" }) Provides Department of Natural Resources budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67801&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" **}**, 373-2768), Room 110, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101" **}**) Provides Department of Environmental Quality budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

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{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=67101&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" **}**, 373-5314), Room 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

{ WERDA MEMORIAL HIGHWAY (**{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" **}**) Designates portion of M-61 as Trooper Jeffrey Werda Memorial Highway.

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{ HIGHWAY MEMORIAL ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" **}**) Provide
RLINK technical amendment to portion of US-31 designated as the "Medal of Honor Recipients
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~~Canceled: { HYPERLINK~~
~~"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71301&locid=1" },~~
~~(Chr. { HYPERLINK~~
~~"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901&locid=1" }, 373-8080),~~
~~Room 426, Capitol Building, 3 p.m. or after session~~

- Chair's recommendation

{ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET ({ HYPERLINK
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" **}**) Provide for
RLINK department of environmental quality for fiscal year 2012-2013.
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Wednesday, March 28

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68801&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210101&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 307, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

- Testimony only:

{ HYPER LINK "http:// www.go ngwer.c om/inde x.cfm?li nk=legis lation_bi lldetail.c fm&billi d=2011 HB4866 01" } **FARM MARKETS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Limits civil liability of farm markets for personal injury and property damage.

{ HYPE RLINK "http:// www.g ongwer .com/in dex.cf m?link =legisla tion_bil ldetail. **EQUINE ACTIVITY** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Limits liability of persons under equine activity liability act to willful and wanton acts under certain circumstances.

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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=69201&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" **}**, 373-2002),
Room 519, House Office Building, 9:15 a.m.

{ **KINDERGARTEN AGE** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" **}**) Sets
LINK September 1as the deadline date for children to be admitted to Kindergarten.
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301" }
{ **SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** (**{** HYPERLINK
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" **}**) Revises age
LINK and date requirement for school enrollment.
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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71601&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=212601&locid=1" **}**, 373-8080),

Room 352 Capitol Building, 10:30 a.m., { HYPERLINK "http://www.house.mi.gov/htv.asp" \t "blank" }

- Presentations on 2012-13 Higher Education Budget from Business Leaders for Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Wayne State University, Central Michigan University, MSU Extension and Ag Bio Research, and American Association of University Professors

{ **HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=212601" }) Provide for higher education budget for fiscal year 2012-2013.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB537701" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70401&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=22401&locid=1" }, 373-2013), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **SALES TAX PREPAYMENT** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701" }) Revises prepayment of sales taxes collection process.

HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB42801" }

{ TOBACCO TAX ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601" **}**) Modifies tobacco tax enforcement, administration and distribution.

{ NONPROFIT HOUSING EXEMPTION. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201" **}**) Provide for nonprofit housing exemption.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=70601&locid=1" **}**, (Chr. **{** HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=158101&locid=1" **}**, 373-1260), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

{ SCHOOL BUS LIGHTING ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" **}**) Mandate enhanced rear lighting for school buses. (Testimony only)

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{ HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=65301&locid=1" **}**,
(Chr. **{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=84601&locid=1" **}**, 373-1106),
Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol Building, 2 p.m.

{ HYPER LINK "http:// www.go ngwer.c om/inde x.cfm?li nk=legis lation_b illdetail. cfm&bil lid=2011 HB4803 01" }

STATE FAIR (**{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213101" **}**) Provides
transfer of certain state fair property to Michigan fast track land bank authority.

{ HYPE RLIN K "http:/ /www. gongw er.com /index. cfm?li nk=leg islation _billde tail.cf m&bill id=201 1SB95

CORRECTIONS BUDGET (**{** HYPERLINK
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" **}**) Provides for
Department of Corrections budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.

101" }

Thursday, March 29

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=71301&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol Building, 8:30 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

HB 5379 **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUDGET** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=213901" }) Provide for department of environmental quality for fiscal year 2012-2013.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=72101&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" }, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol Building, 9 a.m.

- Subcommittee recommendation

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB538601" } **APPROPRIATIONS** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301" }) Provide for department of natural resources for fiscal year 2012-2013.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=68001&locid=1" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401&locid=1" }, 373-2768), Room 405, Capitol Building, 1:30 p.m.

- Chair's recommendation

{ LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUDGET ({ HYPERLINK **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=124401" **}**) Provides **ERLI** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs budget for 2012-13 fiscal year.
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Click the after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 8:16 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

With video: Detroit declared in financial emergency, but deal with state may be close

"Detroit's financial review team, meeting Monday among disruptive residents, declared that the city is under a financial emergency, and no workable agreement between the city and state has been adopted. But it stopped short of recommending to Gov. Rick Snyder that an emergency manager should be appointed to supervise Detroit's finances."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120327/NEWS05/203270428/With-video-Detroit-declared-financial-emergency-deal-state-may-close*

Detroit, state inching closer to financial deal

"Detroit— State officials on Monday said they hope to negotiate a consent agreement with Detroit within 10 days after a raucous review team meeting concluded with no plan in place."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120327/METRO/203270329/Detroit-state-inching-closer-financial-deal?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Smuggling of live Asian carp becomes Great Lakes threat

"The action, it appears, is all focused on Chicago."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120327/METRO/203270330/Smuggling-live-Asian-carp-becomes-Great-Lakes-threat?odyssey=tab|topnews|img|FRONTPAGE*

Lawsuit against Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac may give state millions

"Michigan's school aid fund could get a windfall of up to $100 million, and 82 of Michigan's 83 counties could collectively claim millions more under a judge's ruling last week that mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac illegally withheld payments of transfer taxes in property sales."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120327/NEWS06/203270369/Michigan-s-school-aid-fund-most-counties-could-get-millions-in-suit-against-Fannie-Mae-Freddie-Mac?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Republicans gather for annual Lincoln Day event

"For at least 30 years, the annual St. Joseph County Republican Party has attracted a sizable contingent of its party followers to the Lincoln Day banquet."

Source: *The Sturgis Journal* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.sturgisjournal.com/features/x760600122/Republicans-gather-for-annual-Lincoln-Day-event

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Michigan Supreme Court decision paves way for GOP plan to trim Oakland County Commission to 21 seats

"A Michigan Supreme Court ruling released late Monday clears the way for the Oakland County Board of Commissioners to begin drawing new district boundaries for 21 seats this year instead of the 25 seats they currently have, says Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/local_news/doc4f7116bd65d3f126345191.txt

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Mild winter produces $1.5 million in savings for road commission

"The Road Commission for Oakland County expects to see a savings of about $1.5 million as a result of a lack of winter this year."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/local_news/doc4f71033f4d0ff562433186.txt

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U.S. court: Macomb County due $600,000

"A federal judge's ruling vindicates Macomb County's battle with some of the nation's "heavy hitter" banks and lenders, as the county will now collect perhaps $600,000 or more in real estate transfer taxes that were dodged by these corporate entities during post-foreclosure proceedings over the past six years.

"

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/doc4f711a517c14e214463829.txt

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Santorum: Romney 'worst Republican' to face Obama

"FRANKSVILLE, Wis. (AP) — Rick Santorum says his presidential campaign rival Mitt Romney is "the worst Republican in the country to put up against Barack Obama."

"

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/politics/doc4f708dd50473f269390858.txt

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Sander Levin secures rare ticket to U.S. Supreme Court debate on health care

"Getting in to hear the three days of argument before the U.S. Supreme Court that began Monday over the Affordable Care Act may be only slightly less difficult than getting a lunch date with the president himself."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/politics/doc4f71a243318f3846128896.txt

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Lawmakers divided over health mandate

"U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers lashed out against federal health-care reforms leading up to this week's U.S. Supreme Court hearings on the requirement for all Americans to have coverage."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120327/NEWS01/203270304/Lawmakers-divided-over-health-mandate?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage

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New bill aims to tarnish future of metal thieves

*"**BAD AXE —** A bipartisan package of bills addressing scrap metal theft and illegal sales has been introduced in the Michigan House."*

Source: *Huron Daily Tribune* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.michigansthumb.com/articles/2012/03/27/news/local_news/doc4f71a6a933439389020746.txt

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Think 'Pure Michigan' is only about tourism? Brand evolves into statewide economic campaign

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — When Tim Allen's voice begins to wax poetic about Michigan's natural beauty on your TV, don't forget that some of the viewers in other states watching those Pure Michigan ad spots are business folk who make investment decisions."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2012/03/think_pure_michigan_is_only_ab.html

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Michigan fracking 101: You've heard of it. Here's how it works.

"In Michigan, in May of 2010, conversation about hydrologic fracturing of shale -- or fracking -- to obtain natural gas -- exploded."

Source: *Gaylord Herald Times* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.petoskeynews.com/gaylord/news/pnr-michigan-fracking-101-youve-heard-of-it-heres-how-it-works-20120326,0,3486048.story*

Michigan Radio holds Public Act 4 discussion in Flint as emergency manager regains power

*"**FLINT, MI** --Michigan Radio political analyst Jack Lessenberry lead a discussion at Blackstones Pub & Grill in Downtown Flint on Monday about the state's emergency manager law."*

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/michigan_radio_holds_public_ac.html#incart_river_default

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Snyder: Progress made on Detroit finances deal

"DETROIT (AP) — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder says the state and Detroit are making progress on a deal to restructure the city's long-term finances."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/03/26/news/politics/doc4f70bbeaf1071417793326.txt

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Justices moving to heart of health care overhaul

*"**WASHINGTON** — As demonstrations swirled outside, Supreme Court justices signaled on Monday they are ready to confront without delay the keep-or-kill questions at the heart of challenges to President Barack Obama's historic health care overhaul. Virtually every American will be affected by the outcome, due this summer in the heat of the election campaign."*

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120326/NEWS01/303260034/Justices-moving-heart-health-care-overhaul

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Prison union members plan picket outside Muskegon correctional facilities

"MUSKEGON, MI -- The Michigan Corrections Organization, the union representing corrections officers at state prisons, plans informational picketing Thursday in Muskegon."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/03/prison_union_members_plan_pick.html*

Flint emergency manager says he's prepared to get back to work following court order

"FLINT, MI -- Flint emergency manager Michael Brown said he's prepared to get back to work tomorrow following today's court order reinstating his appointment."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/03/flint_emergency_manager_says_h.html*

Michigan looks to lure European, Asian travelers for a taste of true "Americana" in the Great Lakes state

"GRAND RAPIDS — To Germans, Detroit is sexy."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2012/03/pure_michigan_international_tr.html*

Bill Huizenga's Dodd-Frank consumer privacy law clears U.S. House

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – A new federal agency will be barred from sharing personal or financial information under U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga's legislation passed by the House today."

Source: *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/03/bill_huizengas_dodd-frank_cons.html*

Gov. Rick Snyder touts Pure Michigan travel campaign's latest tourism figures

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Pure Michigan's summer advertising campaign inspired 3.2 million out-of-state visitors that spent $1 billion at Michigan businesses last year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2012/03/gov_rick_snyder_touts_pure_mic.html*

Is penalty under Affordable Care Act a tax? Supreme Court focuses on first issue

"In the first day of hearings on Affordable Care Act, the Supreme Court justices Monday zeroed in on one central issue: Is the fine for violating the individual mandate to buy health insurance a tax or a penalty?"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/03/is_penalty_under_affordable_ca.html

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Michigan Supreme Court rules Oakland County GOP redistricting legal, state law is not local act

"The Michigan Supreme Court has ruled that the Republican majority on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners has the right to redraw members' districts."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/michigan_supreme_court_rules_o.html

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Still no consent agreement in Detroit, but Snyder hopes to have one in next 10 days

"So much for deadline day in Detroit."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/03/still_no_consent_agreement_in.html

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Press Releases

House Debates, Passes Huizenga's Consumer Protection Bill

"

Washington, D.C. - The U.S. House debated and passed Rep. Huizenga's consumer protection bill, H.R. 4014 unanimously after support from across the aisle during floor debate this afternoon."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332795374_Huizenga4.pdf

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MDP Calls on Senate Republicans to Vote to End Tax Subsidies to Big Oil Companies

"

***LANSING** – The Michigan Democratic Party released the following statement calling on Senate Republicans to support the Menendez legislation that would end tax subsidies to Big Oil and instead invest in renewable energy."*

Source: *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332795331_MDP2.pdf*

Snyder appoints Margaret Van Houten to the 3rd Circuit Court in Wayne County

"

LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Margaret Van Houten, of Dearborn Heights, to the Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit. "

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332793880_Gov2.pdf*

Statewide Auto No-Fault Town Hall Meeting Mar. 28

"

Auto accident survivors and health care providers will gather in Lansing on Wednesday for a statewide town hall meeting/rally in support of protecting Michigan's auto insurance system from the radical changes proposed by auto insurance companies."

Source: *Truscott Rossman* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332791595_CPAN1.pdf*

House to Debate Huizenga's Consumer Protection Bill Today

"

Washington, D.C. - TUNE IN! U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga will lead House floor debate NOW on his bill, H.R. 4014."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332790631_Huiznenga1.pdf*

Wolkinson Proposes Clean Campaign Pledge

"

Today, David Wolkinson called upon the other candidates for the state house in the 40th district (Robert Lawrence and Dave Potts) to sign his proposed Clean Campaign Pledge."

Source: *David Wolkinson for State Rep Committee* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332790332_Wolkinson1.pdf*

Democratic Women's Caucus Responds to "War on Women"

"

LANSING – State Representative ***Marcia Hovey-Wright*** *(D-Muskegon), State Senator Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor), and Michigan State University student Marcia LeVigne will speak out against the War on Women being waged in the chambers of state and federal legislatures around the country at a press conference to be held at* ***9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 27 in room 426 of the State Capitol in Lansing.****"*

Source: *House Democrats* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332790260_House1`.pdf*

DNR seeks public review of Michigan's brook trout regulations

"

The Department of Natural Resources' Fisheries Division is asking for public input on potential changes to brook trout daily possession limits for Upper Peninsula streams."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332790185_DNR3.pdf*

Huizenga, House Republican Policy Committee to Mark Opening Day of Supreme Court Oral Arguments

"

Washington, D.C. – Today, U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga will join House Republican Policy Committee Chairman Tom Price, M.D. (R-GA) and members of the Policy Committee will host a press conference to mark the first day of the oral arguments in the Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the president's health care law."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332787961_Huizenga2.pdf*

SEIU State Council endorses '25 by 25' renewable energy ballot measure

"

LANSING – A ballot proposal boosting Michigan's clean renewable energy standard to 25 percent by 2025 has been endorsed by the 80,000 members of the ***Service Employees International Union Michigan State Council."***

Source: *SEIU Michigan State Council* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332787864_SEIU1.pdf*

Oakland Mediation Center Graduates 13 Cooley Law School Mediators

"

Oakland Mediation Center Graduates 13 Cooley Law School Mediators"

Source: *Oakland Mediation Center* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332787695_Oakland1.png*

MSC rules in People v Evans (argued October 4, 20110

"

*Held, 4-3, Justice Zahra writing for the majority (Justice Zahra plus CJ Young and Justices Stephen Markman and *Mary Beth* Kelly):"*

Source: *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332787348_MSC1.pdf*

MDOT and local partners receive 2011 outstanding traffic safety awards

"

March 26, 2012 *-- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and its partners were honored with two awards at this year's Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC) awards luncheon, held last week at Michigan State University's Kellogg Center in East Lansing."*

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332787280_MDOT1.pdf*

Michigan Consumers for Healthcare executive director available for comment today

"

As the U.S. Supreme Court starting today hears arguments on challenges to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), please note that Michigan Consumers for Healthcare (MCH) is available for local comments and perspectives on the health care reforms law and current litigation"

Source: *Michigan Consumers for Healthcare* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332782193_MCHC1.pdf*

Data released for urban areas

"

The Census Bureau has released a list of urbanized areas and urban clusters based on the 2010 Census. These will serve as the basis for designating new metropolitan and micropolitan areas in 2013. "

Source: *MI Department of Technology, Management & Budget* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332780129_DTMB1.pdf*

Supreme Court case: Affordable Care Act must move forward for Michigan to prosper

"

"The Affordable Care Act is especially important in Michigan. With more than 1 million uninsured people in our state, it is critical that we expand health care as outlined in the national reform legislation."

Source: *Michigan League for Human Services* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332780096_MLHS1.pdf*

Friends of FRIB have new website to help them support important Michigan project

"

Supporters of the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams now have new social media tools to help them reach out to members of Congress from across the nation sign onto a petition urging appropriate federal funding for FRIB."

Source: *Facility for Rare Isotope Beams* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332780060_FRIB1.pdf*

Stabenow To Hold Conference Call On New Bill To End To Big Oil Subsidies

"

*WASHINGTON - **Today, March 26 at 12:15 p.m.**, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow will host a press conference call to discuss the Repeal Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act."*

Source: *U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332780015_Stabenow2.pdf*

DNR invites public review of Michigan's muskellunge regulations

"

The Department of Natural Resources' Fisheries Division is asking for public input on the management of muskellunge in Michigan by reviewing some proposed regulations."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332779972_DNR2.pdf*

House to Debate Huizenga's Consumer Protection Bill Today

"

Washington, D.C. - Today, the House will debate Rep. Bill Huizenga's bill, H.R. 4014, between 3:30 and 6:00 p.m. Rep. Huizenga will lead that debate. Tune in to your local C-SPAN channel or stream live here to watch."

Source: *U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332779893_Huiznenga1.pdf*

MEA Critical List

"

MEA Critical List"

Source: *Michigan Education Association* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332772226_MEA1.pdf*

Renewing online proves increasingly popular

"

LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson said today that ExpressSOS.com offers an easy, quick and popular way to renew watercraft registrations, which is great news for the 251,000 boat owners receiving their renewal notices this month."

Source: *MI Department of State* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332771482_SOS1.pdf

OFIR Suspends License of Traverse City Insurance Agent for Misappropriating $500,000

"

LANSING - The Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation (OFIR) has suspended the insurance license of William Lowder, a Traverse City independent agent."

Source: *Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation (OFIR)* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332771167_OFIR1.pdf

In Case You Missed It: Obama Campaign Touts Impact of Affordable Care Act on MI residents

"

With the Affordable Care Act's two-year anniversary coming up Friday, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign is touting the benefits that health care reform has brought to Michigan residents."

Source: *Obama for America* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332771010_Obama2.pdf

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New Michigan fishing regulations take effect April 1

"

To ensure that Michigan's fisheries resources are managed properly and are providing the best benefits to anglers and the public, the Department of Natural Resources annually fine-tunes fishing regulations. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770863_DNR1.pdf

Travel/Tuition Awards Available to Attend 2012 Michigan Land & Prosperity Summit

"

Travel or Tuition Awards are again available to those attending the 2012 Michigan Land & Prosperity Summit on Friday, April 2012 at the MSU Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center in East Lansing. A limited number of awards are available on a first-come, first served basis. "

Source: *Land Policy Institute at MSU* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770785_LPI1.pdf

SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Monday, March 26

"

Gov. Rick Snyder will hold a media avail to discuss Detroit's financial situation."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770512_Gov1.pdf

CORRECTION: Sex Offender Verification Period begins April 1

"

LANSING. The Michigan State Police (MSP) reminds registered Tier 3 sex offenders that the 15-day address verification begins April 1. During this period, state law requires all Tier 3 registered offenders to report in person to their local law enforcement agency, sheriff's office, or nearest MSP post to verify their address. "

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770440_MSP2.pdf

JUSTICE & PEACE RALLY TO BE HELD IN HART PLAZA

"

DETROIT – Friday, March 23, 2012 – *A coalition of Detroit's Civil Rights, labor, clergy and community leaders will hold a "Justice & Peace Rally" at Hart Plaza."*

Source: *Detroit Branch NAACP* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770341_UAW1.pdf

News Release: Sex Offender Verification Period Begins April 1

"

LANSING. The Michigan State Police (MSP) reminds registered Tier 3 sex offenders that the 15-day address verification begins April 1. During this period, state law requires all Tier 3 registered offenders to report in person to their local law enforcement agency, sheriff's office, or nearest MSP post to verify their address. "

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770274_MSP1.pdf

OFA-MICHIGAN LAUNCHES WOMEN FOR OBAMA IN GENESEE COUNTY

"

FLINT, MI – Continuing its effort to build the strongest grassroots campaign in Michigan history, OFA is launching its Genesee County Women for Obama effort with an organizational kick-off tomorrow afternoon in Grand Blanc. "

Source: *Obama for America* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770136_OBAMA1.pdf

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Rainbow PUSH Detroit Crusade For America Event explores Future of Democracy in Michigan

"

Rainbow PUSH Detroit Crusade For America Event explores Future of Democracy in Michigan- Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr. to Deliver Keynote Address
"

Source: *Rainbow Push Coalition* **Date:** *03-27-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1332770099_RPC1.pdf

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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http://mirsnews.com. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to info@mirsnews.com

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 8:34 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For March 27, 2012

News

- Big job, little money: State lags in tank cleanup (Bridge Magazine, 3/27/2012)
- Mich. gov.: Progress made on Detroit finances deal (Associated Press, 3/27/2012)
- State high court: Law cutting number of Oakland County commissioners will stand (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Lawsuit against Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac may give state millions (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Appeals court puts Flint emergency manager back in charge (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Smuggling of live Asian carp becomes Great Lakes threat (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Redistricting law upheld (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Detroit, state inching closer to financial deal (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Mayor should return to work soon (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Flint emergency manager says he's prepared to get back to work following court order (Flint Journal, 3/27/2012)
- Bill Huizenga's Dodd-Frank consumer privacy law clears U.S. House (Grand Rapids Press, 3/27/2012)
- Gov. Rick Snyder touts Pure Michigan travel campaign's latest tourism figures (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Still no consent agreement in Detroit, but Snyder hopes to have one in next 10 days (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan Supreme Court rules Oakland County GOP redistricting legal, state law is not local act (Associated Press, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan food stamp program under fire (Stateline, 3/27/2012)
- Lansing employees might face furloughs (Lansing State Journal, 3/27/2012)
- Sander Levin secures rare ticket to U.S. Supreme Court debate on health care (Oakland Press, 3/27/2012)
- Michigan Supreme Court decision paves way for GOP plan to trim Oakland County Commission to 21 seats (Oakland Press, 3/27/2012)
- U.S. court: Macomb County due $600,000 (Macomb Daily, 3/27/2012)
- Hackel wins round one in court case (Macomb Daily, 3/27/2012)

Editorials

- Rochelle Riley: Preachers' patience has worn thin (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Editorial: Maintain focus get financial agreement done (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Tom Walsh: Detroit financial crisis gets compared to the auto industry, too (Detroit Free Press, 3/27/2012)
- Daniel Howes: Detroit myopia clouds thinking (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)
- Laura Berman: Snyder will keep demanding accountability (Detroit News, 3/27/2012)

- Gov. Rick Snyder, Republicans could destroy years of progress between labor, management (Rick Haglund column) (MLive, 3/27/2012)
- Lansing schools are moving forward (Lansing State Journal, 3/27/2012)

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 8:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

You are receiving the following headlines from various news sources and list of recent press releases received at MIRS as part of your paid subscription to MIRSnews.com If you do not wish to receive these e-mails, please go to your MIRSnews.com account preferences.

Engineers find new hope for jobs in Michigan

"At an Engineering Society of Detroit job fair in Novi last month, open jobs outnumbered job seekers nearly 6-1."

Source: *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20120403/NEWS01/204030315/Engineers-find-new-hope-jobs-Michigan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage*

Another recall effort targets Michigan governor

"A group called Michigan Rising has an April 9 hearing in Washtenaw County, where election officials will determine if the language of the group's proposal is clear."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120402/NEWS04/304020054/Another-recall-effort-targets-Michigan-governor?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Lansing won't privatize Groesbeck Golf Course, cemeteries

"Lansing's municipal golf course and its three cemeteries are expected to stay under city control now that administrators have canceled plans to privatize operations."

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120403/NEWS01/304030031/Lansing-won-t-privatize-Groesbeck-Golf-Course-cemeteries?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Projects to control Great Lakes unlikely

"TRAVERSE CITY - A U.S.-Canadian advisory panel wound up a five-year study recently with a recommendation against large-scale engineering projects to prevent swings in Great Lakes water levels, saying people across the region should adapt to nature's ups and downs."

Source: *Mining Journal (Marquette)* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/574316/Projects-to-control-Great-Lakes-unlikely.html?nav=5006*

Michigan Dems propose college funding plan

"LANSING - Michigan Democrats are convinced the state needs a well-educated workforce for it to be economically successful in the 21st century, and they think they have an idea which will get more students into post-secondary education."

Source: *Houghton Daily Mining Gazette* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/524874/Michigan-Dems-propose-college-funding-plan.html?nav=5006*

Gas prices may peak

"Average retail gasoline prices in Michigan have risen 7.6 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging $4.02 per gallon Sunday. This compares with the national average that increased 3.2 cents per gallon in the past week to $3.89 per gallon, according to gasoline price website MichiganGasPrices.com."

Source: *Niles Daily Star* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.nilesstar.com/2012/04/02/gas-prices-may-peak/*

Pure Michigan and Coca-Cola team up for vacation contest

"Images of Michigan's sparkling waters, white sandy beaches and exciting destinations will soon be featured alongside the Coca-Cola logo in numerous places to inspire people to experience Pure Michigan."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://business-news.thestreet.com/the-oakland-press/story/pure-michigan-and-coca-cola-team-vacation-contest/1*

State appeals welfare ruling

"Patrick Grzywna doesn't want to need help, but that desire doesn't change the fact he does."

Source: *Port Huron Times Herald* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20120403/NEWS/304030014/State-appeals-welfare-ruling?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Schwarz considers run in 7th District as Democrat

"Schwarz, a moderate who served as a Republican in the state Legislature and for one term in the U.S. House, said today his decision would likely come in the next seven to 10 days."

Source: *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20120402/NEWS01/304020020/Schwarz-considers-run-7th-District-Democrat*

Michigan Rising says Gov. Rick Snyder has 'abused children,' seeks second recall effort

"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder is the target of another recall attempt, with Michigan Rising leaders saying Snyder has "abused children" and "is bad for Michigan.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/michigan_rising_says_gov_rick.html*

Shared school boss gets stellar review

"A committee of school board members from Mendon and Centreville is recommending a contract extension for the superintendent they share"

Source: *The Sturgis Journal* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.sturgisjournal.com/topstories/x2020319759/Shared-school-boss-gets-stellar-review*

6th District Democrats have a candidate to run for Congress, waiting to announce who it is

*"**KALAMAZOO —** Democrats in Southwest Michigan have a candidate to run against either Congressman Fred Upton or Jack Hoogendyk in November."*

Source: *Kalamazoo Gazette* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/04/6th_district_democrats_have_a.html*

Lansing City Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson to run for state Representative

"LANSING, MI – Lansing City Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson will run for the state House of Representatives seat being vacated by term-limited state Rep. Joan Bauer (D-Lansing), she confirmed to MLive.com on Monday."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/04/lansing_city_councilwoman_alyn_1.html*

State Rep. Jim Ananich says he won't give up on governor's program for teens

"FLINT, Michigan -- State Rep. Jim Ananich said he's not giving up on a $5-million program that Gov. Rick Snyder proposed for teens from Flint, Detroit, Pontiac and Saginaw even though the state Legislature cut it out of a funding bill last week."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/flint_anti-crime_initiatives_g.html*

Judge upset by state law erasing debt

"TRAVERSE CITY — A local judge who ruled a downstate developer owed more than $2 million on an area shopping center loan is upset by a new state law that erases the debt."

Source: *Traverse City Record Eagle* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://record-eagle.com/local/x1615716860/Judge-upset-by-state-law-erasing-debt*

Editorial: Live with Great Lakes water levels, at least for now

"The most recent study of Great Lakes water levels offers little solace to those who suffer from receding levels in the Lake Michigan-Huron basin, particularly those along Georgian Bay."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/OPINION01/204030314/-1/7daysarchives/Editorial-Live-Great-Lakes-water-levels-least-now*

Offshore wind agreement continues debate about turbines in Great Lakes

"Friday's story about the Memorandum of Understanding between the federal government and Great Lakes states that is designed to speed the review of proposed offshore wind projects on the Great Lakes drew opinions from both sides of the debate on putting large turbines in the Great Lakes."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/04/offshore_wind_agreement_contin.html*

Detroit unions ask judge: Stop state 'threats'

"A federal judge is to hear arguments today on whether the rights of unionized City of Detroit employees have been violated by pressure that Gov. Rick Snyder put on city officials to reject tentative labor agreements."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS15/204030371/-1/7daysarchives/Detroit-unions-ask-judge-Stop-state-threats-

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Nationwide sweep leads to arrest of 67 illegal immigrants in Michigan

"A six-day national immigration sweep led to the arrests of more than 3,100 unlawful immigrants -- including 67 in Michigan, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS06/204030345/-1/7daysarchives/Nationwide-sweep-leads-arrest-67-illegal-immigrants-Michigan

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Overheard at Detroit City Council meeting

""I would rather that the State of Michigan not save me than the State of Michigan enslave me.""

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS01/204030373/-1/7daysarchives/Overheard-Detroit-City-Council-meeting

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Detroit financial crisis re-energizes Snyder recall effort

"LANSING ---- Gov. Rick Snyder's handling of the Detroit financialcrisis may result in increased support from city residents for a new recall effort, a spokesman for the group said Monday."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS15/204030369/-1/7daysarchives/Detroit-financial-crisis-re-energizes-Snyder-recall-effort

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Arne Duncan on school reforms: 'What will your next excuse be if you have enough money?'

"By offering $3 billion in stimulus money, Duncan wanted struggling schools to have the resources to be innovative."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2012/04/arne_duncan_on_school_reforms.html

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Protesting Florida pastor Terry Jones sues Dearborn

"Terry Jones, the Quran-burning pastor from Florida, filed a lawsuit Monday against the City of Dearborn, alleging that it is denying him free-speech rights by asking him to sign an agreement before a rally he has planned for Saturday outside a Dearborn mosque."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS05/204030349/-1/7daysarchives/Protesting-Florida-pastor-Terry-Jones-sues-Dearborn

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Motorcycle helmets, concealed weapons, lottery winners and food stamps all come under scrutiny

"he clock is ticking. Gov. Rick Snyder has until late next week to decide whether to sign a bill that would allow Michigan motorcyclists to ride without helmets for the first time in 37 years. Unless he vetoes it, it becomes law."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/motorcycle_helmets_concealed_w.html

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Oakland County commissioners learn of member's drunken driving arrests

"Angela River, an executive committee member of the Oakland County Republican Party, was appointed last week to fill a vacancy on the county Board of Commissioners."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS15/204030343/-1/7daysarchives/Oakland-County-commissioners-learn-member-s-drunken-driving-arrests

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Michigan teacher's aide who refused to share Facebook password pursues legal battle against district that suspended her

"A teacher's aide in Southwest Michigan is battling a school district that suspended her after she refused to allow administrators access to her Facebook page."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/04/michigan_teachers_aide_who_ref.html

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Judge, U-M regents act to support efforts to organize grad students

"The latest twists in the battle over graduate student research assistants at the University of Michigan left Democrats and those seeking to organize the 2,200 GSRAs elated and the Republicans and a contingent of GSRAs opposed to the union pledging to appeal."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS06/204030347/-1/7daysarchives/Judge-U-M-regents-act-support-efforts-organize-grad-students*

County health report: Wayne lands at bottom, Washnetaw near top

"One of Michigan's most rural counties now shares an unwanted distinction with the state's most populous: very poor health outcomes, according to a report released today."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS06/204030351/-1/7daysarchives/County-health-report-Wayne-lands-bottom-Washnetaw-near-top*

Detroit Council won't vote on union contracts; labor leader won't come back to table

"The Detroit City Council will not vote today on tentative union contracts that were negotiated in good faith but directly conflict with a proposed consent agreement negotiated by state and local leaders."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/detroit_council_will_not_vote.html*

GM: Fuel-efficient vehicle sales reach record high

"General Motors Co. Monday said sales of its most fuel-efficient vehicles reached an all-time high in March."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/04/gm_fuel-efficient_vehicle_sale.html*

Detroit financial crisis: Bing, City Council close to deal but pitfalls loom

"As a deadline looms, a possible deal to prevent Detroit's insolvency is marred by legal wrangling that threatens to derail hopes of approving a financial stability plan by today."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120403/NEWS01/204030398/Detroit-financial-crisis-Deal-may-be-close-but-pitfalls-loom?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Distracted-driving poll: Most Michigan drivers support cellphone ban, even as they text and talk

"Nearly 90 percent of Michigan motorists believe a driver using a cellphone is distracted, yet almost 60 percent talk on their phones while driving – nearly half on a daily basis, a new poll shows."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/04/distracted_driving_poll_michig.html

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Judge to hear arguments from Detroit unions

"Detroit — City unions will try again today to persuade a federal judge to stop any proposed financial agreement between the city of Detroit and the state that includes tough new conditions for labor contracts."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120403/METRO01/204030358/1409/metro/Judge-hear-arguments-from-Detroit-unions

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Emergency manager needed in Muskegon Heights schools, review team reports to governor

"LANSING, MI -- It's official: Gov. Rick Snyder will be advised to appoint an emergency manager to assume control of Muskegon Heights Public Schools."

Source: *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2012/04/emergency_manager_needed_in_mu.html

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U-M to file brief backing Dems in fight over roll call votes

"In a rare move, the University of Michigan Board of Regents voted Monday to file an amicus brief supporting House Democrats in their lawsuit against Republicans that affects a recently passed law that blocks U-M graduate student research assistants from unionizing."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120402/METRO/204020426/1022/POLITICS/U-M-file-brief-backing-Dems-fight-over-roll-call-votes

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GM adds week to summer shutdown of Chevy Volt plant; sales top 2,000 in March

"General Motors Co. will suspend production of the Chevrolet Volt for an extra week this summer as it attempts to match supply with demand."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/04/gm_adds_week_to_summer_shutdow.html

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Peter Hoekstra's GOP rivals line up for fight in primary

"Former U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra's attempt to ignore his Republican U.S. Senate primary opponents and focus a campaign on incumbent Democrat Debbie Stabenow has only emboldened his closest rivals."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120402/POLITICS02/204020329/1022/POLITICS/Peter-Hoekstra-s-GOP-rivals-line-up-fight-primary*

Detroit schools among best in nutrition for kids, USDA adminstrator says

"The menu options at Gompers Elementary-Middle School in Detroit rival that at a Midtown cafe."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/detroit_schools_among_best_in.html*

Deputy mayor calls for council vote on consent agreement as vocal Detroiters just say 'no'

"Deputy Mayor Kirk Lewis is preparing to present a resolution to the Detroit City Council on Tuesday morning calling for a vote on a revised consent agreement negotiated with the state."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/deputy_mayor_calls_for_council.html*

Contentious union dues, collective bargaining laws in limbo after Michigan court ruling

"LANSING — The fate of two recently signed Michigan laws is unclear in light of a ruling in Ingham County Circuit Court."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/contentious_union_dues_collect.html*

Readers largely side with House Republicans over Michigan State on state funding

"

LANSING, MI -- MLive.com readers were mostly unsympathetic to Michigan State University's response to proposed budgeting for the institution by House Republicans.
"

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/04/readers_largely_side_with_hous.html*

Ruling halts unionizing ban for grad student lab aides

"Implementation of a new law barring university graduate student research assistants from unionizing could be delayed by a year after a judge ruled Monday the House of Representatives violated the constitution in final passage of the bill."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120403/POLITICS02/204030357/1022/POLITICS/Ruling-halts-unionizing-ban-grad-student-lab-aides*

Lansing budgets $1.1 million subsidy for City Market, Cooley Stadium, Lansing Center

"LANSING, MI—City taxpayers will be asked to foot the bill for subsidies for three facilities managed by the Lansing Entertainment and Facilities Public Authority (LEPFA), according to a budget presented to the Lansing City Council Monday night."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/04/lansing_budgets_11_million_sub.html*

Marinas have tough time reeling in skilled workers

"This year's summer-like spring has many boat owners eager to get their watercraft ready, but an apparent worsening shortage of workers qualified to make repairs could stall those plans."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120403/BIZ/204030369/Marinas-tough-time-reeling-skilled-workers?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Judge sides with Michigan House Democrats in dispute

"A judge has granted a preliminary order favoring Democrats in the Michigan House, locked in a procedural fight with Republicans who hold the chamber's majority."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/judge_sides_with_michigan_hous.html*

Judge's ruling puts Detroit consent deal in limbo

"Detroit— The long road toward a possible consent agreement took yet another detour late Monday after another court ruling that could push the process past its Thursday deadline."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120403/METRO01/204030371/Judge-s-ruling-puts-Detroit-consent-deal-limbo?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Terry Jones sues Dearborn over pre-protest letter

"A Florida minister whose rhetoric against Muslims has inflamed anti-Western sentiment in Afghanistan has sued the Detroit suburb of Dearborn, saying it is violating his free speech rights by asking him to sign an agreement before a planned protest outside a mosque."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/terry_jones_sues_dearborn_over.html*

Union contracts targeted by Flint emergency manager as deadline looms

"FLINT, Michigan -- Despite a looming deadline, Flint emergency manager Michael Brown isn't revealing whether he'll exercise his power under Michigan's Public Act 4 to force changes to existing collective bargaining agreements or impose new contracts."

Source: *Flint Journal* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/flint_emergency_manager_says_h_1.html*

Metro Detroit hotel stays at highest Jan.-Feb. level since 2006

"Metro Detroit hotels filled more rooms in January and February than they did at the same time last year, meeting travel industry projections that the region would see more growth in 2012."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120323/BIZ/203230418/*

Tim Skubick: Rick Snyder's 'drop-dead' deadline on Detroit deal could just be a crafty ploy

"In the next couple of days you're going to hear a lot about an Thursday deadline imposed by the governor to jar loose a deal to save Detroit from financial ruin. All the signs seem to point to an agreement, but you just never know with these things."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/tim_skubick_rick_snyders_drop-.html*

Michigan tourism spending projected to grow 6% in 2012

"Michigan's $17 billion tourism industry will have another year of strong growth after experiencing an unexpected boost in travel business of nearly 8 percent in 2011, according to a forecast released Tuesday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120328/BIZ/203280329/*

Embattled Michigan emergency manager law threatened

"Money problems are so severe in one Michigan school district that officials have given up hope of finding a solution themselves. They're ready for the extreme option: a take-over by a state-appointed "emergency manager.""

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2012/04/embattled_michigan_emergency_m.html

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Detroit's shuttered Hotel Pontchartrain finds a buyer

"The 25-story Detroit hotel that once was an upscale landmark has a new owner who plans to renovate it as a Crowne Plaza hotel, an attorney who brokered the deal said Monday."

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120403/BIZ/204030368/Detroit-s-shuttered-Hotel-Pontchartrain-finds-buyer?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

Press Releases

Statement from Democratic Leader Richard Hammel

"

Statement from Democratic Leader Richard Hammel (D-Mt. Morris Twp.) and the House Democratic Caucus on preliminary injunction for House Bills 4246, 4929 and 5063:"

Source: *House Democratic Caucus* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
*http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333433795_*

State Police Recognizes April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month

"

LANSING. *In recognition of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Michigan Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force is helping to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect, particularly online sexual exploitation of children."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333397884_MSP1.pdf*

REVISED STATEMENT: Michigan Nurses Association urges Gov. Snyder to sign autism package

"

Statement from John Karebian, Michigan Nurses Association Executive Director, on legislation approved by the legislature and sent to Gov. Snyder to mandate insurance coverage for children with autism in Michigan:"

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333395643_MNA2.pdf*

Ingham County Court Issues a Temporary Restraining Order Against State House Republicans

"

(Lansing, MI) Today an Ingham County Court issued a temporary restraining order barring several pieces of legislation from taking "immediate effect" while the court weighs arguments in a case filed by House Democrats."

Source: *AFL-CIO* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333395606_AFL1.pdf*

Michigan Nurses Association glad Gov. Snyder responded to autism needs

"

Statement from John Karebian, Michigan Nurses Association Executive Director, on legislation signed by Gov. Snyder to mandate insurance coverage for children with autism in Michigan:"

Source: *Michigan Nurses Association* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333392537_MNA1.pdf*

Dr. Taj files for Congress with over 2,000 Signatures

"

Novi – Dr. Syed Taj candidate for Michigan's new 11th Congressional district has officially filed today. He filed with over 2,000 signatures and according to the State Election office he is the first Congressional candidate in Michigan to do so, this year."

Source: *Taj for Congress* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333390879_Taj2.pdf

MEDIA ADVISORY: Rainbow PUSH Michigan to Announce Crusade for America Youth and Parent March

"

***(DETROIT)** – STAND UP AGAIN! DREAM AGAIN! STOP THE VIOLENCE! SAVE OUR YOUTH! D. Alexander Bullock, Rainbow PUSH Michigan, Mason Radio, Jobs with Justice Southeast Michigan, PaleoRadio and Impact Radio Network will hold a press conference to announce the Crusade for America parent and youth march that will take place Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012."*

Source: *Rainbow Push Coalition* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333390433_RPC1.pdf

Byrum Offers Scholarships to Two Local High School Seniors

"

*LANSING – State Rep. **Barb Byrum** (D-Onondaga) is inviting local high school seniors to apply for a scholarship she is offering. Byrum will award two $500 scholarships to local high school students who plan to pursue a college degree or training in a trade."*

Source: *Rep. Barb Byrum* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333389876_Byrum1.pdf

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Leading Pastor Seeks Just Sentence for Youth Convicted at Age 13

"

Lansing – As the US Supreme Court considers the constitutionality of sentencing minors to prison terms with no possibility of parole, the leader of one of the state's oldest African American churches will speak out on just sentencing for juveniles."

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333396672_Progress2.pdf

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Press Conference: Over 50 Elected Officials LEAD for Equality in Michigan

"

LANSING – This Tuesday, Unity Michigan will announce that over 50 local elected officials have signed on to the LEAD (Local Electeds Against Discrimination) statement. LEAD is a statewide coalition of office holders who are calling for gay and transgender-inclusive non-discrimination protections. "

Source: *Progress Michigan* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333385119_PRogress1.pdf

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Public meeting to be held in Bay City to discuss fishing regulation proposals

"

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Southern Lake Huron Management Unit in Fisheries Division has announced a meeting in Bay City to discuss statewide fishing regulation proposals."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333385066_DNR2.pdf

Sheet metal workers endorse renewable energy campaign

"

*LANSING – The **Sheet Metal Workers International Association Locals 7, 80 and 292** have endorsed the **Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs** ballot campaign to increase Michigan's renewable energy standard to 25 percent by 2025."*

Source: *Michigan Energy, Michigan Jobs* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333382598_MEMJ1.pdf

SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Monday, April 2

"

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will participate with state Rep. Frank Foster in a round table meeting to discuss jobs and the economy."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333381493_Gov1.pdf

New Recall Effort Launched Against Governor Snyder by Michigan Rising

"

LANSING – Michigan Rising has filed new language to recall Governor Rick Snyder. "

Source: *Michigan Rising* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333379936_MR1.pdf

New DNR initiative aims to resolve encroachment cases on public land

"

The Department of Natural Resources today announced the Encroachment Resolution Initiative (ERI), an effort geared at resolving the hundreds of cases of encroachment – or trespass – occurring on public land throughout Michigan."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333379150_DNR1.pdf

Pure Michigan…What's in it for me?

"

Breathtaking vistas, lush lakes and four seasons of beauty. That is Pure Michigan. "

Source: *Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, MSU* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333378642_Ippsp1.pdf

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May election's voter registration deadline approaching quickly

"

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that they have until Monday, April 9 to register to vote in the May 8 election."

Source: *MI Department of State* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333376861_SOS1.pdf

Year's first Adopt-A-Highway litter pickup begins April 14

"

***April 2, 2012 --** Michigan's highway roadsides soon will get a spring cleaning. Almost 3,200 volunteer groups across the state will pick up litter along more than 7,200 miles of state highway from April 14 to 22. It's the first*

of three pickups this year for the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Adopt-A-Highway program, which began in 1990."

Source: *MI Department of Transportation* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375422_MDOT1.pdf*

Michigan DHS Leading Way with New Foster Care Extension for Young Adults

"

Lansing, Mich. April 2, 2012 – The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to announce the launch of its new Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care program, effective immediately."

Source: *MI Department of Human Services* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375389_DHS1.pdf*

CMS Energy News Release

"

JACKSON, Mich., March 30, 2012 – CMS Energy announced today that its executive vice president and chief financial officer, Tom Webb, will provide a company overview at the Midwest Utilities Conference on Thursday, April 5."

Source: *CMS Energy* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375345_CMS1.pdf*

Saginaw Citizens, Leaders to Propose New City Policy to Hold Banks Accountable for Neglected Foreclo

"

SAGINAW – Citizens and city leaders will gather at a vacant, neglected house on in Saginaw on Davenport Avenue ***on Tuesday, April 3****, to propose a Saginaw city policy to hold owners of foreclosed on homes – including big banks – accountable for failing to maintain those properties."*

Source: *SEIU Local 517M* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:** *http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375293_Saginaw1.pdf*

Michigan AFL-CIO endorses U.S. Rep. Gary Peters

"

Detroit, MI *- Today, standing before a room full of supporters at his new Detroit campaign headquarters, U.S. Rep. Gary Peters was formally endorsed by the Michigan AFL-CIO in his campaign for the new 14th Congressional District. "*

Source: *U.S. Rep. Gary Peters* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375146_Peters2.pdf

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"Upton Retirement?"

"

In an article published yesterday, The Washington Post listed Congressman Upton as one of the top 10 incumbents that could lose in the primary. Could it be time for Mr. Upton to retire?"

Source: *Hoogendyk for Congress* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375102_Hoogendyke1.pdf

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Candidate Recruitment Night

"

RetakeOurGov, a Livingston County-based, independent Political Action Committee, is sponsoring a candidate recruitment night. Conservative citizens interested in running for school board and other local offices are encouraged to attend this informational event."

Source: *RetakeOurGov* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333375036_ROG1.pdf

New Appeals In Court Pose Question: Who Should Build The Ambassador Bridge Improvements?

"

Who should build the Gateway Project? The Ambassador Bridge Company, or the State of Michigan?"

Source: *Detroit International Bridge Company* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333374989_DIBC1.pdf

Conyers: Proposed Consent Agreement Inconsistent With Our Values

"

(DETROIT) – Today, Representative John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) released the following statement in response to Michigan Governor Rick Snyder's new proposed consent agreement between the State of Michigan and the City of Detroit."

Source: *U.S. Rep. John Conyers* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333374921_Conyers1.pdf

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Farewell to the Chief

"

As we come to the end of our fundraising cycle tomorrow we are also coming to the end of a career that has spanned over 40 years."

Source: *Taj for Congress* **Date:** *04-03-2012* **Link:**
http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333374888_Taj1.pdf

The Huntington National Bank Acquires Fidelity Bank

"

LANSING - Michigan Off

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From: Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 8:52 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 3, 2012

News

- University of Michigan Regents show continued support of GSRA's right to unionize (AnnArbor.com, 4/3/2012)
- Emergency manager needed in Muskegon Heights schools, review team reports to governor (Muskegon Chronicle, 4/3/2012)
- Prospects brighten for Mich. heavyweights (Bridge Magazine, 4/3/2012)
- Housing, office furniture still under economic clouds (Bridge Magazine, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan's ban on unionizing research assistants won't go into effect immediately (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Hundreds protest 'theft' of Mumford High School by statewide district (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan may test teacher reviews (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Judge's ruling puts Detroit consent deal in limbo (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Damrow case sent to Genesee prosecutor (Livingston Community News, 3/30/2012)
- State appeals welfare ruling (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/3/2012)
- Schwarz considers run in 7th District as Democrat (Battle Creek Enquirer, 4/3/2012)
- Detroit financial crisis re-energizes Snyder recall effort (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Detroit financial crisis: Bing, City Council close to deal but pitfalls loom (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Ruling halts unionizing ban for grad student lab aides (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- DNR program to resolve public land encroachments (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Proposal would add 8 casinos to Michigan lineup (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Another recall effort targets Michigan governor (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Michigan launches program extending foster care time (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- DNR honors conservation officer killed in 1908 (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Embattled Michigan emergency manager law threatened (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Lansing City Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson to run for state Representative (MLive, 4/3/2012)
- State Rep. Jim Ananich says he won't give up on governor's program for teens (Flint Journal, 4/3/2012)
- Deputy mayor calls for council vote on consent agreement as vocal Detroiters just say 'no' (MLive, 4/3/2012)
- Judge sides with Michigan House Democrats in dispute (Associated Press, 4/3/2012)
- Union contracts targeted by Flint emergency manager as deadline looms (Flint Journal, 4/3/2012)
- City attorney on marijuana dispensaries: 'They're not allowed to operate at all without a license' (AnnArbor.com, 4/3/2012)

Editorials

- Daniel Howes: Detroit's legacy: Failed leadership (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)

- Lawmakers hit the jackpot (Huron Daily Tribune, 3/30/2012)
- Editorial: Live with Great Lakes water levels, at least for now (Detroit Free Press, 4/3/2012)
- Editorial: New contracts bad for city (Detroit News, 4/3/2012)
- Snyder must veto helmet law repeal (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/3/2012)
- Consider a city contract with LEAP (Lansing State Journal, 4/3/2012)
- EDITORIAL: State not treating Detroit like Pontiac (Oakland Press, 4/3/2012)

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From: MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 9:06 AM
To: Ferguson, Matthew (DTMB)
Subject: MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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Challenges facing Romney in wooing female voters

"Mitt Romney is starting to hone his appeal to women voters, acutely aware as he turns to the general election that he has little choice but to narrow President Barack Obama's commanding lead among this critical constituency."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120407/NEWS15/120407007/Challenges-facing-Romney-in-wooing-female-voters*

President Barack Obama calls Mitt Romney too extreme but praises past GOP leaders

"WASHINGTON -- President Barack Obama is embracing an unlikely group of political icons as he tries to paint Mitt Romney as extreme: He's praising Republican presidents from Abraham Lincoln to Dwight D. Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120407/NEWS15/204070394/President-Barack-Obama-calls-Mitt-Romney-too-extreme-but-praises-past-GOP-leaders*

Weather, natural gas prices lowered Michigan bills

"Warmer weather wasn't the only factor lowering heating bills in Michigan this winter, but it sure helped."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.freep.com/article/20120407/BUSINESS06/120407002/Weather-natural-gas-prices-lowered-Michigan-bills?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p*

Detroit city attorney's law license suspended over Kwame Kilpatrick text message scandal

"Detroit city attorney Valerie Colbert-Osamuede was given a 90-day suspension by the state's attorney discipline panel this week for lying to a judge in the text message scandal that brought down former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and then lying to the legal profession's watchdogs investigating her case."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120407/NEWS01/204070334/Detroit-city-attorney-s-law-license-suspended-over-Kwame-Kilpatrick-text-message-scandal?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p

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A rosier outlook for job growth in Michigan

"A University of Michigan economist has sharply raised his forecast for job growth in the state this year on the heels of new data showing a strong surge in employment in the state during the first quarter."

Source: *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.freep.com/article/20120407/BUSINESS06/204070374/A-rosier-outlook-for-job-growth-in-Michigan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

President: Women aren't a uniform political bloc

"

Washington— President Barack Obama on Friday showered attention on helping women yet warned in the same motion that they should not be reduced to a uniform political bloc, declaring they are not an interest group and "shouldn't be treated that way."
"

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120407/POLITICS01/204070351#ixzz1rMOm2Wt0

Resentment lingers in Pennsylvania after Santorum's loss

"Gettysburg, Pa.— Rick Santorum is as unpopular in Pennsylvania today as he was six years ago when home-state voters kicked him out of the Senate in a rout. That sour public perception may doom his fading chances of sticking around in the GOP presidential race, along with other hurdles that dot his path to a possible, and needed, victory in the April 24 primary.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120406/POLITICS01/204060394#ixzz1rMOfI4m5

Privately run bus line could help Detroit fill transit gap

"Detroit— While frustrations linger over city buses running late or not at all, a young Ferndale entrepreneur is making plans to start running a private bus line in downtown Detroit.
"

Source: *Detroit News* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120407/METRO/204070354#ixzz1rMNl4npr*

Grand Rapids school board trying to decide how interim superintendent should be evaluated

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI - In a special work session Monday, the Grand Rapids school board will try again to nail down the specifics of what interim Superintendent of Teresa Weatherall Neal will be evaluated on in June."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/04/grand_rapids_school_board_try_1.html*

Cutting positions, raising taxes part of new Holland city manager's budget proposal

"HOLLAND – The city of Holland could cut several positions, including laying off up to eight current employees, reduce funding for outside agencies and increase the city's tax rate to pay off debt in the upcoming fiscal year."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/04/cutting_jobs_raising_taxes_par.html*

Mayor Heartwell urges Grand Rapids leaders to endorse $100 million GRCC millage

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Calling Grand Rapids Community College "a cornerstone of our community for the past 96 years," Mayor George Heartwell is urging colleagues to pass a resolution of support for a millage that would ensure the school "can continue to serve their growing student population into the next century.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2012/04/mayor_heartwell_grand_rapids_c.html*

Bailout for Detroit? Experts discuss ways to fix city

"The annual chore of putting togetherDetroit's city budget for the upcoming fiscal year will begin in earnest in the coming days and will be performed by the mayor and City Council, instead of an emergency manager appointed by the governor."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2012/04/bailout_for_detroit_experts_di.html#incart_river_default*

State scrapping group critical of certain parts of State Rep. Jim Ananich's bill to strengthen laws on illegal scrapping

"FLINT, MI -- A state group of scrap metal dealers says some aspects of State Rep. Jim Ananich's law is "threatening 15,000 Michigan jobs and could hurt a $2.9 billion industry.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/state_scrapping_group_critical.html

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Flint's financial crisis: Emergency manager backs off budget deadline to continue union talks

"FLINT, MI -- Flint emergency manager Michael Brown has eased off his self-imposed deadline for a plan to turn around the cash-strapped city's finances, despite a state-declared "financial emergency.""

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2012/04/flint_emergency_manager_1.html

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End of an era: Looking back at Cobo Arena's storied history

"Today, the wall separating Cobo Center and the 12,000-seat Cobo Arena began to come down -- along with decades of history."

Source: *M-Live* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/music/index.ssf/2012/04/goodbye_cobo_arena_demolition.html#incart_hbx

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US executives at General Motors, other bailed-out firms have pay cut

"WASHINGTON (AP) — Top executives at three companies bailed out by U.S. taxpayers during the 2008 financial crisis were ordered to take pay cuts by the federal government."

Source: *Associated Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2012/04/us_executives_at_general_motor.html#incart_river_default

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Michigan's tart cherry crop threatened by cold snap

*"**TRAVERSE CITY** — Northern Michigan's tart cherry crop is in jeopardy as a spring chill froze buds that appeared during the unusual warm spell in March, farmers and industry leaders said."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120407/NEWS01/304070019/Michigan-s-tart-cherry-crop-threatened-by-cold-snap?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE

U.S. job market slows after hiring binge

*"**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. job market took a breather in March after its best hiring stretch since the Great Recession."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120407/BUSINESS/304070014/U-S-job-market-slows-after-hiring-binge?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Ionia prison targeted in Snyder budget proposal

*"**IONIA** — A new proposal to shutter the Michigan Reformatory and hire private prison workers has put the issue of privatizing Michigan prisons on the front burner once again."*

Source: *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120407/NEWS01/304070021/Ionia-prison-targeted-Snyder-budget-proposal?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE*

Attorney Tim Burns will run for county clerk, commissioner positions

"Tim Burns is the first Democrat to challenge Republican Oakland County Clerk Bill Bullard Jr. for his job in the November election."

Source: *Daily Tribune (Royal Oak)* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2012/04/06/news/politics/doc4f7f01cf40e9d133327211.txt*

'Unlawful' Facebook posts could mean prison time under Michigan law

"Some of the information and comments Facebook users post to their accounts could land them in prison for up to five years or a fine up to $10,000 if they're not careful."

Source: *Oakland Press* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2012/04/07/news/local_news/doc4f7fc519babc2295171274.txt*

Richmond Township considering police coverage from city

"While voters mull over a proposal to raise money for police coverage, Richmond Township officials are considering which department will provide service in the future."

Source: *Macomb Daily* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2012/04/07/news/doc4f7ef33325be9531581948.txt*

Press Releases

Public meeting set to gather comments on Ann Arbor river cleanup

"

The DEQ today announced an April 10 public meeting and hearing on a proposal to clean sediment and riverbanks on the Huron River at the former MichCon Manufactured Gas Plant site in Ann Arbor."

Source: *MI Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333736739_DEQ2.pdf*

MSP COMMANDER GRADUATES FROM FBI ACADEMY

"

LANSING. *The Michigan State Police (MSP) is pleased to announce F/Lt. Lori J. King has graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia."*

Source: *Michigan State Police* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735946_MSP1.pdf*

Cleanup milestones announced for Kalamazoo River and River Raisin

"

The Michigan Office of the Great Lakes recently announced major steps in the effort to improve two Michigan rivers on the national Areas of Concern list."

Source: *MI Department of Environmental Quality* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735907_DEQ1.pdf*

MPSC: Warmer Temperatures, Lower Natural Gas Prices Reduce Heating Bills Statewide

"

April 6, 2012 *– The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today noted that warmer temperatures this winter and lower natural gas prices lowered heating bills statewide."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735869_MPSC3.pdf*

MPSC Approves Settlement Agreement Authorizing Wisconsin Electric Power Company's 2012 Power Supply

"

***April 6, 2012** – The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today approved a settlement agreement authorizing Wisconsin Electric Power Company's 2012 power supply cost recovery (PSCR) factor."*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735838_MPSC2.pdf

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MPSC Grants Licenses to Two Alternative Electric Suppliers

"

***April 6, 2012** – The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today granted licenses to Lakeshore Energy Services, L.L.C. and Michigan Gas & Electric as alternative electric suppliers (AESs). "*

Source: *MI Public Service Commission* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735811_MPSC1.pdf

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SNYDER MEDIA ADVISORY for Monday, April 9 and Tuesday, April 10

"

Gov. Rick Snyder will sign Senate Bill 515 and House Bill 4803 to return the Michigan State Fairgrounds to productive use."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333735780_Gov2.pdf

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Snyder signs bills giving assistance to prosecutors

"

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation giving county prosecutors more latitude in appointing assistant prosecutors to help with the workload."

Source: *Office of the Governor* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:**
http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333724383_Gov1.pdf

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DNR announces reduced fees at state forest campgrounds

"

Department of Natural Resources Director Rodney Stokes informed the Natural Resources Commission at its April meeting Thursday that the DNR was lowering many fees at state forest campgrounds to align them more closely with fees at state parks and recreation areas offering similar amenities. "

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333720255_DNR2.pdf*

Recent Michigan Court of Appeals Releases

"

The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 4/5/2012. "

Source: *Michigan Court of Appeals* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333720212_COA1.pdf*

DNR Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council to Meet April 18 in Newberry

"

The Department of Natural Resources' Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) will meet Wednesday, April 18, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Comfort Inn in Newberry, located at 13954 State Hwy M-28. The meeting will take place in the motel's conference room."

Source: *MI Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** *04-07-2012* **Link:** *http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1333720181_DNR1.pdf*

GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 8:04 AM
To: Michigan_HTML@gongwer.com
Subject: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Michigan News & Opinion For April 9, 2012

News

- Consent agreement: How the state will help save Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- State court to decide if fiscal review meetings must be open to public (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan House Dems sue GOP rivals (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan health officials seek to create long-term care system for elderly (Detroit News, 4/7/2012)
- Push begins for Nov. ballot petitions (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Michigan, Ohio officials to tackle Lake Erie algae threat to fish, tourism (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Gov. Snyder set to sign Michigan state fairgrounds bill (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Hot-and-cold temps threaten Michigan tart cherry orchards (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- DNR sets daily limit of 6 walleye for Lake Erie (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Macomb board plans to review salaries for elected officials (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Drivers laud ticket class; insurers not sold (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Gov. Snyder to clear hurdle for state fairgrounds sale (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- Selfridge Air National Guard Base cuts could slice into region (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/7/2012)
- Michigan casino campaigns facing hurdles (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Flint's financial crisis: Emergency manager backs off budget deadline to continue union talks (Flint Journal, 4/9/2012)
- Bills to eliminate personal property tax for Michigan industrial taxpayers set to be introduced this month (MLive, 4/7/2012)
- Fruitport casino project stalled amidst Michigan surge of gambling-venue proposals (Muskegon Chronicle, 4/8/2012)
- DNR: No fee, at start, for Detroit's Belle Isle (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- Snyder set to sign Michigan state fairgrounds bill (Associated Press, 4/9/2012)
- State withholding funds to universities seems petty (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)
- Hackel and Marrocco at odds over pay raise again (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)

Editorials

- Tom Walsh: More candor what Detroit sorely needs (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Guest commentary: Draw a new line for Stand Your Ground law (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Guest commentary: Detroit's future depends on more than balancing the books (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Mental care shouldn't be police work (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)
- Editorial: Focus on fixing city services (Detroit Free Press, 4/8/2012)

- Michigan Sen. Gretchen Whitmer: Tuition grants are a good move for Michigan students, economy (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Paul Muxlow: Farm trucks endure unfair regulations (Port Huron Times Herald, 4/9/2012)
- Editorial: A plea to free up cash for dredging Michigan harbors (Detroit Free Press, 4/7/2012)
- Editorial: Fund recreational harbors to spur recovery (Detroit News, 4/9/2012)
- OUR VIEW: Voters need to know both sides of casino issue (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 4/9/2012)
- DENNIS LENNOX: Decision on Detroit might be Snyder's defining moment (Mount Pleasant Morning Sun, 4/9/2012)
- Telfer: Time to return local control to school districts (Midland Daily News, 4/8/2012)
- Pure Michigan program is good investment for state, taxpayers (Marquette Mining Journal , 4/9/2012)
- Action on retired teachers' benefits overdue in Michigan (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 4/9/2012)
- Across the state: Prison safety should be a concern (Lansing State Journal, 4/9/2012)
- Emergency financial managers provide help, not hurt for struggling Michigan cities (Paul Keep column) (MLive, 4/9/2012)
- State withholding funds to universities seems petty (Macomb Daily, 4/9/2012)

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